

# CA ESD Interview Questions

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Plenary Meeting Interview Questions for Member States

**Country:** Finland

**Name:** Heikki Väisänen

**Organisation:** Ministry of Employment and the Economy

**Role in ESD implementation:**

Responsible for implementation of the ESD and writing both NEEAPs in Finland

### **Q1. How long have you been with the Concerted Action?**

From the second meeting of CA ESD I.

### **Q2. Has the CA ESD improved your working relationships with other participating countries?**

Yes

**How have you otherwise benefited from the network, exchange of information and experience within the CA-ESD?**

It has significantly improved working relationships with other countries and there really is a CA ESD 'family'. It is easy to send an email and I know exactly the right people to contact in each Member State and know that I will receive a response quickly. Likewise, I prioritise emails from CA ESD contacts in Member States. For example in preparing for an ESD comitology meeting I was able to phone the person I wanted to speak to in Germany straight away and I would not know who that was if it was not for the CA ESD and it is unlikely I would have got the information I wanted so easily.

### **Q3. Can you give us any concrete examples (e.g. policy measure, methodology, organisation) of best or good practices that you have learned about through the CA ESD and have taken on board, in some way, whilst developing national policies?**

Finland has had energy efficiency policies and programmes in place for a long time, therefore it's not easy to take on board totally new policies from other countries, however it is important to understand how other countries have implemented the ESD and why, as it gives a greater understanding of energy efficiency. Being able to ask MS questions in person at Plenary Meetings is very useful.

Motiva Oy are the organisation responsible for delivering much of the ESD and are represented at CA ESD and they may have more concrete examples.

### **Q4. Has the CA supported your work in generating awareness for energy efficiency and the ESD with national policy makers and other stakeholders?**

Yes

**If yes, how?**

Yes because it is my role to implement national policy related to ESD, therefore I am the best person to attend the meeting.

The other most relevant stakeholder is Motiva Oy as they are responsible for delivering the ESD and they also already attend the CA ESD.

**Q5. What has been the most useful CA ESD product/output for you? (PMs, WG Reports, website, Forum, Newsletter, National Summary Reports, public documents, other)**

Plenary Meetings because of the networking opportunity they provide.

The working group reports are also useful but it is a challenge to get useful results from the questionnaire which sometimes only asks leading questions rather than open questions. The quality of the reports varies and this is probably due to the quality of the questionnaires behind them.

**Q6. Do you attend other Concerted Action meetings – CA RES or CA EPBD?**

No

**If yes, what do you think the CA ESD can learn from the other Concerted Actions and vice versa?**

n/a

**Q7. What is your national dissemination strategy when it comes to CA ESD material and the outcomes of the Plenary Meetings?**

The relevant people are at CA ESD already and there are not many people outside of this group who need to be informed.

**To how many people, and to whom, do you send the final reports and other outputs of the CA ESD? What methods do you use (meetings, email, presentations, etc)?**

When there is information that I think may be useful for other people in my organisation e.g. the working group report on white certificates, I will email or speak to them about it, but this is on an ad hoc basis. It is generally Motiva Oy's role to disseminate the information.

**Are you aware of the NCP toolkit on the website?**

Yes, but I have not used it as I have not had time.

**Q8. What is your feedback regarding the new in-depth topic and sessions? How was your experience in trying to identify your expert(s) to attend these sessions?**

I think it is a good idea but I have not gone to the sessions.

Motiva Oy identified the expert for the sessions.

**Q9. Do you have any other remarks, comments or feedback you would like to give us on specific or general elements of the CA ESD?**

CA ESD has developed – at first people didn't know each other but now it really is like a family and I think it is extremely useful. Conversations I have had at this Plenary Meeting [2nd Plenary Meeting Copenhagen] have been invaluable prior to EED negotiations next week.

The meetings are well spaced at twice a year and I think everything is very well organised.