

GETTING THE JOB DONE

RAMBOLL BETTER REGULATION SERVICES.
HELPING BUSINESSES, FRONT-LINE PUBLIC
SERVICE STAFF AND CITIZENS TO FOCUS
ON WHAT MATTERS.

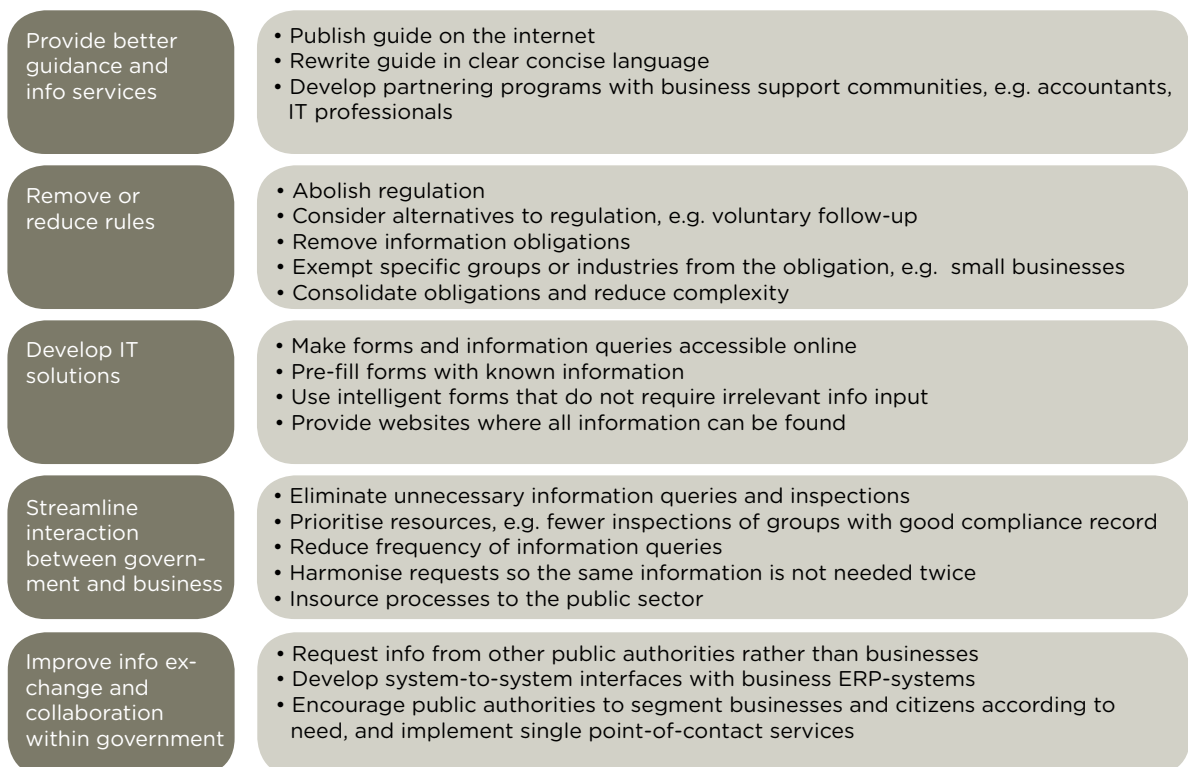
Better Regulation - improving interaction with government services

Sound legislation is a prerequisite for a thriving business environment, growth and job creation. Regulations that are outdated, unnecessary or misaligned hamper economic activity and cost the public purse dearly. This leads to less entrepreneurial risk-taking, fewer choices for consumers, deteriorating public welfare services and many other drawbacks, while the burdens often fall disproportionately on the least resourceful citizens and small businesses.

Better regulation – and consequently,

lower administrative costs in the private and public sectors – is not easy to achieve. Sometimes a few changes in regulations can yield enormous benefits – as in the case of Danish VAT legislation, where an increase of the VAT-registration limits for businesses released 1,5 million Euro reduction potential – but most often results must be attained by modifying regulations to give leeway for better interaction between government and businesses, or by using IT solutions to ease transaction costs.

Ramboll's approach to rule simplification



Debureaucratisation efforts are spreading throughout Europe

Governments find it increasingly necessary to implement processes to continuously monitor and improve regulations, to be able to cut costs from adherence to legal requirements. More than 20 countries across Europe have embarked on reducing administrative burdens on businesses using the Standard Cost Model. Many countries are also implementing

similar programmes for reducing costs on citizens and frontline personnel within the public sector. The European Commission has supported this process by launching the Action Programme for measuring administrative costs arising from legislation in the EU in all 27 Member States in January 2007.

Ramboll Management Consulting is helping governments throughout Europe

The project on measuring administrative burden for public administration is part of the Danish public sector debureaucratisation programme for the **Danish Ministry of Finance** and has two main aims:

- "From cold hands to warm hands" – more resources to core, frontline welfare services
- Empowerment – give frontline personnel and institutions more freedom to organise their work

Based on the AKVA-method, it consists of mapping, measuring and reducing administrative tasks for frontline personnel in core welfare services such as health, elderly and child care.

*Measuring administrative burdens for public administration
Method: Mapping and quantification of administrative tasks (AKVA)*

The Norwegian Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Government Administration and Reform conducted a project based on the assessment of the administrative burdens stemming from regulations on businesses in Norway. A baseline was established and then an update to monitor progress. The methodological base for this is the Standard Cost Model (SCM), which has been applied in many projects throughout Europe in recent years. The regulations chosen for analysis were taken from specific regulations of the two ministries.

*Measuring administrative burdens on businesses
Method: Standard Cost Model (SCM)*

The **European Commission** is driving an ambitious strategy to measure administrative costs and to reduce the administrative burden of existing regulation by 25% in the European Union by 2012. As a part of this strategy, an Action Programme has been approved to measure and to identify opportunities to reduce costs faced by businesses in complying with European legislation. The project was conducted across all 27 EU Member States, covering 13 priority areas. Based on the measurements, simplification opportunities for reducing administrative burdens have been identified.

*Measuring and simplifying administrative burdens across Europe
Method: Standard Cost Model (SCM)*

The **Autonomous Region of Bolzano South Tyrol** launched a programme to reduce administrative burdens on businesses and citizens. In the first module, the government succeeded in adapting the internationally well-established Standard Cost Model to the specific setting of the Autonomous Region and to developing an institutionalisation strategy. In addition, political „quick wins“ could be realised by a fast prioritisation of the South Tyrol law.

*Measuring administrative burdens on businesses and citizens
Method: Standard Cost Model (SCM)*

On behalf of the **Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth** the consultancy conducted an evaluation on what could be included in an impact assessment covering social, economic and environmental aspects. The background to this project is the responsibility of the Agency, in cooperation with the Swedish National Financial Management Authority (ESV), for method developing, consultancy and training on impact assessments for other authorities. The goal is to provide decision makers with better grounds for creating efficient rules by highlighting in what way a new rule will affect different stakeholders such as business, state or citizens.

*Development of a method for improved regulatory impact assessments
Method: Best practice evaluation*

The **Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, SECO**, succeeded in reducing administrative burdens stemming from Swiss VAT regulation, through a pilot measurement based on the Standard Cost Model. Grounded on a detailed analysis of relevant legal norms, all information obligations for enterprises and cost parameters were identified and the burdens calculated. Furthermore all current amendments of the VAT regulation have been measured and recommendations for simplifications have been developed.

*Ex-ante and ex-post measurement on administrative burden
Method: Standard Cost Model (SCM)*

GET IN CONTACT WITH US!

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Rambøll Management Consulting (RMC) is an international management consultancy firm with over 450 employees. Our offices are located in Aarhus, Berlin, Brussels, Copenhagen, Hamburg, Helsinki, Oslo and Stockholm. We provide consultancy services within the areas of management, IT, research and survey. We have over 35 years of experience from projects throughout the world and we carry out 700 projects a year. As part of the Ramboll Group with more than 8000 employees, we belong to one of Europe's major consultancy companies.

We are the market leader within our core market on reducing administrative burden; possessing considerable expertise in helping government institutions to create more attractive business environments and higher quality on public services. Rambøll Management Consulting has successfully applied the Standard Cost Model in over 70 projects in recent years all over Europe.