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EMAS Regulation in Italian Clusters: Investigating the Involvement of Local Stakeholders

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The 3rd World Sustainability Forum

Eco Management and
Audit Scheme (EMAS)

EMAS development -
Italian cluster approach

Survey in Italian EMAS
clusters - Results

Eco-Management and audit scheme (EMAS)

European environmental management system available for any kind of organisation operating in the European Union or in third countries

Main characteristics:

- Voluntary tool
- Proactive approach
- Compliance with regulatory requirements
- Environmental performance
- Relationship with stakeholders

Diffusion:

- Europe: 4525 organizations
- Italy: 1150 organizations

Evolution:



EMAS development in Cluster Approach

EMAS II - Reg. 761/2001

- Role of private and public institutions
- Facilities for SMEs in defined geographical areas



Dec. 681/2001

- Common registration for SMEs
- Synergic cooperation between SMEs of the same area



Rec. 680/2001

- Facilities in the phase of audit of SMEs
- Simplification in evaluating the significance of the environmental aspects of SMEs



Rec. 532/2003

- Common environmental performance indicators for SMEs

European SMEs

- 72% pollutant emissions
- 41% GHGs
- 76% hazardous waste

Source: European Commission (2010)

1999 Italy (Filago) Polo Bayer

Expanded industrial site with
common registration

2001 Italy (Capannori) LIFE - Pioneer project

EMAS diffusion between
SMEs of Paper District

EMAS III – Cluster Approach

Reg. EC 1221/2009 – EMAS III

- Cluster approach
- Local stakeholders involvement
- Support to small companies

Italian Districts and SMSs

- 156 industrial districts
- 98,4% small enterprises
- 28,1% manufacturing sector value
- 6,9% economy value added
- 25,6% total export

Source: ISTAT – Osservatorio Distretti (2013)

2011 Position Paper by the Italian Competent Body
“The application of EMAS Regulation in
Clusters”



- **Involvement of all stakeholders to improve environmental sustainability of the district**
- **Reduction of cluster specific environmental impacts**
 - **Cluster environmental core indicators**

Managing Committee of Clusters

Shared sustainable development strategy by identifying a **Cluster Managing Committee**

Composition	Functions	Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public bodies – local authorities• Private bodies – Chamber of Commerce, Business Associations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improving environmental performance of the cluster• Diffusion and promotion of EMAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common Environmental Policy / Programme• Cluster environmental core indicators• Internal and external communication



EMAS Cluster Certificate

Italian Clusters with EMAS Certificate

1. HPA of Ravenna (2006)
2. Furniture cluster of Livenza (2006)
3. Tanning cluster of Vicenza area (2007)
4. Paper cluster of Capannori (2008)
5. Tanning cluster of Solofra (2009)
6. Touristic system of the Polesine area (2009)
7. Tuscany tanning cluster (2010)
8. Paper cluster of the Frosinone province (2011)
9. Chemical-pharmaceutical district of Latina (2012)
10. Clothing district of Empoli (2012)
11. Footwear district of Lucca (2012)
12. Textile district of Prato (2012)

Research goals and methodology

Goals → verify the effectiveness of the actions taken by the Cluster Managing Committees in order to:

- Improve cluster environmental performance
- Improve relationship with local stakeholders
- Diffuse EMAS registration in cluster organizations
- Improve the awareness on EMAS Cluster certificate

Methodology



- qualitative survey
- multiple choice questions
- Districts: 9
- Recipients: 5 categories of local stakeholders

Survey: stakeholder categories



Category	Managing Committee	EMAS Organizations	ISO 14001 Organizations	Municipalities	Chambers of Commerce
Population	9	35	67	67	9
Respondents	89%	66%	54%	30%	78%
Sections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organizations participation - Operative modalities - Role of Committees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EMAS Assessment - Role of Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -EMS evaluation -Role of Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investments for sustainability - Role of Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investments for sustainability - Role of Committee

Survey: Managing Committees

Improvements obtained with the EMAS Certificate

Local stakeholders involvement	4,38
Cluster Environmental Performance	4,25
Organizations environmental awareness	3,50
Increase of EMAS – registered organizations	2,88
Bureaucratic/administrative simplifications	2,63
Ability of the district to attract investments	2,50
Average value	3,35

Critical evaluation

New EMAS Registrations	4,63
Funding supply for organizations	4,57
Support in terms of human resources	4,14
Sharing of operative tools	3,57
Communication with organizations	3,00
Communication with Stakeholders	3,00
Average value	3,82

1 = not important - 6 = very important

Survey: Managing Committee Tasks

Environmental performances

Cluster Image

Economic Support

Network Creation

EMAS Cluster Certificate Awareness

Survey: District improvements

Improvement of Clusters environmental performances	Mean value
Municipalities	4,11
EMAS Organizations	4,05
Chambers of Commerce	3,57
ISO 14001 Organizations	3,00
Overall mean	3,68

Improvement of Clusters image	Mean value
Chambers of Commerce	4,43
EMAS Organizations	4,30
Municipalities	4,28
ISO 14001 Organizations	3,67
Overall mean	4,17

1 = not important - 6 = very important

Survey: Critical aspects

Financial support for EMAS registration	Mean value
Chambers of Commerce	3,57
ISO 14001 Organizations	3,10
Municipalities	2,94
EMAS Organizations	2,10
Overall mean	2,90

Creation of a network among Clusters organizations	Mean value
Chambers of Commerce	3,86
EMAS Organizations	3,10
Municipalities	3,06
ISO 14001 Organizations	2,94
Overall mean	3,24

1 = not important - 6 = very important

Companies awareness of EMAS Cluster Certificate:

- EMAS Organizations → **72,72%**
- ISO 14001 Organizations → **50%**



Research findings



- Increase EMAS registrations
- Network creation
- Awareness



- Image
- Environmental performances

Environmental improvements Capannori Paper district

NOx Ton. emissions	2000-2007	1820-1522
Photovoltaic plants	2009-2011	50-245
Separate collection of waste	2007-2011	+8%

Future outlook

- The EMAS Certificate as strategy to overcome the economic crisis
- The EMAS Certificate as a tool to improve relationships with local community in industrial clusters
- European funding opportunity

Contact Information



THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION

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