

Progress report

on the Czech Republic Sustainable
Development Strategy

SUMMARY

Government Council for Sustainable Development
Ministry of the Environment
Prague 2009



PROGRESS REPORT

ON THE CZECH REPUBLIC SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

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Progress Report on the Czech Republic Sustainable Development Strategy: Summary

Government Council for Sustainable Development

Ministry of the Environment

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THE CZECH REPUBLIC SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND THE PROGRESS REPORT

The Czech Republic Strategy for Sustainable Development was adopted under Czech Government Resolution no. 1242 of 8 December 2004. Article II/2 of the Resolution commissioned the Vice Prime Minister for Economics and the Chairman for the Government Committee for Sustainable Development (GCSD) to present a draft update of the Czech Republic Strategy for Sustainable Development by 30 November 2007. Under Government Resolution no. 1434 of 14 December 2007, however, the update developed by then was merely acknowledged by the Government as “The Principles, Instruments and Proposed Priorities for the Finalisation of an Updated Czech Republic Strategy for Sustainable Development”, postponing the deadline for the presentation of the updated Strategy to 30 November 2009.

This Progress Report (third in the series) is presented pursuant to Article II/2 of Government Resolution no. 1242 of 8 December 2004. In line with the conclusions of a joint session of the Government Council Committee on Sustainable Development and the Working Group on Sustainability Development Indicators on 13 February 2008, the Third Progress Report is published in a format similar to the 2006 and 2007 Progress Reports (Government Administration, 2006; GCSD, 2007). The Third Progress Report was approved at the 16th session of the Government Council Committee on Sustainable Development on 9 October 2008 and is presented as information to the Government.

The 2004 Strategy defines the principal (strategic) goals, as well as partial goals and instruments, formulated so as to eliminate, to the maximum extent possible, imbalances in relations between the economic, environmental and social pillars of sustainability. They are designed to achieve the best attainable quality of life for the present generation and to create conditions for a high quality of life for future generations. Strategic goals are defined for individual themes of social development:

- Economic pillar: strengthening the competitiveness of the economy;
- Environmental pillar: protecting nature, the environment, natural resources and the landscape, environmental limits;
- Social pillar: strengthening social cohesion and stability;
- Research and development, education;
- European and international context;
- Good governance.

The present Progress Report is based on a set of indicators defined by the three pillars of the Strategy (the economic, environmental and social pillars) and complemented by an additional three areas stated in the Strategy (Research and development and education, European and international context, and Good governance). In line with this categorisation, the Report itself is organised in six sections. Time series for all the indicators cover until the latest available year, which is typically 2005; however, it is the year 2004 in some cases. There is slight difficulty in the fact that the entire sustainable development concept is based on the seeking of an accord among the three fundamental pillars (possibly complemented with other cross-sectoral subject areas, as is the case with the Czech strategy). Therefore, not only are the pillars as such of high importance, but their interconnections and interactions as well. The importance of such interactions, however, seems to be somewhat blurred by dividing the Report into the six areas. The below summary assessment of each pillar and the other subject areas highlight the interconnections by not building strictly on the indicators included in the section, but possibly also on others categorised elsewhere.

The Report contains 34 indicators in total, aggregated based on official data and authenticated methodology. The selected indicator set, in expert opinion, covers the most important topics and objectives of the Czech Republic Sustainable Development Strategy. The aim of the Report is not always explicitly to rate indicator values obtained as 'good' or 'bad'. The indicators provide information on significant facts related to sustainable development in several ways:

- Where an explicit target (e.g. expenditures on international development aid, greenhouse gas emissions, etc.) is set, the indicators inform of its achievement, or alternatively, the approximation or recession of the given quantitative target.
- Where no explicit target is set, it may be compensated for by experience from countries (cities, companies, etc., depending on the respective level) against which the level achieved can be benchmarked (pesticide consumption, life expectancy, etc.).
- Where data exist and indicators are constructed following identical methods for longer time periods, time series can be obtained. The assessment can then be complemented with a trend analysis, improving the expressive value of the indicator, but not sufficient on its own. Detailed assessment must always be made in a broader data (information), time, and space context.

SUMMARY ASSESSMENT OF THE INDICATORS

I. THE ECONOMIC PILLAR

The first strategic objective of the Strategy is to maintain the stability of the Czech economy and safeguard its resistance to external and internal adverse effects. This objective is complemented by a number of secondary goals aiming at selected subject areas:

- macroeconomic issues;
- fiscal issues;
- energy industry;
- raw material policy, agriculture, forestry;
- regional development.

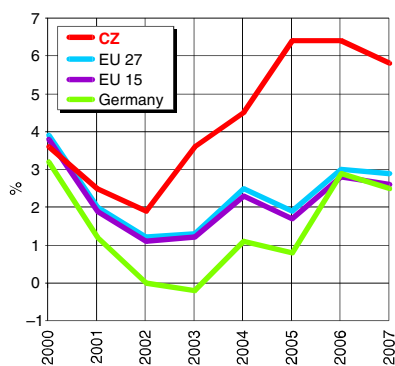
The second strategic objective is to create conditions for economic growth which is capable, with minimum environmental impact, of ensuring an optimum rate of employment, public service financing (especially in the social sphere) and a progressive reduction in the public and “internal” debt. This objective is complemented by a number of secondary goals aiming at selected subject areas.

The third strategic objective is to create conditions for a flexible economy based on knowledge and skills, and increase the competitiveness of industry, agriculture and services.

Trends under the economic pillar are characterised by indicators from several spheres, including first and foremost the macroeconomic and fiscal sphere; it is described by the following indicators:

- I.A Gross Domestic Product per capita
- I.B Share of government deficit/surplus in GDP
Share of government debt in GDP

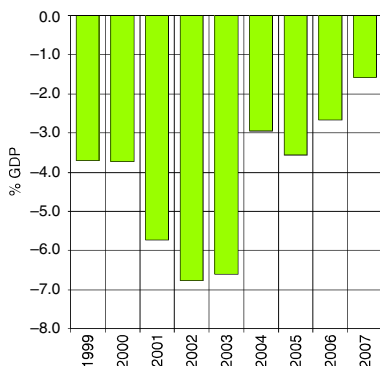
Chart I.A.1: Gross domestic product (2000 co. p., annual change), international comparison, 2000–2007



Data source: Eurostat

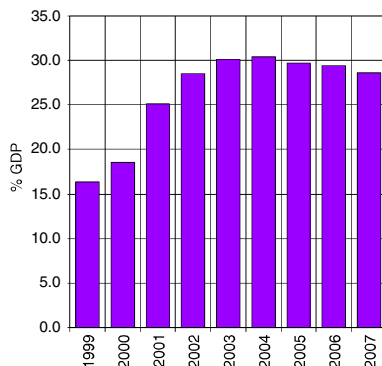
- I.C Current account of balance of payments/GDP ratio
- I.D Labour productivity

Chart I.B.1: Governmental sector balance, Czech Republic, 1999–2007



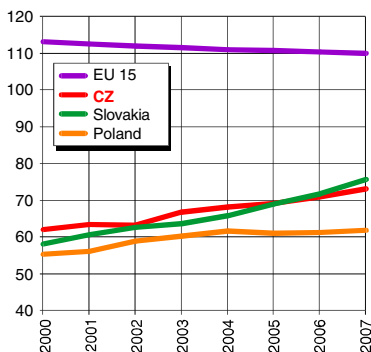
Data source: Czech Statistical Office

Chart I.B.2: Governmental sector debt, Czech Republic, 1999–2007



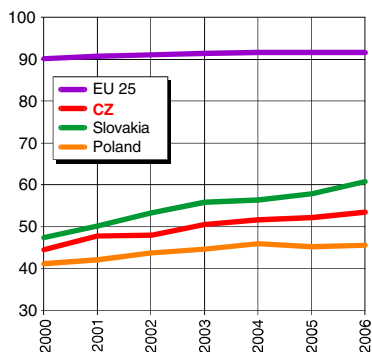
Data source: Czech Statistical Office

Chart I.D.1: Labour productivity – GDP as PPP per employed person (EU-27 = 100), international comparison, 2000–2007



Data source: Eurostat

Chart I.D.2: Labour productivity – GDP as PPP per hour worked (EU-15 = 100), international comparison, 2000–2006



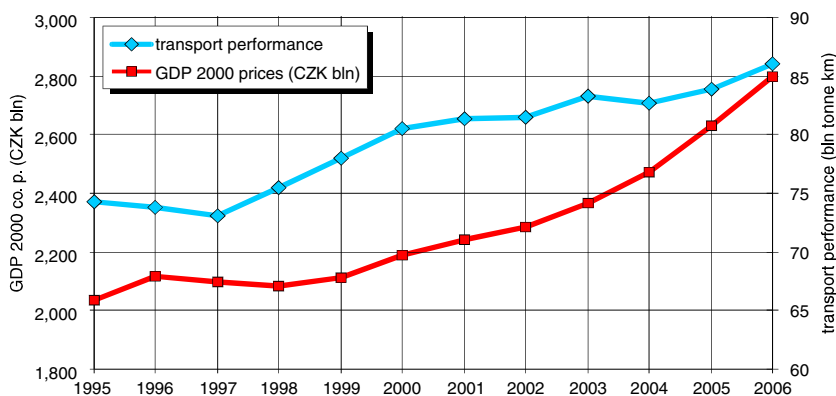
Data source: Eurostat

The overall trend in the area has been positive, particularly characterised by a rapidly growing GDP (both in historical and international context), growing labour productivity and decreasing government deficit and debt in the last years. Some factors, however, give ground to certain concern. Above all, the sectoral structure of the economy is worrying because the desirable share of the tertiary sector is not growing, while the secondary sector (including massive car manufacturing) is consolidating its dominant position. Another factor is the negative development of the global economics, triggered by the US mortgage crisis in the latter half of 2007 and continuing to this day. The third factor comprises the rapidly growing exchange rate of the Czech crown, the unclear perspective of the shift to the euro, and the unpredictable implications of the response to the changing globalised situation.

Another area comprises sectors that express the explicit connection of this pillar to the environmental one. The transportation sector is cardinal; it is described by a single indicator:

- I.E Transport intensity

Chart I.E.1: Passenger transport performance and GDP, Czech Republic, 1995–2006

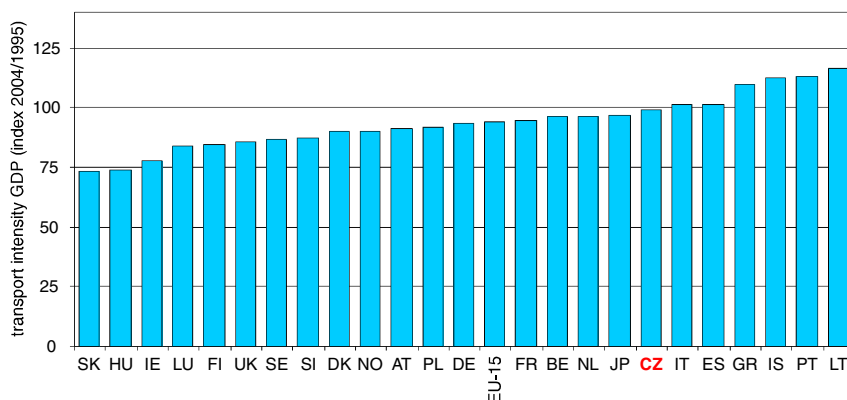


Data source: Czech Ministry of Transport, Czech Statistical Office

Its purpose is to identify whether the economic performance in transportation is decoupling from the environmental burden. The recent development of the indicator suggests that relative decoupling is admittedly occurring

(larger increase in GDP than in transport volumes), but the situation is not very good in the international context.

Chart I.E.2: Passenger transport intensity (in 1995 constant prices in '000 EUR), international comparison, 2004



Note: AT – Austria, BE – Belgium, CZ – Czech Republic, DE – Germany, DK – Denmark, ES – Spain, FI – Finland, FR – France, GR – Greece, HU – Hungary, IE – Ireland, IS – Iceland, IT – Italy, JP – Japan, LT – Lithuania, LU – Luxembourg, NL – Netherlands, NO – Norway, PL – Poland, PT – Portugal, SE – Sweden, SI – Slovenia, SK – Slovakia, UK – United Kingdom

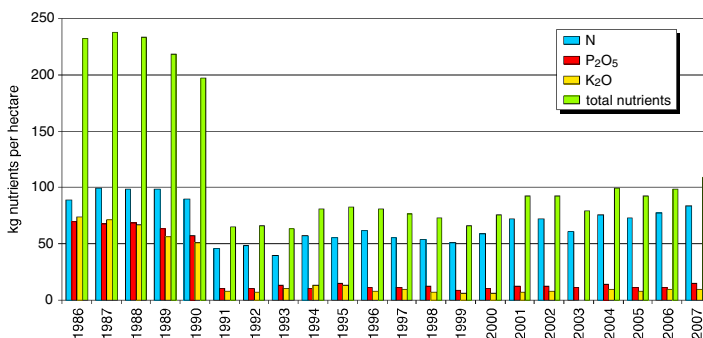
Data source: Eurostat

Another important area is agriculture and forestry, characterised by several indicators classified under the environmental pillar:

- II.E Consumption of industrial fertilisers
- II.F Consumption of pesticides
- II.I Share of organic farming in total farmland
- II.H Defoliation

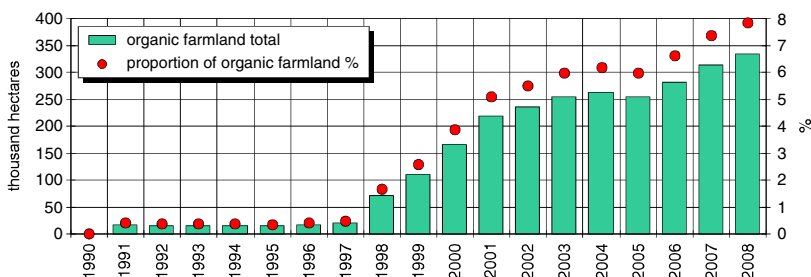
Both the presented indicators and other information indicate that the overall development in this area is not very positive. Consumption of mineral fertilizers and pesticides is growing (even though their use is still relatively low in the international context) and the defoliation is quite high. On the other hand the rapidly growing share of organic farming is a plus.

Chart II.E.1: Consumption of mineral fertilisers, Czech Republic, 1986–2007



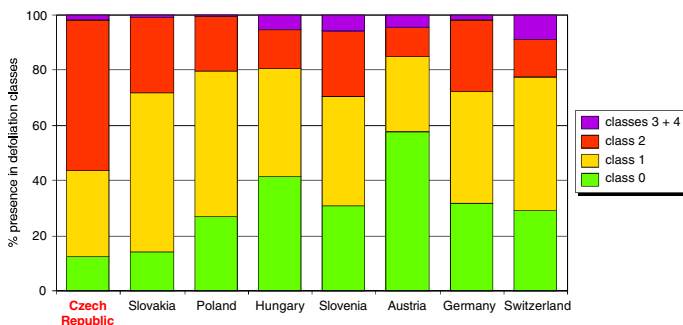
Data source: Czech Ministry of Agriculture

Chart II.I.1: Organic farming, Czech Republic, 1990–2008



Data source: Czech Ministry of Agriculture

Chart II.H.1: Classification of all tree species into defoliation classes, international comparison, 2006

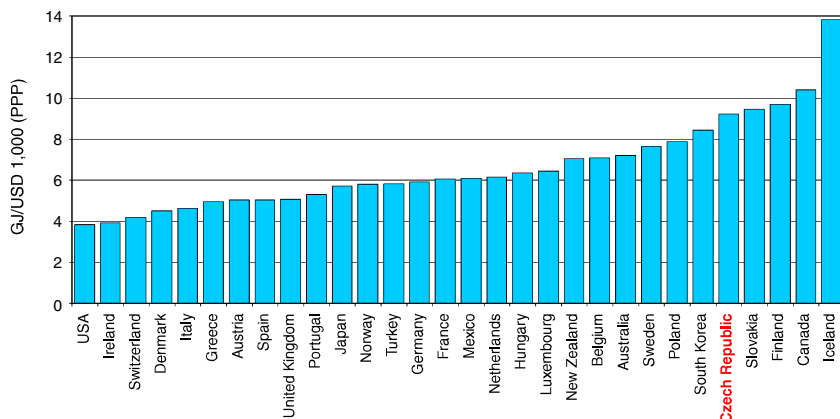


Data source: ICP Forests

The power industry is the third area concerning strategy. The existing indicators are as follows:

- I.F Energy intensity of GDP
- I.G Total consumption of primary energy supply
- I.H Share of energy from renewable sources

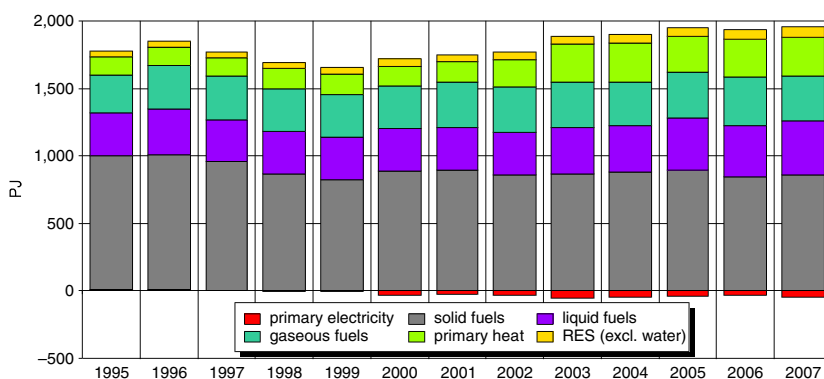
Chart I.F.1: Energy intensity of GDP, international comparison, 2005



Note: GDP is calculated in 2000 prices using purchasing power parity

Data source: OECD

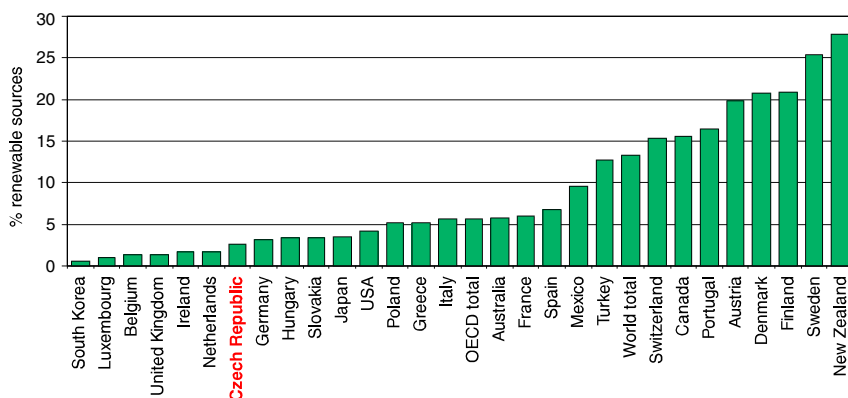
Chart I.G.1: Primary sources of energy, Czech Republic, 1995–2007*



* The 2005 data are preliminary estimates of the Ministry of Trade and Industry

Data source: Czech Statistical Office, Ministry of Trade and Industry

Chart I.H.1: Share of renewable sources in total primary energy supply, international comparison, 2005



Data source: Eurostat, International Energy Agency

The indicators show that the overall situation is not worsening, but at the same time, it is basically not improving (or it is improving but very slowly). The international comparison still yields highly unenviable results for the Czech Republic (high energy intensity, low share of energy from renewable sources, high share of solid fuels in primary energy supply).

II. THE ENVIRONMENTAL PILLAR

The first strategic objective is to ensure that the territory of the Czech Republic benefits from the best possible quality of all components of the environment (including the sound functioning of their basic mutual relations), and subsequently improve their quality, thus creating conditions for the progressive regeneration of the landscape, for the minimisation – or even elimination – of risks to human health, and for the regeneration of wildlife, at the same time preserving the Czech Republic's natural resources (non-renewable resources, biological diversity and diversity of the landscape) to the highest extent economically and socially acceptable.

The second strategic objective is to minimise conflicts of interests between economic activities and environment protection, and gradually decouple environmental pressures from economic growth. Educating individuals as

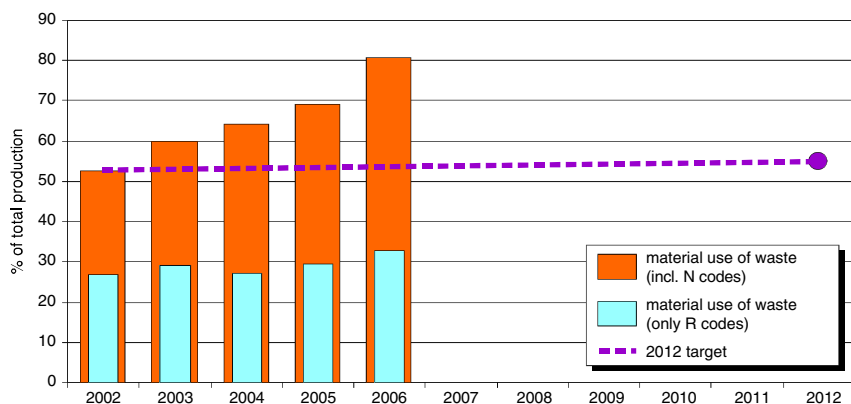
well as social segments is of prime importance, aiming at an alteration in behaviour, production, and consumption patterns toward sustainability. To enable this, the public has to have access granted to relevant information, and environmental education has to be actively promoted at all levels of education and environmental information. In addition, voluntary business activity in the area of the environment has to be supported.

The third strategic objective is to make a contribution, commensurate to the possibilities and significance of the Czech Republic, towards the solution of European and global environmental issues (specifically the threat of climatic changes and depletion of the Earth's ozone layer, as well as the loss of biodiversity).

The first strategic objective (environmental quality) is only characterised by the presented indicators to a very limited extent, rather indirectly in other areas (specifically, in agriculture and forestry as mentioned above). The important issue of waste is characterised by:

- II.D Share of reused waste in total waste streams

Graf II.D.1: Material use of waste and its target value, Czech Republic, 2002–2006



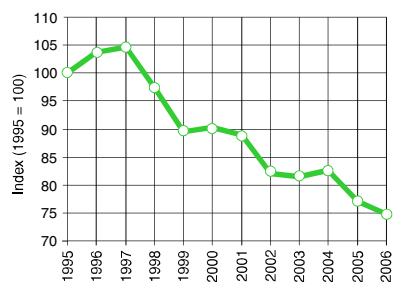
Data source: Waste Management Centre

Share of reused waste in total waste streams is growing, but given the inexact definition (derived from the law in force), the information capacity of the indicator is limited.

As concerns the second strategic objective (to minimise conflicts of interests between economic activities and environment protection), the crucial indicators have already been mentioned in the section on the economic pillar above. They are complemented by:

- II.C Material consumption

**Chart II.C.1: Material intensity
(2000 co. p.), Czech
Republic, 1995–2006**



Data source: Charles University in Prague, Environment Center; Czech Statistical Office

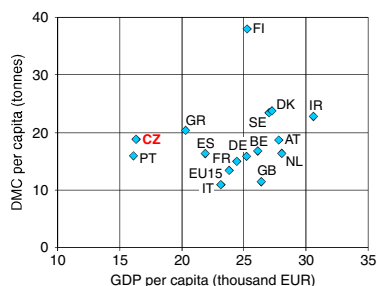
This indicator can be interpreted in a similar way to the power industry: the situation is improving moderately, but continues to be unsatisfactory in the international context (high material intensity in the absolute terms due to average material consumption but below the average GDP).

The meeting of the second strategic objective may also be described by:

- II.J Expenditures on environment protection and public budget expenditures on environment protection

The recent trend of moderately growing expenditures on environment protection, representing a positive development, is likely to continue, particularly in the context of the flow of resources from EU cohesion funds.

**Chart II.C.2: Domestic material
consumption (DMC)
and GDP per capita,
international
comparison, 2004**

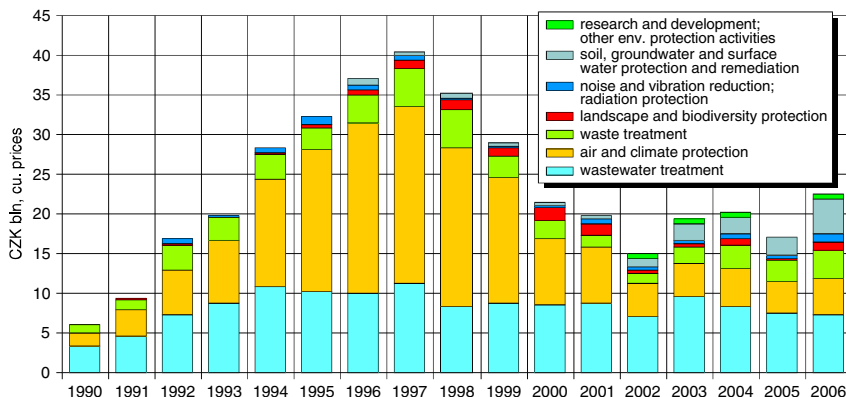


Note: GDP calculated using the purchasing power parity; AT – Austria, BE – Belgium, CZ – Czech Republic, DK – Denmark, DE – Germany, ES – Spain, FI – Finland, FR – France, GB – United Kingdom, GR – Greece, IR – Ireland, IT – Italy, NL – Netherlands, PT – Portugal, SE – Sweden

Data source: Eurostat

It is necessary to refine the method of calculation of this indicator in order to reflect the new issues.

Chart II.J.1: Investment environment protection expenditures by focus, Czech Republic, 1990–2006



Note: The 2002 data were collected by means of a cross-section report rather than an exhaustive survey of environment protection expenditures.

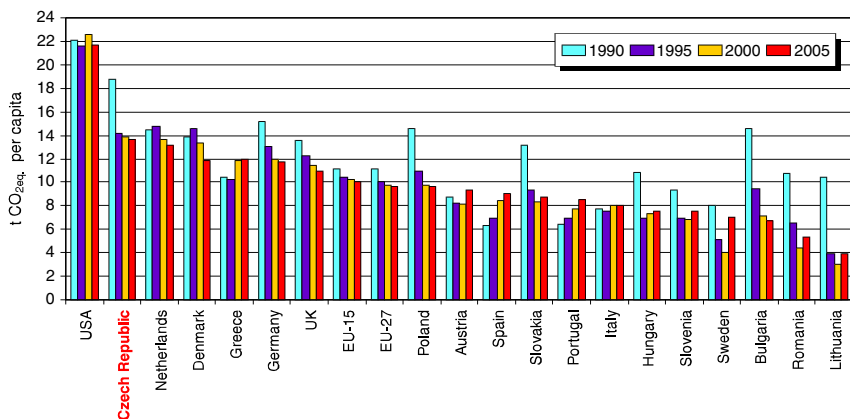
Data source: Czech Statistical Office

The third strategic objective concerns global issues, namely climate change, ozone layer protection, and biodiversity protection. Climate change is described by:

- II.A Greenhouse gas emissions per capita
- II.B Greenhouse gas emissions per unit of GDP

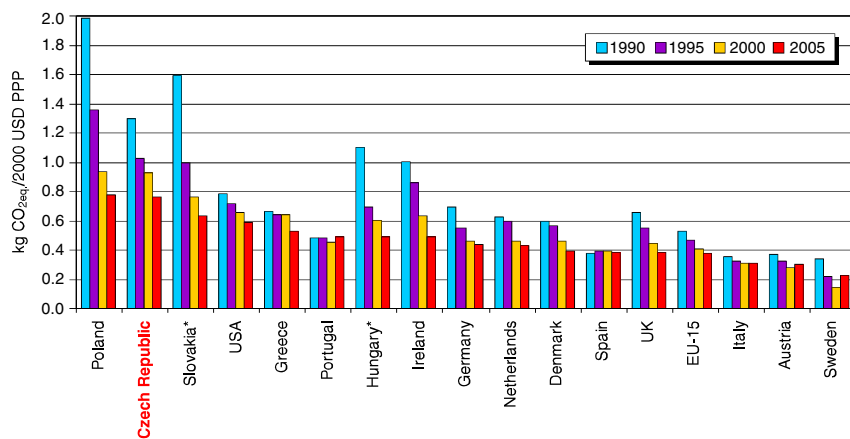
Greenhouse gas emissions are closely related to the power industry; the information provided by the presented indicators is similar to that from the above mentioned indicators for this area. Greenhouse gas emissions per capita in the Czech Republic are very large in absolute terms and the situation is only slowly improving. The development of greenhouse gas emissions per GDP is more positive due to significant GDP growth in the last years.

Chart II.A.1: CO_{2eq}. emissions per capita, international comparison, 1990, 1995, 2000, and 2005



Data source: Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Eurostat and OECD

Chart II.B.1: CO_{2eq}. emissions per GDP, international comparison, 1990, 1995, 2000, and 2005



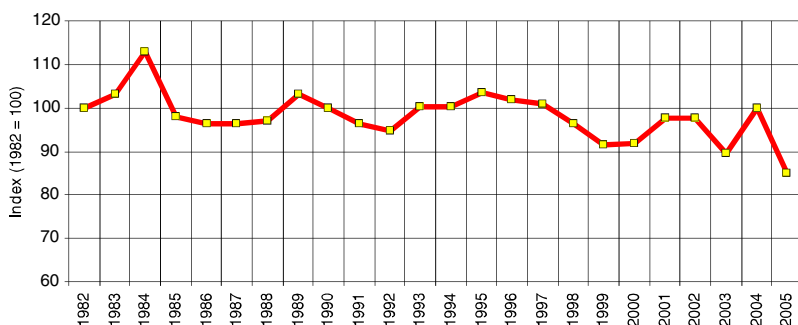
Note: Slovakia (1990) – 1992 data, Hungary (1990) – 1991 data

Data source: Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and OECD

Biological diversity is characterised by a single indicator:

- II.G Index of common species of wild birds

Chart II.G.1: Index of common species of wild birds, Czech Republic, 1982–2005



Data source: Czech Ornithological Society

The indicator shows a rather bad situation (it has a decreasing tendency), similar to elsewhere in Europe.

III. THE SOCIAL PILLAR

The first strategic objective is to support human resource development with a view to maximising social cohesion.

The second strategic objective is to continuously reduce unemployment to a rate where people are economically and socially motivated to engage in gainful activities.

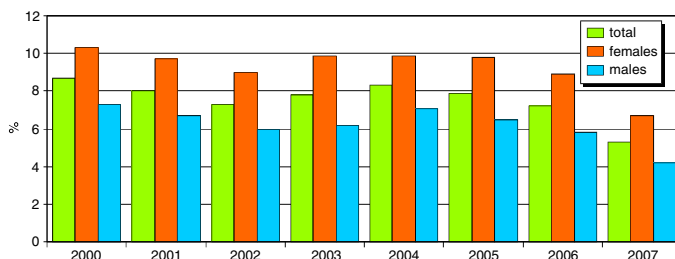
The third strategic objective is to maintain a stable number of inhabitants in the Czech Republic, increase the population over time and improve its age structure.

The strategic objectives in the social pillar are characterised mainly by four indicators related to employment:

- III.C General unemployment rate
- III.D Registered unemployment rate
- III.E Employment of elderly workers
- III.F Regional dispersion of the employment

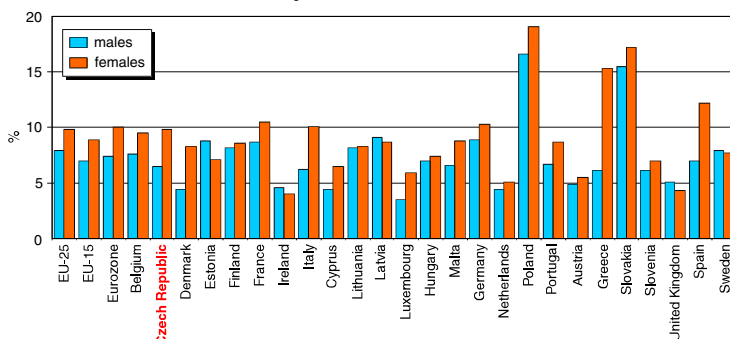
The development in this area in the Czech Republic is moderately positive in both the historical and the international context.

Chart III.C.1: General unemployment, males and females, Czech Republic, 2000–2007



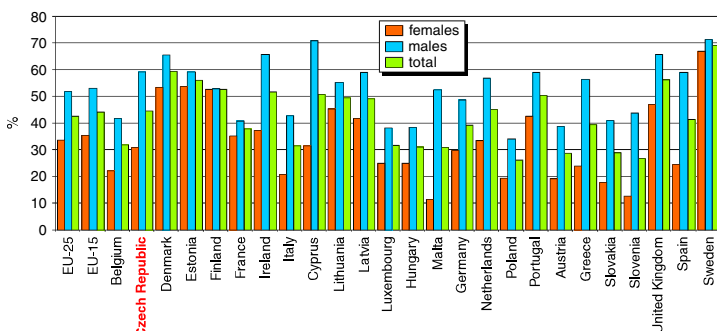
Data source: Eurostat, Czech Statistical Office

Chart III.C.2: General unemployment rate, males and females, international comparison, 2007



Data source: Eurostat

Chart III.E.1: Employment of older people between 55 and 64 years of age, international comparison, 2007



Data source: Eurostat

Another crucial indicator is:

- III.G Population living below poverty line before and after social transfers

Table III.G.1: Population living below the poverty line before and after social transfers by age categories (in %), international comparison, 2005

Country	Excl. all social transfers				Incl. pensions				Incl. all social transfers			
	Total	0–17	18–64	65+	Total	0–17	18–64	65+	Total	0–17	18–64	65+
EU-25	43	35	33	90	26	33	24	23	16	19	15	19
Belgium	41	30	32	92	27	29	26	27	15	15	12	23
Denmark	37	24	28	94	28	24	28	35	12	10	11	17
Finland	41	31	31	92	29	30	27	31	13	10	11	8
France	44	32	35	96	25	31	24	20	13	14	12	16
Ireland	40	42	31	86	33	41	28	40	18	22	15	27
Italy	43	34	33	83	24	32	22	24	20	25	18	22
Luxembourg	40	36	31	89	24	34	23	10	14	20	13	8
Germany	46	35	35	95	26	34	27	15	12	12	13	17
Netherlands	36	27	27	94	21	27	21	12	10	14	9	6
Portugal	40	31	31	84	25	28	23	31	18	21	16	26
Austria	43	39	33	88	25	37	23	19	13	15	11	16
Greece	40	27	32	82	23	25	21	30	21	23	18	26
Spain	39	31	29	84	24	28	20	34	20	24	16	31
Sweden	42	36	30	93	29	36	28	21	12	15	11	12
UK	42	42	30	91	30	41	25	36	19	24	16	28
Czech Republic	39	34	30	90	22	32	20	13	10	16	9	6
Estonia	38	34	28	82	25	31	22	28	18	20	16	25
Cyprus	29	21	21	85	22	20	16	55	16	11	11	52
Lithuania	41	35	32	85	27	32	25	26	20	25	18	22
Latvia	40	35	32	77	28	31	25	33	23	26	21	30
Hungary	49	48	40	87	30	44	29	14	16	25	15	9
Malta	34	32	26	80	22	30	19	25	14	19	11	21
Poland	49	43	43	87	29	36	30	12	19	26	19	8
Slovakia	39	34	31	89	20	28	19	14	12	17	11	8
Slovenia	41	30	33	84	24	26	22	32	12	12	10	20
Romania	42			77	24			21	19			19
Bulgaria	41	28	30	79	17	21	15	20	14	16	12	18

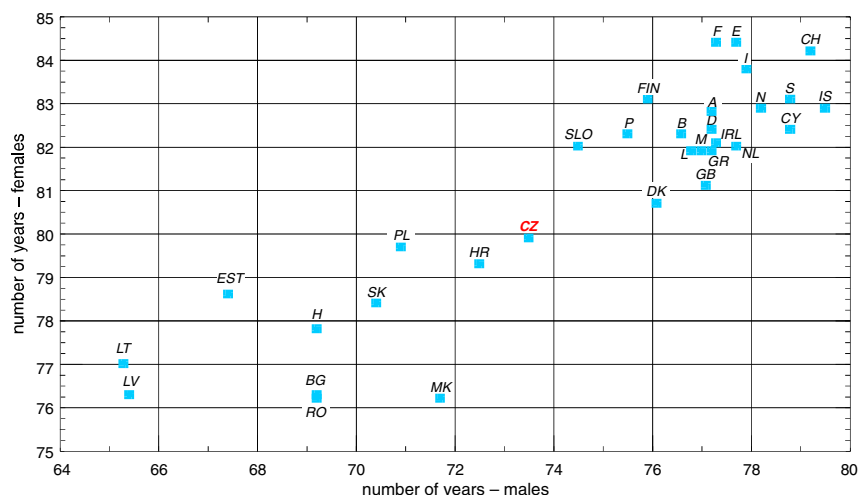
Data source: Eurostat

Evidence suggests that the Czech Republic's situation in this respect is stabilised and very good in the international context.

The social pillar encompasses issues of public health and demographics. The following are the aggregate indicators of the health of the population:

- III.A Life expectancy
- III.B Mortality

Chart III.A.1: Life expectancy at birth, international comparison, 2006



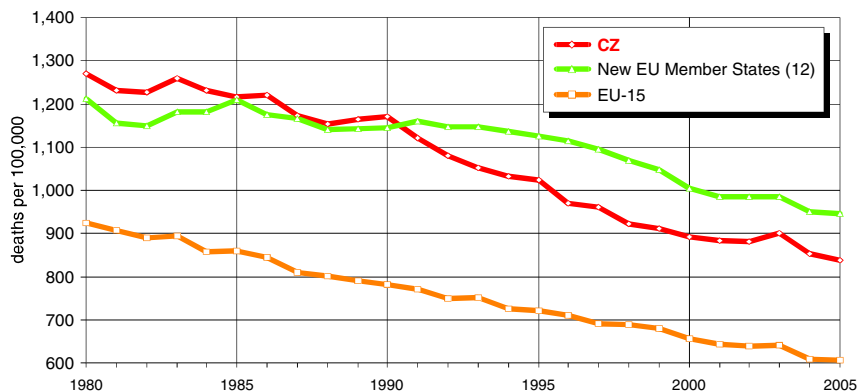
Note: The following countries do not show 2006 figures: Italy (2004), UK (2005).

A – Austria; B – Belgium; BG – Bulgaria; CY – Cyprus; CZ – Czech Republic; D – Germany; DK – Denmark; E – Spain; EST – Estonia; F – France; FIN – Finland; GB – United Kingdom; GR – Greece; H – Hungary; HR – Croatia; CH – Switzerland; I – Italy; IRL – Ireland; IS – Iceland; L – Luxembourg; LT – Lithuania; LV – Latvia; M – Malta; MK – FYR Macedonia; N – Norway; NL – Netherlands; P – Portugal; PL – Poland; RO – Romania; S – Sweden; SK – Slovakia; SLO – Slovenia.

Data source: Eurostat

Both the above indicators attest to a moderately improving situation in the Czech Republic; however, it is still unfavourable in comparison to the most developed countries of the world (including the EU-15), although country is doing well compared to the newly acceded EU Member States.

Chart III.B.1: Overall standardised mortality, international comparison, 1980–2005



Data source: WHO, HFA Mortality Database

IV. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION

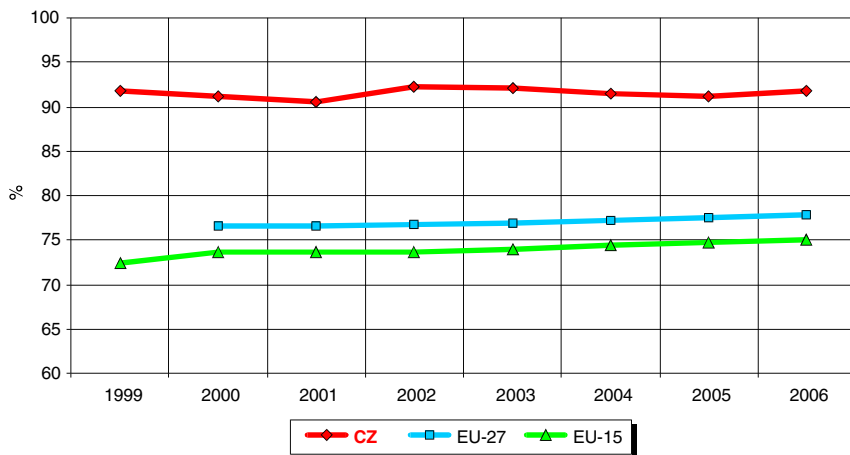
The strategic objective in the area of research and development and education is to attain a high level of education in society, and thus ensure the competitiveness of Czech society and develop ethical values in accordance with European cultural traditions.

This cross-section area is characterised by two basic indicators:

- IV.A Highest level of education attained
- IV.B Gross Research & Development expenditures

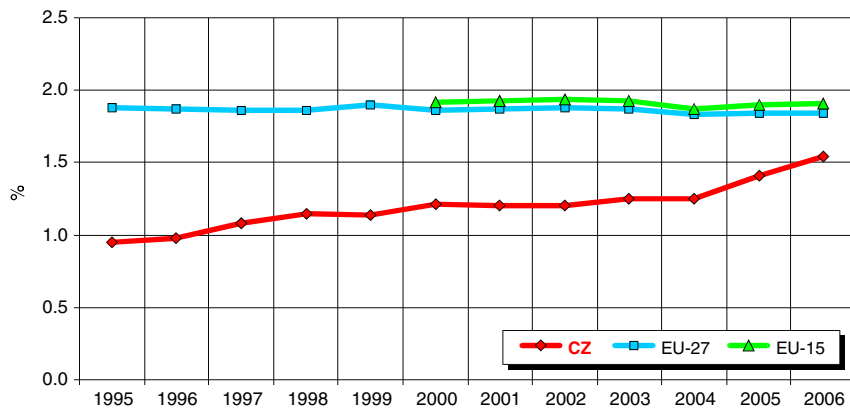
The above indicators characterise the Czech situation quite well. The share of population with at least upper secondary education is very high, on the other hand the share of population with tertiary education is quite low in comparison to the developed countries. Support to research and development (and innovation) is still inadequate, although there was a quite significant growth in the last years.

Chart IV.A.1: Share of population between 20 and 24 years of age with at least upper secondary education, international comparison, 1999–2006



Data source: Eurostat

Chart IV.B.1: Expenditure on R&D (% of GDP), international comparison, 1995–2006

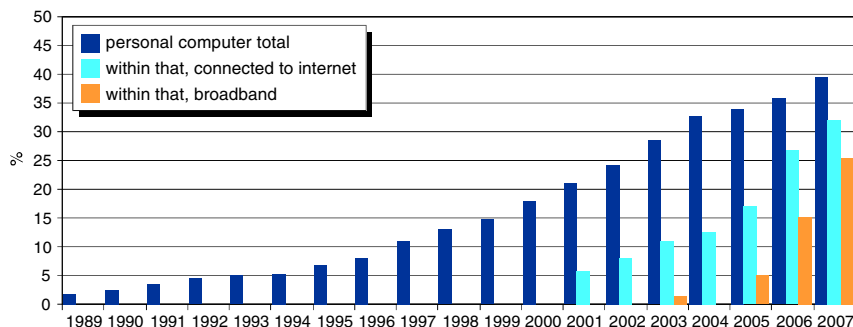


Data source: Eurostat

The data are complemented by:

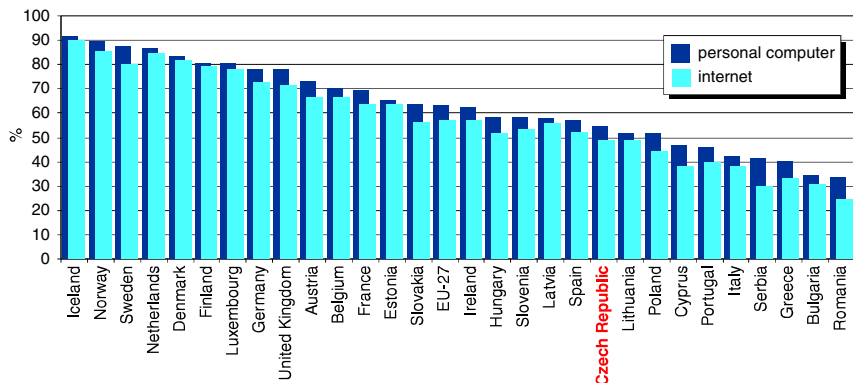
- IV.C Internet access

Chart IV.C.1: Proportion of households with a personal computer at home, Czech Republic, 1989–2007



Data source: Czech Statistical Office

Chart IV.C.2: Proportion of computer and internet users, international comparison, 2007



Note: The proportion of users aged 16–74 to the total number of individuals in the same age group.

Data source: Eurostat

The data provided by this indicator are typical of the Czech Republic, like in many other areas: the country is performing rather well within the post-communist bloc, but lags behind the most developed countries. The situation is, however, gradually improving.

V. EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

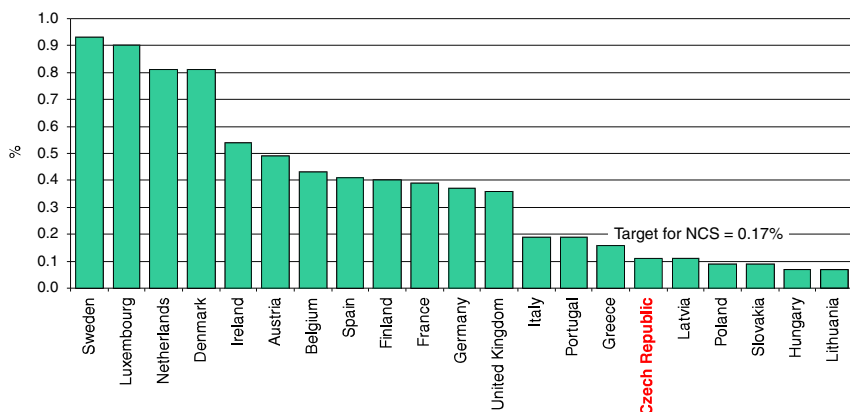
The first strategic objective in the international context is to advocate and promote the principles of sustainable development in the framework of the broadest international relations, in international global and regional organisations, and as part of bilateral relations. This involves co-operation and initiative at all international levels and, in particular, efforts towards overcoming ethnic, economic, ecological and social conflicts between different cultural communities.

The second strategic objective is to be an active member of the EU and contribute to the EU's becoming a functioning and prosperous community, provided that the prosperity of the EU increases the living standard of Czech citizens and improves the quality of their lives, security and freedom.

Only one indicator is presented herein:

- V.A Total international development co-operation

The values shown suggest that the defined targets are not being met, although it is (mildly) reassuring to see that the situation is not very different in the EU and other developed countries.

Chart V.A.1: Level of ODA/GDI, international comparison, 2007

Data source: OECD/DAC

VI. GOOD GOVERNANCE

The first strategic objective is to ensure the gradual approximation of the constitutional system to the needs of society for purposes of transition to a trajectory of sustainable development.

The second strategic objective is to ensure that regions/municipalities are granted a status corresponding to their prospective functions in ensuring an equilibrium between the pillars of sustainable development.

The third strategic objective is to improve conditions for the participation of the public in decision-making in matters concerning sustainable development, and create the broadest possible consensus in respect of the transition to sustainable development.

The fourth strategic objective is to set up and develop institutions and forms of work of the public administration in accordance with the requirements of sustainable development.

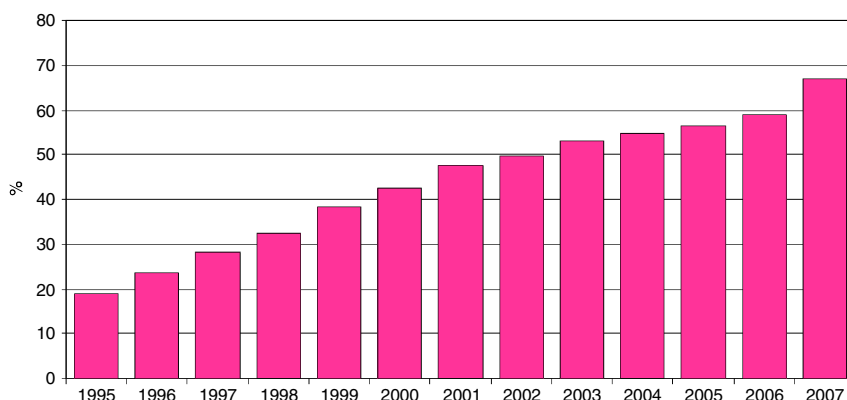
The fifth strategic objective is to ensure that measures taken in order to maintain external and domestic security reflect the requirements of protection from international conflict and the continually transforming forms of crime, including international crime, and especially terrorism.

The first strategic objective is formulated very vaguely. No appropriate indicator has been found to characterise the issue.

The following indicator was chosen to provide information on the second objective:

- VI.D Coverage of the Czech Republic's territory by approved town and country documentation of municipalities

Chart VI.D.1: Development of the coverage of territory by approved TCPD (in %), Czech Republic, 1995–2007



Note: Data until 2006 are related to 31 March of each year, while they are related to 31 December of each year from 2007 onwards.

Data source: Records of town and country planning activities in the Czech Republic, Territorial Development Institute

Positive development has been identified here, representing an important contribution to the fulfilment of the sustainable development concept.

The third strategic objective is characterised by:

- VI.E Civil society

The data indicate that the development in the area is positive. Unfortunately, international comparison is missing, which is why it is desirable to harmonise the method of calculation of this (or another similar) indicator with international practice.

Relevant information on the fourth strategic objective is provided by:

- VI.A Corruption Perceptions Index

Table VI.A.1: Corruption Perceptions Index, international comparison (selected countries), 2007

Ranking by CPI*	Country/territory	CPI 2007 value	Surveys used**	Highest – lowest value***
1	Denmark	9.4	6	8.9–9.8
1	New Zealand	9.4	6	8.9–9.8
9	Canada	8.7	6	7.6–9.5
11	Australia	8.6	8	7.2–9.5
12	UK	8.4	6	7.1–9.5
16	Germany	7.8	6	7.1–9.2
17	Japan	7.5	8	6.3–9.0
19	France	7.3	6	6.3–8.6
20	USA	7.2	8	5.1–8.6
22	Chile	7.0	7	5.6–7.7
30	Israel	6.1	6	5.2–7.6
41	Czech Republic	5.2	8	4.2–7.1
43	South Africa	5.1	9	4.4–6.2
64	Croatia	4.1	8	3.2–5.2
72	China	3.5	9	2.5–6.2
123	Vietnam	2.6	9	1.9–3.5
143	Russia	2.3	8	1.9–3.2
147	Angola	2.2	7	1.3–2.7
150	Belarus	2.1	5	1.3–3.2
162	Turkmenistan	2.0	5	1.7–2.7
179	Myanmar-Burma	1.4	4	1.0–2.0
179	Somalia	1.4	4	1.0–2.0

Notes:

* Index reflects corruption perceptions by representatives of the business sector and analysts evaluating the given country. A scale of 10–0 is used (10 = country practically without corruption; 0 = high level of corruption).

** Surveys used: the figure stands for the number of surveys that evaluated the country. In total, 16 surveys and expert opinions were used, and at least 3 of them were to evaluate any given country in order to be included in the CPI.

*** Range within which the index for a given country may be. Shows how the rating of a country may change depending on the accuracy of measurement. It should be a rule that the rating of a country may be higher or lower with a 5% probability than the range shown. Nevertheless, particularly for countries whose rates are calculated from few sources, the probability of the rate being within the interval shown may be lower than the nominal 90%.

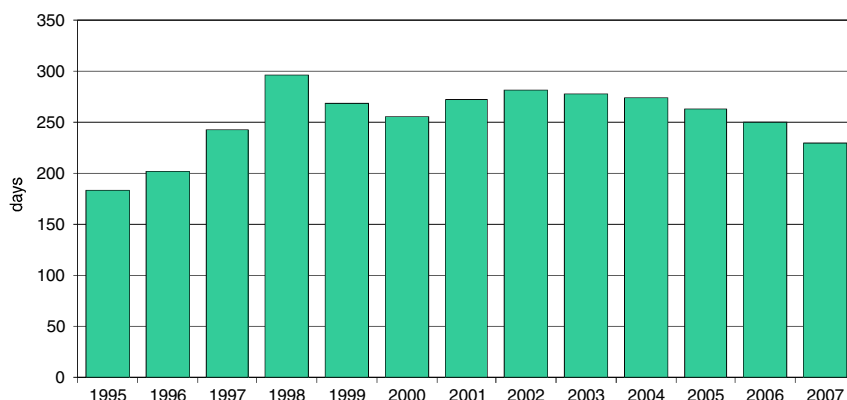
Data source: Transparency International

Unfortunately, the position of the Czech Republic in this respect is very poor in international context. The poor values of the indicator pose a very serious challenge to the public administration and the entire society.

The fifth strategic objective is difficult to characterise; the following indicator is of some relevance (being important by itself):

- VI.C Average duration of court proceedings

Chart VI.C.1: Length of criminal proceedings before district and regional courts, Czech Republic, 1995–2007



Data source: Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic

In spite of some moderate improvement, the situation continues to be unsatisfactory.

The last indicator in this cross-section area is:

- VI.B Availability of public cultural services

The above indicator is of no direct relevance to any of the strategic objectives; its interpretation is unclear (vague definition of “public cultural services”).

Table I. Summary assessment of indicators (assessment for 2006 and 2007 adopted from the First and Second Progress Reports)

	Indicator	Target achievement (assessment of trend)			International comparison		
		2006	2007	2009	2006	2007	2009
I. Economic pillar: strengthening the competitiveness of the economy							
a	Gross Domestic Product per capita	+	+	+	+/-	+	+/-
b	Share of government deficit/surplus in GDP	+/-	-	+	+/-	+/-	+/-
	Share of government debt in GDP	-	-	+	+/-	+/-	+/-
c	Current account of balance of payments/ GDP ratio	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-	+/-
d	Labour productivity	+	+	+	+/-	+/-	+/-
e	Transport intensity	+/-	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+/-
f	Energy intensity of GDP	-	+/-	+	-	-	-
g	Total consumption of primary energy supply	-	+/-	+/-	-	+/-	+/-
h	Share of energy from renewable sources	-	+/-	+/-	-	-	+/-
II. Environmental pillar: protecting nature, the environment, natural resources and the landscape, environmental limits							
a	Greenhouse gas emissions per capita	+/-	+/-	-	-	-	-
b	Greenhouse gas emissions per unit of GDP	+/-	+/-	+	-	-	-
c	Material consumption	+	+/-	-	-	-	-
d	Share of reused waste in total waste streams	+	+	+	n.a.	+	+
e	Consumption of industrial fertilisers	+	+	-	+	+	+
f	Consumption of pesticides	+	+	-	+	+	+
g	Index of common species of wild birds	-	-	-	+/-	+/-	+/-
h	Defoliation	n.a.	-	+/-	n.a.	+/-	-
i	Share of organic farming in total farmland	+	+	+	+	+	+
j	Expenditures on environment protection Public budget expenditures on environment protection	-	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-
III. Social pillar: strengthening social cohesion and stability							
a	Life expectancy	+	+/-	+	-	-	+/-
b	Mortality	+	+/-	+	-	-	+/-
c	General unemployment rate	-	-	+/-	+/-	-	+/-
d	Registered unemployment rate	-	-	+	+/-	-	n.a.
e	Employment of elderly workers	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-
f	Regional dispersion of the employment	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	n.a.	+/-
g	Population living below poverty line before and after social transfers	n.a.	+/-	+/-	+	+	+

	Indicator	Target achievement (assessment of trend)			International comparison		
		2006	2007	2009	2006	2007	2009
IV. Research and development, education							
a	Highest level of education attained	+	+	+/-	+	+	+/-
b	Gross Research & Development expenditures	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-	-
c	Internet access	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-	-
V. European and international context							
a	Total international development co-operation	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-
VI. Good governance							
a	Corruption Perceptions Index	-	-	-	-	-	-
b	Availability of public cultural services	-	-	-	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
c	Average duration of court proceedings	-	+/-	+/-	n.a.	n.a.	+/-
d	Coverage of the Czech Republic's territory by approved town and country documentation of municipalities	+/-	+	+	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
e	Civil society	+	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	n.a.

Legend:

- +
 - +/-
 -
 - n.a.**
- drawing near the target; values at the level of leading countries
 varying values, or values that are stable but without progress towards the goal; values at the average level of countries being compared
 receding from the target; values at the level of the last of the countries
 no data available

Progress Report on the Czech Republic Sustainable Development Strategy: Summary

Government Council for Sustainable Development

Ministry of the Environment

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