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# Article 7 implementation: French white certificate scheme

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# France implementation of Art 7



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- **Mainly through obligation scheme**
  - White certificates scheme in place since 2006
  - Effective
  - ⇒ about 90% of efforts under Art 7
  
- **Other measures**
  - Fiscal incentives
  - Energy passports
  - Guarantee fund for energy renovation
  - Tax on fuel partly dependent on CO2 content

# White certificates scheme's design



- **Obligation :**
  - On energy suppliers, based on their energy sales
  - Measured with a number of white certificates
  - Fulfilled by the corresponding number of white certificates vs. financial penalty (2 c€ /missing WC)
  - 3-year period
  
- **White certificates :**
  - Received by an energy supplier or an eligible actor for implementing energy saving measures towards energy consumers, in all sectors (residential, tertiary, agriculture, industry, transports, etc.)
  - May be **freely traded** on the national registry
  - Final energy savings CUMulated over the lifespan of this action and annually discounted with a 4% ACtualization rate : 1 WC = 1 kWh CUMAC

# White certificates scheme's design



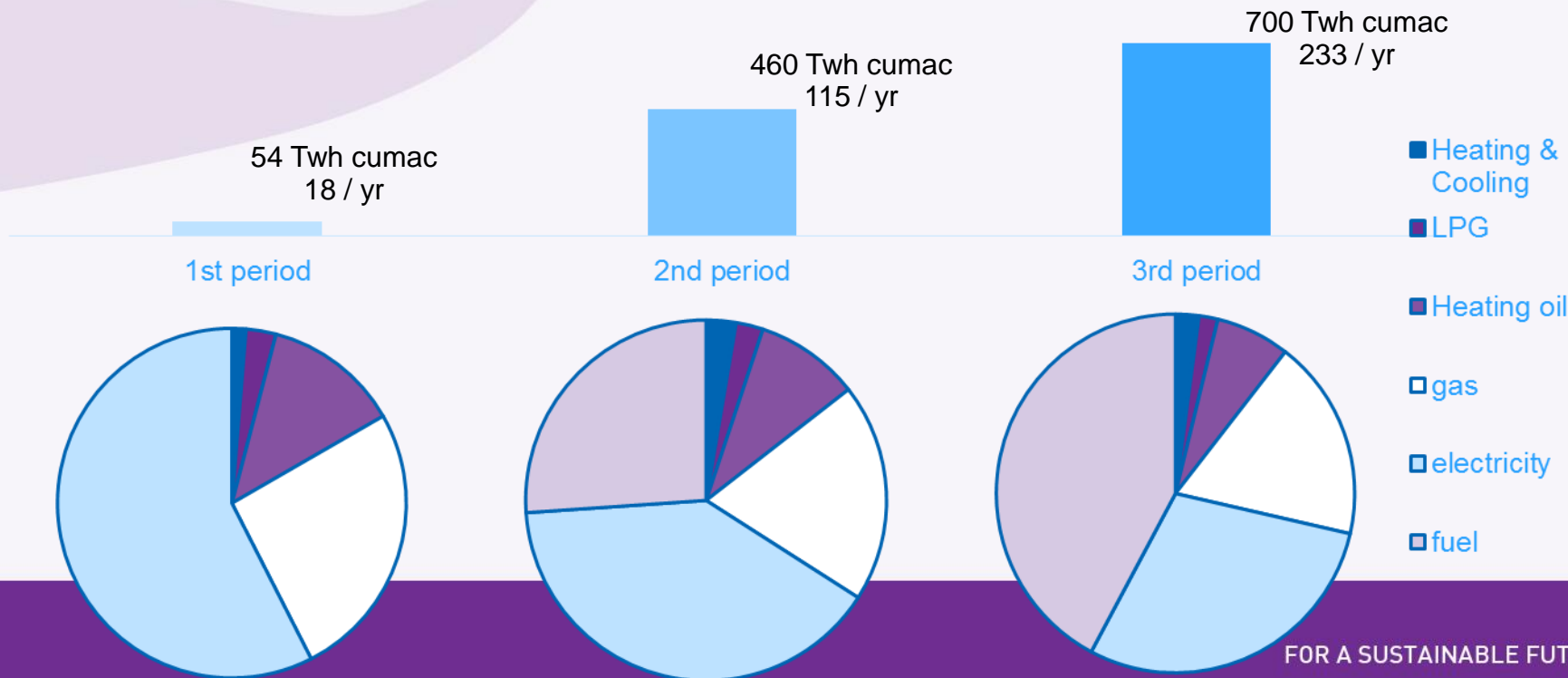
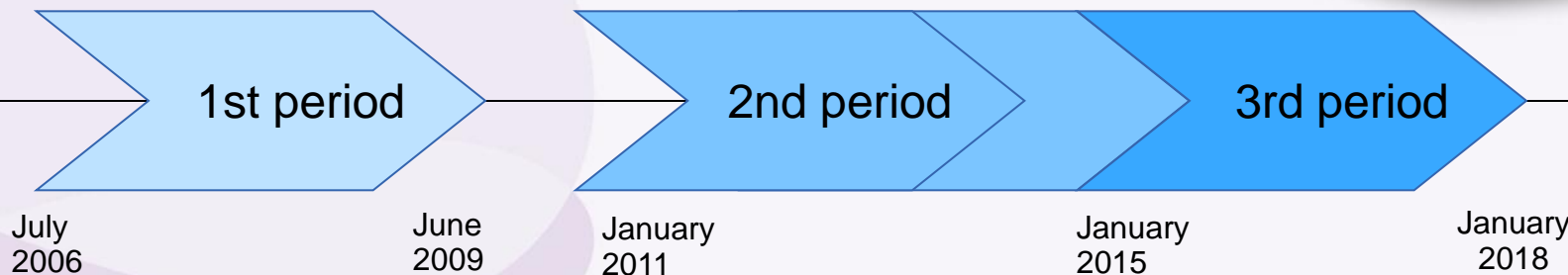
## ▪ Motivations for such a design :

- The attribution of energy saving obligations to energy suppliers is consistent with the « polluter pays » principle
- The energy suppliers are well positioned to advise their clients
- Energy efficiency measures targeting their clients may be beneficial to the energy suppliers
- The freedom left to energy suppliers and the ability to trade certificates enhance the cost effectiveness of the scheme
- The scheme does not involve state funds. It has no explicit cost for the consumer

# Evolutions since 2006



Inclusion of transport fuel suppliers



# Main features : who can participate?



- **Restrictive list of eligible applicants (in order to simplify the scheme)**
  - energy suppliers with an obligation
  - local and regional authorities
  - public housing companies and the ANAH (national agency of housing)
- **Active and incentive contribution in the realization of the energy saving action, targeted individually**
  - The energy supplier can choose freely the nature of his contribution (giving financial incentives, providing a free energy audit, ...)

# Main feature : Energy saving actions

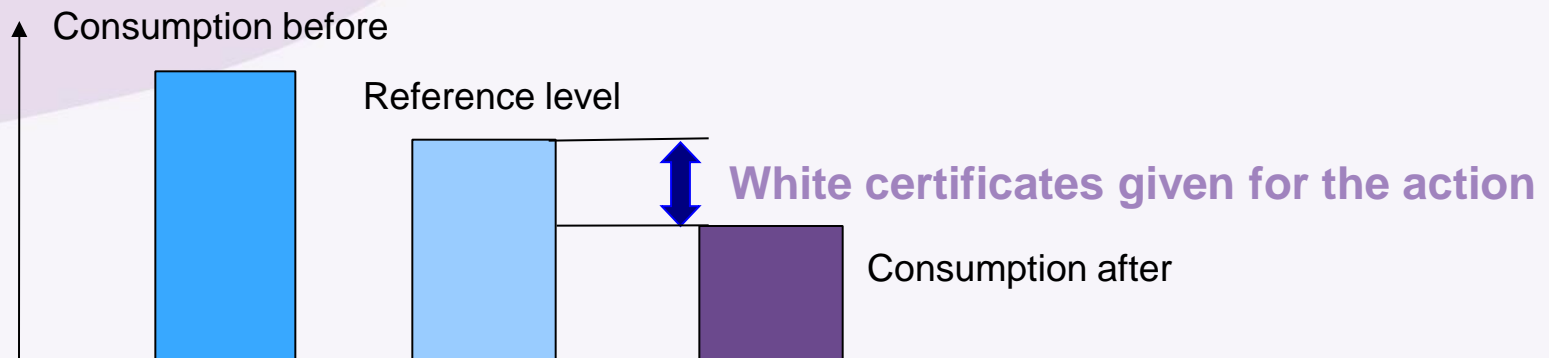


- **All actions taken except installation covered by the European Emission Trading Scheme (ETS)**
- **Standardized actions**
  - For frequent actions
  - Worksheets conceived by stakeholders and approved by administration
  - Minimum quality criteria for products or contractors (should be beyond legislation)
  - Provides standardized amount of white certificates for the action
- **Specific actions**
- **Contribution to information / formation / innovation programs**

# Main features : Energy savings calculation



- **Reference situation : market level, except for buildings (reference situation = park)**  
=> adjustments to take into account ecodesign directive





# Main features : controls



- **Actions relying on worksheet** => a priori calculation and no control of performances
  
- **Specific actions** : more complex process
  - Elements for evaluation of initial situation
  - Elements for reference situation
  - Elements (measures) on final situation
  - Cross validation of energy savings calculation
  
- **Control of documents (not systematic)**
  - Proving the reality of the action
  - Proving the conformity of the action (quality criteria)
  - Proving that the demandeur has been actively promoting the action and the nature of the incentive
  - No double counting

# Lessons learnt so far



- **The scheme is well accepted** : all major suppliers have fulfilled their energy saving obligations during the first periods and have adapted their commercial policy to include energy efficiency issues.
- **The definition of standardized actions** is an efficient way to encourage actions and limit administrative costs
- The freedom left to energy suppliers (for example, an electricity supplier can realize saving actions in the transport sector) and the ability to trade certificates enhance the cost effectiveness of the scheme
- Entities who are not under obligations don't massively participate
- A need for simplification of WC applications is expressed by most stakeholders

# Thank you for your attention



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- **The white certificates are only materialised by their registration on the national white certificates electronic registry ([www.emmy.fr](http://www.emmy.fr))**
- **The tasks of the administrator of the registry are :**
  - Opening accounts for legal entities at their request
  - Registering white certificates delivered
  - After a transaction between legal entities, processing transfers of white certificates
- **The costs are paid only by the legal entities through account opening fees and registration fees.**
- **The registry's administration has been delegated to a company, after a call for tender.**