



Waste & Resource Management

Cost-Benefit Analysis in Waste Management

By comprehensive analyses and evaluation of different waste management options in the course of Cost-Benefit Analyses business and socio-economic effects and environmental effects are quantified and compared. By this means the optimal options can be identified. Achievable savings of business costs and socio-economic costs are enormous. Denkstatt is one of the leading providers of Cost-Benefit Analyses in the European Union.

Background

To contribute to certain goals in environmental protection, goals for recycling and recovery of waste are defined by legislators in amendments and guidelines or eventually by economy itself in voluntary commitments. Usually, by this on the one hand, additional costs are caused; on the other hand environmental benefits are achieved. Such goals for recycling and recovery are "sustainable" respectively "eco-efficient" respectively "socio-economically sensible" only, if costs and benefits are in well-balanced relations. Experience has shown that goals for recycling and recovery can cause additional costs that are several times higher than the ecological benefits, if the relation between costs and benefits has not been considered in the goal definition.

Procedure

- Identification of system boundaries and evaluation of relevant processes (waste management, primary production, ...)
- Quantification of economic, ecological (e.g. green house gas emissions, ...) and eventually social effects
- Monetisation of ecological and eventually social effects. I.e. these effects are transferred into comparable monetary units

- Consolidation of intermediary results (economic, ecological and eventually social) into one integrated result
- Elaboration of recommendations for the waste management strategy

Goals and Benefits

Potential for socio-economic and business cost reductions by improved efficiency (e.g. by determination of optimized targets for recycling and recovery and elaboration of alternative options for reaching quotas) are enormous. Especially when compared to average project costs. Conflicts between legislation, economy and population can be lead to an objective, matter-of-fact base and be solved. The most efficient option for achieving goals can be selected. Results are easily understandable and often suitable for lobbying and public relations.

Why denkstatt

- Our multidisciplinary competency and long-lasting experience in the application of the method of Cost-Benefit Analysis in waste management projects guarantee efficient realisation
- A multitude of successfully completed projects have been conducted by denkstatt in national and international context
- We have experience in the integration of dynamic computer models

References

ARA AG, ARGEV GmbH, Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Austrian Federal Ministry of Economy and Labor, Corepla, Federation of the Hungarian Food Industries, ÖKK AG, Austrian Beverage Association, Austrian Environmental Protection Agency, Plastkretsen AB, Sociedade Ponto Verde, ...