



Regional policy instruments for promoting material efficiency

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Background

- National Waste Prevention Plan for Finland until 2016
- preparation of regional waste plans on-going
- material efficiency (MEf) is the strategy for achieving waste prevention
- recognition of the ecological rucksack of material use (wastes, hidden flows, CO₂ – burdens)

Priority MEf –themes for regional action

1. MEf in municipal procurement
2. MEf in environmental permits for industry
3. Technical assistance for promoting MEf
Prevention of food waste
4. Reuse and repair services

MEf in municipal procurement

PROPOSED ACTION:

- MEf as a central aspect in green procurement
- revision of procurement guidelines; interaction between procurement/environmental experts
- interactive help-desk, regional support and procurement clusters; synergy with Nordic ecolabel
- demonstration projects, models for specific tenders
- life-cycle methods for evaluation of tenders

MEf in environmental permits

PROPOSED ACTION:

- verification of BAT –level of MEf should be required in the permitting process
- Environmental management system as vehicle for BAT preparation of "National BREF for MEf"
- training of permitting authorities and industry
- book-keeping of MEf progress
- synergy with voluntary MEf- agreement
- synergy with supplying technical assistance

Technical assistance for promoting MEf

PROPOSED ACTION:

- MOTIVA is preparing a generic model for MEf auditing and future MEf -agreement
- regional consulting package EcoStart for SME
- promotion of MASCO business, eg. chemical leasing
- industrial ecology demonstrations
- ecodesign – training for industry & engineering offices
- eco-efficiency centres for consumer awareness action

Prevention of food waste

PROPOSED ACTION:

- voluntary agreements with retail chains;
- public disclosure of food waste reporting
- organised food donation system "food bus"
- consumer campaigns on web-site, home economics education
- EMS in institutional kitchens

Reuse and repair services

PROPOSED ACTION:

- repair, lease and reuse services targeted in municipal enterprise strategy and support
- symbiosis between NGOs, social enterprises and commercial service companies
- synergy with the extended producer's responsibility system



proposals being considered ...