



Sustainable Development Strategy 2002

Swiss Federal Council, 2002

Plan of Action (10 action areas with 22 measures)

Action Areas:

- => Economic policy and public services
- => Financial policy
- => Education, research, technology
- => Social cohesion
- => Health
- => Environment and natural resources
- => Spatial and settlement development
- => Mobility
- => Development cooperation and the promotion of peace
- => Methods and instruments

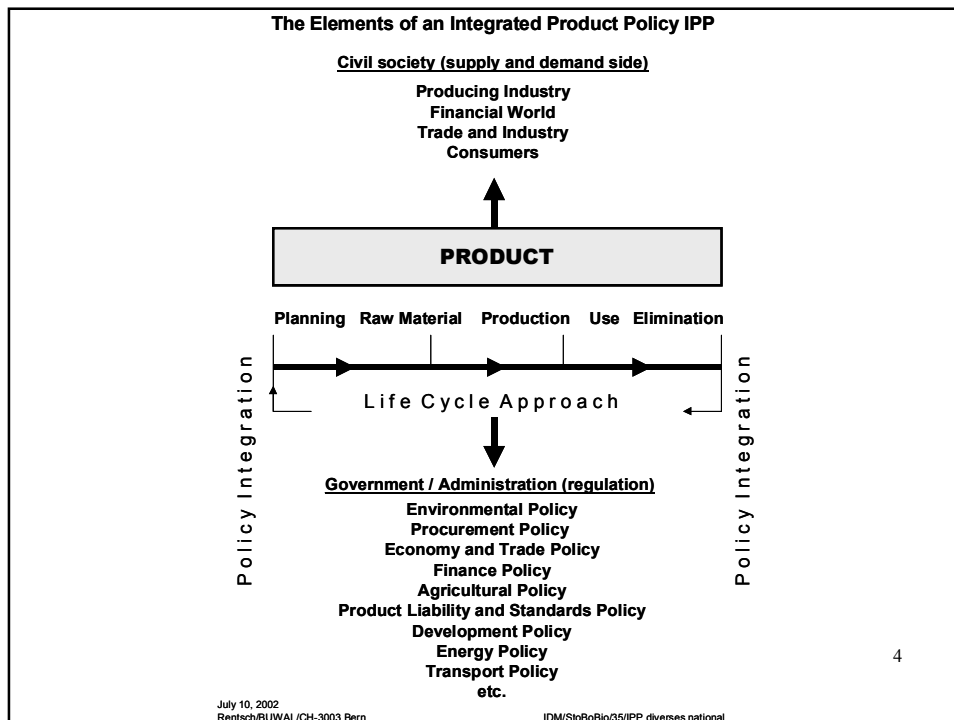
Action area 2 "Financial policy"

Measure 4 "Introduction of an integrated product policy"

- => Principles of sustainable development on the product level (goods and services)
- => Shift public sector and consumer demand towards products that meet high economic, environmental and social standards
- => Stringent economic, environmental and social requirements throughout the whole life cycle of products
- => Principles of IPP at every stage in the formulation and implementation of policies relating to products
- => Criteria and instruments for all policies of relevance to IPP

Ecoinvent 12/03 / IPP / BUWAL / Re

3



Introduction of an Integrated Product Policy

7 domains for implementation

among others

- **Public procurement**

- goods and services

- buildings

- **Agriculture**

- **Product responsibility**

- **Competence center for Life Cycle Assessment**

==> Further infos: www.environment-switzerland.ch/products

Ecoinvent 12/03 / IPP / BUWAL / Re

5

Competence Center for Life Cycle Assessment

„Making high quality ecological data available with a view to carrying out and evaluating quantitative life cycle analyses. Creating the basis for calculating e.g. grey energy, product life cycles and external costs.“

Central idea of creating such a center in the framework of IPP:

- Creating confidence to quantitative life cycle considerations
- Promotion of the application of such life cycle considerations

Implementation in the environmental area:

- high quality data
 - ==> **ecoinvent Center - Swiss center for LCI**
- application of these data, scientifically founded and oriented to practice
 - ==> **ecoinvent Competence center for LCA**

Ecoinvent 12/03 / IPP / BUWAL / Re

6

actual situation

- **still scepticism towards the instrument of LCA: the comparison of apples and pears is not allowed; arbitrary action; easy to manipulate**
- **sectorial thinking within and outside of ecology still dominant**

Ecoinvent 12/03 / IPP / BUWAL / Re

7

Life Cycle Thinking

Each product has its life cycles:

- ecological life cycle
- economic life cycle
- social life cycle
- financial life cycle. etc

Each stage of the life cycle has its specific problems:

- investment risk
- just working conditions
- price definition
- energy use

Ecoinvent 12/03 / IPP / BUWAL / Re

8

The basis of a life cycle assessment is a detailed analysis of the life cycle (life cycle inventory)

==> ecological life cycle

==> transfer to other areas

==> cf. **Life Cycle Initiative** of UNEP and SETAC

Political importance of ecoinvent:

- national data base
- positioning in the ETH-domain
- high quality data in standardised format
- „neutral“ data
- broad spectrum of inventories
- wide spreading
- applicable für many valuation methods

==> **more confidence specifically in ecological LCA**

==> **more confidence in LC considerations generally and promotion of LC considerations over all areas**