

Best Practice from Leverkusen, Germany

Description

"Ecological Project for Integrated Environmental Technology" (EcoProfit / ÖKOPROFIT) is a cooperative approach between the regional authority and local companies with the goal of reducing cost for waste, raw materials, water, and energy. Reductions in these areas also reduce environmental impacts of businesses. The model addresses production companies as well as hospitals, hotels, service companies and tradespeople. Over 20 years it is a successful program for economic empowerment of companies through preventive environmental protection. The program was first developed in Graz / Austria in 1991. Both small and large businesses, manufacturing companies, service providers, craft enterprises and social institutions are part of the network ÖKOPROFIT.

What is done at ÖKOPROFIT?

In eight half-day workshops the major environmental issues are handled. Ways to reduce energy consumption are discussed as well as legal and organizational issues. The workshops will take place at the participating local businesses.

Five consultation appointments: The on-site consultation forms the second pillar of ÖKOPROFIT. The participating companies will be shown in five half-day meetings, in what section the company could improve regarding legal certainty, environmental benefits and cost reduction. It sets out concrete measures to date, accountability and budget for each operation and the implementation of planned. Testing and Achievement: An independent commission reviewed the implementation and incorporation of ÖKOPROFIT in the company. If the company succeeds, it will receive the award as "ÖKOPROFIT company Leverkusen" at a public event.

Factual Information

Impact:

What are the benefits ÖKOPROFIT the participating companies?

- Cost reductions by reducing the consumption of energy, water and resources, and waste water volume.
- Legal certainty by identifying the questions to the company environmental requirements.
- Sharing of experience through regular joint meetings with other participating companies.
- Contact to local authorities.
- Image boost through public award "ÖKOPROFIT company Leverkusen".

The annual savings amount to:

- EUR 61 million operating costs
- 597 million kWh of energy
- 223,000 tons of CO₂
- 3.2 million cubic meters of water
- 42,500 tons of residual waste.

Source: Climate Alliance - <https://www.climatealliance.org/home.html>

