



Zero waste – a vision ?

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Das Land
Steiermark

don't forget the main tasks of waste management !



- to prevent sources of infections (control of epidemics)
- to maintain quality of life
- to eliminate / concentrate hazardous substances

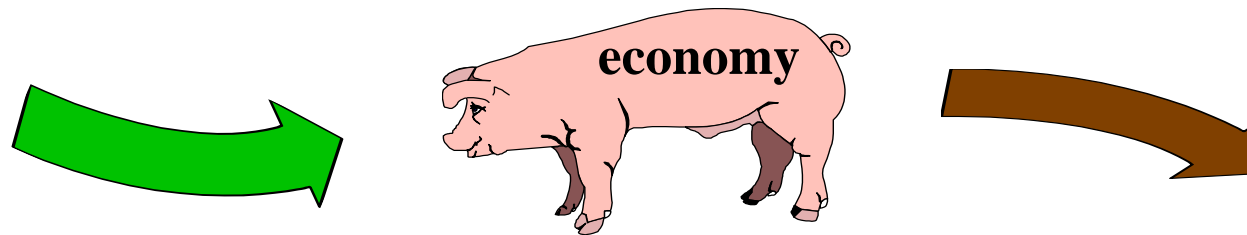
Welt Online, www.welt.de, 10.04.2007:



A „zero waste“ strategy



**can not mean „zero waste“ at the end of the day,
when the economic ambition intends a growth!**



A „zero waste“ strategy means

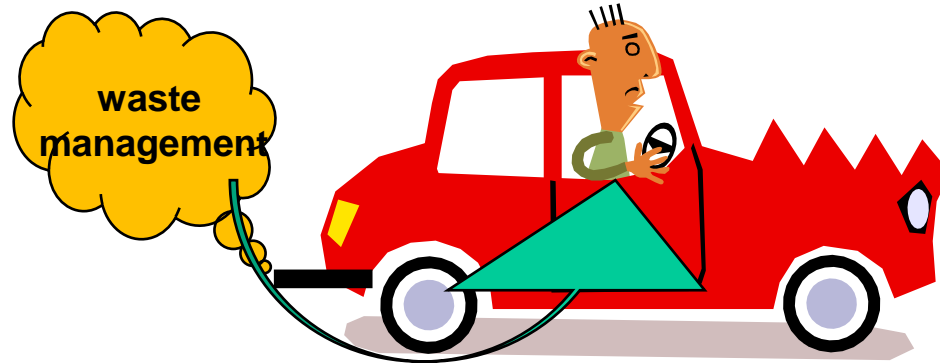
- prevention of waste regarding qualitative and quantitative aspects
- efficient re-use of materials contained in waste
- a comprehensively recycling of waste products by symbiotic networks



waste management



- should be located near the steering wheel of the economy



- goals and principles – waste hierarchy of EU waste frame directive are sufficient
- verbal translation of zero waste into German causes a dilution and brings confusion



Zero waste - key messages



Zero waste strategies could be compared with instruments for orientation
(the stars show us the way, but we will never reach them)

Zero Waste definition by the Zero Waste International Alliance:

*“Zero Waste is a goal that is both pragmatic and visionary, to guide people to emulate sustainable natural cycles, where **all discarded materials are resources for others to use.** ?*

*Zero Waste means designing and managing products and processes to **reduce the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserve and recover all resources, and not burn or bury them.***

*Implementing Zero Waste **will eliminate all discharges to land, water, or air that may be a threat to planetary, human, animal or plant health.**” ?*

Zero Waste seems to be a religion!!

