Seminar in Reykjavik 14th November 2005



How is the situation in Iceland... seen from an external expert?

Peter Sundt, Mepex Consult AS, Norway



Main Activities





The situation today

- Natural resources in Iceland
- Ambitions
- **◆** Instruments
- Results
- Costs and prices for the households
- Statistics
- Conclusion



Natural resources in Iceland

- Plenty of energy and hot water
- Plenty of land and fresh water
- Erosion problems
- Need for more trees that might reduce the wind and the erosion, absorb CO2 and deliver wood/ bio fuel
- Iceland is from nature different from other Nordic countries, the optimal waste solution can therefore not just be copied.



Ambitions

- While Norway and Sweden often have higher targets than EU, it seems that Icelend implement the EU minimum requirements with some extra time lag.
- ◆ Example plastics: Norway and Sweden have to recycle 30% of all packaging within 2008. (Excl beverage bottles). Iceland has to recycle 22,5% within 2011 (incl beverage bottles).
- ◆ Other examples: Norway has a 80% target on WEEE, Ban on landfill a head of EU targets; Sweden (2005) and Norway (2009)
- Conclusions: Different targets may lead to different solutions.
 Possibly a need to cearify ambitions and targets in Iceland.



Instruments

- EPR, Extended producer responsibility, is a principle with great potentials and good results in many countries. Possibly a need in Iceland to clearify this principle and then develop models and systems.
- ◆ To stimulate recycling and reduce climate gases, many countries, except Iceland, have introduced ban on landill and/ or taxes on landfill and even on incineration.



Positive results

- Mixed waste streams from both households and industry have been reduced by ca 30% since 1995
- Recycling has increased by 160% since 1995 to 122.000 tons
- Hazardous waste is taken care of
- Deposit system obtain good results
- Other recycling schemes for trade and industry have recently been introduced
-but still potentials for improvements since 70% of the waste, 345.000 tons, end in landfills.



Status vs national targets

- 1. Recycling targets 2011 to be reached "easily":
- Glass
- Metal
- Wood
- 2. Challenging recycling targets 2011
- Paper (beverage carton, carton corrugated board)
- Plastics
- 3. Challenging recovery target 2011
- 4. Challenging landfill target 2020 (reduce organic waste)
- Paper; De-ink and packaging
- Organic/ food



Costs and prices for households (ISKR)

	Reykjavik	Oslo/ Hamar
Weekly service	7.900	
Service 14 days	4.800	
240 l weekly (+paper monthly)	_	22.200 -
120 l weekly (+paper monthly)	-	16.200 -
140 l every 4 week (+plastics and organic)	-	- 18.000



Statistics

- Statistics are important for planning, reporting and control and even for the general confidence in the systems
- Lack of good statistics is a challenge for many countries in Europe
- Example: Statistics on plastics packaging in Iceland: UST figures differ from LOGISYS and from statistics in other nordic countries.
- Conclusion: Statistics and reporting system should be improved.



Plastic packaging / capita

	Iceland	Norway
	300.000 inh.	4.500.000 inh.
Sources	LOGISYS/ UST	Plastretur + RESIRK
Total	38,6 kg/ 64,8kg	29,3 kg (17 kg in S + SF!!)
Trade / industry/ Fish farming/ agriculture	9,8 kg/32,2	14,1 kg
Households	22,9 kg/32,6 kg	14,4 kg
-of which beverage	-11,2 kg (Oneway) Reykjavik 14.11.05	-0,7 kg(Mostly reuse)



Conclusions

Good basis to meet the challenges

Recycling is increasing, new schemes are implemented recently

4 challenging targets for Iceland:

- Landfill directive, 65 % target 2020
- Paper packaging, 60% target 2011
- Plastics, 22,5% target 2011
- Recovery of packaging, 60% target 2011

Other challenges

- Statistics to be improved
- Finding the best ways to plan and organize the system