



# Instruments and Strategies of Sustainability Management

(Resource ID: 105)

**Maria Baumgartner**

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m.baum(at)aon.at

This teaching resource is allocated to following University:

**BOKU - University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna**

Institution:

**none**

<http://www.sustainicum.at/en/modules/view/105.Instruments-and-Strategies-of-Sustainability-Management>



**Individual work**  
**Group work**

**Independent of**  
**the number of**  
**students**

**Up to 3 lecture**  
**units**

**Internet**  
**connection**  
**necessary**

**English, German**

After a short explanation on the basics of sustainability follows an insight into the instruments and strategies of sustainability management. Based on their "ecological footprint" students learn, in turn, how they can achieve a consistently higher level of sustainability in their own sphere of influence and action by applying sustainability management. By analyzing the current situation and creating a vision students can work toward their goals

gradually and periodically. This course building block is appropriate for all fields of study, in which sustainability can be integrated into the curriculum. The course is conceived as a two-hour unit in seminar form. The recommended number of participants is a maximum of 25 persons.

The basic idea of the building block is bringing the term “sustainability management” to life. By experimenting with instruments and strategies in one’s own sphere of influence, sustainability management becomes applicable in everyday life. Students will become aware of the possibilities and scope of this approach to management.

At the beginning of the course several questions are asked: What do the students associate with sustainability? Which management methods do they know? How do they manage their daily or weekly agendas? (Brainstorm using board or flipchart). Following the brainstorming, a PowerPoint presentation is given on the instruments and strategies of sustainability management such as life cycle analysis, process management, and reporting. As preparation for the second unit, the students test their ecological footprint.

In the second unit the participants rate the sustainability of their current lifestyle based on a scale of 1-10. As a second step, they formulate their vision of a sustainable lifestyle in small groups. As a third step, students work out individual management strategies. The final round includes reflection on the results and a short knowledge check. This can also be completed at the end of the entire course.

The course includes:

Information for the course teacher or presenter

Suggestion for course agenda

Teach materials (PowerPoint presentation, handout, educational game)

Suggestions for possible interactive activities, in which students can collaborate

Knowledge check

Bibliography

Students learn to estimate and change the sustainability of their actions. They recognize that sustainability management is more than a flowery political phrase and an increasingly needed business tool.

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## Teaching Tools & Methods



Written material



Game

## Learning Outcomes

- Basic understanding of sustainability management
- Testing of sustainability management strategies in personal sphere of influence
- Possibility for rapid immersion and professionalization in the field of sustainability management

## Relevance for Sustainability

The building block focuses on the instruments and strategies of sustainability management and therefore has a direct connection to sustainability.

## Related Teaching Resources

No specific previous knowledge / related resources required

## Sustainability criteria

- Interdisciplinary
- Related to global challenges / needs
- Holistic thinking
- Systemic thinking
- Long-term thinking
- Related to acquiring skills

## Preparation Efforts

Medium

## Access

Free

## Sources and Links

BAUMAST A. et al.: Betriebliches Nachhaltigkeitsmanagement, Ulmer UTB Verlag, Stuttgart, 2012

BAUMGARTNER R. J. et al.: Unternehmenspraxis und Nachhaltigkeit: Herausforderungen, Konzepte und Erfahrungen, Rainer Hampp Verlag, München / Mering, 2007.

GRUNWALD A. et al.: Nachhaltigkeit, 2. aktualisierte Auflage. Campus Verlag „Studium“, Frankfurt / New York, 2012.

GUTWINSKI MANAGEMENT: „Grundausbildung zum Nachhaltigkeitsmanager“, Ausbildungsunterlagen, Brunn am Gebirge, 2004.

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LUDWIKOWSKI J.: Das Nachhaltigkeits-Konzept in deutschen Unternehmen: Modetrend oder Notwendigkeit?, Diplomica Verlag GmbH, Hamburg, 2010.

WELZER H. et al.: Perspektiven einer nachhaltigen Entwicklung. Wie sieht die Welt im Jahr 2050 aus?, Fischer Taschenbuch Verlag, Frankfurt a. Main, 2012

### **Internet:**

(Zugriffe im August und September 2012)

<http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nachhaltigkeitsmanagement>

<http://www.fussabdruck.at/>

<http://www.globalreporting.org>

<http://www.mein-fussabdruck.at>

<http://www.nachhaltigkeit.at>

<http://www.unglobalcompact.org/>

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