

BalticClimate Toolkit



[1]

Submitted 6 years 11 months ago by [Erwin Hofman](#) [2].



The BalticClimate Toolkit provides local and regional level policy makers, spatial planners, and the business community with climate mitigation and adaptation support.

Applicability?

The BalticClimate toolkit supports the development of a company and assists to increase the competitiveness. The toolkit assesses how climate change will affect transport, housing, energy, and agriculture in a region, and what opportunities new conditions and situations will provide.

Process of tool application

The Climate SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) is constructed in four phases: (1) Identification of product life cycle stages, (2) Identification of climate impacts now and in the future, (3) Significance assessment of the climate impacts, and (4) Compilation of the Climate SWOT.

The required resources for implementation of the Climate SWOT analysis of the BalticClimate toolkit include economic resources to fund a person/team to identify the product LCA, climate impacts information, to undertake the assessment of significance of climate impacts, and for the compilation of the Climate SWOT.

Benefits?

The value of sustainability can be materialized in various ways:

- When the focus of sustainability is on regulatory compliance, the main value is derived through protection of the license to operate on the market (e.g. meeting the climate targets set in the EU climate policy).
- Considering sustainability aspects of businesses, it can help to identify potential risks of operations. Therefore, sustainability assessment can be a valuable support for risk management. Prevention of climate related risks reduce costs of emergency response, product liability costs, and insurance premiums (e.g. investments in walls and barriers to prevent damage caused by floods resulted from increasing temperature and precipitation).
- Focusing on operational efficiency often contributes to both cost reductions and improvement of eco-efficiency. Economic benefits are achieved through increased productivity, more efficient resource use, minimization of waste, and sustainable design of investments (improvements in energy efficiency, e.g. energy saving services).
- A typical way to create value from sustainability is to increase competitiveness through image improvement. By safeguarding corporate image and brand, customer loyalty can be improved (e.g. cooperation with NGOs).
- Enhancing sustainability attributes of products throughout the value chain can be a source for market growth (e.g. carbon footprints for products).
- Monitoring and managing strategic sustainability issues in society can be a driving force for innovations leading to redirection or redefinition of existing business concepts. Consequently, new sustainable markets can be developed based on new product or service concepts (e.g. car sharing).
- The value of sustainability can also be observed as improved staff motivation. This can be an extremely important issue in countries with an aging population, which will be forced to compete for qualified and motivated work force in the near future. Sustainable corporate culture can create more attraction on employment markets.

Examples?

Examples of the implementation of the toolkit can be found at <http://www.toolkit.balticclimate.org/en/examples> [3].

References

<http://toolkit.balticclimate.org/> [4]

Category: Planning [5]

Tags: inventory analysis [6], vulnerability assessment [7], SWOT [8], planning [9], climate change [10]

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