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CIRCULAR ECONOMY

GOVERNMENT AND
STAKEHOLDER
ENGAGEMENT BENEFITS

SOME PRACTICAL WINS AND
LOSSES

OVERVIEW

- How to achieve a well balanced Circular Economy Program
- Key elements in stakeholder consultation (government, business and community)
- Four working examples of circular economy / recycling that have good results (and some lessons)
- Failure and success points
- How we help organisations solve problems

HOW TO ACHIEVE A GOOD RESULTS IN CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- Consultation needs to identify who is the best player to be part of the team (who does what)
- Public Sector and Private Sector balance
- Education of the supply chain and the community
- Reuse of material (off-take)
- Rehabilitation of land
- Long term commercial viability
- Involvement with social / community programs



A photograph of a worker in a red hard hat and high-visibility vest standing in a large pile of cardboard waste. The worker is seen from the back, looking towards the right. The background is filled with a dense pile of flattened cardboard boxes and other debris. The lighting is somewhat dim, suggesting an indoor industrial setting.

STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT / CONSULTATION

- Any recycling / circular economy needs to be
 - Convenient / easy to use
 - Not time consuming
 - Financial benefit
 - “See” the results
- Our experience is that when stakeholders (people and organisations) don't see the above four points they lose confidence and effort declines

EXAMPLE (NORTH - WEST QUEENSLAND)

- Food waste was a significant problem with poor landfill management (odour and stormwater runoff) in a remote area
- Plus, due to the location of the area – long way to any viable recycler



EXAMPLE (NORTH - WEST QUEENSLAND)

Solution -

- Local council provided compost bins to residents
 - Reduced food waste to landfill
 - Allowed residents to use compost in their yard / farm
 - One off costs – reduced ongoing operational cost
 - Support from residents and local indigenous community



EXAMPLE (GOLD COAST QUEENSLAND)

Problem

- A local Aged care facility produced high amount of food and green waste (gardens)
- Excessive food waste costs
- High need for compost



EXAMPLE (GOLD COAST QUEENSLAND)

Solution

- An arrangement was made with a local organic waste processor so that the material is collected and transported to a facility
- Soon to involve local community groups (waterway repair works)



EXAMPLE (GOLD COAST QUEENSLAND)

- Waste was returned as compost material and then used as garden soil
 - Reduced waste to landfill
 - Commercial saving
 - Excess compost given to local environment group for creek rehabilitation



EXAMPLE (SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND)

Problem

- Local Council has collected large amount of plastic waste at their landfill
- Plastic is low value – so difficult to be commercial

Solution

- Potential use of plastic waste into roads (working with supplier) – this is currently under commercial negotiation



EXAMPLE (QUEENSLAND)

- In every state of Australia a container refund schemes exists
- The price of a container (can or plastic bottle) has been increased by 16 cents
- And the public can return the container for 10 cents



EXAMPLE (QUEENSLAND)

- A person can decide if their 10 cents goes to themselves or another organisation (donation)
- The other 6 cents is used for scheme operation and recycling



EXAMPLE (NORTHERN QUEENSLAND)

- The collection of containers is well organised and almost every container is donated to a local community group (pays for new services)
- Use of social enterprises and community groups to create sense of involvement



TARGETED CONSULTATION – NOT WIDE

- Initially it is suggested that separate consultation sessions
- One session(s) is focussed for government staff
- One session(s) is for community organisations
- One session(s) for the business and industry
- This allows participants a “safe” opportunity to discuss the project

TARGETED CONSULTATION

- Our experience tells us that nearly all businesses and nearly all governments are hesitant to discuss commercial matters in the first instance if the session involves a wide audience
- Otherwise you are asking a business to tell everyone their business “secrets”
- Earn their “trust” first.... Otherwise it is very hard work.

SUMMARY

- Understand what is the Feedstock, Processing and off-take - recycling
- Stakeholders need to be engaged early but they need to see the benefit
- Community involvement – is a key plus
- Long term commercial viability is critical
- Sometimes it's just targeted small items that can produce the best results

HARBAK – HOW WE HELP



- We do a lot of technical research in the initial phase (volumes, existing infrastructure, recycling facilities as well as a review of proposed strategies)
- We encourage in-house workshops with our clients so we can discuss our initial findings BEFORE any consultation is undertaken (we want to make sure we are correct)

HOW WE HELP

- A key issues paper is prepared (for consultation and working purposes)
- Consultation is targeted (as noted before) with individual groups or businesses
- A strategy / plan / report is then prepared that includes early financial assessment
- A risk report / plan is given to the client

ANY
QUESTIONS??

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