Bin2Bean

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Practice abstract 31

Business Model for Circular Bio-waste Valorisation: Turning Organic Waste into Sustainable Soil Solutions #1

The **BIN2BEAN** project develops innovative business models to support the transition from conventional organic waste management systems toward regenerative soil-based solutions. The central aim is to identify pathways that are economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally beneficial for converting bio-waste into high-quality soil improvers, while responding to the specific conditions of different urban and regional contexts.

Living Labs and Practical Testing

A key component of the project is the use of Living Labs as **real-world experimentation environments**. In Amsterdam, Hamburg and Egaleo, a range of circular bio-waste solutions were implemented and tested under practical conditions. These included community composting schemes, school-based composting initiatives, door-to-door organic waste collection systems and anaerobic digestion approaches. The Living Labs enabled the project to capture context-specific insights, reflecting differences in governance structures, citizen behaviour, infrastructure and operational capacity. This comparative experimentation provided a strong empirical basis for assessing the feasibility and transferability of alternative business models across cities.

Evaluation Methodology

To ensure a structured and transparent comparison, the project applied a **multi-criteria scoring framework**. Each business model was evaluated using indicators rated from 1 (very weak) to 5 (very strong), grouped into three core dimensions:

1. technical, operational and economic feasibility;
2. social impact;
3. environmental impact.

The aggregation of scores across categories allowed for **systematic comparison** between solutions and supported evidence-based assessment of their potential for replication and scaling.

Project partners

Consorzio Italbiotec · Wageningen University & Research · N3 Nachhaltigkeitsberatung Dr. Friege & Partner · Ruokavirasto Livsmedelsverket Finnish Food Authority · euroquality A Warrant Hub Company · HiCE Shaping the Circular Economy · Stadtreinigung Hamburg · etaflorence renewableenergies · AMS Amsterdam Institute for Advanced Metropolitan Solutions

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