#### Engineering Conferences International ECI Digital Archives

Life Cycle Assessment and Other Assessment Tools for Waste Management and Resource Optimization

Proceedings

6-7-2016

#### Life Cycle Assessment and economic evaluation of the recovery of materials in an urban waste management system

Giovanni De Feo University of Salerno, Department of Industrial Engineering (DIIn), via Giovanni Paolo II, 312 – 84084 Fisciano (Sa), Italy, g.defeo@unisa.it

Alessio Finelli M.Sc. in Environmental Science, via Italo Calvino 14, 80011 Acerra (Na), Italy

Alberto Grosso Agenzia Regionale per la Protezione dell'Ambiente della Campania (ARPAC), via Vicinale

Santa Maria del Pianto Centro Polifunzionale, Torre n. 1, 80143 Naples, Italy

Follow this and additional works at: http://dc.engconfintl.org/lca\_waste Part of the <u>Engineering Commons</u>

#### **Recommended** Citation

Giovanni De Feo, Alessio Finelli, Alberto Grosso, and Santa Maria del Pianto, "Life Cycle Assessment and economic evaluation of the recovery of materials in an urban waste management system" in "Life Cycle Assessment and Other Assessment Tools for Waste Management and Resource Optimization", Professor Umberto Arena, Second University of Naples, Italy Professor Thomas Astrup, Denmark Technical University, Denmark Professor Paola Lettieri, University College London, United Kingdom Eds, ECI Symposium Series, (2016). http://dc.engconfintl.org/lca\_waste/27

This Abstract and Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Proceedings at ECI Digital Archives. It has been accepted for inclusion in Life Cycle Assessment and Other Assessment Tools for Waste Management and Resource Optimization by an authorized administrator of ECI Digital Archives. For more information, please contact franco@bepress.com.

Life Cycle Assessment and Other Assessment Tools for Waste Management and Resource Optimization

# LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (LCA) AND ECONOMIC EVALUATION OF THE RECOVERY OF MATERIALS IN AN URBAN WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

#### **Giovanni De Feo**\*, Alessio Finelli, Alberto Grosso



\* Department of Industrial Engineering (DIIN), University of Salerno, 84084, via Giovanni Paolo II 132, Fisciano (Sa), Italy, *g.defeo@unisa.it* 



June 5-10, 2016 - Grand Hotel San Michele - Cetraro (Calabria), Italy

### Main aim of the study

The main aim of this study was to perform a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) as well as an economic evaluation of the recovery of recyclable materials in an Urban Waste Management System.



### The main components of Urban Waste

Urban Waste is mainly composed of three fractions: 1) putrescible materials,
2) recyclables materials, and 3) residual waste ('residue').





### The main components of Urban Waste

- The <u>PUTRESCIBLE</u> materials have to be collected separately and sent to composting and/or anaerobic digestion plants.
- The <u>RECYCLABLES</u> materials have to be sorted and sent to the proper industrial facilities.
- the <u>RESIDUE</u> could be further selected to be sent to energy recovery plants.







### Packaging waste

If citizens separate erroneously urban waste fractions, they produce both environmental and economic damages.





## Packaging waste

- On the base of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), a Municipality receives an economic amount for each kilogram of packaging waste collected.
- In Italy, this activity is managed by CONAI (a private system, created and designed by companies).
- The "CONAI system" is based on the activities of six consortia each dedicated to promoting and control the most used materials in the packaging production i.e. <u>steel</u>, <u>aluminum</u>, <u>paper</u>, <u>wood</u>, <u>plastics</u> and <u>glass</u>.



### Packaging waste

 Packaging waste that goes into the residue represents an economic damage (a loss of the "CONAI contribution" and the payment of the disposal fees) as well as an environmental burden.





#### Improving the efficiency of source separation



### A 'perfect' source separate collection system



#### A 'better' source separate collection system



#### The case study area

- The environmental and economic evaluation was performed for the case study of Nola (39.19 km<sup>2</sup>, 34.349 inhabitants, and 876.47 ab./km<sup>2</sup>) in the Province on Naples, in the Campania Region of Southern Italy.
- Nola has a kerbside system which assured a percentage of separate collection of 61% in 2015.



#### Phases included in the LCA analysis

The LCA analysis included the treatment and disposal phases as well as the collection and transport phases.



## LCA software tool and Impacts categories

- The LCA software tool: SimaPro
- Impact assessment methods:
  - ✓ ReCiPe 2008 (for the mediumterm perspective Hierarchist both for midpoint and endpoint levels)

#### SimaPro 🕉





✓ Ecological footprint



✓ IPCC 2013 (100 years)



climate change

#### The scenarios analysed

- The environmental and economic analysis were developed for different real and hypothetical scenarios based on:
  - ✓ increasing percentages of separate collection, and
  - ✓ different composition analyses of urban waste.
    - > 2013 (hp1) (real%)
    - > 2014 (hp1) (real%)
      - 2014 (hp1) (65%)
      - 2014 (hp1) (70%)
      - 2014 (hp1) (75%)
      - 2014 (hp1) (80%)
    - 2014 (hp2) (real%)
    - 2014 (hp3) (real%)
    - 2014 (hp4) (real%)

### **Composition analysis hypothesis**



### **Economic hypothesis**



#### **Moneys for Collected and Collectible materials**



#### **ReCiPe 2008 single endpoint**



**Results** 

### Carbon Footprint 2014 (65-80%) saving



**Results** 

### Land Occupation 2014 (65-80%) saving



**Results** 

## Environmental, economic and social benefits

- Avoiding that recyclable materials go into residual waste is a benefit both in environmental and economic terms.
- It is also a social potential benefit because the Municipality could invest the economic saving in environmental campaigns entrusted to young people.



