

Module 04 : Planning operations

cewas



Resource Recovery and Reuse
(RRR) Entrepreneurship

Introductory video module 4: Planning Operations

“Hi and welcome to module 4 of this online course: Planning Operations.

My name is Leonellha and I have been working with cewas for the past 8 years. My experience with RRR entrepreneurship started back in 2009 when I was in charge of opening a new business line for an Indian organisation that dealt with nature-based sanitation solutions and the related products. I was so fascinated by the sector that I decided to pursue my MBA in entrepreneurship and now with practical experience as well as with theory I am able to train entrepreneurs all over the world.

I will be your trainer for this module and will guide you through the most important steps for assessing your technology options and planning your operations accordingly. Now that you have scanned the business environment and developed your business model you should have more clarity on the potential technologies that you can use for producing your RRR product. More precisely, you should have an idea on the size of your market and the quantity of waste available, so that you can start thinking about the scale of your operation.

I say start thinking, because the scale of your operation and the capacity of your technology will also depend on other factors like the legal limits, investment costs, location of your business and acceptance by neighbouring communities - yes, a big composting plant does smell. Furthermore the type of technology also has to be carefully chosen. Energy and water requirements, needed labour force and know-how to operate and maintain it, land requirements etc. are also important factors to take into account when choosing a technology. In this module, I will explain the various assessment questions you need to answer and introduce selected technologies for waste-to-energy, waste-to-nutrients and waste-to-water businesses.

Once you have chosen your technology, you need to calculate the costs for buying this technology, for operating and maintaining it over the years and for assigning staff to operate it. I will give you some handy tools for planning and budgeting your logistics.

I will also lead you through a business risk assessment in this module. Every business faces risks that can come from the business environment that you operate in or from your own business operations. Examples are the risk of rising petrol prices, changes in regulations, changes in customer preferences, accidents in your production plant or employees stealing money. The list of potential risks could go on and on. Since these risks can cause loss of profits and in the worst case loss of lives, they need to be properly managed. Since you cannot manage all the possible risks that are out there, I will show you how you can assess your top priority risks – with a particular focus on the health and environmental risks of your business.

To get started, watch the video of week 1 below!”