Calculation of CO₂ Reduction Figures: a simple yardstick with many ways to be calculated

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Questions to be answered

- Using BTL reduces the GWP by X% compared to fossil fuel
- Using a specific amount (e.g. 1 MJ or 1 kg) of BTL reduces the GWP by Y kg (or another appropriate unit) compared to fossil fuel



Calculations of potential reduction



□ fuel production ■ fuel distribution □ fuel taxes □ costs of the car incl. maintenance ■ taxes, car

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Example GWP of BTL-Diesel



Neglecting parts of the life cycle leads to different conclusions concerning reduction potentials expressed as a percentage



And again: How much better are biofuels?

- If we want an answer like "the use of biofuel has ???% lower GWP than fossil fuels" than we have to include the all parts of the life cycle, e.g. for transports also cars and streets
- Neglecting certain parts of the life cycle, even if the same for both options, will bias the results
- System boundaries must be stated correctly if comparing reduction figures, e.g. well-to-wheel should include the wheel
- See www.esu-services.ch/btl/ for background paper

How much CO₂ can be compensated?

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Catchwords

- Our company is CO₂ neutral
- We did carbon compensation
- You can be climate neutral
- By means of Climate Protection Projects

 How much can CO₂ emissions be reduced in reality by such claims?



The Idea

- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by replacing fossil energy uses with renewable energy
- Support for energy efficient technologies and energy saving
- The polluter pays in order to compensate the own CO2 emissions with external projects



The impact





Conclusion

- Maximum reduction of GWP is 50%
- CO₂ neutrality is not possible by means of compensation
- In reality many reductions will only be achieved in future and not today. Today emissions might even be the same
- Personal backpacks are just shifted but not removed from the atmosphere
- Double counting is possible if products from the compensation side are sold

Such projects should be claimed as a green investment or donation rather than a neutralization or compensation

Annexe



How much are the additional costs of biofuels?

	BtL	Diesel	Cumulative Increase in %	Cumulative absolute Increase	
Fuel Production	€ 0.60	€ 0.30	100%	€ 0.30	
Fuel Distribution	€ 0.50	€ 0.50	38%	€ 0.30	
Fuel Taxes	€ 0.70	€ 0.70	20%	€ 0.30	
Costs of Car and Maintenance	€ 0.50	€ 0.50	15%	€ 0.30	
Insurance	€ 0.50	€ 0.50	12%	€ 0.30	
Total	€ 2.80	€ 2.50	12%	€ 0.30	

Please note: These values are approximated for driving a certain amount of biofuel for illustration purpose. They do not reflect the reality. Page 12



Interpretation of reduction

