

## **Remarks of Mr. Rainer Carius, Ministry of the Environment Baden-Württemberg, Germany, about STAVE**

**Dr. Wilfried Konrad (WK):** Mr. Carius, you have intensively been involved in developing and testing the STAVE tool. Which insights did you gain through STAVE?

**Mr. Rainer Carius (RC):** Well, there are various. Most striking for me was the insight that it is possible to get such valuable findings by a project of this kind. Secondly, I have liked STAVE because it provided the opportunity to learn about how people actual think about policies. Certainly, we as policymakers have assumptions about citizens' reasoning, but to review these in reality is a very special aspect. So, STAVE drives one, and I have appreciated this very much, to match perceptions, ideas, and suggestions with reality, thus imposing them to a facts check or reality check.

**WK:** What are the strengths of STAVE from your point of view, what do you think?

**RC:** A quite special strength that truly has become obvious both qualitatively and quantitatively during implementation was STAVE's ability to cause participants to reflect upon their own behaviour. That is to say, to express it more sophisticatedly, to trigger a process of self-perception because we all in our daily behaviours are framed by expectations and things we deem right. But if we then really do it, or if we reflect upon our actions by keeping a diary, we will get other ideas, new ideas, and this for me has been a very special strength STAVE has demonstrated. And this comes along with the fact that these insights has been gained with relatively low efforts, therefore entailing a high level of efficiency.

**WK:** Would you, against the backdrop of your experience, recommend other policymakers, in a sense other colleagues, using STAVE?

**RC:** In each case! As said before, due to its efficiency, the relatively low efforts and very good results, I think the tool is very well integrable into policy processes. Furthermore, it is flexible enough to react also to requirements of other departments or policy fields. So, I can highly recommend looking at it favourably. And there will be no considerable temporal delays because the findings are of such a high quality that repetitions or improvements or adaptations you would otherwise need to carry out are not necessary from the outset. Moreover, from a substantive point of view STAVE provides the possibility to shape policies in a different way than if one had not used it.

**WK:** Thank you very much Mr. Carius for these interesting remarks.

**RC:** You're welcome.