

Hannah's Insights

The Swiss National Bank Suspends Profit Distribution

by Hannah Wise, our external editor



Due to the war in Ukraine, the subsequent fight against inflation and big losses, the SNB has suspended the profit distribution. In her video, Hannah points out the effects of this decision.

[Link to the video](#)

Other Highlights:

Why Economists Don't Much Like Subsidies

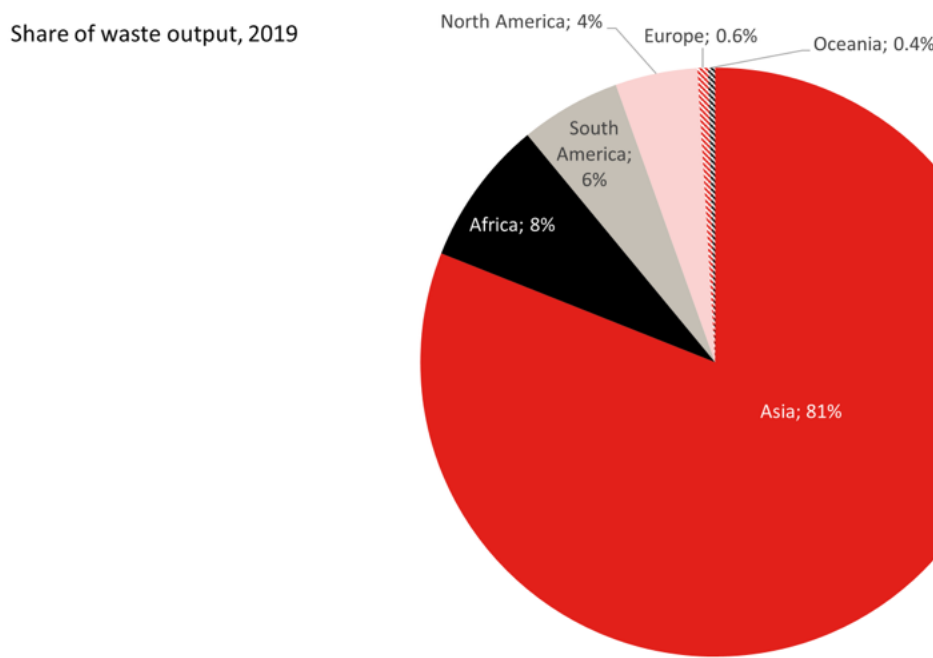
In recent years subsidies have become socially acceptable again as was the case during the coronavirus pandemic, for example. From an economic perspective, however, it has long been clear that subsidies are an extremely static instrument that is all too often accompanied by market distortions and warped incentives in the allocation of resources.

Where to Go with the Mountains of Plastic?

Waste, as far as the eye can see. New land masses are being created consisting of pure plastic. This “Great Pacific Garbage Patch” now covers three times the area of France. Europe is desperately trying to counteract this catastrophic trend. Certain Swiss cities have banned plastic tableware from their territory. But are these measures really efficient?

Hardly any waste from Europe in the oceans

Only a marginal proportion of the plastic discharged into the world's oceans comes from Europe. However, this makes waste exports to Asia all the more problematic, as that is where the majority of marine plastic originates.



Source: Meijer et al. 2021

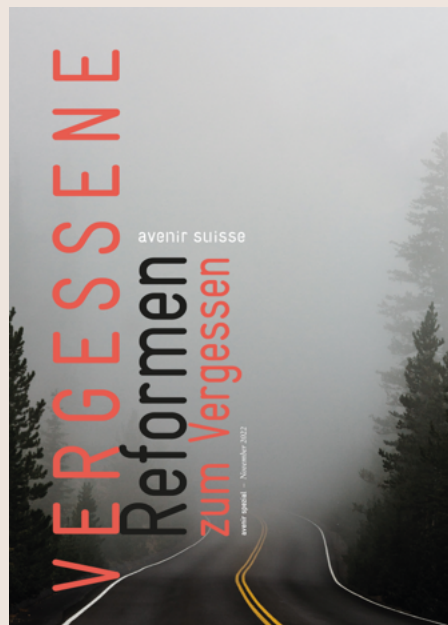
New Publication Coming in February:

What framework conditions will enable as many patients as possible to benefit from medical innovations – without causing healthcare costs to explode? In an upcoming study, Avenir Suisse proposes new financing models in order to keep the small Swiss market attractive for international pharmaceutical companies. The publication will appear at the end of February 2023.

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