Rat für
NACHHALTIGE
Entwicklung

Report 2007–2010
German Council for Sustainable Development

The Next Stage

Webbing Sustainable Development into Society

text No. 30, February 2010

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The German Council for Sustainable Development

The German Council for Sustainable Development has the task to provide recommendations on sustainability politics, to suggest model projects and to strengthen the topic in the public. The council was appointed by Chancellor Gerhard Schröder in April 2001. In June 07, Chancellor Angela Merkel appointed new members and reinforced the tasks of the council.

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The Next Stage

Webbing Sustainable Development into Society

Progress Report 2007 – 2010

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Council Members 2007 – 2010

Dr. Volker Hauff, former Federal Minister (Chairman)

Prof Dr. Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director IASS, former Executive Director UNEP

Federal Minister, (Deputy Chairman)

Horst Frank, Mayor of the City of Constance

Dr. Hans Geisler, former Minister of State

Prof. Dr. Ute Klammer, Prorector at the University of Duisburg-Essen

Prof. Dr. Edward G. Krubasik, former member of the Corporate Executive Committee of Siemens (1997 – 2007), honorary professor

Thomas Loster, Münchener Rück Stiftung

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Rimpau, Chairman of the German Agricultural Society e.V.

Prof. Dr. Georg Teutsch, Scientific Director Helmholtz
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Marlehn Thieme, Member of the Council of Lutheran Churches in Germany (EKD), Director of Deutsche Bank AG

Christiane Underberg, Underberg KG (2007 – 2008)

Susanne Weber-Mosdorf, WHO (2007)

Hubert Weinzierl, President of the German League for Nature and Environment (DNR), the umbrella organisation of German conservation and environmental protection organisations

Michael Vassiliadis, Chairman of the industrial union of Mining, Chemical and Energy (IG BCE)

Ranga Yogeshwar (2007 – 2008)

Prof. Dr. Angelika Zahrnt, professor, Honorary President of "Friends of the Earth Germany" (BUND)

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1. Preliminary remarks

The German Council for Sustainable Development was established by the German government in 2001 following a unanimous decision in the German parliament in 1998. The Council submitted a 2001 - 2007 Progress Report detailing the activities it had conducted during its first two terms. [1] The present report outlines the activities undertaken by the Council during the period May 2007 to March/May 2010.

This progress report is based on a self-assessment made by the Council. Such a self-evaluation cannot rule out shortcomings that might have been avoided had this report been compiled by an independent external organisation. However, a self-evaluation has the advantage that the authors are highly familiar with the subject. Moreover, as part of its mandate, the Council is called upon to further the shaping of public opinion on complex sustainability issues. This includes evaluating its own work.

The Peer Review of German sustainable development policy (see further below) extensively addresses, among other things, the work of the German Council for Sustainable Development. Members of the Peer Group have examined the Council's mandate as well as its work potential, and have also outlined the role the Council could potentially play in further developing the German sustainability strategy.

2. Evaluation

Although the work of the German Council for Sustainable Development has been successful, the limitations of such a work model are also apparent.

In 2007, a review conducted by the Council members at that time of the first six years' work, from 2001 to 2007, came to the conclusion that the work of the German Council for Sustainable Development needed to be more effective and that its public communications on progress achieved, though already well-developed, could still be improved.

Both of these have been accomplished according to the most recent evaluation. It has been possible to convey the idea of sustainability and further enhance its quality. Both the general public and business circles are now far more familiar with the idea of sustainability than was the case three years ago. In this respect, it is reasonable to speak of a new stage. At the same time, however, it is noticeable that the term is frequently used more recklessly and superficially. The Council stands for reinforcing the content of sustainability issues, most notably with respect to consumption, sustainable economic management, sustainability strategy, land use, energy policy, and fiscal and tax policy. The Council has played a part in this subject becoming more widely accepted among the general public and businesses over the past three years even though it is difficult to quantify just how big a part it played.

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[1] 2001 - 2007 Progress Report of the German Council for Sustainable Development http://www.nachhaltigkeitsrat.de/dokumente/bestellservice/bestelldokumente/taetigkeitsbericht-2001-2007-des-rates-fuer-nachhaltige-entwicklung [pdf, 746 KB]

By virtue of the quality of its political work and its public appearances, the Council has succeeded in bringing the notion of sustainability to a wider audience, in stimulating a constructive perception and discussion of its content, and in encouraging business and society actors to deepen the application of the concept and knowledge of innovations.

The Council has been able to sharpen its profile most notably through its innovative process of dialogue, its annual conferences and the Peer Review. For the first time in its history, the Council has also initiated and moderated cross-departmental cooperation projects sponsored by the German government.

The amount of personal effort invested in the Council's work by Council members has risen, even though it may not be evenly spread. Not all of those appointed to the Council in 2007 were able to keep up with their commitments or work due to time and capacity restraints.

The extra work capacity granted to the head office by the German government at the beginning of the Council's term of office has stood the Council in good stead. Its operations were significantly disrupted, however, due to the head office of the Council moving into the premises of GTZ on 1.1.2008, as this meant, among other things, having to terminate and renegotiate existing contracts and to rebuild the entire technical environment.

The success also highlights the limitations besetting the work of the German Council for Sustainable Development in its political advisory role. The work capacity of the German Council for Sustainable Development runs contrary to what is perceived to be the necessary coverage of issues. The Council's working capacity is limited by the amount of time Council members can devote and the capacity available at the head office of the Council. These restrictions also limit the means of developing visions of sustainable development and compelling visionary perspectives on individual topics as well as of becoming more actively engaged in shaping the national and international debate.

The term 'sustainability' is enjoying a surge in use in politics and society. It is frequently misinterpreted and used incorrectly, however. Even when applied properly, it fails to reach every section of the population. As can be seen in general civic education, the notion especially fails to reach people with migration background altogether or only to an insufficient degree. At times, these target groups are completely forgotten about.

Putting aside the accomplishments in terms of conveying what sustainability aims for and seeing an improvement in sustainability strategy, it must be stated that sustainability has yet to become a mainstream action for politicians, society and business. It remains important to work on the various sustainability approaches and processes, and especially their dissemination and implementation. This was also pointed out in the Peer Review.

3. Focus of the Council’s work

Constitutive meeting 2007, tasks and work process

At a constitutive meeting held at the German Chancellery on 12th June 2007, the members of the German Council for Sustainable Development elected their chairperson and deputy

chairperson by secret ballot. Dr. Volker Hauff was elected Chairman and Prof. Dr. Klaus Töpfer Deputy Chairman, both of whom accepted their elected positions.

The functions and duties of the Council, as prescribed by the German cabinet - advising the German government on all sustainability strategy issues; proposing goals, indicators and projects for sustainability; effectively communicating the idea of sustainable development to the public – created a suitable framework for the Council's activities in the reporting period.

At the inauguration of the newly constituted German Council for Sustainable Development in June 2007, federal minister Thomas de Maizière addressed the need to perceive the economic, ecological and social element as a single integrative dimension. The task was to deepen critical discussions on what indicators of sustainable development should be selected. Coinciding with the Council taking up its work, federal minister de Maizière called upon it to work on issues of climate/energy efficiency, the sustainable management of raw materials as well as demographic change/opportunities for social cohesion as the primary elements of the sustainable strategy. The Council's own selection of issues was not affected. In concrete terms, the German Chancellery set the Council the following tasks and duties for its third term starting from June 2007:

- European Conference on behalf of the German government and as part of Germany's 2007 EU Presidency;
- Citizens Conference involving Germany's one hundred youngest local parliamentarians;
- Improving the Council’s media presence

These aims aside, the Council has acted on a series of policy recommendations previously proposed by the Council and established content which should take priority in the sustainability strategy. These recommendations are seen as a means of contributing to informed debate. Whilst they hone in on key issues on the sustainability agenda, this should not be taken to mean that no other key political issues exist.

The Council has found a work process that has proven to be an effective way of gathering recommendations: To discuss the approach to take and principles of the recommendation first and then, as a second step, to commission a work group to script the recommendation. The Council usually examines and approves the outcome presented by the work group in two sessions. If necessary, hearings are convened, studies commissioned and dialogues held during the work process.

The German Council for Sustainable Development has engaged the following work groups during the period 2007-2010:

- Work Group "Sustainable Economic Management and Consuming", headed by Ms Marlehn Thieme
- Work Group "Sustainability Strategies", headed by Prof. Dr. Angelika Zahrnt
- Work Group "Energy and Climate" (2007-2008), headed by Prof. Dr. Georg Teutsch
- ad-hoc Work Group "Sustainable Biomass Utilization", headed by Mr Hubert Weinzierl
- Work Group "Education", headed by Prof. Dr. Ute Klammer

- ad hoc Work Group on the stance taken by the German Council for Sustainable Development on the German Sustainability Award; headed by Dr. Hans Geisler

The reporting period marked the first time that cross-sectoral projects were conducted upon request and with the involvement of departments of the German government. These included the "Intergenerational Dialogue - Citizens Initiate Sustainability" under the auspices of the Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth; the supportive participation in the German government's CSR Forum[2] which convened under the auspices of the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs; as well as specialist support of the "Science-for-Sustainability" project and the Sustainability Research Programme of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research. The role played by the German Council for Sustainable Development as a "facilitator" for the German government's Peer Review should also be mentioned in this connection. Further details on this can be found below.

Progress report on national sustainability strategy

The key spheres of action with regard to sustainability were discussed during a meeting with the German government's Committee for Sustainable Development chaired by federal minister Thomas de Maizière on 22nd September 2008. The meeting agreed concretely that the recommendation put forward by the German Council for Sustainable Development on the subject of "EXPO 2010 in Shanghai" would be followed, and further steps were agreed in the following areas: the German government's CSR strategy; procurement strategy; research strategies for the utilization and recirculation of carbon dioxide; new approaches to intergenerational dialogue, and voluntary commitment as well as education policy. In the course of the meeting, a common understanding emerged of the sense of urgency of the matter. On the basis of this understanding, the participants took the view that ways needed to be found of making the national sustainability strategy more binding and effective and of improving how the sustainable strategy could be better coordinated between the federal government and the federal states.

The German government gave the German Council for Sustainable Development a key role in preparing and advising on how the national sustainability strategy should progress. The work process lasted from mid-2007 to the end of 2008. Key ideas and legwork produced by the Council have been incorporated into the government's report:

- Council recommendation for improved effectiveness and binding nature of the strategy
- European Dialogue Conference and Citizens Conference involving Germany's one hundred youngest local parliamentarians
- Statement on individual indicators and main issues to be perpetuated in the national sustainability strategy
- Statement on the instrument of a sustainability audit and on intergenerational stock-taking

[2] Corporate Social Responsibility

- A text drafted by the German Council for Sustainable Development on the progress report
- "Traffic light report" evaluation of the statistical development of the sustainability strategy's indicators.

In all of its contributions, the German Council for Sustainable Development has highlighted both that there is a need for urgent action and where it is needed.

Peer Review of German sustainabilty policy

The German government asked the Council in November 2008 to organize and implement a Peer Review of German sustainability policy to be compiled by international experts. The independent international expert commission, which comprised high-ranking members and was chaired by Björn Stigsons, President of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, performed a critical inspection of Germany's sustainability policy in 2009. [3] The German Council for Sustainable Development prepared, structured, accompanied and recorded the experts' work process.

In this connection, experiences gained from methods applied in the Netherlands (Peer Review 2006/7) and France (2005) were evaluated and the items of particular importance to Germany converted into a country-specific approach. For the purposes of implementation, the Council commissioned an expert scientific report as a so-called background report, incorporated extensive interviews with German stakeholders and contracted external moderators with the task of structuring and moderating the working sessions.

Dialogue with local parliamentarians

In 2008, the German Council for Sustainable Development invited the one hundred youngest local German parliamentarians to Berlin for a discussion on sustainable development issues. Participants were asked to apply to the Council for an invitation as part of an open procedure. Local government associations and youth organisations of the parties represented in Germany's national parliament lent their assistance to the Council in contacting the local parliamentarians. The three-day dialogue event began with the participants presenting key local government projects to the others and closed with policy recommendations being put to a vote which the participants had devised over the three days. The work cycle was interspersed at regular intervals with discussions with Council members as well as members of Germany's national parliament and representatives of various departments and the German Chancellery. The outcomes in particular reflect a widespread awareness of the need for analysis that is fair to all generations and for an allocation of costs. Such an analysis shall take an increasingly critical view of investments in non-sustainable infrastructure. It also became apparent, however, that the tools used to appraise long-term cost effectiveness are still inadequate.

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[3] http://www.bundesregierung.de/nsc_true/Webs/Breg/nachhaltigkeit/Content/__Anlagen/peer-review-rne,property=publicationFile.pdf/peer-review-rne; http://www.nachhaltigkeitsrat.de/uploads/media/RNE_Peer_Review_Report_November_2009_03.pdf

The event was also documented (f.e. in printed brochure, video material). Materials were distributed to the regional media. Representatives of those invited to the event held a presentation at the 2008 annual conference. The outcome of the dialogue event has been incorporated into the national sustainability strategy.

Sustainable economic management and consuming

Procurement

Prompted by a discussion on modernizing public procurement, the German Council for Sustainable Development published its recommendations for the government in August 2008, entitled: "Credible - cost-effective - viable: modern procurement policies must be sustainable". The report proposed measures which go beyond the implementation of the EU Directive of taking social and environmental aspects into consideration when awarding public contracts.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

The Council has continued its corporate social responsibility work to the benefit of sustainable development: through the Council chairman's active participation in the German government's newly-established CSR Forum in 2009, headed by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, as well as through the Council's own contributions and events. Interest in the recommendations and viewpoints of the Council (see ‘Publications, recommendations, statements, and studies’) was high among professional audiences, most notably companies. The Council set trends of its own in the shape of the 2007 and 2009 ranking of sustainability reports by the Institute for Ecological Economy Research (IÖW) and future e.V., the latter ranking being presented to a wide audience at the annual conference. A Leadership Forum held in November 2009 with companies and other experts leading the way in sustainability lent further impetus to the continuing development of the discussion. Here, the participants discussed the opportunities for incorporating actively applied corporate social responsibility into existing company and competition law.

Consumption

November 2008 saw the publication of a guide to shopping for people to try out and discuss: "The Sustainable Shopping Basket". This was based on the 2003 guide to shopping. After fully revamping the content, it was turned into a magazine containing general information on sustainable consumption. An online discussion forum went live for five months and helped improve the practicality of the guide to shopping. In other dialogue events, the status and means of improving sustainability labels were debated, and a new procedure designed to improve the informative value of social and ecological criteria was developed.

These ideas and suggestions gave rise to "The Sustainable Shopping Basket - A Guide to Better Shopping", the 3rd fully revised edition, published in September 2009. The booklet became the basis for initiating cooperation between companies and the German government (Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection) with a view to extending the scope of people the Council's communication could reach.

In October 2009, following an extensive stakeholder process, the Council's recommendations for sustainable consumption for government, business, citizens, and civil society were published: “Consumption and Sustainability: sustainability to buy and feel.” Here, the Council recommends that measures be taken to embed the notion of sustainable consumption much further into the heart of society than has been the case so far.

Finances and tax policy

Having set itself the goal, after the federal elections in 2009 and free of any party manifestos, of introducing factual criteria and proposals aimed at providing budget consolidation which is ecologically, socially and generationally just, the Council commissioned the compilation of a scientific study entitled “Green budget reform - a sustainable response to the economic crisis?”. Embedded in the study are the outcomes of a workshop involving around 20 experts, which accompanied the process. The experts encourage combining a sustainable budgetary policy efficiently with a sparing of the environment and a fair distribution of wealth. The experts' analysis was unequivocal: the burden on the climate and environment leads to high additional costs for society, and the labour-related tax burden is an encumbrance to an efficient economy and is a concept dating back to the last century. None of the three effects are future-proof. Thus far, the reaction to the economic crisis has been to perform short-term measures.

The German Council for Sustainable Development has therefore called upon the German government to accomplish the required budget consolidation by applying means of driving tax reform geared to sustainability criteria that bring to account the true costs of ecological and resource consumption and which can relieve the burden of labour costs as a result of the funds that are generated.

Climate and energy

Biomass

As a backdrop to the debate surrounding biofuels and the 2008 UN Biodiversity Summit in Bonn, the Council published the following recommendation in April 2008: "Conserving biodiversity now means: Making biomass production sustainable". In its publication, the Council recommends aligning the use of biomass with the standards set by the national sustainability strategy, and reconsidering – in global terms – the form and scale in which biomass is farmed and to step up research in order to develop an alternative to fossil fuels which is compatible with sustainability standards.

Position on climate and energy policy issues

In the aftermath of its various energy policy recommendations, the Council continued to prioritize its addressing of the issue of energy and climate policy in the first two terms of its mandate (2020 climate targets “4-litre house”, low-energy renovation of existing buildings, energy contracting, use of clean coal, energy efficiency, energy research).

In the spring of 2008, the Council commissioned a scientific study on the highly polarizing issue of a “power supply gap”. After presentation of the findings and intensive discussion, the Council presented its “Position des Nachhaltigkeitsrates zu aktuellen Fragen der Klima- und

Energiepolitik" ("Council position on current climate and energy policy issues") in October 2008. Ongoing activities undertaken, among others, by the German Energy Agency, within the bounds of the research project of the Federal Environmental Foundation (DBU) and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, as well as the Wuppertal Institute, assisted the Council's head office by virtue of their participation in advisory boards.

Other issues

Land use

The German Council for Sustainable Development has further strengthened the dialogue process behind its "More Value for Land Use: The 'Goal-30-ha' for Sustainability in City and Country (2004)" recommendation. During its mandate, the head office of the Council continued its groundwork and support of the research programme sponsored by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (through its active involvement in the project advisory board of "Research for the Reduction of Land Consumption and for Sustainable Land Management" (REFINA), participation in dialogue events, and support of activities regarding sustainability certificates for buildings).

Rio plus 20

The German Council for Sustainable Development was proactively engaged in a common process promulgated by the European Environment and Sustainable Development Advisory Councils (EEAC) designed to support a Rio+20 follow-up conference. The Council upholds the Brazilian proposal of holding a Rio+20 follow-up conference and submitted an initial draft for an EEAC statement, which, after being modified at the general assembly of the Network, was approved on 23rd October 2009. To enable extensive preparation – with the inclusion of stakeholders – structural and financial prerequisites should be established for the holding of the conference, and a key role in the appraisal and further development of sustainability policy assigned to the national councils for sustainable development. The EEAC furthermore proposes commissioning a high-ranking expert commission vested with the task of further developing sustainability policy at international level (Brundtland II – Commission). [4]

Local sustainability policy

The Dialogue Conference involving Germany's one hundred youngest local parliamentarians (see above) was viewed to be a great success by participants and Council members alike. The event was documented.

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[4] The UN General Assembly voted in December 2009 to organize an event to accompany the "Rioplus20" summit and, in particular, to discuss how to design a sustainable economic management scheme and improve governance for sustainability. The German Council for Sustainable Development reported in detail on this in its newsletter of 4.2.2010.

In the critical appraisal of the targets to be reached with regard to national sustainability strategy indicators (the so-called traffic light report) the mayors of the federal state capitals made highly impressive presentations of their respective local activities.

In January 2010, the German Council for Sustainable Development invited mayors and/or their political representatives who are particularly active in local sustainability policy to take part in a strategy dialogue that mainly focused on strategic questions of how to improve and broaden local sustainability policy.

Education and sustainability

The Council passed a recommendation for education policy at its 46th session. The recommendation was developed on the basis of a scientific study, an inquiry directed at the federal states by the Council on measures that have been undertaken to improve the quality of the education system in the second half of 2007, and a hearing of experts in November 2008. The session was attended by representatives of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the federal states in the Federal Republic of Germany, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training. The experts that were heard were Dr. Jürgen Kluge of McKinsey & Company, and Prof. Dr. Dieter Lenzen of FU Berlin. In addition, during its 38th session, the Council also held a round table dialogue with education practitioners from the federal state of Thuringia. With parallel lectures, a panel discussion and small-scale rounds of talks, the Council was actively engaged in the Open Day on Sustainability hosted by the University of Lüneburg on 26.03.2009. The recommendation devised under the direction of Prof. Dr. Ute Klammer addresses the education system issue overall and identifies ways of improving and developing it. The “Education for Sustainable Development” programmes have also been addressed in more detail in the recommendation.

Research policy

In 2009, the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, IASS, was established and Prof. Dr. Klaus Töpfer appointed Executive Director. The foundation of the institution arose due to a common initiative of the Alliance of German Science Organisations and the German government as well as the federal state of Brandenburg, and dates back to the “Global Sustainability – A Nobel Cause” symposium held in Potsdam in 2007 as well as the Climate Research Summit organized by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

The head office of the Council fulfilled a request of the BMBF by supporting the establishment of the IASS and incorporating it into considerations on the development of the research and policy interface. Most notably, proposals were incorporated on the conceptual direction that the Institute should take and especially on how to enhance the strategic dialogue between businesses, politicians and society as one of the key preoccupations of the IASS.

The proposals put forward by the Council with regard to the Research for Sustainability programme (FONA) were also of overriding significance for research policy. These proposals relate to basic research on the use of carbon dioxide in the production cycle and artificial photosynthesis, the research of the socio-ecological parameters of public action, as well as the development of recycling techniques for strategic raw materials and rare earths.

Political processes

Cooperation with the Parliamentary Advisory Council

Cooperation with the Parliamentary Advisory Council on Sustainable Development was increased as a result of the Council's regular participation in meetings, bilateral talks and actively contributing to the Advisory Council's hearings and proceedings (intergenerational balance, indicators, sustainability strategy).

The instrument of a sustainability audit was one of the primary aspects of the cooperation. The German Council for Sustainable Development encouraged the introduction of such an instrument as part of the legislative procedure and welcomed the first steps towards implementation made by the German government. The Council is actively engaged in further discussions relating to content and methods as well as to the procedural status of a sustainability audit.

Talks with federal state officials

The German Council for Sustainable Development has continued to pursue its practice of holding one of its five annual sessions in a federal state and of seeking dialogue with the federal state officials there. In the reporting period, these were:

- Kurt Beck, State Premier of Rhineland-Palatinate, 2007
- Dieter Althaus, State Premier of Thuringia, 2008
- Christian Wulff, State Premier of Lower Saxony, 2009

The session in Erfurt (Thuringia) was also used to hold very intensive, broad-ranging talks with active citizens and the mayor of the city of Erfurt, with the President of the State Parliament and Member of State Parliament, Dagmar Elisabeth Schipanski, as well as business representatives and university members. The session in Hannover (Lower Saxony) tied in with Council members taking an active involvement in the open day hosted by the Leuphana University of Lüneburg.

The groundwork for the talks was conducted by the head office of the Council in conjunction with the federal state officials.

Talks with local government officials

Talks with local government officials were intensified in particular at the initiative of Council member Horst Frank, mayor of the city of Konstanz. This included an invitation extended to a number of mayors to take part in strategy talks (see above). Above all, however, the German Association of Cities dealt with the sustainability strategy content of relevance to local government during a session of its main committee and agreed to concentrate even more on best practice experiences when implementing the concept of sustainable development locally.

The main committee of the German Association of Cities passed a resolution recognizing the significance of the issue and called upon the German Council for Sustainable Development to speak up even more strongly than before for regular exchanges of experiences to take place between the various federal levels.

Cooperation within Europe

The German Council for Sustainable Development is a member of the Network of the European Environment and Sustainable Development Advisory Councils (EEAC). Dr. Angelika Zahrnt was Deputy Chairwoman of the Steering Committee of the EEAC Network from 2007 to 2009. The Council is also an active member of the “Sustainable Development” work group there. The work group was responsible for devising and organizing the 2008 annual conference in France. An article entitled “Sustaining Europe for a long way ahead” penned by the Council addressed the issues of demography and sustainability. The article drew on experiences and strategies from other countries in Europe and was presented during the conference.

European sustainability strategy

In its “Maturing the Sustainability Strategy” statement, the Council welcomes the European Union's plans to conduct a critical analysis of the EU sustainability strategy. The Council recommends taking honest stock when further developing the strategy, incorporating more stringent sustainability management, developing new benchmarks such as competitiveness, demography or financial sustainability, and ensuring greater sustainability policy coherence between the European level and the member states.

Asean Practitioners Network

The Council was actively involved in inviting to Bordeaux sustainability actors from Asia, who through the "Asean Practitioners Network" have created a platform for networking and exchange, in order to exchange views with the EEAC. The funding of the process was made possible by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH which supports the network in Asia as part of the activities it conducts in synergy with the German Council for Sustainable Development.

Cooperation with the GTZ

Synergy with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH: Moving the head office of the German Council for Sustainable Development into the premises of the GTZ resulted in synergy effects in many instances. Lectures and statements given or issued by Council members thus far were compiled in a joint publication[5], for example. Experts from both organisations were able to intensify the exchange of opinions at work level. With regard to the use of media, plans are underway for the organisations to work in synergy.

[5] http://www.nachhaltigkeitsrat.de/uploads/media/Cover_GTZ_RNE_International_Aspects_of_Sustainability_2008.pdf

4. Communication

Annual conferences

The issues and forums of the Council's annual conferences reflect the trends in sustainability policy.

- 7th annual conference: The Power of the Future. The Demands of Today's World, 27.11.2007
- 8th annual conference: Taking responsibility for the future!, 17.11.2008
- 9th annual conference: Sustainability in a Changing World – the Future Direction of Germany, 23.11.2009

2009 also saw the inception of the Carl-von-Carlowitz lecture as part of the annual conference. Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Haber was gracious enough to hold the inaugural lecture. His lecture met with widespread interest. Several publishers are endeavouring to publish it.

Through further improving the formats, content and the sequence, the Council has succeeded in making the annual conferences “the” venue for sustainability. The conferences have materialized into a recognised forum for political discussion on sustainability policy. The key milestones included ongoing efforts to diversify the methods applied to discussion forums and to enhance the quality of their content as well as achieving a mixture of political content and involvement in projects and initiatives in the form of specific presentations.

Advertising for the 2009 annual conference was done exclusively via electronic media. Efforts to make the Council's annual conference as climate-friendly and eco-friendly as possible were developed further using a “sustainable event management system” which was successively supplemented and documented. The 2009 conference currently holds the record for the highest attendance with 1,260 of the 1,500 enrolled participants actually present.

Mission Sustainability

The Mission Sustainability communication project was the first project to be conducted over more than a year. The online idea platform was upgraded to a web 2.0 format to allow images and texts as well as audio and video files to be uploaded and individual contributions to be discussed. To enhance the visibility of the Council, topical Council articles on issues such as Desertec, sustainable consumption and the need for a culture of sustainability were posted as so-called "Issues of the Month" and vehemently discussed in the third year. Over the three years, various focal issues were selected with a view to attracting a rising number of new participants. In 2007, 204 contributions were generated from across the globe; in 2008, the year in which the national platform was launched, there were 119, and 225 in 2009.

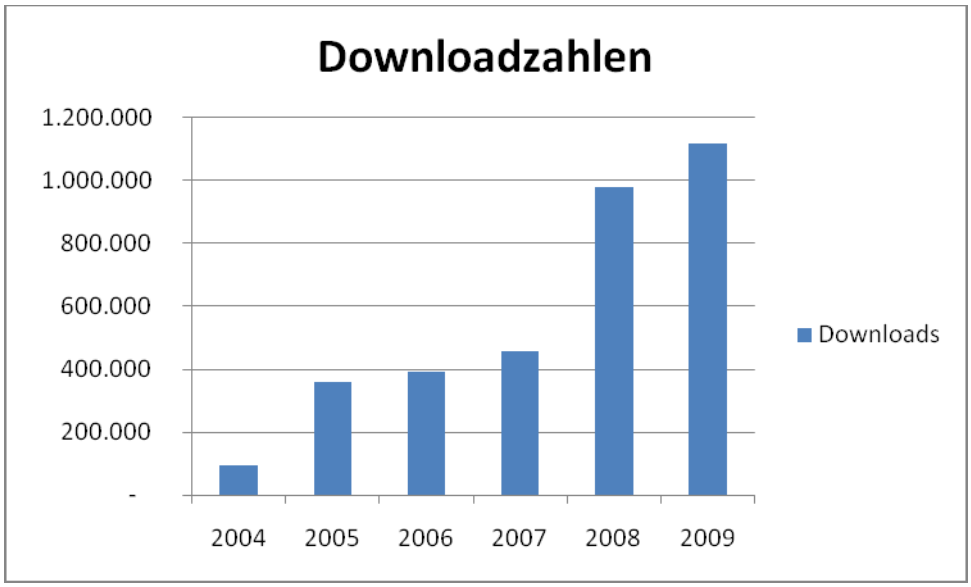
“Citizens Initiate Sustainability”, BIN – II

As a follow-up project to the national “Citizens Initiate Sustainability (BIN)” campaign launched in 2005, the “Intergenerational Dialogue in Practice – Citizens Initiate Sustainability” competition was announced in November 2008 at the 8th Council annual conference. The aim of this competition, which was initiated and organized by the German

Council for Sustainable Development, was to encourage numerous forms of citizens' involvement. The involvement of the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, the Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection as well as the Federal Ministry of Transport, Construction and Urban Development underscored the fact that sustainability is viewed as a cross-departmental issue by the German government. The competition met with a positive response. A total of 336 entries were received, of which 40 projects were honoured at the solemn awards ceremony. Through the early inclusion of regional media, local interest was great. This was deemed by the projects to be of significant help for their continued work.

Web, newsletter, media

The Council's website was completely revamped in February 2008, which included the launch of a content management system. This was followed by a new-look design (visual overhaul) in November 2009. 2009 saw the inception of the "Nachhaltigkeitsrat" channel on www.youtube.com. The number of people visiting the website has increased. One indication of the steady rise in the number of people using information provided by the Council is the amount of downloaded pdf documents (recommendations, statements, studies, press releases). These figures have been recorded since 2004. At that time, 337 pdf documents were available for download. Currently, 708 documents can be found online. The graph below shows the number of files downloaded annually up to and including November 2009.



The Council's newsletter has become more professional. The various news items that now appear are always current. They report at regular intervals on the Council's activities as well as on other current issues and supplement these reports with statements issued by the German Council for Sustainable Development and/or references to the Council's recommendations. The current reports are summarized in a newsletter every two weeks. The number of people subscribing to the Council's newsletter has risen from 4,500 in January 07 to 6,200 in November 09.

The print run has increased. The "Sustainable Shopping Basket" journal has a circulation of 20,000.

The Council has succeeded in extending its regional coverage by running media campaigns to coincide with the BIN II (2009) and Mission Sustainability (2008 – 2009) projects as well as by approaching regional media to report on the “Sustainability on the ground” conference (2008) of the 100 youngest local parliamentarians.

Publicity for the 2009 annual conference was stepped up significantly by running an issue forum involving prominent journalists, and targeting bloggers as well as a journalism school in addition to contacting the media through conventional means (press conferences, photo shoots, press releases, organisation of one-on-one interviews).

Ranking of sustainability reports

In 2008, the German Council for Sustainable Development set up a joint scheme with the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs which enabled the organizers of the sustainability report ranking system, IÖW, and future e.V., the federation of enterprises, to rank the sustainability reports of German SMEs for the very first time. The support provided by the Council and the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs extended to the ranking of Germany's largest 150 companies as well as German SMEs. Dr Volker Hauff, Chairman of the Council, and Olaf Scholz, Federal Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, were appointed as patrons. Following a change of government, the new federal minister, Dr. Franz Josef Jung, took over as patron and also presented the awards for the best corporate reports during the Council's annual conference which was held on 23.11.2009.

German Sustainability Award

The Council has been extensively engaged in the “German Sustainability Award” (DNP), an external project in which the Council was requested to become involved. The project involves appraising and researching sustainability management in German companies, selecting awardees, and hosting a symposium (Deutscher Nachhaltigkeitstag) as well as the solemn presentation of the German Sustainability Award.

Following the presentation of the inaugural Sustainability Award in 2008, an ad hoc work group formed by the Council and headed by Dr. Hans Geisler developed benchmarks that would determine the Council's subsequent support. The benchmarks included the process of determining awardees (“governance” of the project), issues relating to the methods of evaluation to be applied, the introduction of critical assessments to appraise a snapshot of company performance and the launching of “Challenger” elements at the symposium held at the ‘Deutscher Nachhaltigkeitstag’. The vast majority of the benchmarks were set in place in 2009and a contributing factor in the success of the 2009 event.

5. Instruments

Dialogue processes

The dialogue processes applied by the Council have been further refined. The utilization of expertise from external consulting firms which came on board as a result of the Council tendering for cooperation partners leads to each and every process becoming very specific.

Examples include tiered dialogue and presentation processes as well as votings during the three-day conference with the 100 youngest parliamentarians, the creative workshop for sustainable consumption, as well as directly approaching mayors in the cities most actively engaged in sustainability management.

International peer review: sustainability as a process

The biggest challenges facing the work of the Council up to date in terms of substance and methodology have come from the German government's request for the work process to be guided, which foreign experts have concluded in compiling the Peer Review report of German sustainability policy of 2009. With this, the German government has followed up on a recommendation by the Council that an international external body be requested to critically appraise German sustainability policy.

The process enabled opinions to be formed within the peer group with a stringent provision of knowledge resources, participative elements (opening up to the outside world, mission statements from German institutions, inclusion of German expertise, dialogues) and target-oriented knowledge engineering.

Experts have confirmed that Germany is exceptionally well positioned to develop system solutions for a low-carbon industry and society. Their recommendations are especially directed at the spheres of politics and business. In addition to far-reaching institutional reforms, the experts propose making a grand design for 2050 the subject of sustainability policy. They argue in favour of concrete changes to the German government as the body with political responsibility for the sustainability strategy. Businesses are called upon to engage in an integrative and cooperative course of action, in the shape of a roadmap, on issues of relevance to the future. The peers have also called for the Council's mandate to be extended.

The evaluation of the recommendations of the Peer Review will continue.

Role of the Council in the context of “walk your talk”

It has been possible to further develop the sustainability standards applied to the Council's own meetings and events. This is a requirement that the Council has set itself. The role model effect of a body that has been asked “merely” to advise but which then combines the advice with an examination of its own conduct is not to be underestimated. It significantly raises the degree of credibility of political recommendations, for procurement, for example, if the Council measures itself by the same standards that it applies in its recommendations to others in general and the German government in particular. Not least of all, one's own experience improves the preciseness of the recommendations that are made.

Due to their size and relevance in the media, the annual conferences are of crucial importance. Since 2001 no less, the Council has seen it as its bound duty to apply high ecological and social standards when selecting the type of catering to be used at its own events. This has become increasingly easier through insistent demand.

A further step forward was taken in 2009. The preparation and organisation of the annual conference were conducted using a comprehensive sustainability management system. Under

this system, it was no longer sufficient merely to offset CO_2 emissions. Instead, the management system engaged all of the partners concerned: the bcc event venue, the organizers, caterers, and the mobility of the participants. The aim was to implement energy efficiency. The management concept was documented on the Council's website on an ongoing basis as a work in progress. As a result, it was possible to eliminate the need for printed flyers for the registration process, the participants' preparation and the conference binder. An independent organisation estimated the remaining quantity of CO_2. Over half the amount was down to the participants travelling to and from the event; the rest came from electricity and catering. Here, the management system took things one step further by taking Germany's rail service up on its offer of CO_2-free business trips and reaching an agreement with Vattenfall AG, the event venue energy supplier, that the annual conference would be supplied with green electricity from new power stations. As a symbol of its commitment, the bcc donated and planted four fruit trees to the nearby day-care centre. The investment made in efficient technology (which occurred without the exertion of any influence on the part of the Council) was of benefit to the sustainability management system.

Likewise, the head office of the Council undertook a series of eco-friendly procurement measures and sustainability management steps at GTZ which proved to be successful (different company letterhead; energy management).

Public administration and sustainability management

The German Council for Sustainable Development is dedicated to pursuing greater efficiency and commitment to sustainability strategies. For this reason, it is engaged in approaches for successfully managing sustainability in politics and administration. The Council commissioned the Centre for Sustainability Management of Leuphana University of Lüneburg, under the guidance of Prof. Dr. Stefan Schaltegger, to compile a set of sustainability management instruments. The aim of such instruments is to facilitate the organisation of sustainability measures within the administrative body. The members of the Council believe this to be an issue worth pursuing further and, in the process, focusing on specific instruments that appear especially promising.

6. Issues and activities that have not been pursued

For the sake of completeness, this section provides information on issues and activities which, due to other priorities, the German Council for Sustainable Development has not pursued in the period 2007 to 2010. It should be noted that only those issues are mentioned which were not pursued further for reasons of prioritization or capacity even though a well-founded, meaningful approach was in place. Moreover, other viewpoints and proposed undertakings have been presented to the Council by third parties which are not mentioned here. Their omission is in no way a comment on the evaluation of their content.

- Mobility and new funding concepts for transport infrastructure and as a core issue of sustainable economic management[6]
- Urban development, metropolitan cities, “urban futures”
- Demographic change and lifestyles
- Comparative acceptance analyses of scientific and technological innovations in the fields of chemistry, red bioethics, green genetic engineering
- “Grundsteine” (Cornerstones) communication project with museum education institutes of leading German museums and art galleries
- Establishment of a Council Fellowship Programme on research strategies at the point where politics and research intersect[7]
- Media policy and sustainability
- Social security systems, health care system, pension scheme
- “Good work” as a sustainability issue[8]
- Indicators of ‘sustainable growth'.

In addition, the German Council for Sustainable Development is regularly approached with further ideas and suggestions of work it could perform which – after initial evaluation – certainly appears to offer meaningful and useful suggestions, but which lie outside the Council's scope of assignments and mandate. By way of illustration, the Council has been asked, for example to take on the role

- of ensuring that the content of sustainability certificates and product labelling is accurate;
- of advising companies on sustainability management;
- as head or moderator of cross-departmental initiatives from the German government;
- of a “clearinghouse” for social dialogue on future technologies;
- as “political godfather” for sustainability initiatives abroad.

These suggestions address crucial flaws in the societal debate on sustainability.

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[6] A team of authors comprising three Council members, Prof. Dr. Angelika Zahrnt, Prof. Dr. Georg Teutsch and Hubert Weinzierl, drafted a position paper covering various sustainability issues for inland water transport which, as the result of the Council session of 15.12.2009, remains subject to further work by the German Council for Sustainable Development in the term commencing June 2010.

[7] This idea from the Council was not taken further following the establishment of the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, IASS.

[8] At the session of the German Council for Sustainable Development held in January 2010, the various dimensions were discussed which this issue offers in the search for a clear definition of the sustainability concept. Council members were in agreement that this discussion offered significant potential and they believe it would be meaningful for it to be pursued in greater detail.

7. Council members 2007 to 2010

Horst Frank, Mayor of the city of Konstanz			
Dr. Hans Geisler, former Minister of State			
Dr. Volker Hauff, former Federal Minister			
Prof. Dr. Ute Klammer, Prorector at the University of Duisburg-Essen			
Prof. Dr. Edward G. Krubasik, former member of the Corporate Executive Committee of Siemens (1997-2007), honorary professor			
Thomas Loster, Münchener Rück Stiftung			
Prof. Dr. Jürgen Rimpau, Chairman of the German Agricultural Society e.V.			
Prof. Dr. Georg Teutsch, Scientific Director Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ			
Marlehn Thieme, Member of the Council of Lutheran Churches in Germany (EKD), Director of Deutsche Bank AG			
Prof Dr. Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director IASS, former Executive Director UNEP, former Federal Minister			
Christiane Underberg, Underberg KG			
Michael Vassiliadis, Chairman of the industrial union of Mining, Chemical and Energy (IG BCE)			
Susanne Weber-Mosdorf, WHO			
Hubert Weinzierl, President of the German League for Nature and Environment (DNR), the umbrella organisation of German conservation and			
Ranga Yogeshwar			
Prof. Dr. Angelika Zahrnt, Honorary President of “Friends of the Earth Germany” (BUND)			

8. Staff at Council head office

Dr. Günther Bachmann (Director), Beate Ressa-Palm (office management)
Scientific consultants: Dorothee Braun, Eike Meyer, Christian Schaudwet, Jürgen Solms, Julia Werner, Yvonne Zwick (née Scherer)
Student assistants: Charlotte Schubert (since 2009), Phillip Keelan (2007-2009)
Interns: Ates, Ahmet (12.10.2009 – 17.12.2009), Witt, Daniel (02.09.2009 – 09.10.2009), Favrichon, Sarah (08.06.2009 – 17.07.2009), Schmeißer, Diana (27.04.2009 – 05.06.2009), Geisler, Lisa (16.03.2009 – 24.04.2009), Retsch, Riccarda (02.02.2009 – 27.03.2009), Konings, Dorothea (20.10.2008 – 09.12.2008), Schubert, Charlotte (08.09.2008 – 08.10.2008)

9. Plenary sessions, work groups, consultations with the German government

Date	Type of event
30.1-1.02.07	30th Council session
30.01.07	Round of talks with former US Senator Tim Wirth, President of the UN Foundation
20.02.07	Talks with Undersecretary of State Wasserhövel, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
28.02.07	9th Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
07.03.07	10th Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
21.03.07	11th Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
27.03.07	31st Council session
28.03.07	12th Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
25.04.07	13th Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
09.05.07	14th Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
3.-5.06.07	European Conference on Sustainability, Berlin: ESB 07
12.06.07	32nd Council session
20.06.07	16th Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
21.06.07	Talks with Parliamentary Undersecretary, Astrid Klug
27.06.07	Chinese delegation on energy efficiency
26.07.07	33rd Council session
30.08.07	Meeting with Parliamentary Undersecretary Müller on resource efficiency
06.09.07	Delegation from Armenia and Georgia
25.09.07	Work group "Sustainable Consumption"
25.-26.09.07	34th Council session
27.-28.09.07	CSR dialogue forum
6.11.07	Work Group "Sustainability Strategies"
7.11.07	Workshop “Sustainability strategies at federal state level”
7.11.07	Work group “Biodiversity”

14.11.07	Work group “Energy”
14.11.07	21st Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
27.11.07	7th annual conference
05.12.07	35th Council session
23.01.08	Work group “Sustainability Strategies", 3rd session
23.01.08	Work group “Biodiversity” (ad hoc meeting)
13.02.08	23rd Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
15.02.08	Work Group “Climate, Energy, Resources”
19.02.08	Work Group “Sustainable Economic Management and Consumption”
19./20.02.08	36th Council session
20.02.08	Work Group “Sustainability Strategies”
05.03.08	24th Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
12.03.08	25th Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
04.04.08	Work Group “Climate, Energy, Resources”
07.04.08	Work Group “Sustainable Economic Management and Consumption”
07./08.04.08	37th Council session
08.04.08	Work Group “Sustainability Strategies”
09.04.08	Expert meeting on governance
09.04.08	26th Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
25.04.08	Talks between Members of the German Council for Sustainable Development and SRU Members
20.05.08	Work Group “Sustainability Strategies”
27.05.08	Work Group “Education”
12.-14.06.08	“Sustainability on the ground” - Conference of the 100 youngest local politicians
18.06.08	29th Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
23.-25..06.08	38th Council session
24.06.08	Rounds of dialogue on the issues of education, energy, solar industry and sustainability policy/strategy
20.06.08	Talks with the head of the German Chancellery
15.09.08	39th Council session
22.09.08	Work Group “Sustainable Economic Management and Consumption”
23.09.08	Work Group “Sustainability Strategies”
21./22.10.08	Special session of the Council
17.11.08	8th annual conference of the Council
18.11.08	Expert discussion on “National sustainability strategy and general education and vocational training”
17.12.08	34th Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
08.01.09	Talks with Messrs. Hauff/Bachmann - Mr Stigson (Peer

	Review)
20.01.09	Work Group “Sustainable Economic Management and Consuming”
30.1.09	Talks with Germany's Federal Environment Agency, UBA: climate adaptation strategies
10.02.09	Work Group “Sustainability Strategies”
11.02.09	37th Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
28./29.01.09	41st Council session
04.03.09	39th Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
09.03.09	Work Group “Sustainable Economy and Consuming”
25.03.09	Work Group “Sustainability Strategies”, 9th session
25/26.03.09	42nd Council session
26.03.2009	Active involvement in open day on sustainability at Leuphana University
27.05.09	44th Session of the Parliamentary Advisory Council
02.06.09	Work Group “Sustainability Strategies”
24./25.06.09	43rd Council session
6.7.09	Workshop “Green budget reform”
13.07.09	Work Group “Sustainable Economy and Consuming”
21.9.09	Work Group “Sustainability Strategies”, 11th session
23.09.09	Work Group "Sustainable Economy and Consuming”
23./24.09.09	44th Council session
23.11.09	9th annual conference
15.12.09	45th Council session
26./27.01.10	46th Council session
23.03.10	47th Council session
27.09.10	10th annual conference

10. Guests at the various sessions (not including conferences)

- Dr. Hubert Aulich, Executive Director of PV Silicon GmbH
- Dieter Althaus, State Premier of Thuringia
- Stefan Baldus, Undersecretary of State at the Ministry for Agriculture, Nature Conservation and Environment of Thuringia
- Andreas Bausewein, Lord Mayor of the city of Erfurt
- Dr. Claus Beneking, Chief Executive Officer of Ersol AG
- Gerd Billen, Executive Director of The Federation of German Consumer Organisations
- Ulla Burchardt, Member of Parliament
- Roland Burckhardt, Chief Executive Officer of sunways AG

- Dr. Michael Bürsch, Member of Parliament
- Detlev Görtz, city of Düsseldorf
- Dr. Christa Herwig, Thuringian Institute for Inservice Teacher Training, Curriculum Development and Media
- Prof. Hanns-Michael Hölz, Chairman of the Board of econsense
- Prof. Dr. Christian C. Juckenack, Undersecretary of State, Thuringian Ministry of Economics, Technology and Labour
- Dr. Kindervater, Thuringian Ministry of Education and Culture
- Dr. Günter Krings, Member of Parliament, Chairman of the Parliamentary Advisory Council on Sustainable Development
- Astrid Klug, Member of Parliament, Parliamentary Undersecretary at the Federal Ministry for the Environment
- Stefan Kohler, dena
- Amory B. Lovins
- Jana Liebe, Managing Director, solarinput Erfurt
- Dr. Thomas de Maizière, Federal Minister and Chairman of the German government's Committee of Undersecretaries of State for Sustainable Development
- Dr. Ingeborg Niestroy, Secretary-General of the EEAC
- Roland Richwien, Undersecretary of State of the Thuringian Ministry of Building, Regional Development and Media
- Hans-Heinrich Sander, Member of State Parliament, Minister for the Environment and Climate Protection of Lower Saxony
- Prof. Dr. Uwe Schneidewind, Lower Saxony Government Commission for Climate Protection
- Stefan Schulze-Hausmann, German Sustainability Prize
- Prof. Dr. Dagmar Schipanski, President of the Thuringian State Parliament
- Prof. Dr. Andreas Schleicher, Dean, Department of SciTec – Precision – Optics – Materials – Environment at the Jena University of Applied Science
- Prof. Lord Nicholas Stern of Brentford
- Heinrich Tiemann, Undersecretary of State, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
- Eckhard Uhlenberg, Member of State Parliament, Minister of the Environment and Nature Conservation, Agriculture and Consumer Protection of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia
- Prof. Dr. Fritz Vahrenholt, RWE
- Dr. Armin Vetter, Leiter Zentrum Nachwachsende Rohstoffe / Energieberatung (Head of the Centre for Renewable Raw Materials / Energy Consulting)
- Prof. Dr. Norbert Walter, Deutsche Bank
- Prof. Dr. Rainer Walz, Fraunhofer Institute
- Christian Wulff, State Premier of Lower Saxony
- Dr. Hans – Joachim Ziesing
- Dr. Felix Matthes, Öko-Institut Berlin
- Ursula Zimmer, Headmistress at Barfüßer-Schule Erfurt

- Dr. Peter Rösgen, German Chancellery
- Berthold Goeke, German Chancellery
- Dr. Stefan Bauernfeind, German Chancellery

11. Publications, recommendations, statements, and studies

2007

- Study "Erfolgsfaktoren zur Reduzierung des Flächenverbrauchs in Deutschland", 01.01.2007 with Appendix – Method and documentation of the process
- "Energiepolitische Impulse zur Nachhaltigkeit. Impulse für AG 1 und AG 3 des Energiegipfels, Januar 2007". Statements delivered by Prof. Dr. Klaus Töpfer (Work Group 1 International Energy and Climate Policy) and Dr. Volker Hauff (Work Group 3 Energy Efficiency and Research) at the Energy Summit convened by the German Chancellor, 19.01.2007
- "Nachhaltigkeit als Programm" – Conference documentation of the Creative Workshop for television programmers held in Berlin on 26 and 27 September 2006, German Council for Sustainable Development in conjunction with the ZFP – Zentrale Fortbildung der Programm-Mitarbeiter ARD/ZDF, 01.02.2007
- German Council for Sustainable Development, Progress Report 2001 – 2007, 01.02.2007
- "More Effective thanks to a Greater Commitment". Recommendation marking the inception of the revision of the German sustainability strategy, Berlin, 23.08.2007

2008

- "Welche Ampeln stehen auf Rot?" – Statement issued by the Council on the status of the 21 indicators of the national sustainable strategy – based on the 2006 Indicator Report of the Federal Statistical Office, 06.05.2008
- "Conserving biodiversity now means: Making biomass production sustainable" - Recommendations of the German Council for Sustainable Development, 09.05.2008
- Statement issued by the German Council for Sustainable Development on the 2008 draft progress report on the German government's sustainability strategy, 25.06.2008
- Article contributed by the German Council for Sustainable Development on the 2008 Progress Report: "A proposal"
- Recommendation on the German contribution to the World Exhibition EXPO 2010 in Shanghai
- "Credible – cost-effective – viable: modern procurement policies must be sustainable" – Recommendations of the German Council for Sustainable Development for the German government, 11.08.2008
- Study: "Research and Technology Competence for a Sustainable Development in the BRICS countries", Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research, 01.09.2008

- "Sustainability on the ground" - Conference with the 100 youngest local politicians, 22.09.2008
- "Entwicklung des deutschen Kraftwerksparks und die Deckung des Strombedarfs" Brief expert report for the German Council for Sustainable Development, Dr. Felix Chr. Matthes, Dr. Hans-Joachim Ziesing, 07.10.2008
- Corporate social responsibility – Actions and dialogue 2006/2007. How the German Council for Sustainable Development is guiding the discussion on Corporate Social Responsibility, 23.10.2008
- Position of the German Council for Sustainable Development on current climate and energy policy issues, 27.10.2008
- Sustainability – the Unfinished Business. Challenges in International Cooperation. 17.11.2008, Publication together with the GTZ

2009

- The Sustainable Shopping Basket - A Guide to Better Shopping, 04.09.2009
- Maturing the Sustainability Strategy - Statement regarding the 2009 review of the European Union Strategy for Sustainable Development, EU SDS 24.09.2009
- Statement issued by the Council: Green budget reform - German Council for Sustainable Development submits study on current financial policy, 29.09.2009
- Study: "Green budget reform – a sustainable response to the economic crisis?" - Ecologic Institute and the German Institute for Economic Research on behalf of the German Council for Sustainable Development, 29.09.2009
- Intergenerational Dialogue in Practice – Citizens Initiate Sustainability, 21.10.2009

In 2009, the German Council for Sustainable Development published a brochure on behalf of the German government entitled: "Sustainability Made in Germany – We Know You Can Do It", Peer Review of the German sustainability policy, 23.11.2009

12. Presentations and contributions made by Council members

27.02.2007	Volker Hauff	"Influencing policy on energy and consumption: The role of the Sustainable Development Commissions in Germany and the UK", Anglo-German Foundation
02.04.2007	Hermann Graf Hatzfeldt	"Bioenergie – Fluch oder Segen für den Wald", political lecture, local administration of Arnsberg
18.04.2007	Volker Hauff	"Der Beitrag von Unternehmen zu einer nachhaltigen Entwicklung" – Speech to mark the awarding of the Prix Veuve Clicquot for the female entrepreneur of the year held at the Museum of Communications
09.05.2007	Klaus Töpfer	"The Future Impact of Environmental Science on Political Strategy" – Keynote to the 4th BMBF Forum for Sustainability L2L Sustainable Neighbourhood – from Lisbon to Leipzig through Research

10.05.2007	Volker Hauff	“Managing the Commons is unfinished business”, OECD - side event to the 15th UN CSD celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Brundtland Report, New York
04.06.2007	Klaus Töpfer	“Meeting global challenges – the contribution of SD strategies” – Keynote speech, European Sustainability Berlin 07 (ESB07)
04.06.2007	Volker Hauff	“Brundtland Report: A 20 Years Update”, Keynote speech, European Sustainability Berlin 07 (ESB07)
01.08.2007	Volker Hauff	Brundtland Report: A 20 Years Update, in: Wuppertal Bulletin, volume 10 | 2007 No. 1, pages 2-5
14.08.2007	Volker Hauff	“Nachhaltigkeitsrat zu den Anforderungen an das künftige Klimaschutzprogramm der Bundesregierung” – Interview on Deutschlandfunk radio
17.10.2007	Volker Hauff	“The Brundtland Report: An update” – Keynote speech for the meeting organised by the Belgian Federal Council for Sustainable Development, Egmont Palais, Brussels
31.10.2007	Volker Hauff	“Möglichkeiten und Potenziale zur Ressourceneffizienzsteigerung im Kontext der nachhaltigen Entwicklung” – Speech delivered at the Federal Ministry for the Environment's Innovation Conference "Resource Efficiency – Strategy for the Environment and Industry", Berlin
07.11.2007	Volker Hauff	“Zwischenbilanz der Nachhaltigkeitsdebatte: Was sind die Themen für die Zukunft? Vom Club of Rome zur Brundtland-Kommission und bis heute” – Lecture delivered in the auditorium of the University of Zurich during the “Sustainability Dialogue with Leaders and Pioneers” at the invitation of The Sustainability Forum Zurich (TSF), the Center for Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability (CCRS) as well as ETHsustainability
21.11.2007	Volker Hauff	“Kompass Nachhaltigkeit – Wirtschaft am Zug” – Speech marking the presentation of the 2007 sustainability report ranking by IÖW and future e.V. at the GTZ House, Berlin
29.11.2007	Volker Hauff	Keynote speech given at the 3rd. ILM Conference (Real estate lifecycle management conference), Düsseldorf
12.12.2007	Volker Hauff	“Nachhaltigkeit und gesellschaftliches Lernen” – Speech marking the presentation of the Thurn und Taxis 2007 Forest Science Prize held at Fürstenhaus Thurn und Taxis, Regensburg

29.01.2008	Volker Hauff	"Sustainability management is about dealing with conflicts, also regarding chemical industries”, Keynote, SusChem Stakeholder and Brokerage event “Realising our sustainable future”
15.02.2008	Volker Hauff	“Nachhaltigkeit im Spannungsfeld zwischen Politik und Wirtschaft”, NORDAKADEMIE, Elmshorn

17.04.2008	Volker Hauff	“For a Fair World – Land Management as Basis for Sustainability”, Keynote, Policy Meets Land Management – Contributions to the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, Conference organized by the Technical University of Munich
29.04.2008	Marlehn Thieme	“Unternehmen in Verantwortung - globaler Wettbewerb und lokale Verantwortung” – Keynote speech delivered at the opening panel of the “Unternehmen in Verantwortung – Ein Gewinn für alle” Conference organized by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
13.06.2008	Volker Hauff	“Impulse vor Ort” – Opening speech given at the “Sustainability on the ground” Conference organized by the German Council for Sustainable Development, Berlin
18.06.2008	Volker Hauff	“Das Management von Nachhaltigkeit” – Consense. International Congress and Exhibition for Sustainable Building, ICS Neue Messe Stuttgart
20.06.2008	Marlehn Thieme	- “Preise gut - alles gut? Der nachhaltige Warenkorb” - Conference for Economic and Social Data, Wiesbaden
18.07.2008	Volker Hauff, Klaus Töpfer	“Das Energieproblem ist ernster als die Debatte darüber”
02.10.2008	Volker Hauff	“Nachhaltigkeit – China, Bismarck und unsere Zukunft” - Speech given on receiving the 1st International TÜV Rheinland Global Compact Award 2008, Historic Town Hall, Cologne
18.10.2008	Volker Hauff	“Nachhaltigkeit vor Ort: Wie kann eine kommunale Infrastruktur und Daseinsvorsorge für die Familie von morgen aussehen?” – Expert Conference: “Das Prinzip der Nachhaltigkeit”, Freiburg
03.11.2008	Angelika Zahrnt	“Zivilisationswandel” – Presentation given on the focal issue of “Climate change - Water change - Life change” at the 7th Conference of the 10th Synode of the Evangelical Church in Germany, Bremen
17.11.2008	Volker Hauff	“Nachhaltigkeitspolitik 2008: Kurs halten” – Speech welcoming German Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel to the 8th Annual Conference of the German Council for Sustainable Development, Berlin
17.11.2008	Marlehn Thieme	“Look back to the future. The sustainable shopping basket and corporate responsibility take us towards sustainable management” – In: Sustainability – the unfinished business, Berlin
01.12.2008	Marlehn Thieme	“Look back to the future. The sustainable shopping basket and corporate responsibility take us towards sustainable management” – In: Global Compact International Yearbook 2008
05.12.2008	Volker Hauff	“Nachhaltigkeit im Wettbewerb. Die Gewinner des Deutschen Nachhaltigkeitspreises 2008” – German Sustainability Award symposium, Düsseldorf

10.01.2009	Volker Hauff	“Das ist das Gegenteil von gutem Regieren”, Deutschlandradio Kultur radio programme “Tacheles”
19.01.2009	Angelika Zahrnt	Is Germany future-proof – in the middle of a financial crisis?
11.02.2009	Marlehn Thieme	“Nachhaltiger Konsum – Essen und Lernen mit Köpfchen” – Panel discussion held during “Forum aktuell” at the didacta, the Education Trade Fair in Hannover
27.02.2009	Hubert Weinzierl	“Renaissance Kernenergie?” – Speech delivered at the “Renaissance der Kernenergie für Klimaschutz?” Conference, Evangelische Akademie Tutzing
23.03.2009	Marlehn Thieme	“Der Stellenwert von Transparenz und Nachhaltigkeits-berichterstattung im CSR-Diskurs und die Rolle des Rankings dabei” at the “Bewertungskriterien des Rankings – Dialog 2009” Workshop in Berlin
23.03.2009	Marlehn Thieme	“Consuming responsibly with the sustainable shopping basket” – Keynote speech on the Consumer Citizenship Network (CCN) Conference in Berlin
23.03.2009	Klaus Töpfer	Refina status seminar: “Flächeneffizienz und nachhaltiges Flächenmanagement – Herausforderungen an zukunftsfähige Gesellschaften”
25.03.2009	Angelika Zahrnt	Sustainability strategy as a federal and state policy
26.03.09	Ute Klammer	“Lebenslauforientierte Sozialpolitik als Beitrag zur sozialen Nachhaltigkeit” – Lecture delivered at the “LebensWert” Conference at the Leuphana University of Lüneburg, Lüneburg
03.04.-04.04.2009	Ute Klammer	Conference: “Sustainable Welfare and Sustainable Growth”, invited speaker. Anglo-German Foundation/University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh
17.-19.4.2009	Ute Klammer	“Soziale Nachhaltigkeit” – Keynote speech at the “Nachhaltige Entwicklung – das neue Paradigma in der Ökonomie” Conference. Spring meeting of the German Association of Political Economy (APÖ), Mainz
22.04.2009	Volker Hauff	“Wichtige Handlungsfelder in Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft für eine nachhaltige Entwicklung in Deutschland“ – Lecture delivered at the Volkswirtschaftliches Forum of the KfW Frankfurt
24.4.2009	Volker Hauff	"Was ist das Neue an Nachhaltigkeit?” – Speech delivered at the Schleswig-Holstein Sustainability Conference “Wir machen Zukunft” in Kiel
06.05.2009	Volker Hauff	“Nehme den Ernst, der von Nachhaltigkeit spricht – und zwinge ihn, sich selbst ernst zu nehmen. Nachhaltigkeit als Gesellschaftsaufgabe” – Lecture delivered at the “Nachhaltigkeit im Globalen Wandel” event, Sustainability Sciences at the Institute of Geography of the Humboldt University in Berlin, Erwin Schrödinger Centre

06.05.2009	Ute Klammer	Keynote speech on education and sustainability at an event organized by the parliamentary group of the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) entitled “Mit guten Beispielen voran – Bildung für nachhaltige Entwicklung”, Berlin
07.05.2009	Marlehn Thieme	“Nachhaltiger Konsum hat Konjunktur – wirklich?” – Lecture delivered at the “Sustainable Consumption” Experts Workshop organized by the German Council for Sustainable Development, Hanover
14.05.2009	Volker Hauff	“Immobilienwirtschaft auf dem Weg zur Nachhaltigkeit?” – Munich Real Estate Talks
14.05.2009	Edward G. Krubasik	Opportunities and problems relating to climate policy. Speech given during the Joint Annual Conference of the Federation of Ecological Economics (VÖÖ) and the Association for Ecological Economic Research (VÖW) in conjunction with the Institute for Ecological Economic Research (IÖW) and the University of Oldenburg
12.06.2009	Hubert Weinzierl	“Nachhaltigkeit als europäischer Kulturentwurf” – Speech delivered at the European Weeks Festival in Passau
10.9.2009	Volker Hauff	“Nachhaltigkeit in anderen Formen”, SozialDialog Grünes Bauhaus, Academy of Arts, Berlin
19.06.2009	Marlehn Thieme	“Politik aus der Geldbörse” – Welcoming words at the Karmakonsum Conference held at the Chamber of Industry and Commerce in Frankfurt am Main
27.07.2009	Edward G. Krubasik	Opportunities and problems relating to climate policy – Speech delivered before the Rotary Club München-Mitte
8.10. – 9.10.2009	Ute Klammer	“Chancengleichheit, Qualitätsmanagement und Kompetenzentwicklung – Anforderungen an das Bildungssystem aus der Perspektive nachhaltiger Entwicklung” – Speech delivered at the “Mythos Bildung? ‘Humankapitalismus’ und soziale Integration” Conference organized by the Social Policy Section of the German Sociological Association (DGS), Essen
26./ 27.10.2009	Angelika Zahrnt	“Soziale Gerechtigkeit und Nachhaltigkeit – Leitplanken für ein Zukunftsfähiges Deutschland” – Speech delivered in closing the 3rd Netzwerk21Kongress in Cologne
22.10.2009	Ute Klammer	Panel discussion: “Ressource Bildung – nachhaltige Strategien” – invited to participate in the panel discussion, 22nd University Weeks in Moers
29.10.2009	Ute Klammer	Panel discussion: “Looking to the future” – invited to participate in the panel discussion, concluding event of the “Creating sustainable growth in Europe” initiative, Anglo-German Foundation, Berlin
6.11.2009	Volker Hauff	Speech delivered at the 13th International Economic Forum in Accra, Ghana
12.11.2009	Marlehn Thieme	“Konsum und Nachhaltigkeit” – Strategy talks at the Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (DBU), Osnabrück

17.11.2009	Marlehn Thieme	“CSR 2010. Leadership in nachhaltiger Wirtschaftspolitik” – Keynote speech delivered at EuroFinanceWeek in Frankfurt am Main
17.11.2009	Marlehn Thieme	Business case sustainability. The political perspective: Puma-Talks at Banz Monastery
20.11.2009	Volker Hauff	“Das Grand Design 2050 aus Sicht des Nachhaltigkeitsrates"”– Germanwatch Experts Workshop
23.11.2009	Volker Hauff	Speeches delivered at the Council's annual conference
23.11.2009	Ute Klammer	“Nachhaltigkeit und Bildung: Impulse für gleiche Chancen, Kompetenzen und Qualität” – opening speech, Forum 1, 9th Annual Conference of the German Council for Sustainable Development, Berlin
14.12.2009	Marlehn Thieme	“Nachhaltigkeit als wirtschaftspolitische Leitschnur” – Keynote speech delivered at the Conference of Federal State Ministers of Economic Affairs, Lübeck

5.01.2010	Volker Hauff	“Sustainability and leadership” – Speech delivered at the Berlin International Economic Congress

13. Presentations and contributions from head office (valid as of 4.2.2010)

Günther Bachmann

Bildung für Nachhaltigkeit braucht Medien und eine Lobby für den Umwelt- und Naturfilm, Statement delivered at the eco film discussion; kick-off event to launch the eco film tour 2007 with a viewing of the film “We feed the world” at the Haus der Natur in Potsdam, 9.1.2007

The German Council for Sustainable Development, published in the newsletter: Thinking Europe. Issued by lab concepts. March 2007

Increasing the Role of Stakeholders in Sustainability Strategies, presentation together with Ingeborg Niestroy at the Workshop on Developing SD Strategies in Asia / Pacific, organized by OECD / UN DESA / UN-ESCAP in Bangkok, 8./9.3.2007

New Frontiers in Arts Sociology: Creativity, Support and Sustainability, presentation at the Conference of the European Sociological Association (ESA) Research Network for the Sociology of the Arts in Lüneburg, 30.03.2007

Impulse des Nachhaltigkeitsdenkens für die Chemie, in: Brickwedde, F.; Erb, R.; Hempel, M.; Schwake, M. (Ed.) (2008): Nachhaltigkeit in der Chemie. 13th DBU International Summer Academy "Nachhaltigkeit in der Chemie" held in Ostritz-St. Marienthal on 3.6.2007. Series: “Initiativen zum Umweltschutz, vol. 70, Berlin: Erich-Schmidt Verlag, pp. 20-32

Sustainability and work of the German Nachhaltigkeitsrat, Speech delivered before the European Economic and Social Committee in Berlin, 6.6.2007

Ziele zur Nachhaltigkeit und Energieeffizienz, Speech delivered before a delegation from China, GTZ, 27.6.2007

Politik – Beratung – Nachhaltigkeit: Zum Tätigkeitsbericht des Nachhaltigkeitsrates 2001 – 2007. Speech delivered at the GTZ, June 2007

Bedeutung der Bundesländer bei der Umsetzung der Nationalen Nachhaltigkeitsstrategie, Speech delivered at the Conference of the BUND, DNR and NABU environmental organisations, 5.7.2007

Sustainable Development Governance in Germany, in: OECD Sustainable Developments Studies (Ed.) (2007): Institutionalising Sustainable Development, OECD, pp. 89-94

The Power of the Future. "Was ist Nachhaltigkeit?", in: ARCADIS (Hrsg.): Results. Annual report issued by ARCADIS Deutschland, September 2007. p.2 et seq.

Boden: Schmutz, Staub, Regenbogen, Speech on communicating about soil conservation delivered at the UBA congress "Im Boden ist es dunkel – Erhellendes zur jetzigen Situation" to mark the retirement of Dir. and Prof. Dr. Volker Franzius, 14. 9.2007

Ökonomie und Nachhaltigkeit. Speech delivered at the Veolia experts conference "Wasserwirtschaft im Wandel. Ökonomie und Nachhaltigkeit" held at the Berlin Centre of Excellence for Water, 25.10.07

Nachhaltigkeit heißt auch: Wirtschaftlichkeit neu lernen, contribution for the *Magazin* of the German Council of Shopping Centers e.V., autumn/winter 2007. p. 32 et seq.

Nachhaltigkeitspolitik und der Rat für Nachhaltige Entwicklung, Speech delivered before the IGBCE – Executive Board 4 Works Councils – Education - Young Adults – Shop Stewards/Local Branches - at the Wilhelm-Gefeller Centre of Education in Bad Münder, 1.11.2007

Greening USA – Was ist los? Was steckt dahinter? Speech delivered at the 16th annual conference of authors committed to preserving the environment "Brodowiner Gespräche", 23.11.2007

Aktuelle Nachhaltigkeitspolitik, Speech delivered at the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research in Leipzig, 10.12.2007

Gatekeeper. Foreword in: Kagan, S.; Kirchberg, V. (Ed.) (2008): Sustainability: a new frontier for the arts and cultures. Frankfurt am Main: VAS Verlag für Akademische Schriften, pp. 8-13

"Aktuelle Nachhaltigkeitsstrategie" Speech delivered at the "Sustainability Strategy" dialogue conference in Dresden on 30.1.2008 and organized by the Saxonian State Ministry for the Environment and Agriculture

Umfeld von CR, Verantwortung der Unternehmen, Herausforderung Megatrends, Erwartungen an Evonik, Speech delivered at the Evonik CR Strategy Workshop in Essen, 22.04.2008

Mobilität und Nachhaltigkeitspolitik, Speech delivered at the "postfossil mobil" kick-off event at the Deutsches Technik Museum Berlin, 24.4.2008

Carbon Mitigation Action and Adaptation to Climate Change: The German Perspective, Keynote Speech at the Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC) - Conference on Climate Change and Canadian Public Policy: Adaptation and Action in Toronto, 29.10.2008

Die Vermessung der Wirklichkeit, Article contributed to the catalogue accompanying the ARTE SUSTENIBILE UNO art exhibition in Berlin, Dessau, Bonn. 2008

Demographic change in Europe: slow in numbers, huge in consequences and options for a sustainable long term, Speech delivered at the EEAC's annual conference in Bordeaux. 8.-10.10.2008

Das Ziel-30-ha: Nachhaltigkeit auf dem Prüfstand, Speech delivered at the supra-regional REFINA Workshop of the Four-Country Work Group "Flächenmanagement und Flächenrecycling in Umbruchregionen" in Hof an der Saale, 26.11.2008

Sustainability – the Unfinished Business. Challenges in International Cooperation, published together with Stephan Paulus and Susanne Giwer-Marschall, GTZ. 2008

Politische Beratung zur Nachhaltigkeitspolitik, in: Banse, G; Kiepas, A. (ed.) (2009): Nachhaltige Entwicklung in Polen und Deutschland, Landwirtschaft – Tourismus – Bildung. Volume 13.1 in the series *Global zukunftsfähige Entwicklung – Nachhaltigkeitsforschung der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft*, Berlin: edition sigma, pp. 27-36

Multitasking gegen die Leerverkäufe im Treibhaus, Article appeared in: politische ökologie. Issue 114: Megacitys. Risikolebensräume mit Zukunft. Munich: oekom Verlag, March 2009. p. 62 et seq.

Folgen von Klimaschutz und Klimafolgenbewältigung für die Stadtplanung. Contribution to the discussion held at the DIFU seminar "Stadtplanung in der Bundesrepublik – quo vadis? Zwischen Großprojekten, strategischen Konzepten und Klimaschutz" in Berlin. 23.-25.3.2009

Dialogue on sustainability: Practical experiences of the German Council for Sustainable Development, Speech delivered at the Summer School "Nachhaltige Entwicklung als Strategie und Ziel von Hochschulbildung" organized by the Institute for Environmental Communication in cooperation with the Centre for Sustainability Management (CSM) in Lüneburg. 26.3.2009

Memo, Brief report on the expert workshop "Understanding and Governing the Risks of Planetaryscale Geoengineering" in Lisbon, 20./21.4.2009

Was ist der Mehrwert von Nachhaltigkeitspolitik? Speech delivered at the sustainability conference organized by the federal state of Brandenburg in Potsdam. 29./30.6.2009

Nachhaltigkeit: Ist das 30-ha-Ziel visionär oder illusionär?, published in: TerraTech Zeitschrift für Altlasten und Bodenschutz, June 2009, pp. 2-4

Climate Action: Thinking Big, Opening Speech to the UNESCO World Youth Festival in Stuttgart, 13.7.2009

Knowledge and sustainability. Statement to the panel on "stimulating informed debate on sustainable development" of the International Conference "Towards Knowledge Democracy. Consequences for Science, Politics and Media". University of Leiden. 25.-27.8.2009

Preisverdächtig dank Nachhaltigkeit, Speech delivered at the Aktionsforum Glasverpackung, Trendtag Glas 2009: "Glas – nachhaltig erfolgreich" in Hamburg, 2.10.2009

Ashoka Herausforderungsrede: "Was erwarten wir vom sozialen Sektor?". Speech delivered in honour of Ashoka Fellows 2009 at the Allianz-Stiftungsforum Berlin, 6.10.2009

Deutscher Nachhaltigkeitspreis 2009: Momentaufnahmen, symposium held during the Deutscher Nachhaltigkeitstag in Düsseldorf, 6.11.2009

Potenziale einer nachhaltigen Innovations- und Technikanalyse, Speech delivered to mark the opening of the Ita Forum international expert conference – Technik, Analyse, Innovation in Berlin. 12.11.2009

Nachhaltigkeit – Akteure und Aktionsfeld, Speech delivered at the 15th Round Table for Foundations "Nachhaltigkeit – Überlebensstrategie oder Modeerscheinung?" at the Wirtschaftsclub Düsseldorf. 25.11.2009

Das Ziel-30-ha: Was bedeuten langfristige Nachhaltigkeitsziele? Speech delivered at the NRW-Altlastensymposium in Düsseldorf. 26.11.2009

Material- und Energieeffizienz – eine wichtige Facette für Nachhaltigkeit. Keynote speech delivered at the conference organized by the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology: "Mit Effizienz gewinnen. Erfolgreich Material und Energie sparen" in Berlin. 1.12.2009

Nachhaltigkeit und Wachstum – Widerspruch oder Gewinn, Discussion at the 5th Lokale Agenda 21 Network Forum held at Pankow town hall. 1.12.2009

Die ökologischen Aspekte einer nachhaltigen Entwicklung, Chapt. VI-3.9.5 of the Handbuch der Umweltwissenschaften, edited by Otto Fränzle, Felix Müller and Winfried Schröder (due to be published in 2010)

together with Klaus Töpfer: *One Man - One Vote – One Carbon Footprint: Knowledge for Sustainable Development,* in: Roeland In't Veld and Louis Meuleman (2010), Knowledge Democracy, Springer, Heidelberg

Nach Kopenhagen – Nachhaltigkeit in unserer Zeit. Speech delivered to mark the opening of the 10th Lüneburg Environmental Films Festival, Lüneburg 24.01.2010

Butter und Leder. Essay for the journal *pure by PremiumPark*. Das Magazin für Design und Nachhaltigkeit, Munich, Issue 2/2010, pp. 90-91

*Ein Fall organisierten Vergessen*s. Article appearing in the Soil periodical published by the journal Politische Ökologie, Oekom Verlag, 2010

Sustainability Policies in Germany. Presentation to the UNEP-UNESCO-BMU-Postdoc course Environmental Management for Developing and Emerging Countries, Dresden, 2.2.2010

Dorothee Braun

Europäische Bürgerkonferenz, panel discussion as expert on integration issues, Berlin 24.-25.2.2007

Research as a Field of Activity, Speech delivered during the inaugural German-Czech Conference on Research for Sustainability, Prague, 22.4.2008

Nachhaltigkeit braucht Bildung, article appeared in the journal "Umweltjournal Rheinland Pfalz" Issue no. 52, March 2009

Demographic change in Europe: slow in numbers, huge in consequences and options for a sustainable long term, Speech on the International Human Development Program, IHDP, open meeting. 28.4.2009

Europas Zukunft: ein Leben lang lernen, article appeared in Pressetext und Proplanta. May 2009

Nachhaltigkeitsberichterstattung der Bundesregierung. Die Strategie steht. Wo bleibt die Wirkung? Article, written in conjunction with Julia Werner, appeared in the journal "Ökologisches Wirtschaften". Issue (4) 2009

Eike Meyer

German Council for Sustainable Development. An introduction. Speech held before the Erfurter Kolleg at the University of Erfurt, 03.6.2009

Generationendialog in der Praxis – Bürger initiieren Nachhaltigkeit, presentation of the results of the competition during the "Sommer Forum Generationendialog" organized by the Intergenerational Dialogue Project Office, Remschied Academy, 21.8.2009

Lebensqualität in 30 Jahren? Speech delivered before the Eberle Butschkau Foundation, 15.01.2010

Jürgen Solms

Europäische Bürgerkonferenz, expert for climate and energy issues at a panel discussion, Berlin 24.-25.2.2007

Genug gespart?, Refina status seminar, 28.11.2007

Roundtable-Gespräch: REFINA: Ziele und Erwartungen, status seminar, 23.3.09

Julia Werner

Nachhaltigkeitsberichterstattung der Bundesregierung. Die Strategie steht, doch wo bleibt die Wirkung? Article written in conjunction with Dorothee Braun, appeared in the journal "Ökologisches Wirtschaften", issue (4), 2009

Nachhaltigkeit: Worthülse oder roter Faden? Contribution to the ver.di Workshop: Nachhaltigkeit – ein veränderter Blickwinkel im gewerkschaftlichen Handeln und bei der Durchsetzung aktueller gewerkschaftlicher Forderungen? At ver.di Bildungszentrum Mosbach, 07.10.2009

Nachhaltigkeit als politischer Auftrag – die nationale Nachhaltigkeitsstrategie der Bundesregierung, Lecture delivered at the University of Applied Sciences in Eberswalde. 8.12.2009

Yvonne Zwick (neé Scherer)

Unternehmerisches Engagement in der Entwicklungszusammenarbeit, speech and panel discussion at the Stiftung Entwicklungszusammenarbeit in Baden-Württemberg e.V., Stuttgart, 24.4.2007

Mission Sustainability – kleine Schritte für unsere gemeinsame Zukunft. Speech held at a mass event organized by the Katholische Junge Gemeinde, Tauberbischofsheim, 19.5.2007

Nachhaltigkeit in Deutschland – bundesweite Strategien und Perspektiven. Speech delivered before the Student Congress of the Heinrich Boell Foundation, Lützensömmern, 14.6.2007

Corporate Social Responsiblity in Medienunternehmen – Chancen und Herausforderungen unternehmensethischer Ansätze. Speech delivered at the Center for International Studies, Hamburg, 20.6.2007

Da fehlen uns die Worte? Medienkompetenz und Kommunikation von Nachhaltigkeit. Speech delivered at the Netzwerk21-Kongress, Berlin, 17.9.2007

Corporate Social Responsibility – Thema aktuell im Rat für Nachhaltige Entwicklung. Speech given for a Chinese delegation, Berlin, 12.10.2007

Die Arbeit des Rates für Nachhaltige Entwicklung und: Ist nachhaltiges Wirtschaften möglich? Speech given for a group of visitors from Tübingen grammar school, Berlin, 29.10.2007

Nachhaltigkeit als Verpflichtung für Unternehmen und Verbraucher, speech and panel discussion at the Friedrich Naumann Foundation, Berlin, 17.11.2007

Corporate Social Responsibility in der BVG – Optionen für ein Verkehrsunternehmen, Berlin, 14.12.2007

Mission Sustainability oder Die Aufgabe des Rates für Nachhaltige Entwicklung. Speech given for a group of visitors from the Katholische Landjugendbewegung Deutschland, Berlin, 21.1.2008

Zwischen Windmühlen und Mauern. Welcoming words marking the opening of the workshop *Ein Hauch des Wandels – Nachhaltigkeitsreporting in Deutschland,* Hanover, 21.2.2008

Roadmap zum klimafreundlichen Verband. Lecture delivered at the Katholische Junge Gemeinde, Würzburg, 23.2.2008

Unternehmerische Verantwortung in Zeiten der Globalisierung. CSR in Touristikunternehmen. Future workshop held during the CSR Symposium by GATE - Netzwerk, Tourismus, Kultur e.V. at the University of Hamburg, Hamburg, 10.05.2008

Corporate Social Responsibility - Chance für eine neue Unternehmenskultur. Speech given for a Chinese delegation, Berlin, 23.5.2008

Klimaschutz und Nachhaltigkeit. Wo steht die Nachhaltigkeitsstrategie?. Speech delivered during the 1st Forumnano Frankfurt Nano Dialogue, Frankfurt, 17.6.2008

Il modello tedescho di Sviluppo Sostenibile. Speech delivered at the regional project conference S.S.APPIA – Industrie und Umwelt für Nachhaltige Entwicklung in Kampanien, Vitulazio (Italy), 18.6.2008

The Sustainable Shopping Basket – a project from the German Council for Sustainable Development, speech delivered at the International Sustainability Conference held at the University of Basle, Basle, 21.8.2008

Bewahrung der Schöpfung – große Visionen und kleine Schritte. Speech delivered at the 2008 Ökumenischer Tag der Schöpfung 2008 organized by the Ökumenischer Rat Berlin-Brandenburg, the Evangelische Kirche Berlin-Brandenburg-schlesische Oberlausitz and the Diözesanrat der Katholiken im Erzbistum Berlin, Berlin, 27.9.2008

World Changing. Was ist neu an Nachhaltigkeit und was kann die Politik dafür tun? Keynote speech delivered before the Schweisfurth Foundation and the Knesebeck publishing house, Munich, 01.10.2008

Unternehmerische Verantwortung für eine nachhaltige Entwicklung. Chance für eine neue Unternehmenskultur oder Ding der Unmöglichkeit? Speech delivered during the "Globalization" project week at the Bad Doberan vocational school, 23.10.2008

German Council for Sustainable Development: Was hat die Branche mit einem politischen Programm zu tun? Speech delivered at the Dialogtagung zu Haut und Gesundheit V organized by Procter & Gamble, Hanover, 27.11.2008

Der Nachhaltige Warenkorb aktuell. Ein Projekt des Rates für Nachhaltige Entwicklung. Speech delivered at the 2nd Lichtenrade Climate Conference organized by the Evangelical Parish of Lichtenrade, Berlin Lichtenrade, 23.1.2009

Nachhaltiger Konsum. Keynote speech delivered during the convention organized by the Nutrition, Agriculture and Consumer Work Group of the parliamentary group of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, Berlin, 8.2.2009

Vertrauensbildung in der Finanzkrise. Kommunikationsziele von KMU zur Nachhaltigkeit. Speech delivered at a workshop for sustainability reporting on SMEs, Nuremberg, 17.2.2009

Finanzkrise – Chance für Bio? Trends in der Werte-(um)orientierung der Verbraucher. Keynote speech delivered during an event organized by the Organic Processors and Traders Association (BNN) at the World Organic Trade Fair, Nuremberg, 19.2.2009

Ethischer Konsum nur in guten Zeiten? Wie wir durch verantwortungsvolles Verbraucherverhalten Wohlstand erlangen können. Speech delivered to a stakeholder-workshop "Zukunft ethischer Konsum – Überlebensstrategien in der Rezession" organized by Otto Group, Hamburg, 19.3.2009

Der Nachhaltige Warenkorb. German Council for Sustainable Development. Speech delivered at the Landeszentrale für politische Bildung Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Schwerin, 21.4.2009

Nachhaltiger Konsum hat Konjunktur – wirklich? Speech delivered to the symposium "Vom guten Leben in Zeiten der Krise", Wiesenfelden, 28.4.2009

Nachhaltigkeit - ein Begriff und seine Folgen. Speech delivered at the annual conference of the Electronic Components and Systems Division of the German Electrical and Electronics Industry (ZVEI), Wiesbaden, 27.5.2009

Kapital und Gesellschaft. Speech delivered during the Odeon dialogues of the Krone Foundation and Sal. Oppenheim, Munich, 25.6.2009

Nachhaltigkeit – demografischer Wandel – und die Wohnungsbaugenossenschaften. Keynote speech delivered to the CSR Advisory Council of VHW - Bundesverband für Wohnen und Stadtentwicklung e.V., Berlin, 14.7.2009

Wieviel Platz ist noch im nachhaltigen Warenkorb? Strategischer Konsum als Thema von Politik, Wirtschaft und Zivilgesellschaft. Speech delivered during the Meeting Opinions workshop organized by Serviceplan, Haus der Kommunikation Berlin, 17.9.2009

Aktivitäten in den Bereichen CSR und nachhaltiger Konsum des Rates für Nachhaltige Entwicklung Speech delivered to the CSR-Arbeitskreis des Hauptverbands des Deutschen Einzelhandels (HDE), Cologne, 21.9.2009.

14. Participation in expert bodies and juries

The German Council for Sustainable Development was represented by a jury member (usually the head office) in the following bodies:

- “Refina” (“Research for the Reduction of Land Use and a Sustainable Land Management”), supervisory panel for the research program of the Federal Ministry for Education and Research
- BIN, Bürger Initiieren Nachhaltigkeit (“Citizens Initiate Sustainability”). (Jury for the awarding of project funds).
- Jury for the “econsense Award” for journalistic reporting on corporate social responsibility and sustainability
- Öko-Filmtour
- Advisory board for future solutions to household waste (Federal Environment Ministry / Federal Environment Agency)
- National committee of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development
- Advisory committee of the National Service Agency for Local Agenda 21
- Advisory committee of the service agency "Kommunen in der Einen Welt"
- Jury “Boden des Jahres” (“Soil of the year”)
- Advisory board “Energy Efficiency for Small and Medium-Sized Industry”, DBU project by the Ökotech company
- Netzwerk Ressourcenmanagement
- Project advisory council “Youth Culture and Sustainability” of the Federal Environment Ministry and the Federal Environment Agency, moderated by the Institute for Futures Studies (IZT)
- Work group of Commission VI “Society and Social Affairs” of the German Bishops’ Conference
- Advisory board of the Netzwerk21 Kongress, Jury for ‘Zeitzeiche(N)’, the local German sustainability prize
- Jury Clean Media Tech Award 2009
- Jury for the 2009 Sustainability Award awarded by the Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Areas of the federal state of Schleswig-Holstein
- Jury for the 2008 and 2009 German Sustainability Award
- Jury for the 2008 and 2009 Allianz Umweltstiftung German Climate Award
- Jury Mission Sustainability 2007, 2008, 2009
- Stiftung Zukunft Berlin, Energy/Climate work group

15. Annual conferences

- 7th Annual conference: The Power of the Future. The Demands of Today's World, 27.11.2007
- 8th Annual conference: Taking responsibility for the future!, 17.11.2008
- 9th Annual conference: Sustainability in a Changing World – the Future Direction of Germany, 23.11.2009

16. Participation in international events

Global Campus21: 2nd African Interdisciplinary InWent Alumni Conference “African Crisis – African Challenge”, November 2009, Accra, Ghana

Round Table on Corporate Responsibility, Consumer empowerment and responsible business conduct, 15.6. 2009, OECD Conference Centre, Paris, France (Yvonne Zwick)

15th Annual Conference, Evora (Portugal), 10-13 October 2007 of the European Environment and Sustainable Development Advisory Councils EEAC *Energy Efficiency – Key Pillar for a Competitive, Secure and Sustainable Europe*, hosted by the Portuguese National Council on Environment and Sustainable Development (CNADS)

16th Annual Conference, Bordeaux (France), 9-11 October 2008 of the European Environment and Sustainable Development Advisory Councils EEAC *Sustaining Europe for a Long Way Ahead*, hosted by the French National Council for Sustainable Development (CNDD)

17th Annual Conference of the European Environment and Sustainable Development Advisory Councils EEAC, Dubrovnik (Croatia), 22-24 October 2009 *Towards Sustainable European Infrastructures*, hosted by the Croatian Council for Sustainable Development (SORZO).

OECD - side event to the 15.UN CSD celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Brundtland Report, May 10, 2007, New York

Workshop on Developing SD Strategies in Asia / Pacific, organized by OECD / UN DESA / UN-ESCAP in Bangkok, 8./9.3.2007

PCE20 Forum: Advancing environmental sustainability. By invitation of the New Zealand Parliament, Wellington, 1-2 March 2007

European Sustainability Berlin 07 (ESB07) - Linking Policies, Implementation, and Civil Society Action. Berlin, 3-5 June, 2007

ESDN Conference 2008 - Coordinating SCP and CSR policies with Sustainable Development Strategies. Paris, 29 June-1 July, 2008

ESDN Conference 2009 - Options and Opportunities for the future EU Sustainable Development Strategy. Prague, 17-19 June 2009