



German Council for  
SUSTAINABLE  
Development

# **Policy frameworks and initiatives for sustainability.**

**A perspective by the German Council for Sustainable Development**

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# The concept of sustainability is given more concrete form

“... meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

- **Universality**
- **Principles, goals, indicators**
- **Measures**



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



# Key milestone in Paris



# The German Council for Sustainable Development (RNE)

- First established in 2001 by then Chancellor Gerhard Schröder
- Chancellor Angela Merkel repeatedly extends the Council's mandate by three years and appoints 15 members from civil society, the scientific community and the business sector

## Three main tasks:

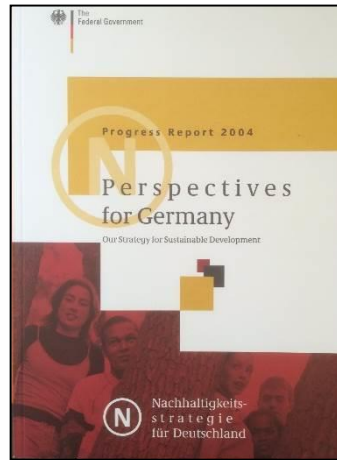
- Advises the federal government on sustainability issues and on national sustainability strategy
- Promotes societal dialogue on topic of sustainable development
- Names concrete areas of action and supports sustainability projects



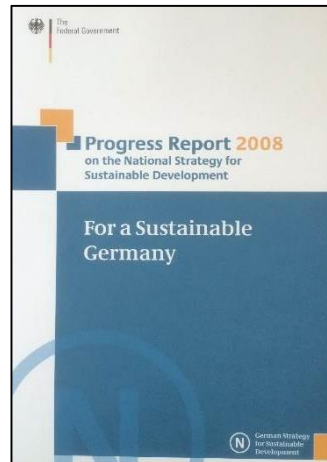
# Since 2002: German Sustainable Development Strategy



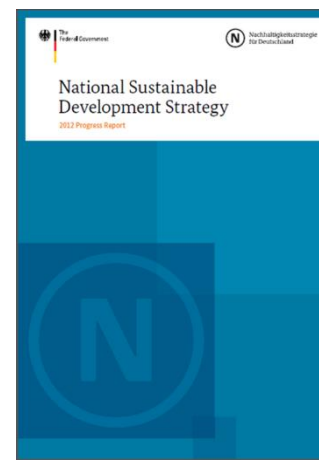
2002



2004



2008



2012



2016

- Data is compiled by the Federal Statistical Office
- Supplemented by own contributions from Sustainability Council
- Peer review by international sustainability experts (next one: 2018)



# The RNE initiates projects that contribute to a sustainable development

*“Sustainable development means taking environmental, social and economic aspects equally into account.”*

→ The council emphasizes this triangle in its projects.

## Selected projects:

The Sustainability Code	Regional Hubs for Sustainability Strategies (RENN)	The Sustainable Shopping Basket	“Sustainable City” dialogue – mayors for sustainable development in municipalities	Projekt Nachhaltigkeit
German Action Days for SD	Hub for Sustainable Finance (H4SF)	Fund for Sustainability Culture	Peer Review (2018)	SDG Educational Competition





# “Sustainable City” dialogue: mayors for sustainable development in cities

- Established in 2010 by the Sustainability Council
- Dialogue between mayors of 30 German cities (annual meetings, publications, policy papers)
- Main aim: dialogue on strategic issues, offering platform for mayors to exchange information, influence at federal level
- Strategic cornerstones (as commitment and recommendation)
  1. Participation and public involvement
  2. Sustainability in municipal finances
  3. Sustainability as a cross-cutting municipal task
  4. Coordination of sustainability activities at all levels







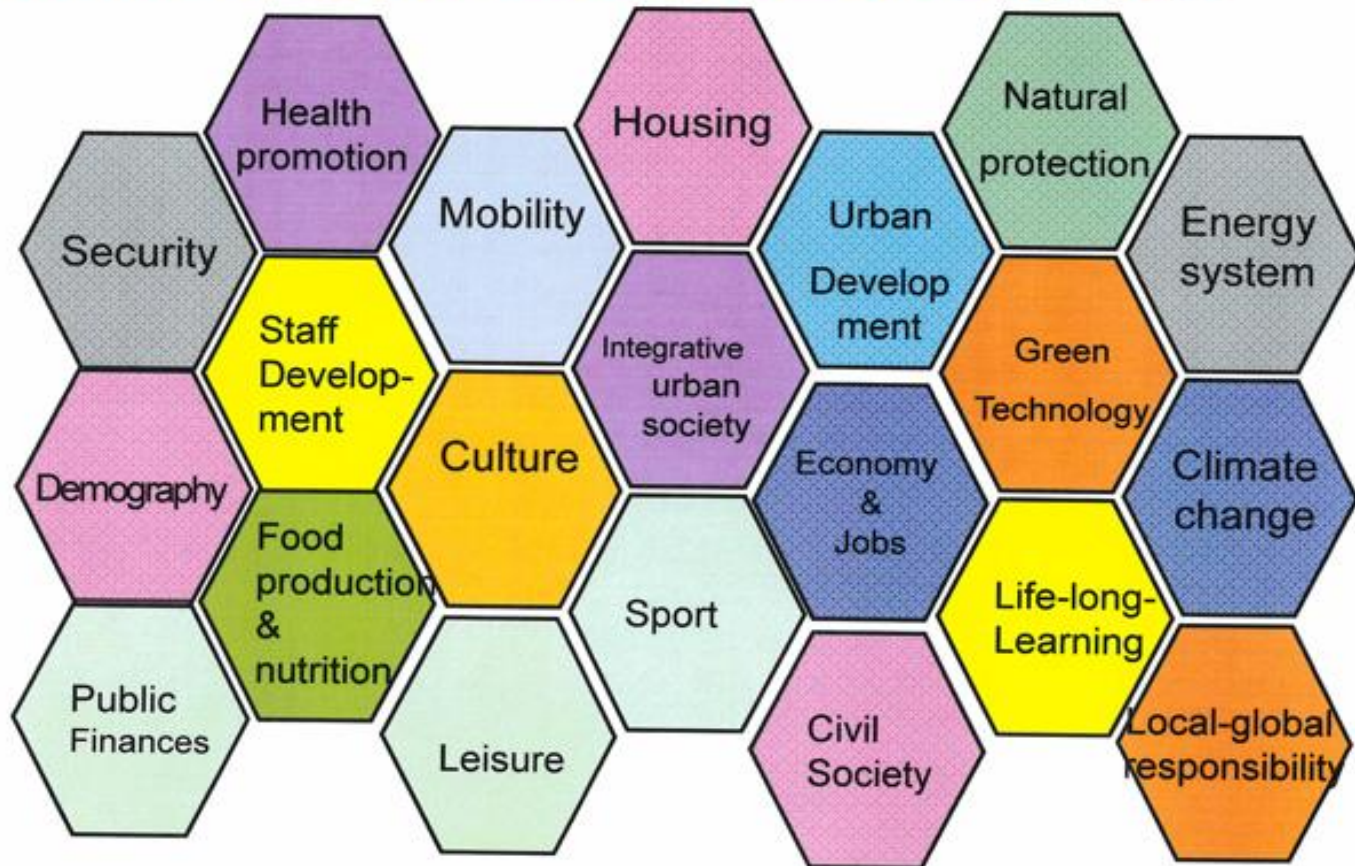
## **MAKE CITIES AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS INCLUSIVE, SAFE, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE**

Sustainable city development – our  
responsibility for the next generations

under social, ecological, economical aspects

# Living and governing in a city: interconnectivities and interdependences

## 21 fields for urban sustainable development



# Regional Hubs for Sustainability Strategies (RENN)



- The aim of the regional hubs is (1) to link up the sustainability initiatives at federal, state and municipal level supra-regionally and (2) to establish new forms and platforms for sustainable development actors (civil society, academia, business, local authorities, etc.) to work hand in hand
- The four RENN currently resort to a network comprising 20 partners from the 16 German states
- RENN Coordination Centre is based in the RNE office
- Each individual RENN sets its own thematic focal points



<http://www.renn-netzwerk.de/>

# German Action Days for Sustainable Development



- On the occasion of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) the German Council for Sustainable Development launched the German Action Days for Sustainable Development.
- They take place each year 30 May to 5 June.
- The aim of the Action Days is to generate public awareness for sustainable development and to increase the visibility of exemplary commitment throughout Germany and to encourage others to join in and to be proactive.
- Everyone is invited to join in and to make a difference in their own personal environment.
- Since 2015, the German Action Days take place in the context of the European Sustainable Development Week. The German actions are automatically integrated into the European initiative.

<https://www.tatenfuermorgen.de/>



Deutsche  
Aktionstage  
NACHHALTIGKEIT





# The Sustainable Shopping Basket: a better way of shopping

- First edition published in 2004, updated regularly
- Main aim: offers consumption alternatives and tips for sustainable living
- Considers various areas of life such as food, clothing and sustainable investment opportunities
- Sets rules of thumb for the daily routine and points out important labels
- Translated into Turkish in collaboration with Yesil Cember
- Also available as PDF file

<http://nachhaltiger-warenkorb.de/>





## El Código de Sostenibilidad

## Кодекс устойчивого развития



### דברי פתיחה

גם אם הדבר אינו מורגש במיוחד במדינת ישראל, אנו מצויים בימים אלו בראשיתה של מהפכת השקיפות בהתנהלותם של תאגידים עסקיים. זהו אינו תהליך של התפתחות **evolution**, אלא תהליך מהפכני של ממש **revolution**. המחוקק האירופי הבין כבר במהלך שנת 2013 כי הוולונטאריות אינה 'מספקת את הסחורה' וכי אם ברצוננו להבין ולשכלל באופן רציני וגורף שיקולים חברתיים וסביבתיים אל תוך מכלול הסיכונים וההזדמנויות העסקיות באירופה, יש לעשות זאת באמצעות מבנה חקיקתי חדש וזוהי הדיקטיבה האמורה.

# Sustainability in the financial sector

- Tangible forward dynamic toward sustainable investing and ESG integration
- More and more new initiatives worldwide driving the topic



**H4SF**  
Hub for  
Sustainable  
Finance  
Germany

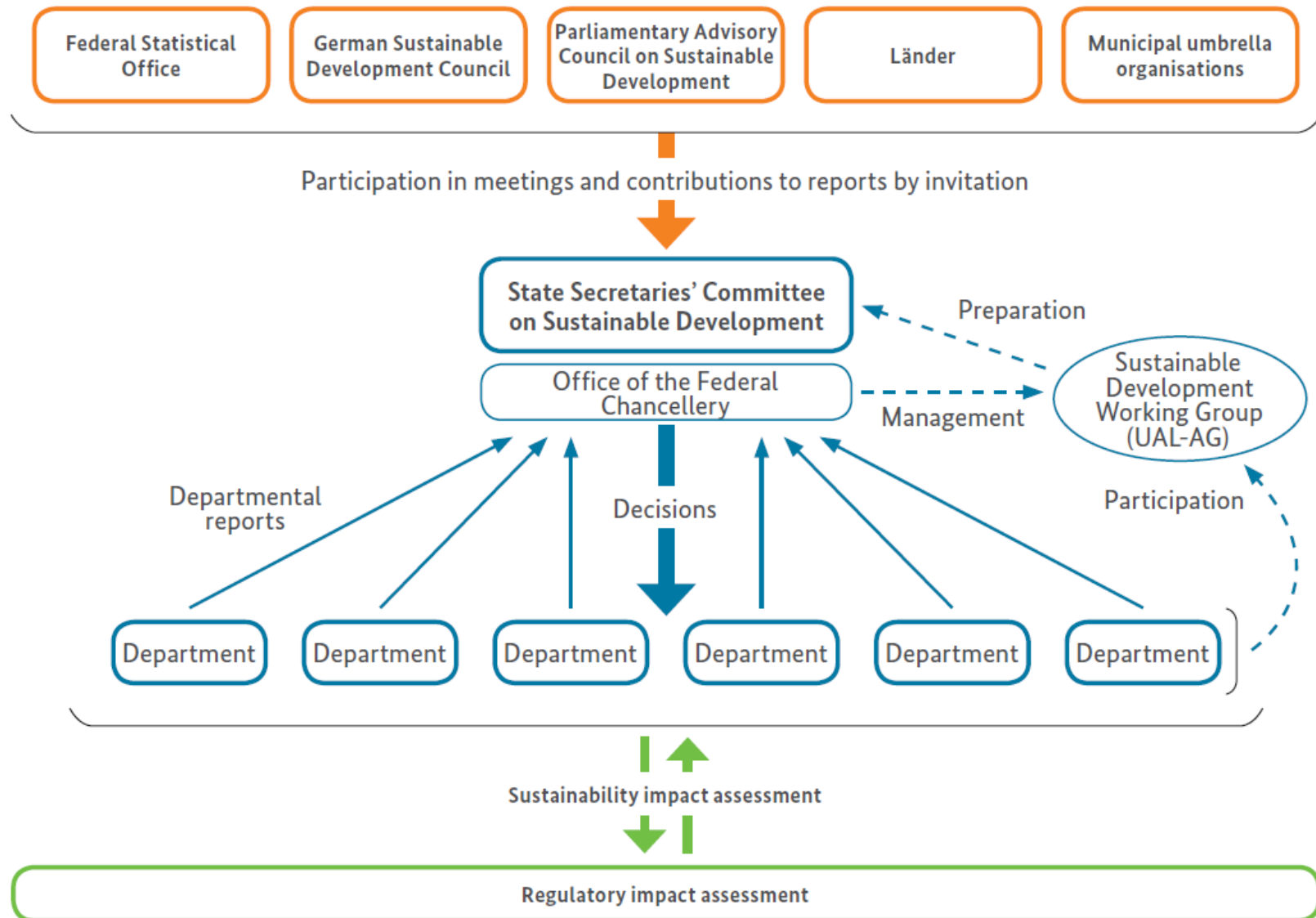


# Hub for Sustainable Finance (H4SF)



- Established in 2017 by the German Council for Sustainable Development (RNE) together with Deutsche Börse Group
- Network of market actors working on solutions for mainstreaming sustainable finance in Germany in order to create a sustainable financial system.
- Ten main recommendations derived from the content overlap between the interim report of the High-Level Expert Group on Sustainable Finance of the European Commission, the PRI Roadmap for Germany, the Living Document Sustainable Finance of the Council for Sustainable Development, the goals of the Accelerating Sustainable Finance Initiative of the Deutsche Börse and the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures of the Financial Stability Board.

## Sustainability Management



Thank you!