Öko-Institut

independent visionary international

Research and consultancy at Oeko-Institut

How can we create a sustainable future? What decisions are needed to achieve this? And what does it take to turn good ideas into practical solutions? Since 1977, Oeko-Institut has been working to provide scientifically sound answers to these questions.

Oeko-Institut is one of Europe's leading independent **research and consultancy organisations** working for a sustainable future. We analyse environmental, economic, legal and social interconnections and use our findings to develop forward-looking strategies and action options **for policymakers, companies and society**.

Our work covers a broad range of topics, from the energy transition and climate action to raw materials, consumption, transport and nuclear energy. We translate scientific findings into concrete recommendations and provide the evidence needed to make informed environmental decisions. In doing so, we take account of perspectives at all levels, from international to regional.

Oeko-Institut was founded in 1977 as a **non-profit association**. Our work is primarily funded through externally commissioned projects for clients including federal and state ministries, companies, non-governmental organisations and the European Union. Since 2025, the institute's consultancy activities for policymakers and businesses in the fields of environmental protection, climate action and sustainable development have been clustered within **Oeko-Institut Consult gGmbH**.

The association focuses on research, self-funded projects and the further development of the foundations of scientific research. Both organisations share the same scientific principles: **independence, transparency and a commitment to sustainable development.**

Oeko-Institut

Our mission, our values

Climate change, resource consumption and the socially just transition – we develop solutions where change is most urgently needed. At the same time, we identify the environmental, social and economic impacts of human activities and explore alternative visions of the future.

Our research, assessments and consultancy are open-ended and independent of the positions taken by political and societal stakeholders. Our recommendations are grounded in our research findings. Oeko-Institut is defined by its dedicated and highly qualified team, as well as by our commitment to continuously developing our methods and expertise.

We initiate necessary change and support the transition to a sustainable society with concrete solutions. In doing so, Oeko-Institut champions transparent and fair processes that involve affected stakeholders and communicates its research findings to the widest possible audience.

Working for a sustainable future

> *"The aim of our work is to contribute to the preservation of the environment and natural resources, and to safeguard, for present and future generations, the vital support systems on which all human life depends."*
>
> *From Oeko-Institut's Mission Statement*

We work towards a sustainable future across our five research divisions: Energy & Climate, Nuclear Engineering & Facility Safety, Sustainable Products & Material Flows, Resources & Transport, and Environmental Law & Governance.

Our work encompasses scientific analyses, evidence-based strategies and practical solutions. We make our findings publicly available, providing decision-makers with a sound evidence base for targeted action. We work nationally and internationally, using both interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches.

Research & analyse

Good decisions require robust evidence. That is why we collect, review and analyse data and make it available to others.

We use and continuously refine our own models and assessment methods to shed light on the interconnections that are crucial to environmental protection and climate action. The knowledge we generate provides policymakers, businesses and society with a basis for evaluating options for action and designing targeted measures.

Our research ranges from analysing current debates to developing long-term scenarios, such as greenhouse gas emissions projections. These provide a crucial foundation for identifying pathways to climate neutrality. We also examine, for example, the social implications of climate action and how climate policies can be designed to ensure fairness and equity.

Advise & recommend

Through our consultancy work, we translate research findings into practical recommendations, particularly for policymakers and companies.

Based on transparent assumptions, we identify potential measures to protect the environment, climate and natural resources and assess their likely impacts. We also consider the economic, legal and social implications.

Oeko-Institut advises policymakers through national and international projects on issues such as circular public procurement and the transport transition. For companies and industry associations, we assess, among other things, the environmental impacts of their processes and products.

Support & communicate

Scientific findings can make a difference when they are understood and put into practice. That is why Oeko-Institut communicates its research findings clearly and makes them accessible in policy discussions, expert exchanges and public debates. In this way, we support evidence-based and transparent decision-making.

Creating a sustainable and liveable future requires collective action. We therefore work with a wide range of stakeholders from politics, business, research and civil society in our projects.

For example, we test practical solutions in real-world laboratories. We also contribute to long-term societal challenges, such as finding a final repository for high-level radioactive waste, by providing scientific information and helping to strengthen transparent processes.

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