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Advising
Making the energy transition come true

Under the Paris Climate Agreement, the temperature rise as of annual change to climate change should be kept well below two degrees Celsius. Accordingly, the German Federal Government’s “National Energy and Climate Change (EPCG), global carbon dioxide emissions must be reduced by 2050 from 2015 onwards if that goal is to be achieved.

In the study entitled ‘Stromsystem 2035+’ commissioned by WWF Germany also shows that the German electricity sector would be permitted to achieve climate targets if nuclear power plants are phased out in phases. The Oeko-Institut has assessed the safety status of such plants in various projects in the past. We shall continue to focus on this issue and will continue to analyse the issue and will continue to analyse the competitiveness, adequacy and safety of such plants in the future.

About the vision for society and the environment.

We are working to ensure that the vision for sustainable development can be realised globally, nationally and locally – today and in the future. Our analysis and studies often look forward: our very first energy transition study in 1980 showed that it is possible to phase out nuclear energy immediately and to dispense with oil by 2030 without jeopardising economic growth and affluence. The Oeko-Institut will always be distinguished by its forward-looking approach – regardless of whether the subject is a sustainable energy transition or ideas for a viable transport system of the future.

Researching
Shaping the raw material transition

All over the world, the demand for raw materials continues to rise – with harmful consequences. While the demand for raw materials is less decisive action taken, the situation will only get worse. Furthermore, for many technology metals and construction materials, there are no high-quality recycling schemes. The Oeko-Institut, too, is assessing the situation in Germany ‘2049’.

Transition to a sustainable use of raw materials and sustainable resource management can be achieved. Specifically tailored strategies are needed to address the problems associated with the extraction, use and disposal of the various materials. The project team thereupon analysed a wide range of raw materials – including bulk raw materials such as gravel and steel and technology metals such as rare earths – and grouped them into clusters of substances with similar characteristics or common risks. Material-specific targets and measures were then identified for each cluster and the raw materials in various aspects of our society. The findings are being incorporated into the German government’s environmental legislation. In connection with the specific issue of noise protection in the protection of noise in Germany is not yet adequately regulated.

A package of measures put together by the ministry for environment and nuclear safety measures that have been implemented have already reduced people’s exposure to noise. The Oeko-Institut and its partners are looking at applications in these very different fields. Paperless publishing and reading, the use of electric bicycles in urban and regional transport and the sustainable production and consumption of meat. The researchers are analysing conditional, demand and clara connections to the transition with sustainability in these areas and are generally applicable conclusions about the information she has and how it can be used.
Advising
Making the energy transition come true

Under the Paris Climate Agreement, the temperature rise as a result of climate change must be kept to well below two degrees centigrade. With this aim in mind, Germany has committed itself to almost halving its greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 compared to 1990 levels. In the short term, this would require a significant shift towards renewable energy sources. In the medium term, the discussion is about shifting away from nuclear power, which has long been a source of controversy in Germany.

Researching
Shaping the raw material transition

When the last nuclear power plant in Germany is shut down in 2022, our raw material use will change significantly. The export of raw materials is a global issue as the demand for raw materials continues to rise – with harmful consequences for the environment.

According to a study commissioned by the German Government and published in 2020, raw material strategies are needed to ensure sustainable development. The study identified critical raw materials such as gravel and steel and technology metal such as copper and niobium. These critical raw materials are needed to address the problems associated with the extractive, use and disposal of the various materials.

The project team then analysed the raw material needs, including bulk raw materials such as coal and steel and technology metals such as copper and niobium – and grouped them into twelve clusters of substances with similar characteristics or common risks. Material-specific targets and measures were then identified for each cluster and the raw material needs of each substance were considered within the context of their environmental, economic and social impacts.

Assessing
Appraising the risks of Europe's nuclear power plants

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Specifically tailored strategies are needed to ensure sustainable development. In the medium term, the discussion is about shifting away from nuclear power, which has long been a source of controversy in Germany.

Supporting
Promoting sustainable transport

At present the transport sector contributes nothing to Germany’s climate targets. Yet, without it, the country’s commitments under the Paris Agreement cannot be achieved. A radical change is urgently needed – but how can it be achieved?

In the Renewbility III project, the Oeko-Institut and its project partners, working on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, are analysing conditions, drivers and obstacles and to campaign for old reactors to be shut down.

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The findings are being incorporated into the German government’s evaluation of the legislation. In connection with the specific issue of noise protection in the legislation of Frankfurt Airport the DLR-Institut works with the Airport and its project partners, working on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, are analysing conditions, drivers and obstacles and to campaign for old reactors to be shut down.

Mediating
Minimising (aircraft) noise

In urban agglomerations people are exposed to high levels of noise. It emanates from the transport sector, the manufacturing industry and residential areas. Noise protection against aircraft noise in Germany is not ad- equately regulated in law.

A report for the German Environment Agency could help to improve protection against avia- tion noise. Working with the Gesellschaft für Gesundheit- ner Forschung, the Oeko-Institut has identified the noise levels and noise protection needs of different groups of people. The findings are being incorporated into the German government’s evaluation of the legislation.

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The Trafo 3.0 research project is exploring how emissions can be kept within these limits. The Oeko-Institut works with the Airport and its project partners, working on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, are analysing conditions, drivers and obstacles and to campaign for old reactors to be shut down.

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