

Guidelines on Sustainability in International Cooperation

University of Bonn
International Office



Guidelines


on Sustainability in International Cooperation



Contents

1. INTRODUCTION 5

2. MOBILITY 6

- 2.1 The Use of Air Flight in Official Travel and Mobility with
Regards to Project Meetings, Conferences and Other Events 6
- 2.2 Sustainable Mobility in Bonn and
Your Commute to Work 8
- 2.3 Environmentally Friendly Travel to Bonn 8
-  Checklist: Mobility 9

3. INTERNATIONAL EVENTS 12

- 3.1 Catering 12
-  Checklist: Catering 15
- 3.2 Accommodation For External Guests 17
- 3.3 Event Venues 19
- 3.4 Event Accessibility 19
-  Checklist: Accommodation, Event Venues
and Event Accessibility 20
- 3.5 Activities with Guests, International Students
and Researchers 22
- 3.6 Sustainable Gifts 24
-  Checklist: Sustainable Gifts 25
- 3.7 Preparing Events and Following-Up 25
-  Checklist: Preparing Events and Following-Up 27
- 3.8 Digital Formats in International Communication 30
-  Checklist: Digital Formats in International
Communication 31
- 3.9 Do Good – and Tell People About It! 31

4. PARTNERSHIPS AND COOPERATION 32

- 4.1 The Role for Networks in Sustainable
Institutional Development 32
- 4.2 Local Networks for Sustainability and Sustainable
Development (Selection) 33
- 4.3 Sustainability Research at the University of Bonn:
Transdisciplinary Research Area Innovation and Technology
for Sustainable Futures 34
- 4.4 Local and Student Sustainability Initiatives 35

5. GLOSSARY 36



1. INTRODUCTION



Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

“Our Common Future” Brundtland Report, 1987

In the context of an increasing plurality of global challenges, the achievement of a sustainable future through sustainable development has become an essential part of research enquiry. Protecting the climate, natural resources and biodiversity and achieving intergenerational equity are but some of the issues we are currently facing and need to address. The transformation to sustainability is a complex process which requires us to channel knowledge—not only on the global level but also in a national, regional, sectoral and institutional context. At the heart of the academic and educational system, universities assume a key role in this process and lead by example. It behooves the University of Bonn to set an example in this area, and we are working to integrate considerations of sustainability not only in our day-to-day work, but especially in our interactions with international students, researchers, professors and visiting lecturers. Due to the corona crisis, digital internationalization at the University of Bonn has been experiencing a strong boost in spring 2020. It is important that we continue to use these newly created opportunities in order to make international cooperation more sustainable in the long run.

These guidelines seek to identify the potential to increase the sustainability of our various programs of international cooperation. With a particular focus on international cooperation in Bonn, these guidelines present a range of examples, suggestions and practical advice with which to realize our commitment to sustainability. All the chapters of this document and the topics with which they deal are based on the principle of sufficiency and the resulting question: “What do I really need?” While the principle of sufficiency raises the question of proportionality, it does not demand abstinence but rather responsibility in the consumption and treatment of resources.

Far from taking a prescriptive approach, the suggestions presented in this document are examined from the perspective of the individual, whom we encourage to focus on achieving feasible solutions based on a case-by-case approach to unique situations. Despite the importance of individual responsibility in achieving the transformation to a sustainable society, we cannot change society alone. Such a transformation requires structural changes. First and foremost, these guidelines aim to start the conversation with the ultimate aim of kick-starting the move towards sustainable international cooperation.



2. MOBILITY

Mobility and personal exchange are fundamental to international collaboration. At the same time, mobility is one of the biggest causes of greenhouse gas emissions in Germany; it is vital that they be reduced. Specific steps for avoiding a conflict of aims are set out in the [checklist mobility](#).

2.1 The Use of Air Flight in Official Travel and Mobility with Regards to Project Meetings, Conferences and Other Events

Time is of the essence—official travel needs to minimize travel times. The use of air travel within Germany and its closest European neighbors does not save as much time as was previously thought, whilst bringing a far greater environmental impact. We need to be honest—how much quicker is a flight compared to a train journey, especially when considering the time spent transferring to and from the airport and waiting at the gate? When calculating door-to-door traveling times, train travel often does not seem to be such a bad option after all. Not to forget that working or sleeping on a train is far more relaxing than on a flight.¹

The highest potential for greenhouse gas emission savings is usually found in avoiding air travel. A round trip by airplane for one person from Cologne/Bonn to Berlin generates 298 kg of CO₂. To put this into perspective, a one-way train trip from Bonn to Berlin generates only 28 kg of CO₂. A return trip from Cologne/Bonn to Washington, D.C. for one person travelling economy class produces 3,200 kg of CO₂, while the figure for a one-way trip to Australia is 10,260 kg. Depending on the choice of metrics, the environmentally soundest annual CO₂ budget for one person amounts to approximately 2,300 kg of CO₂.²

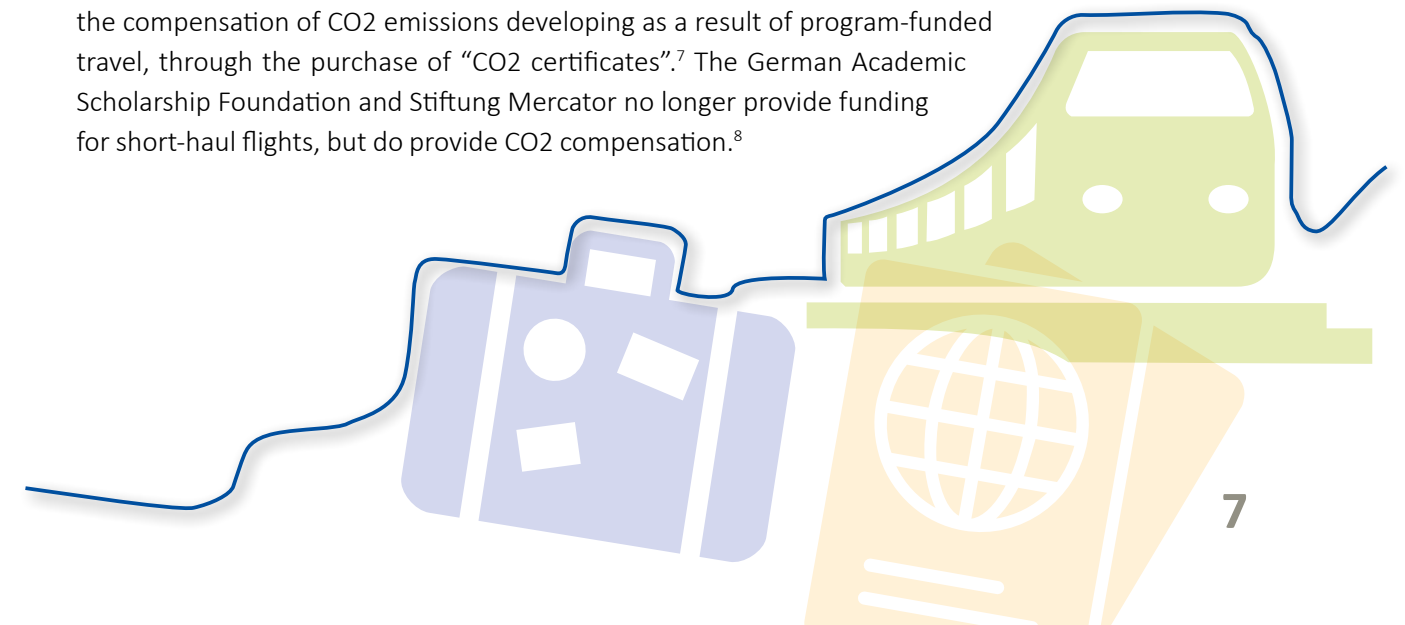
We therefore recommend that University members check whether a face-to-face meeting is absolutely necessary and relevant to all participants, before starting to organize an event or official travel. Sometimes, the objective of a meeting can be achieved just as well using remote solutions such as a video conference, a webinar³ or by simply moving the meeting to a more central location. Virtual meetings are often a good alternative, especially when participants have already met in person. This helps not only to reduce emissions but also saves time and money.

If distance makes it impossible to avoid a flight, you can check out the atmosfair Airline Index⁴ of global airline climate efficiency. You can achieve further reductions in your carbon footprint by choosing economy class over business class. Considerations of space allocation mean that choosing business and first-class flights increase your individual carbon footprint in comparison to economy class.⁵

The location of an event is also important: the choice of easily-accessible venues connected to the high-speed rail network help avoid air travel and reduce your carbon footprint. When organizing project meetings and events involving participants from different locations, we advise the selection of an easily accessible central location close to public transport, such as conference facilities provided by a centrally-located hotel (see [section 3.3](#) for more information on event venues).

Overland travel (especially trains or long distance buses) make a significant reduction to your carbon footprint in comparison to air travel. In terms of international cooperation, the University could provide further scholarships which define the means of travel which holders must use to get to Bonn. Scholarship holders from European universities could be required to arrive by bus or rail; those from outside Europe could be permitted to fly to Europe and then take a bus or train. Event organizers could also offer incentives to reduce carbon emissions, e.g. by providing information on the conference website regarding green travel and awarding a prize to participants who demonstrate the greatest reduction in their carbon footprint (Green Travel Award). Alternatively, you could introduce voluntary CO₂ offsetting options.

The benefits and effect of CO₂ offsetting is currently a matter of intense discussion. Nevertheless, most agree that although people should prioritize the avoidance of air travel, it is accepted that investment in CO₂ offsetting is better than doing nothing at all, especially when the need to travel by air is unavoidable.⁶ It is important to choose the right CO₂ offsetting provider; such decisions should be made with the relevant quality standards (e.g. Gold Standard) in mind. When it comes to CO₂ offsetting, the University of Bonn is subject to budget law and the guidelines issued by the providers of third-party funding. The current budget law of North Rhine-Westphalia does not allow for billing of CO₂ offsetting measures. Whilst the majority of providers of third-party funding such as DAAD or EU funding programs do not currently allow the use of their funding for CO₂ compensation, the DFG permits the compensation of CO₂ emissions developing as a result of program-funded travel, through the purchase of “CO₂ certificates”.⁷ The German Academic Scholarship Foundation and Stiftung Mercator no longer provide funding for short-haul flights, but do provide CO₂ compensation.⁸



2.2 Sustainable Mobility in Bonn and Your Commute to Work

Your choice of transport for the daily commute and travelling between locations impacts your carbon footprint. You can make a contribution to reducing your carbon footprint by traveling as much as possible by foot, bicycle, on local public transport or by car-pooling. The range of options open to you as a commuter such as the job ticket, the 365 euro “climate ticket”,⁹ bicycle and car-sharing options means that car ownership is not central to mobility.

2.3 Environmentally Friendly Travel to Bonn

International cooperation naturally involves travel by international students, researchers, delegations etc. to and from other cities and countries. Support your target group in the planning of climate friendly arrivals by providing information on the German Railway system, the timetable of local public transport in Bonn, local cycle routes and car-pooling options. A reference to an environmentally friendly arrival and departure could be worded as follows:

The University of Bonn seeks to make its research, teaching and operations as sustainable and environmentally friendly as possible. With this in mind, the event management team would like to bring to your attention the environmental benefits of bus and train travel:

Bonn has an extensive public transport network and an excellent connection to the German high-speed train network. We recommend using train and long distance buses for official travel: ▶ <https://www.bahn.com/en/view/index.shtml>. We recommend the use of public transport when travelling to and from Bonn Central Station and the event venue, as it is often quicker and cheaper when compared to a taxi taken during rush-hour traffic. If it is not possible to avoid flights, you can invest in CO₂ offsetting (<https://www.atmosfair.de/en/offset>).

You can get to Bonn by public transport from all airports:

✎ **Traveling to/from Cologne/Bonn airport:** The airport express bus SB60 takes you directly from Bonn Central Train Station to the departure terminal at Cologne/Bonn Airport and back.

✎ **Traveling to/from Frankfurt airport:** Frankfurt airport has good train links to Bonn. Take the ICE to Siegburg/Bonn train station (approx. 45 minutes) and change to tram 66 in the direction of Bonn Central Train Station (approx. 25 minutes). There is also a direct high-speed train (ICE) connection to Bonn Central Train Station (approx. 90 minutes).¹⁰

Checklist: Mobility

AT THE INDIVIDUAL LEVEL

Avoiding air travel for official travel.

- Questions to ask yourself prior to every trip: what do I gain from attendance?
Is my attendance really necessary?
- Can I combine several appointments abroad?

Using overland public transport with lower emissions: bus or train.

Check whether video conferences or webinars represent a feasible alternative to travelling to a conference at a faraway destination.

- The video conferencing service Zoom is available to all employees and students of the University of Bonn. Zoom enables conducting virtual lectures, seminars or web-meetings.

✎ **Zoom:**

▶ <https://www.ecampus-services.uni-bonn.de/de/nachrichten/zoom>

- Adobe Connect represents an excellent software solution with which to conduct virtual seminars, lectures or web-meetings.
- “DFNconf” of the German National Research and Education Network, (DFN-Verein): very good and easy-to-use platform which allows employees of the University of Bonn to hold virtual conferences and meetings for free.
- The University IT (HRZ) has a mobile webcam conference system which is available for hire.
- Further information is provided in circular no. 80/2019:
▶ <https://www.intranet.uni-bonn.de/rundschreiben/2019/2019-80.pdf>

Flying more sustainably: booking economy class and checking the climate efficiency of airlines.

✎ **atmosfair Airline Index:**

▶ https://www.atmosfair.de/en/air_and_climate/atmosfair_airline_index

Using the job ticket:

▶ <https://www.intranet.uni-bonn.de/organisation/verwaltung/dez-5/abt-5.1/VRS/grosskundenticket>

Using bicycle sharing services:

✎ **Call a Bike (DB):**

▶ <https://www.callabike-interaktiv.de/en/cities/Bonn>

✎ **Nextbike:**

▶ <https://www.nextbike.de/en/bonn>

▶ <https://www.nextbike.de/en/bonn/campusbike/> (the first 30 minutes per day of this service is available free-of-charge to students of the University of Bonn)

Using car-sharing offers: Cambio CarSharing, offers special rates to the institutes, employees and students of the University of Bonn:

► <https://www.intranet.uni-bonn.de/dateien/universitaet-bonn-kooperiert-mit-cambio-carsharing-bonn>



AT THE INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL

If suitable, you can choose centrally-located event venues with good links to the high-speed rail network and the local public transport system (e.g. University main building, Universitätsclub Bonn, Poppelsdorf campus). This applies to project-specific meetings and events organized within the scope of (inter)national consortia and conferences organized in Bonn.



Organize a program which keeps travels to a minimum.



Timetable the event (start/end) to provide participants with sufficient time to travel to/from the event by public transport.



Provide participants with SWB tickets to reach venues in Bonn which are not within walking distance (tickets should be valid for the duration of the event).



Display bilingual information on local public transport and bicycle-sharing services available at the conference venue.



Facilitate participation via video conference wherever appropriate, e.g. to enable tele-participation by speakers who live far from Bonn.



Offer Green Travel Awards for participants who travel by the most low-emission means of transport possible.



Award additional scholarships for students choosing to travel by the most low-emission means of transport possible.



Provide information on conference websites about low-emission travel and CO₂ offsetting (templates available here ► [2.3](#))



Organize shuttle services or car-sharing to cover distances between the hotel, venue and/or train station/airport.



When using/renting buses: consult the German “Blue Angel” ecolabel for low emission (both of CO₂ and noise) buses (further information on “Blue Angel” ► [Glossary – Definiton of terms](#)).



Further Information on Sustainable Mobility

Event ticket of the German Railways

► <https://www.bahn.de/p/view/bahnbusiness/angebote/veranstaltungsticket/veranstaltungsticket.shtml>

Information about official travel for members of the University of Bonn (intranet)

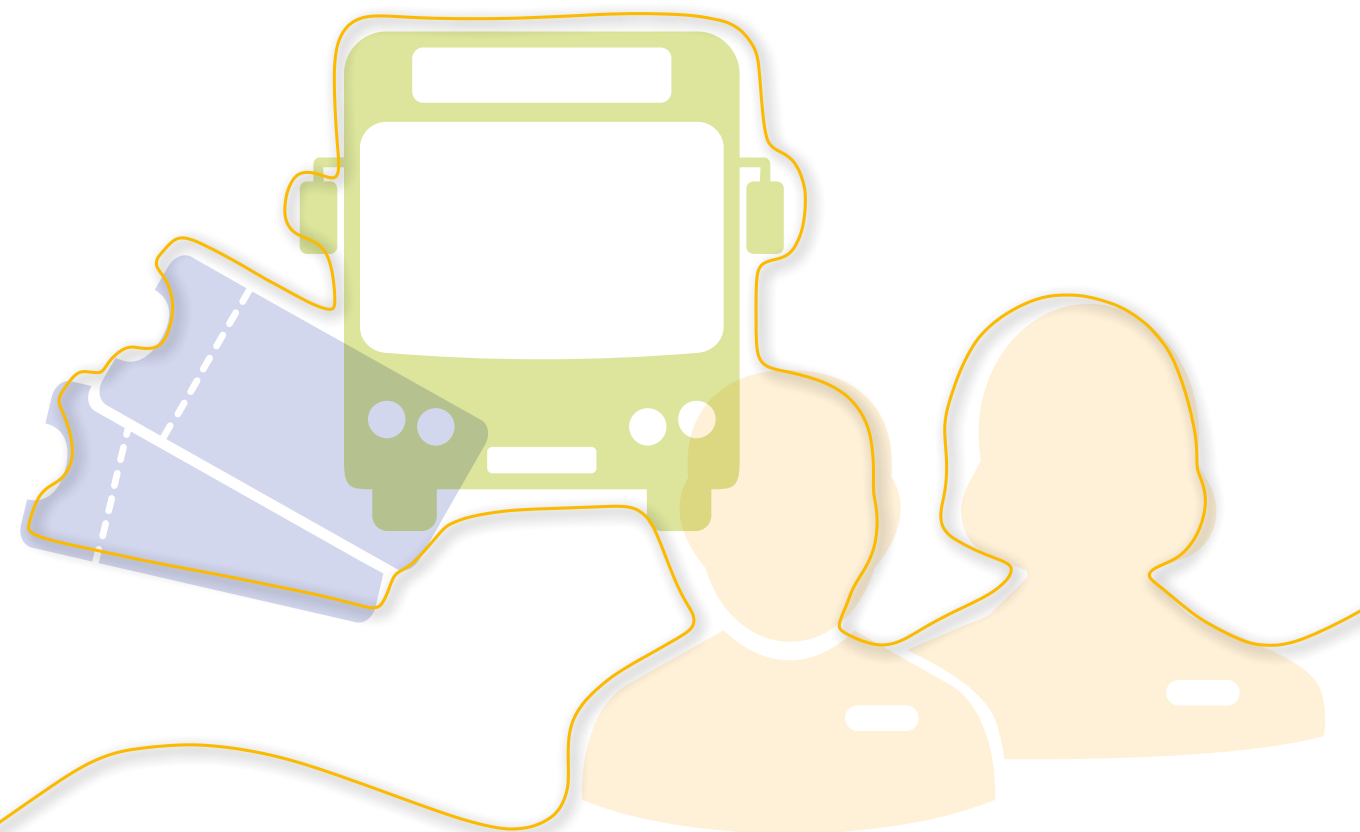
► <https://www.intranet.uni-bonn.de/organisation/verwaltung/dez-3/themen/praesenzpflicht-abwesenheiten>

Jäckle, Sebastian: WE have to change! The carbon footprint of ECPR general conferences and the way to reduce it.

► https://link.springer.com/epdf/10.1057/s41304-019-00220-6?author_access_token=jvuSaCldsUTjVhLN5gsK5FxOt48VBPO10Uv7D6sAgHtOoC0LnWG2jWh5-dE_A2ol16-SithJy-Jda4bVhuDapbg5PZrRDxDd_1p9nfaN2clOWrXgNfZM2gJ75ntRaLpZBBbaJRun1CNP61sPGI5PQ%3D%3D
(last accessed on 07/05/2021)

Guidelines for the sustainable organization of events from the German Environment Agency

► https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/sites/default/files/medien/377/publikationen/leitfaden_nachhaltige_organisation_von_veranstaltungen_2017_05_18_web.pdf
(last accessed on 07/05/2021)





3. INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

The following sections provide information and practical examples on how to organize events such as conferences, congresses, receptions, lectures and discussions in a sustainable fashion.

3.1 Catering

Organic food, zero-waste-initiatives and fair-trade-seals: the global impact of our food choices is a matter of increasing public interest. We would like to provide a number of tips on sustainable catering and the steps towards achieving this aim.

Sustainability in the catering industry is a complex issue and often competes with other priorities in event management. Our recommendations are not meant as dogmas but seek to empower you to select a good catering service.

3.1.1 Does Organic Mean Sustainable?

There is no simple answer, even if many suppliers of organic products would have us believe so.

Organic seals are reliable—whatever is classified as “organic” has been produced with organic methods. But: the “European Regulation on Organic Production” only deals with the processes used to produce food. They do not reflect other important aspects of sustainability such as packaging, animal welfare, transport (growing and sourcing locally) and social standards. This explains the mounds of plastic packaging used in organic supermarkets, the majority of which is entirely conventional plastic material. Moreover, organic strawberries are available all year round, but they have still travelled an awfully long way.

To ensure truly sustainable catering, it is important to remember that many organic products have been imported to Germany. Depending on the product, the import quota may even amount to over 80 percent!

Selection of the right product is just as important as the question “organic or not?” (see ▶ [section 3.1.2](#)). Ask yourself: “where does the product come from?” and ask your caterer this same question.

If in doubt, ask yourself: does a non-organic apple grown in the region represent a better choice than an organic banana from Ecuador?

Try and provide seasonal fruit and vegetables: this will ensure fresh food which has not travelled too far. Catering companies specialized in sustainable operations can advise you here (see further information on catering).

Not all the various organic seals are the same. Some have higher standards than the European Regulation on Organic Production and also reflect other aspects of sustainability. For example whilst the seal “Bioland” can only assess food grown in Germany, “Demeter” can assess food grown anywhere in the world. It also focuses on a wider range of issues such the avoidance of monoculture and seeks to support farms taking a holistic approach to agriculture.

3.1.2 Which Food is to be Recommended?

The easiest route to improving the ecological balance of your event is the provision of tap water in carafes instead of mineral water; this reduces transport outlay. International guests should be made aware that in Germany tap water is entirely healthy.

When putting together the menu, we suggest that you follow the principle *regional*, *seasonal* and *vegetarian*. While many understand the ecological advantages of regional and seasonal products, the acceptance of vegetarian and vegan is not as widespread. Although meat has a poor ecological balance (it generates high levels of greenhouse gases and necessitates the clearing of ancient forests and other ecosystems), you must tailor your catering to your target group. An entirely vegetarian buffet is not always greeted with unbridled enthusiasm. You can balance the needs of the environment against the preferences of your guests by providing a carefully balanced menu. A vegetarian or even vegan approach could lead to waste and dissatisfied guests.



Keep in mind that “vegetable” does not always mean “sustainable”. A range of popular “superfoods” – avocado, chia and quinoa – have a poor environmental and social balance. The popularity of such foodstuffs often results in the conversion of balanced agricultural structures to monoculture cropland and an extremely high water consumption.¹¹ When it comes to vegetables, let regional and seasonal be your watchwords.

It is important to consider the culinary habits of international guests. Factors such as nationality, age, religion and even dietary requirements (e.g. vegetarian, vegan, kosher, halal) are important and may even require prior inquiry. We recommend that you label the foods accordingly so people find what they need and avoid waste.

3.1.3 What Should You Keep in Mind When Serving Food?

You have compiled the menu, so let’s begin. The main focus now should be on avoiding waste. Bad for the environment in this context is, of course, (plastic) packaging. Try to avoid any unnecessary packaging in the buffet and try to avoid small single-use drinks bottles. It is not necessary to provide condiments in individual packages.

Where possible, try to use reusable plates and cutlery. If this is not a logistical possibility, you can consider single-use bio-degradable crockery.

You can also offer “doggy bags” (made of bio-degradable material)¹², for participants to take home leftovers, which will reduce food waste.¹³

We recommend that waste is separated even while the event is in progress. As this is an unfamiliar concept in many countries, be prepared to provide a brief explanation to international guests.

3.1.4 The Social Aspects of Sustainability

Importers, especially of goods labeled “fair trade”, try to source products that meet certain social standards. Even though the fair trade principle has many positive effects in terms of capacity building, it is important not to overestimate its value and impact. Demand for “fairly” traded goods can generate production incentives and depress prices, thereby exercising a negative impact on the much bigger area of “unfair” (free) world trade. These selective interferences also do little to redress the fundamental, systemic inequalities of the global economy, the roots of which run far deeper.

Attempts to ensure social justice in Germany are no simpler: the key stakeholders in our domestic economy act as if though the limited employee rights accorded to workers in Germany serve to ensure general fairness. This is not always the case. Here it is important to follow public discussions and be alert for questionable economic practices. In the context of the catering industry, bad practice includes precarious employment in the logistics sector and the conditions prevailing in certain leading food discounters.

Checklist: Catering



ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY CATERING

Choose regional, seasonal and vegetarian foods.



🍃 **Seasonal calendar for fruits and vegetables:**

▶ www.bzfe.de/inhalt/saisonzeiten-bei-obst-und-gemuese-3130.html

Use organic farming products, while keeping in mind that this only covers some areas of sustainability.



Tailor the menu to the target group – also to avoid leftovers.



🍃 **Guidelines on the avoidance of food waste:**

▶ <https://zugutfuerdietonne8.prod.se.ble.de/service/publikationen/leitfaeden>

Provide drinking water in carafes.



Refrain from using unnecessary packaging for your buffet and try to avoid small single-use drinks bottles.



Opt for reusable crockery, cutlery and glasses or bio-degradable single-use crockery.



🍃 **Bio-degradable single-use crockery:**

▶ www.biofutura.com/en

Offer “doggy bags” in which participants can take home leftover food.



🍃 **Example for an agreement to take home food:**

▶ https://www.dehogabw.de/servicecenter/servicecenter-details/vereinbarung_ueber_die_mitnahme_von_speisen.html

Ensure waste separation and explaining the system to international guests wherever necessary.



🍃 **Your Guide to Waste Management in Bonn:**

▶ <https://www.bonnorange.de/service/privatpersonen/abfaelle-tonnen-co/uebersicht>

Consider the social standards of companies involved where applicable.



Further Information about Catering

Comparison of different environmental and social seals:

► <http://www.siegelklarheit.de>

Examples for Sustainable Catering in Bonn:

Sarter Partyservice, Reuterstraße 19, 53115 Bonn

Catering

► <https://www.sarter.de>

Esskalation, Bonner Talweg 26 and Clemens-August-Straße 7a, 53113 Bonn

Vegan bistro, specializing in regional and seasonal products and dishes

► www.esskalation.net

CassiusGarten, Maximilianstraße 28 d, 53111 Bonn

Restaurant/catering: vegetarian with a comprehensive sustainability concept

► <https://www.cassiusgarten.de/grundsaeetze.html>

DER LEYENHOF, Im Bachele 1B, 53175 Bonn

Bistro/catering service specializing in organic, regional and seasonal products and dishes

► www.derleyenhof.de

Studierendenwerk Bonn, Nassestraße 11, 53113 Bonn

University canteen/catering service: “Partner of Sustainable Bonn”, providing vegan and vegetarian options

► <http://www.studierendenwerk-bonn.de/essen-trinken/tillmanns-catering>

Pauke –LIFE, Endenicher Straße 43, 53115 Bonn

Restaurant/catering service specializing in regional, seasonal dishes, vegetarian options available; the service is a non-profit social-enterprise offering a new start in life to addicts.

► <https://www.pauke-life.de>

Aubergine, Lievelingsweg 104 a, 53119 Bonn

Catering service certified by the German Nutrition Society (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Ernährung, DGE) specializing in organic and regional products and dishes

► <http://www.aubergine-catering.info>

Kaiser Huetttn, Wilhelmspl. 1A, 53111 Bonn

Restaurant/catering service: vegan

► <https://kaiserhuetttn.com>

next, Friedrichstraße 9, 53111 Bonn

Vegan bistro/restaurant

► <https://www.next-bonn.de>

Examples for Sustainable Catering in Cologne:

lemonpie Eventcatering, Butzweilerstraße 35-39, 50829 Cologne

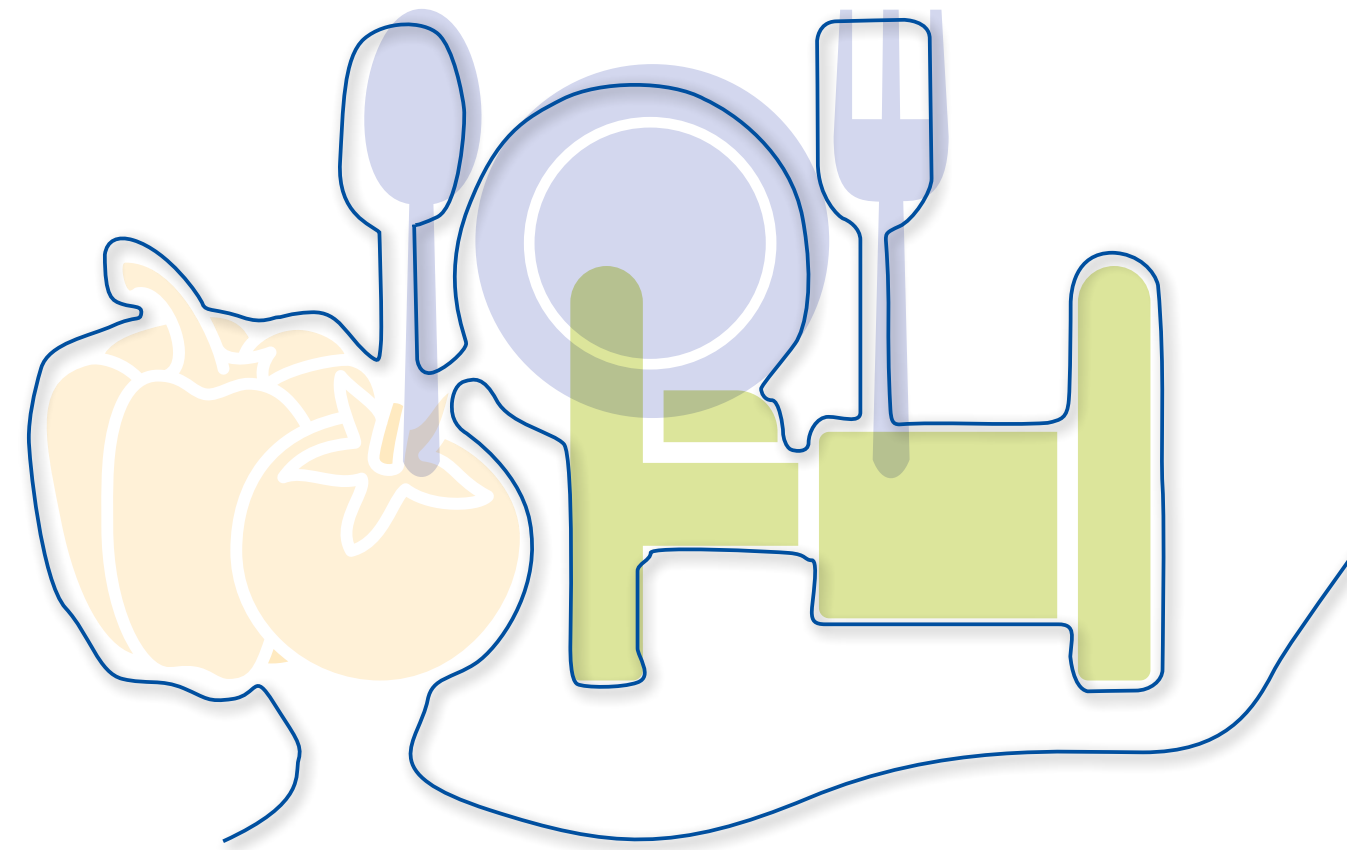
Seeks to work in an energy-efficient, ecological, and socially-conscious way

► www.lemonpie.de

Kirberg, Deutz-Mülheimer Str. 109, 51063 Cologne

Organic certified company

► www.kirberg-catering.de



3.2 Accommodation For External Guests

One easy step towards ensuring sustainability involves selecting hotels for external/international guests that maintain ecological and social standards. Selection criteria include businesses that source regional and seasonal food (see ►section 3.1), act to protect resources, minimize energy and resource use, provide sustainable transport such as e-bikes and cars, use clean energy and maintain a good waste management system. Another good idea is to book accommodation that minimizes mobility requirements (arrival/departure, communication etc., see ►mobility). When choosing accommodation, you should also keep in mind the proximity to the event venue (see ►section 3.3) and good public transportation links. The project “Sustainable Bonn – sustainable conferences”¹⁴ promotes the practical application of the sustainability principle and lists different hotels and conference venues in Bonn, all of which incorporate sustainability considerations in their operations.

Official Standards

Many providers claim to be sustainable operators. The Eco Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) registration, the European Ecolabel (EU Ecolabel), the Viabono brand and the Green Globe certification offer effective guidance in this matter and facilitate the selection of sustainable providers.

Viabono (as of July 2021):

- 📍 **Hotel Gustav-Stesemann-Institut e.V.**, Langer Grabenweg 68, 53175 Bonn
- 📍 **Dorint Venusberg Bonn**, An der Casselsruhe 1, 53127 Bonn - Venusberg
- 📍 **Jugendherberge Bonn**, Haager Weg 42, 53127 Bonn-Venusberg
- 📍 **BaseCamp Bonn**, In der Raste 1, 53129 Bonn-Dottendorf
- 📍 **Haus Müllestumpe**, An der Rheindorfer Burg 22, 53117 Bonn
- 📍 **Hotel Garni**, Am Römerhof, Römerstr. 20, 53111 Bonn
- 📍 **Hotel Löhndorf**, Stockenstr. 6, 53113 Bonn
- 📍 **Hotel-Restaurant Sebastianushof**, Waldburgstr. 34, 53177 Bonn-Schweinheim
- 📍 **Hotel-Restaurant "Zur Post"**, Königswinterer Straße 309, 53227 Bonn-Beuel
- 📍 **Insel Hotel**, Theaterplatz 5-7, 53177 Bonn-Bad Godesberg
- 📍 **Max Hostel Bonn**, Maxstr. 7, 53111 Bonn
- 📍 **Rheinland – das Hotel an der Kennedybrücke**, Berliner Freiheit 11, 53111 Bonn

Green Globe (as of July 2021):

- 📍 **Maritim Hotel Bonn**, Godesberger Allee, 53175 Bonn

EMAS (as of July 2021):

There are currently no hotels or event venues in Bonn registered with EMAS.

EU Ecolabel (as of July 2021):

So far no hotels or event venues in Bonn have been awarded the EU Ecolabel.

rightandfair – Voluntary Sustainability Code

“rightandfair”, the sustainability code of the German-speaking events industry, establishes ten guiding principles of corporate responsibility to ensure sustainability in the organization and running of events. As of July 2021, this sustainability code already has more than 257 supporters, of which the following are based in Bonn¹⁵:

- 📍 **ibis Bonn**, Vorgebirgsstraße 33, 53119 Bonn
- 📍 **Maritim Hotel Bonn**, Godesberger Allee, 53175 Bonn
- 📍 **Mercure Hotel Bonn Hardtberg**, Max-Habermann Straße 2, 53123 Bonn
- 📍 **World Conference Center Bonn**, Platz der Vereinten Nationen 2, 53113 Bonn

3.3 Event Venues

The choice of event venues should also take into account good links to the public transport network. Ideally, providers should implement an integrated sustainability concept. One such operator is the World Conference Center Bonn;¹⁶ many accommodation providers in the vicinity have also developed such concepts.

Examples for Sustainable Event Venues in Bonn:

- 📍 **BaseCamp Bonn**, In der Raste 1, 53129 Bonn-Dottendorf
- 📍 **Hotel Gustav-Stesemann-Institut e.V.**, Langer Grabenweg 68, 53175 Bonn
- 📍 **World Conference Center Bonn**, Platz der Vereinten Nationen 2, 53113 Bonn

Examples for Event Venues in Central Bonn:

- 📍 **Main Building University of Bonn**, Am Hof 1, 53113 Bonn
- 📍 **Campus Poppelsdorf**, 53115 Bonn
- 📍 **Universitätsclub Bonn**, Konviktstraße 9, 53113 Bonn

3.4 Event Accessibility

Try to plan your event in a way that maximizes accessibility. It is important to provide information on accessibility early on in the event description; this should become established as standard practice. Even if event locations afford only restricted accessibility e.g. are held on an upper floor accessible only via a staircase, this fact should be communicated. In addition to providing practical help to those with restricted mobility, such practice helps to raise awareness of the issue of accessibility and mobility.

Accessibility also has a linguistic component. Bilingual (or English-language) communication in signs and information packs represent an important tool in maximizing accessibility in international cooperation. All employees of the University administration who require assistance in the translation of texts from German into English or with proofreading of English texts can consult the Central Translation Service, which has been operating since November 2019. Some events may also require sign language interpretation.



Checklist: Accommodation, Event Venues and Event Accessibility



ACCOMMODATION AND EVENT VENUES	
Brief the event planning team of the goal of sustainability at an early stage.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wherever possible, choose a central location; the “Kombiticket Bahn” covering local public transport is included in the price.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Good links to public transport.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accommodation close-by.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Focus on certified providers.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div><div>🌿 Hotel, conference catering partners certified by “Sustainable Bonn”:</div><div>▶ https://www.bonn-region.de/services/files/druck-pdfs/bersicht%20der%20SUS%20Bonn-Partner%202017-1.pdf</div><div><div>🌿 EMAS:</div><div>▶ https://www.emas.de/en</div></div><div><div>🌿 EU Ecolabel:</div><div>▶ https://www.ecolabel.be/de/allgemein/umweltkriterien</div></div><div><div>🌿 Viabono:</div><div>▶ https://www.viabono.de</div></div><div><div>🌿 Green Globe:</div><div>▶ https://greenglobe.com/europe</div></div><div><div>🌿 rightandfair:</div><div>▶ https://www.fairpflichtet.de/en/information</div></div></div>	
We recommend that meeting and conference rooms are not heated once a temperature of 20°C has been reached, or switch off the air conditioning as soon as the inside temperature is no more than 6°C below the outside temperature.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inform participants of the waste separation system used in Germany and other environmentally-friendly behavior.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide the event program and documentation in digital format.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collect name tags at the end of the event for possible re-use.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Make name tags using recyclable polypropylene. These can be sourced e.g. from Lyreco, inserted into the printer tray.	<input type="checkbox"/>
▶ https://www.lyreco.com/webshop/ENDE/product/view/000000000000120697?language=en_DE&langCountry=ENDE&to=/product/view&lc=ENDE	
Inform guests, participants and/or employees about the sustainable aspects of the event.	<input type="checkbox"/>
EVENT ACCESSIBILITY	
Barrier-free access to the event venue.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Remove language barriers and use sign language interpretation as required.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div><div>🌿 Employees of the University administration can obtain support from the Central Translation Service:</div><div>▶ https://www.uni-bonn.de/de/universitaet/organisation/universitaetsverwaltung/dezernat-6-internationales/zentraler-uebersetzungsservice</div></div>	
Consider event accessibility (language and location) at an early stage in the planning process.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div><div>🌿 Checklist for the organization of accessible events:</div><div>▶ https://www.studentenwerke.de/sites/default/files/Checkliste_barrierefreie_Veranstaltungen.pdf</div></div>	



Further Information on Accommodation and Event Venues

- 🌿 **German Environment Agency**

▶ <https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/publikationen/guidelines-for-the-sustainable-organisation-of>
(last accessed on 07/05/2021)
- 🌿 **German Convention Bureau**

▶ <https://www.gcb.de/de/trends-inspiration/green-meetings.html>

▶ https://scm.de/fileadmin/images/nachhaltigkeit/Leitlinien_Green_Events__LS.pdf
(last accessed on 07/05/2021)

3.5 Activities with Guests, International Students and Researchers

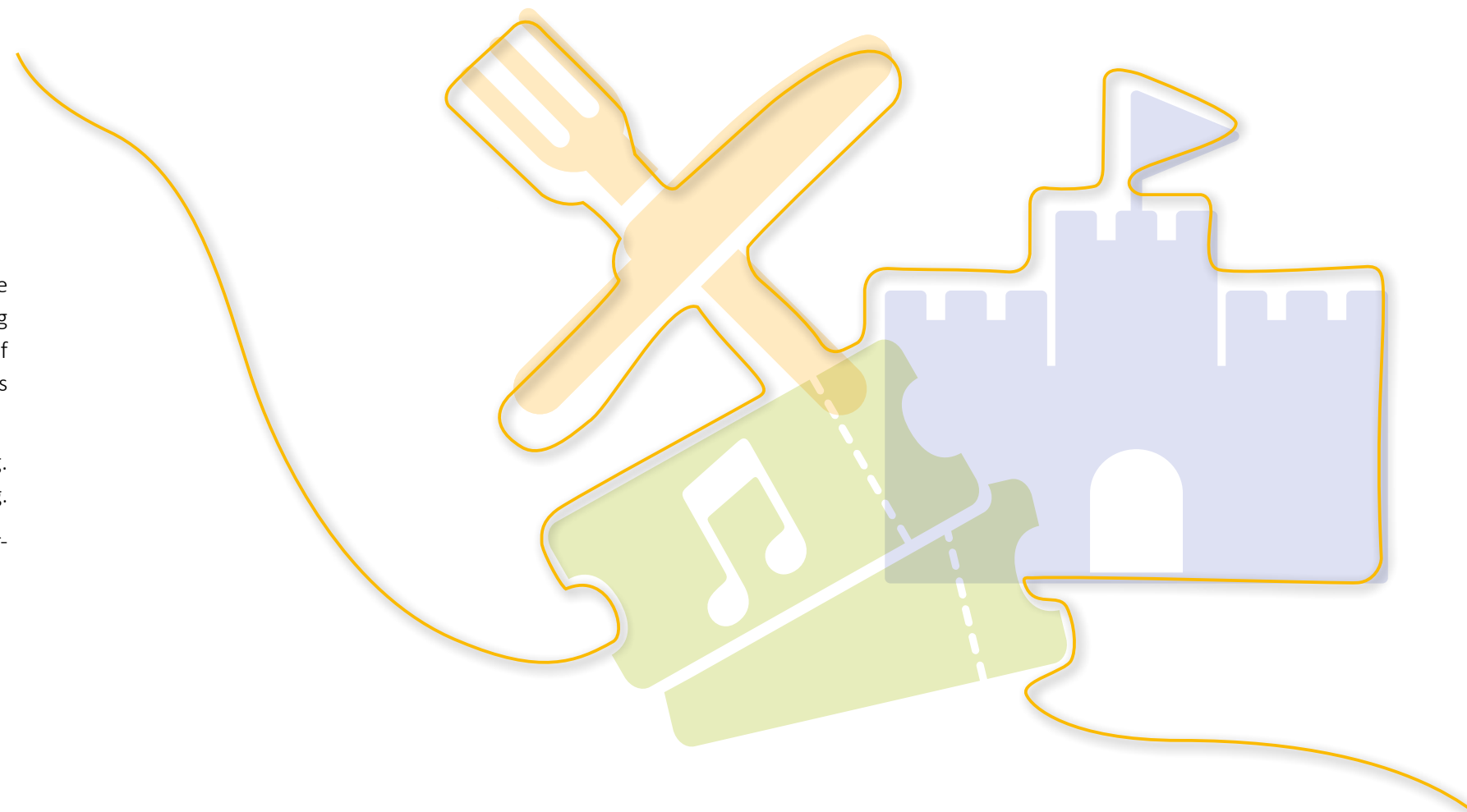
We recommend that you adapt supporting events to the local cultural situation so as to support the regional economy. For example, events held in Bonn could include visits to cultural landmarks focusing on Ludwig van Beethoven (e.g. Beethoven's birthplace), a guided tour around the Botanical Garden of the University of Bonn (<http://www.freunde.botgart.uni-bonn.de/guide/gruppe.php>) or the various art and history museums in Bonn.

We recommend that for city travel you use public transport, hire bicycles and/or shuttle buses (e.g. vehicles powered by natural-gas or alternative fuels; diesel cars only with a particle filter) or car-pooling.

We also recommend visiting local sustainable gastronomic outlets. The following examples use information provided by the venues:

Examples for Sustainable Cafés/Bistros/Restaurants in Bonn:

- 🍽 **Esskalation**, Bonner Talweg 26 and Clemens-August-Straße 7a, 53113 Bonn
Vegan restaurant, specializing in regional and seasonal products and dishes
▶ www.esskalation.net
- 🍽 **CassiusGarten**, Maximilianstraße 28 d, 53111 Bonn
Restaurant/catering service: vegetarian, comprehensive sustainability concept
▶ <https://www.cassiusgarten.de/grundsaeetze.html>
- 🍽 **DER LEYENHOF**, Im Bachele 1B, 53175 Bonn
Bistro/catering service specializing in organic, regional and seasonal products and dishes
▶ www.derleyenhof.de
- 🍽 **Black Veg**, Adolfstraße 43, 53111 Bonn
Vegan café
▶ www.blackveg.de
- 🍽 **Pauke –LIFE**, Endenicher Straße 43, 53115 Bonn
Restaurant/catering service specializing in regional, seasonal dishes, vegetarian options available; the service is a non-profit social-enterprise offering a new start in life to those experiencing addiction.
▶ <https://www.pauke-life.de>
- 🍽 **next**, Friedrichstraße 9, 53111 Bonn
Vegan bistro/restaurant
▶ <https://www.next-bonn.de>



Examples for Sustainable Restaurants in Cologne:

- 🍽 **Greentable**, Hospeltstraße 1, 50825 Cologne
Claims to use regional and fairly-traded organic food, awarded the DEHOGA Gold environmental label
▶ <https://www.greentable.de/stores/bunte-burger>
- 🍽 **Ludwig im Museum Café & Restaurant**, Heinrich-Böll-Platz, 50667 Cologne
Organic-certified cuisine using a mix of produce from regional suppliers and own-grown fruit and vegetables
▶ <https://www.ludwig-im-museum.de>
- 🍽 **Cafe Bauturm**, Aachener Straße 24, 50674 Cologne
Certified organic breakfast, snacks and hot dishes made with ingredients sourced from regional suppliers
▶ www.cafe-bauturm.de
- 🍽 **Café Lichtenberg**, Richmodstraße 13, 50667 Cologne
Certified organic restaurant serving selected dishes from the Rhine area, also vegan and homemade cakes
▶ www.cafelichtenberg.de
- 🍽 **Café Feynsinn**, Rathenauplatz 7, 50674 Cologne
Certified organic Mediterranean cuisine using regionally-sourced ingredients
▶ www.cafe-feysinn.de

3.6 Sustainable Gifts

Presents given during events should be of sufficient quality so that they will not be thrown away immediately; their production and delivery should minimize their environmental impact, while being socially responsible. We recommend examining the option of not handing out presents, give-aways and advertising material (sufficiency).

This would be difficult in many contexts, and international events in particular demand the presentation of a gift. These could be items related to the University of Bonn, to the Bonn region or fair trade products. The following list can serve as inspiration for ideas and providers of sustainable gifts:

🍃 **Et Bönnsche Lädche – liebe(r) unverpackt**

🍃 **Oat Rebels – liebe(r) unverpackt**

▶ <https://www.lieberunverpackt.de>

🍃 **Kivanta**

▶ https://www.kivanta.de/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMI3-CLt7SX6AIVkcmYCh1cgwcxEAAyASAAEgJxcvD_BwE

🍃 **Meckenheim Applemint¹⁷**

Teegschwendner: 150g packet costs €6.90

▶ <https://www.teegschwendner.de/en/4435/meckenheim-apple-mint>

🍃 **Weltladen Bonn**

▶ <https://www.weltladen-bonn.org/index.php/der-laden/unser-sortiment>

🍃 **CONTIGO Bonn**

▶ <https://contigo.de/contigo-fairtrade-shops/bonn>

🍃 **FairSchenken – Fairtrade Deutschland**

▶ <https://www.fairtrade-deutschland.de/einkaufen/produktfinder.html>

Checklist: Sustainable Gifts

SUSTAINABLE GIFTS

Examples for sustainable gifts, give-aways and advertising material:

🍃 **KSi Werbeartikel:**

▶ <https://www.ksi-werbeartikel.de/oekologische-werbeartikel>

🍃 **Memo:**

▶ <https://www.memo-werbeartikel.de>

🍃 **Green Promotion:**

▶ <https://www.greenpromotion.de>

Wherever possible, we recommend choosing products sporting the Blue Angel or the EU Ecolabel.

🍃 **Blue Angel:**

▶ www.blauer-engel.de/en

🍃 **EU Ecolabel:**

▶ http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/index_en.htm

When sourcing foodstuffs as gifts, wherever possible, we recommend choosing seasonal products grown in accordance with ecological principles and transported in an environmentally friendly manner, or which are fairly traded (further information available here ▶ [section 3.1](#)).

3.7 Preparing Events and Following-Up

In principle, you should ask yourself before each event whether what you had envisaged to buy is really necessary. When purchasing products and services, do not just consider cost-effectiveness factors but also issues such as social responsibility, resource efficiency and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. It is important to consider the entire lifecycle of a product or service when analyzing its value for money. Public institutions such as the University of Bonn have a responsibility to set a good example.

3.7.1 Paper and Print

Reducing Paper Consumption

The German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety estimates that printing and presses accounted for 36 percent of the national use of paper in 2019. Standing at a total of 50 percent, only packaging paper amounted to a higher portion (BMU, 2020). The potential for savings remains high.

The University digitalization strategy¹⁸ foresees the gradual replacement of paper-based processes with electronic solutions as part of a general transition to the “paperless office”. You can play your part in this undertaking by identifying the processes in your area of responsibility which require paper and those which can be adapted. Where possible, use both sides when printing on paper. Some printers feature a draft version (or similar) which reduce ink consumption. We recommend that you maintain a tray for misprints which can be used as scratch paper.

Using Recycled Paper

In addition to reducing the amount of paper used, your choice of printing paper also plays an important role in promoting a sustainable workplace. According to the German Environment Agency (2015), the production of recycled paper (Blue Angel 80g/m2, white) requires 60 percent less energy and 70 percent less water in comparison to paper made of new fibers. Recycled paper is available from all well-known office suppliers (e.g. Lyreco).

Large Print Orders

For large print jobs, we recommend the use of solid ink printers instead of local ink cartridge printers. When outsourcing printing services, we recommend the choice of sustainable providers (recycled paper, environmentally friendly printing ink, no UV curing, green electricity, climate neutral printing, short transport routes etc.). Choose providers with certifications such as EMAS, ISO14001 or the Blue Angel. As certifications are expensive, detailed consultations with your local provider can identify the correct sustainability measures.

3.7.2 Other Office Supplies

In addition to paper, other office supplies (writing utensils, sticky notes, calendars, etc.) can be replaced gradually by sustainable items. This approach should be extended to sanitary facilities (recycled toilet paper and hand towels, organic soap), kitchen facilities (e.g. washing up liquid) and other communal areas (e.g. the International Club of the University of Bonn). As a first step, we recommend enquiring as to the availability of sustainable alternatives. The Lyreco website has a search function for sustainable products.

Checklist: Preparing Events and Following-Up



AT THE INDIVIDUAL LEVEL

Digital document storage (see ▶ section 3.8); double-sided printing (on recycled paper), “draft” print settings to save ink and using misprints as scratch paper.



What do I really need to send by mail?



Use ink-saving network printers for large print orders or outsource to sustainable print shops.



Bonndruck24.de (Sankt Augustin):

▶ <https://www.bonndruck24.de>

Druckerei Brandt (Bonn):

▶ <https://www.druckerei-brandt.de/start>

DCM Druckcenter (Meckenheim):

▶ https://www.druckcenter.de/gruene_druckerei.html

Order office supplies via the “eco” filter or purchase from ecological providers.



Sustainable office supplies:

▶ <https://www.memo.de>

▶ <https://www.biobased-office.eu>

Portal for sustainable public procurement:

▶ <http://www.nachhaltige-beschaffung.info>

Sustainability Compass – Sustainable Procurement in the Public Sector:

▶ <https://www.kompass-nachhaltigkeit.de>

German Environment Agency – “Green public procurement”:

▶ www.beschaffung-info.de

Switch off electronic devices (monitor, printer, etc.) and the office lights when leaving in the evening (switch off master slave arrangements with on/off switch or unplug entirely).



Set computer monitors to energy-saving mode during long breaks or absences.



Open all windows in the office for a short time to air the room when the heating is on and turn down the heating upon leaving the office.



For a plastic-free lunch break: bring food in lunch boxes and use reusable containers when shopping (ask providers, e.g. possible at the Caritas soup bar) and drink from reusable coffee-to-go mugs.





Use “sustainable search engines”.

🌿 **Ecosia:**

▶ <https://www.ecosia.org>



Place green plants in your office (protects against particulate pollution from printers).



Optimize waste separation—one paper bin per employee, one garbage can per office for waste and one yellow sack per floor.



Purchase second hand furniture/equipment and ask colleagues for spares.

🌿 **Second hand equipment exchange at the University of Bonn (intranet):**

▶ <https://www.intranet.uni-bonn.de/organisation/verwaltung/dez-5/abt-5.3/gebrauchtgeraeteboerse>



Set up food sharing schemes with colleagues.



AT THE INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL (👤👤👤)

Replace desktop PCs (fat clients) with network terminals (thin clients) across the entire University.



Provide cargo bicycles/e-bikes for short official travel.



Set up “sustainability mailboxes” to collect ideas from employees and students.



Green space strategy, plant flower beds, insect hotels, etc.



Additional Information on Preparing Events and Following-Up

🌿 **Bundesdeutscher Arbeitskreis für Umweltbewusstes Management e.V.**

▶ <https://baumev.de> (last accessed on 07/01/2021)

🌿 **BMU, 2020: Quelle: Papier 2020 – Ein Leistungsbericht.**

Issued by: Verband deutscher Papierfabriken e.V., in:

▶ <https://www.bmu.de/themen/wasser-abfall-boden/abfallwirtschaft/statistiken/altpapier/anteile-der-hauptsortengruppen-am-papierverbrauch> (last accessed on 07/01/2021)

Information about sustainable furnishings, material and office space design in public procurement.

🌿 **Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe (FNR), 2017: Nachwachsende Rohstoffe im Einkauf. Themenheft III: Büro – Einrichtung, Material, Gestaltung,**

▶ www.fnr.de, in particular: https://www.fnr.de/fileadmin/beschaffung/pdf/Themenheft_Buero_web__V05.pdf (last accessed on 07/01/2021)

🌿 **Initiative Pro Recyclingpapier, 2020: Papieratlas 2020, in**

▶ https://www.papieratlas.de/wp-content/uploads/papieratlas2020_landkreise.pdf and https://www.papieratlas.de/wp-content/uploads/papieratlas2020_staedte.pdf (last accessed on 07/01/2021)

▶ <https://www.kompass-nachhaltigkeit.de/en> (last accessed on 07/01/2021)

🌿 **Federal Ministry of the Interior Procurement Office, undated: Kompetenzzentrum nachhaltige Beschaffung, in:**

▶ <http://www.nachhaltige-beschaffung.info> (last accessed on 07/01/2021)

🌿 **German Environment Agency, 2015: Umweltfreundliche Beschaffung:**

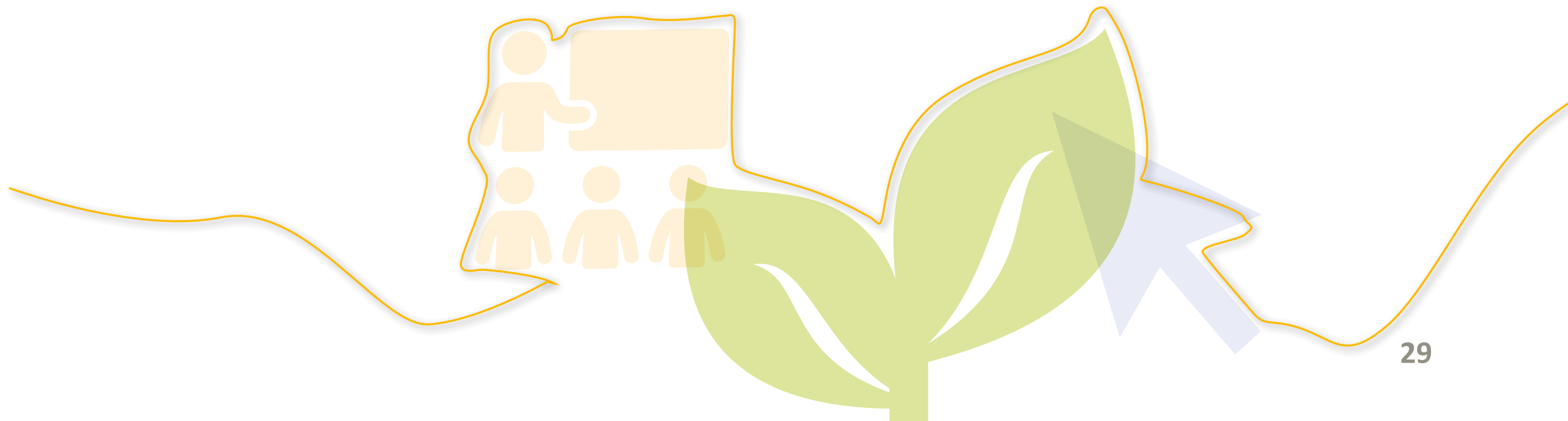
▶ https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/sites/default/files/medien/378/publikationen/der_blaue_engel_fuer_druckerzeugnisse.pdf (last accessed on 07/01/2021)

🌿 **German Environment Agency, undated: Umweltfreundliche Beschaffung:**

▶ <https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/en/topics/economics-consumption/green-public-procurement> (last accessed on 07/01/2021)

▶ www.buero-und-umwelt.de (last accessed on 07/01/2021)

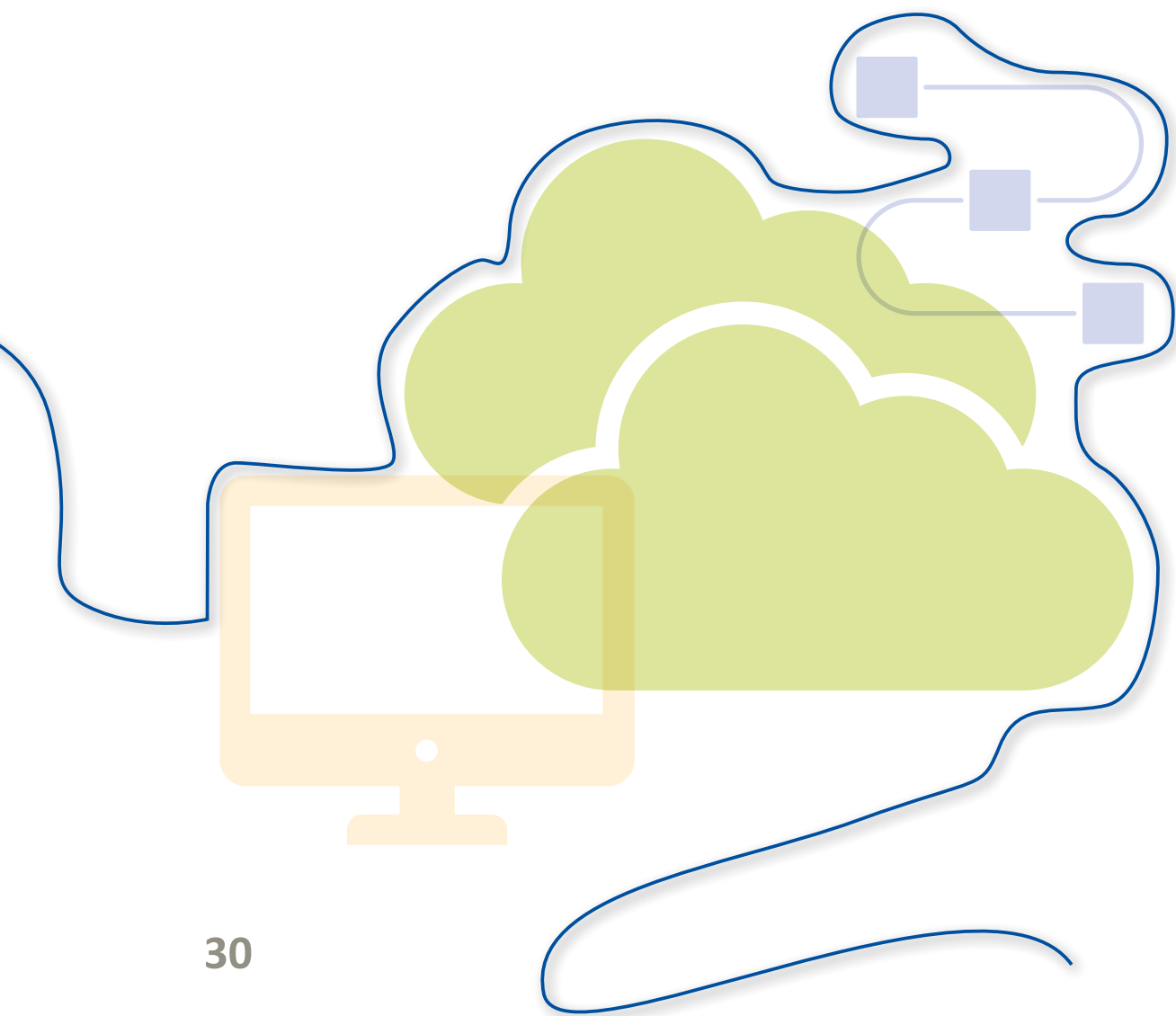
▶ <https://printelligent.de/kriterien-zur-auswahl-von-oeko-druckereien> (last accessed on 07/01/2021)



3.8 Digital Formats in International Communication

As all large-scale organizations, the University of Bonn invests considerable resources in the design and printing of information and advertising material. Such paper formats often become obsolete quickly and are often impractical for use in international relations. Moreover, they require printing and shipping and are not searchable.

Once again, the question is “what do I really need?” Is it necessary to print 500 flyers for the dustbin? Do I need to print posters for my event or can I reach a wider audience with a social media post? You should first clarify how often and how long the product will be in use before actually going to print. This applies to posters, brochures, postcards, flyers, name tags, etc. Will the brochure be read once and then binned? Would it be sufficient to print only a small number of copies or even none at all? A paperless alternative¹⁹ involves uploading the documents²⁰ to Sciebo as a PDF or providing guests with a USB stick with a range of information material. Cloud services such as Sciebo bring further advantages: data is available centrally, especially via smart phone, and it is easy to update.



Checklist: Digital Formats in International Communication

DIGITAL FORMATS	
Check how many print-outs you actually need and which information could be provided electronically.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Draw on the expertise of colleagues in digital storage/archiving.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use digital cloud services to share information. Sciebo: ▶ https://uni-bonn.sciebo.de/login	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paperless advertising (e.g. on social media) if relevant for the target group.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conduct networking via various platforms (e.g. LinkedIn) instead of exchanging printed business cards.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide information online (e.g. in PDF format). Guidelines for barrier-free documents, web design and videos: ▶ https://www.uni-bonn.de/de/studium/beratung-und-service/studieren-mit-handicap eCampus: the University of Bonn media service: ▶ https://www.ecampus-services.uni-bonn.de/en/elearning-services-en/media-service?set_language=en	<input type="checkbox"/>

3.9 Do Good – and Tell People About It!

If you follow a sustainable approach in the organization of events and conferences, you are assuming social responsibility, and you should let participants, employees and the general public know about it. This includes advertising sustainable events as such beforehand. For example, the organizer can point out that the conference documentation is intentionally not provided in paper form or that the vegetarian catering is a conscious choice. It may not be obvious at first sight that your disposable plates and cutlery are made out of bio-degradable material. The adoption of an appropriate communication strategy will win over supporters for your sustainability strategy and maybe even inspire emulation. Being transparent about where you had to make compromises helps prevent misunderstandings and accusations of green washing.



4. PARTNERSHIPS AND COOPERATION

4.1 The Role of Networks for Sustainable Institutional Development

Sustainable development is relevant to us all. Realized at the interface between industry, nature and society, and thereby affecting social values and discourse, any sustainability strategy must integrate a wide range of stakeholders and interests. Its comprehensive nature mandates close cooperation between academia, industry, government and civil society at both local and international level. Networks are instrumental in providing the context for this complex cooperation and realizing processes more efficiently.

Collaborative networks present the foundation for such a complex change process as the transition towards sustainable development. Such networks are equipped with both the infrastructure and tools to facilitate participant interaction, information exchange, coordination and informed decisions. Networks can develop within an institution through which to drive sustainable development. They can also join forces with external local and international partners/networks to develop an improved response to specific challenges. As such, coordination and administrative services often represent a key element in the success of sustainable development initiatives in the public sector.

The University of Bonn moved in 2021 to establish a Vice Rectorate for Sustainability to act as the strategic body responsible for integrating considerations of sustainability in research, teaching and administrative operations. The work of the Vice Rectorate is supported by the Sustainability Unit.²¹ The office of the Bonn Alliance for Sustainability Research, which concentrates and coordinates the joint research, teaching and transfer activities conducted by the six partners in the network in the area of sustainability, is also located at the University of Bonn.²²

Scientific exchange on the national and international level is facilitated by knowledge platforms. Two examples related to the University of Bonn are the Green Growth Knowledge Platform²³ and the “Wissenschaftsplattform Nachhaltigkeit 2030”.²⁴

4.2 Local Networks for Sustainability and Sustainable Development (Selection)

A range of stakeholders and networks have been created in Bonn through which to drive sustainability:

The Bonn Alliance for Sustainability Research

Established in November 2017 at the COP23 under the leadership of the University of Bonn, the Bonn Alliance for Sustainability Research works towards strengthening the knowledge and skills requisite to sustainable development. The alliance is strengthened by the expertise of six long-standing Bonn-based institutions: the BICC (Bonn International Center for Conversion), the German Development Institute (“Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik” DIE), the University of Applied Sciences H-BRS (“Hochschule Bonn-Rhein-Sieg”), the Institute for Environment and Human Security at the United Nations University (UNU-EHS) and the University of Bonn with its Center for Development Research (ZEF).

The alliance seeks to network research conducted into sustainability in order to do justice to the complexity of the issues involved, and provide scientific support to the implementation of the UN Agenda 2030 on every level from the local to the global. Working to this end, the Bonn Alliance seeks to combine the research output (both fundamental and applied) of its various partners from the university and non-university sectors.

Bonn Sustainability Portal

Established in 2009, the Bonn Sustainability Portal is an information platform and networking forum dedicated to the issue of sustainable development and provides an overview of activities in this important area in Bonn.

European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI)

The EADI is the leading European network for development research and training. The Center for Development Research (Zentrum für Entwicklungsforschung – ZEF) at the University of Bonn is a member.²⁵

Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Germany

Founded in April 2014, the network combines the knowledge, experience and capacities of German organizations of academia, industry and civil society with the goal of promoting a sustainable development in Germany and across the globe. It counts the Center for Development Research (ZEF) of the University of Bonn among its members.²⁶

Bonn4Future – Wir fürs Klima

Established in 2020, “Bonn4Future - Wir fürs Klima” is a participation mechanism to bring together the stakeholders of municipal government and civil society in order to promote the culture of cooperation requisite to the achievement of climate neutrality, fairness and a better quality of life.²⁷

4.3 Sustainability Research at the University of Bonn: Transdisciplinary Research Area Innovation and Technology for Sustainable Futures

Sustainability means using resources in a way that meets the needs of today without neglecting or even disregarding the needs of future generations. This raises questions in a wide range of areas such as poverty, hunger, food security, demographic change, health, protection of the environment, climate change—the responsible use of resources is a global challenge for us all. Seeking to achieve progress with regards to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, our researchers combine foundational research with interdisciplinary, solutions-oriented approaches. They also assume an active role in a range of global networks and collaborate with a number of Bonn-based UN organizations.

An overview of the specialist foci and research projects constituting the work of TRA6 is provided on its website.²⁸

4.4 Local and Student Sustainability Initiatives

City of Bonn Sustainability Strategy

Early February 2019 saw Bonn City Council adopt the first ever municipal sustainability strategy. This represents the contribution of the City of Bonn to the systematic implementation of the UN Agenda 2030 with its 17 sustainability goals. The strategy was the result of a two-year program of consultation between stakeholders from government, civil society, academia and industry. This was followed by a multi-month consultation process involving twelve specialist committees.²⁹ The City of Bonn also publishes a regular sustainability report.³⁰

Student Initiatives

Student initiatives and university groups provide platforms for exchanging experience, theory and research outside of university courses, thus providing students with the opportunity to do volunteer work and to engage with issues of sustainability. Employees of the University of Bonn can approach the different initiatives in order to exchange knowledge and to establish cooperation programs.

- 📌 **AG Grüne Infrastruktur (Green Infrastructure Working Group):** gruene-infrastruktur@web.de
- 📌 **GHG Grüne Hochschulgruppe Bonn (Green Campus Group Bonn):** gruene@uni-bonn.de
- 📌 **Foodsharing Bonn:** bonn@foodsharing.network
- 📌 **The Urban Gardening-Initiative StadtFrüchtchen:** mail@stadtfruechtchen.de
- 📌 **Department for Ecology – General Students' Committee (AStA) Bonn:** oeko@asta.uni-bonn.de
- 📌 **Greenpeace HSG Bonn (Greenpeace Campus Group Bonn):** info@greenpeace-bonn.de
- 📌 **Klimagerechtigkeit Jetzt! e.V.:** actforclimatejusticenow@riseup.net
- 📌 **Vegactive – Vegan Campus Group Bonn:** vegactive@gmx.de
- 📌 **Solidarische Landwirtschaft in Bonn (Solidary Agriculture in Bonn):** info@solawi-bonn.de
- 📌 **Zero Waste Initiative Bonn:** info@zerowastebonn.de
- 📌 **Fridays for Future Campus Group:** fridaysforfuturehsgbonn@gmail.com
- 📌 **Bonn im Wandel (Changing Bonn):** info@bonnimwandel.de





5. GLOSSARY

Definition of Terms

Blue Angel

The Blue Angel has served as the official eco label issued by the German Federal Government since 1978; it is awarded to products and services judged to be more environmentally friendly than their comparable, conventional counterparts. Each product group must satisfy specific criteria to qualify for the Blue Angel award.³¹

Capacity building

Capacity building (or *capacity development*) refers to the process by which individuals or organizations gain, improve and maintain the skills, knowledge, tools and other resources requisite to proficient completion of their task.³²

Ecosia

Ecosia is a green search engine based in Berlin.³³

European Regulation on Organic Production

The European Regulation on Organic Production regulates the organic food industry. Council Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007 from June 28, 2007, on the organic production and labeling of organic products (EU Eco regulation) defines the standards of growth and production which produce and food must satisfy in order to be labeled as organic. It supersedes Regulation (EEC) No. 2092/91. Effective January 1, 2021, it will be superseded by Art. 56 of the Regulation (EU) 2018/848 (Organic Production and Labeling of Organic Products).³⁴

EMAS

EMAS stands for “Eco-Management and Audit Scheme”. Established as a voluntary instrument of the European Union, EMAS supports companies and organizations of all sizes and from all industries in their aim of achieving continuous improvement of their environmental performance. This includes systematically improved energy and material efficiency, the reduction of environmental damage and environmental risk and increasing levels of legal certainty for their actions.³⁵

Fat client

The term *fat client* refers to a fully equipped, high-capacity desktop computer with sufficient computing capacity, disk memory, CD-ROM drive capacity and a high-performance graphic card to permit its operation independently of a server.³⁶

Foodsharing

An initiative to organize food savers and ambassadors, save food from food producers, drive the internationalization of foodsharing, raise awareness and organize events on this topic.³⁷

Greenwashing

A critical term for PR methods deployed to persuade the public that a company’s products, aims and policies are environmentally friendly, without this actually being grounded in fact.³⁸

Halal

Halal means “pure” or “permitted”. Everything forbidden is called *haram*. Permitted food and beverages are therefore referred to as *halal*.³⁹

ISO 14001

ISO 14001 is the accepted international standard for environmental management systems.⁴⁰

Kosher

Kosher means “permitted” or “appropriate”. “Kosher” is the label for all food which meets the requirements of the Jewish dietary regulations (Kashrut). Practicing Jews are only allowed to consume kosher food, non-kosher food (“trefe”) is forbidden.⁴¹

Sufficiency

Sufficiency is the question of the right proportion, and seeks to reduce the use of resources through reducing the demand for goods.⁴²

Thin client

A *thin*, *lean* or *slim client* is a computer or program which requires a server in order to perform its functions.⁴³

Endnotes

¹ To give an example: the Austrian National Railway ÖBB operates a night train between Innsbruck/Brussels, which also stops in Bonn, Cologne and Aachen (<https://www1.wdr.de/nachrichten/rheinland/nachtzug-wien-bonn-koeln-aachen-bruessel-100.html>).

² Cf. https://www.atmosfair.de/en/green_travel/annual_climate_budget, <https://www.co2online.de/klima-schuetzen/mobilitaet/bahn-oder-flugzeug-der-vergleich>

³ Adobe Connect, Zoom and DFNconf are excellent software solutions with which to conduct virtual seminars, lectures or web-meetings.

⁴ Cf. https://www.atmosfair.de/en/air_travel_and_climate/atmosfair_airline_index

⁵ Cf. https://www.atmosfair.de/en/faqs/on_co2_calculation

⁶ Cf. <https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/umwelttipps-fuer-den-alltag/mobilitaet/flugreisen>; <https://www.welt.de/wirtschaft/article194015107/Flugscham-Deutsche-Wirtschaft-bleiben-Flugreisen-treu.html>

⁷ https://www.dfg.de/foerderung/info_wissenschaft/2020/info_wissenschaft_20_101/index.html

⁸ https://www.studienstiftung.de/pool/sdv/public/documents/SERVICE/Publikationen/Grundsatzartikel/studienstiftung_strategiepapier_umweltvertragliche_mobilitaet_2021.pdf

⁹ Cf. <https://www.leadcity-bonn.de/365-euro-ticket>

¹⁰ Cf. <https://www.swb-busundbahn.de/service/weitere-mobilitaet-sangebote/flug-und-bahnreisende>

¹¹ 1,000 liters of water is required to grow 1 kg of avocados; moreover, they are often grown in regions already affected by water poverty.

¹² The confectionary manufacturer Haribo (in Bonn and Bad Godesberg) provides surplus containers with fitting lids. Available free-of-charge in different sizes, they are very stable and can hold large amounts of food for the guests to take home.

¹³ Please note that for legal reasons, guests should sign an “agreement for taking home food”. A template is available here: https://www.dehogabw.de/servicecenter/servicecenter-details/vereinbarung_ueber_die_mitnahme_von_speisen.html.

¹⁴ Cf. <https://www.bonn-region.de/services/files/druck-pdfs/bersicht%20der%20SUS%20Bonn-Partner%202017-1.pdf>.

¹⁵ Cf. <https://www.fairpflichtet.de/en/unterstuetzer/,a1d-0c6e83f027327d8461063f4ac58a6> (as of February 2020)

¹⁶ Cf. https://www.worldccbonn.com/fileadmin/Dateien/Downloads/PDF/WorldCCBonn_Flyer_Nachhaltigkeit.pdf

¹⁷ A master thesis written in the Faculty of Agriculture planned the market launch of a regional organic tea product (General-Anzeiger newspaper, 2016. Die Apfelminze hält Einzug. https://www.general-anzeiger-bonn.de/region/voreifel-und-vorgebirge/wachtberg/die-apfelminze-haelt-einzug_aid-43028087, last accessed on 04/27/2020).

¹⁸ Digitalization also has a negative environmental impact, as digital devices and services (e.g. emails, WhatsApp calls, cloud uploads, streaming etc.) require a tremendous amount of energy (cf. Deutsche Welle (2019). <https://www.dw.com/en/is-netflix-bad-for-the-environment-how-streaming-video-contributes-to-climate-change/a-49556716>)

Imprint

Publisher:

University of Bonn
International Office
Poppelsdorfer Allee 53
53115 Bonn (Germany)

Authors:

Evelien Fiselier, Sandra Gilgan, Gudrun Hille, Tina Odenthal, Annette Poetsch, Fabienne Zühlke

Contact for Feedback and Questions:

Annette Poetsch (Poetsch@verwaltung.uni-bonn.de)

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Source:

Bosse und Meinhard Wissen und Kommunikation: p. 4
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Last updated: July 2021

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