

Federal Environmental Agency
Federal Republic of Germany

Sustainable Development in Germany

- Progress and Prospects -

Contence

Chapter I Introduction

11.	Sustainable development - the emergence of a new paradigm	2
I 1.1	From concept to programme	2
11.2	The interdependency of environment, economy and society	8
I 1.3	Four basic requirements for sustainable development	11
12	Sustainable development in Germany	11
12.1	Germany's commitment to sustainability	11
12.2	Individual contributions	19
12.3	Consensus-building within society	22
13	Structure and methodology of this study	23
13.1	Why the focus on Germany?	23
13.2	Activities for sustainable development	24
13.3	Instruments for sustainable development	27
13.4	Methodological structure of the chapters	31
13.5	Scenarios the range of potential trends	32

Chapter II Sustainable Energy Use

111.	Current energy use and sustainable development	38
II 1.1	Current energy use in Germany	39
II 1.2	Global energy consumption	42
112.	Objectives of sustainable energy use	45
II 3.	The "business as usual" scenario - current trends and developments	49
II 3.1	Forecasts for Germany	49
II 3.2	Global forecast	56
II 3.3	No sustainable energy use under "business as usual" conditions	58

II 4.	The efficiency scenario - technological improvements and sustainability	59
II 4.1	The potential for technologically induced reductions in German	59
II 4.2	Global potential for improving energy efficiency	62
II 4.3	Sustainable development through improvements in energy efficiency?	64
II 5	The "structural transformation and awareness raising" scenario	65
II 5.1	Is phasing out fossil fuels a feasible alternative?	65
II 5.2	Assessment of the structural transformation and awareness raising scenario	68
II 6	Main features of an energy strategy for Germany	69

Chapter III Sustainable Mobility

III 1.	Mobility and sustainable development	78
III 1.1	What is mobility?	78
III 1.2	External costs of transport - unpaid bills	79
III 1.3	Mobility in a sustainable society	80
III 2.	The "business as usual" scenario - whither development?	88
III 2.1	Trends in car numbers, kilometres driven and fuel consumption	88
III 2.2	Trends in transport-related environmental pressure	90
III 3.	The efficiency scenario - how much can be achieved with technology?	95
III 3.1	Objectives in designing the scenario	95
III 3.2	Alternative engine types	96
III 3.3	CO2 reductions using more efficient technologies	98
III 3.4	Technological potential for reducing air pollutant emissions	100
III 3.5	Possible ways to reduce noise levels	101
III 3.6	Conclusion: technological efficiency will not suffice	102

III 4.	Trends within a "structural transformation and awareness raising" scenario	103
III 4.1	Scenario calculation	105
III 4.2	Measures for attaining the reduction targets	107

Chapter IV Sustainable Food Production

IV 1.	Is our food production sustainable?	112
IV 1.1	Environmental pressure caused by agriculture	113
IV 1.2	Environmental impacts of food processing and transport	124
IV 1.3	Environmental impacts of consumer behaviour	126
IV 2.	What is sustainable food production?	128
IV 2.1	Guiding principles and goals of sustainable agriculture	129
IV 2.2	Guiding principles and goals of sustainable food processing	130
IV 2.3	First steps towards sustainable food production	131
IV 3.	Business as usual scenario: food production trends to the year 2000	135
IV 3.1	Potential trends in agriculture	135
IV 3.2	Projection of environmental stresses caused by agriculture	137
IV 3.3	Forecast trends in food transport	144
IV 4.	Efficiency scenario: reductions in environmental pressure through technological improvements	145
IV 4.1	Amelioration potential in agriculture	145
IV 4.2	Amelioration potential in the food industry	152
IV 4.3	Technological improvements do not suffice	153
IV 5.	Environmental improvements through structural transformation and awareness raising	155
IV 5.1	Modifying the political and economic framework in which food is produced	155
IV 5.2	Changing the social framework	158
IV 5.3	No sustainable food production without structural transformation and awareness raising	162

apter V

Material Flow Management and Sustainability The Case of Textiles

V 1.	Necessity and objectives of material flow management	166
V 2.	Material flow management as a strategic concept	170
V 2.1	Holistic analysis of material flows and relationships of actors	172
V 2.2	Assessment standards for material flow management	174
V 2.3	Material flow management and alliances for environmental innovation	175
V 2.4	Material flow management and international relations	178
V 3.	Material flows in the textile sector	179
V 3.1	Textiles and sustainability	179
V 3.2	Environmental relevance of textiles	182
V 3.3	Environmental stress caused by fibre production •	184
V 3.4	Textile finishing	187
V 3.5	Trade and transport	191
V 3.6	Environmental stress due to textile care	192
V 3.7	Textile wastes	193
V 3.8	Environmental action targets for the textile sector	194
V 4.	Potential for enhanced energy and material efficiency	196
V 4.1	Fibre production	196
V 4.2	Textile finishing	198
V 4.3	Textile care	199
V 4.4	Textile wastes	199
V 5.	Environmental improvements through structural transformation and awareness raising	200
V 5.1	The international framework	201
V 5.2	Material flow management in the textile chain	202
V 5.3	Changing consumer behaviour	205
V 5.4	Enhancing the conditional framework	207

Chapter VI

Consumption Patterns for Sustainable Development

VI 1.	Sustainable consumer behaviour - a challenge to society	212
VI 1.1	The importance of consumer behaviour for sustainable development	213
VI 1.2	"Sustainable consumption patterns" in the international context - Agenda 21	215
VI 1.3	The meaning and significance of consumption	216
VI 1.4	Ecological consumer behaviour	218
VI 2.	Societal and sociocultural conditions	220
VI 2.1	Critique of consumerism	220
VI 2.2	"Efficiency revolution" versus "sufficiency revolution"	221
VI 2.3	From less consumption to new models of wealth"	221
VI 2.4	From the three-class model to the "lifestyle society"	222
VI 2.5	Ethics in a pluralist society	225
VI 3.	Ambivalences in current consumer behaviour	226
VI 3.1	Trends before UNCED	226
VI 3.2	Environmental discourse since the 1992 Rio Conference	227
VI 3.3	Important issues	229
VI 3.4	Barriers to pro-environmental behaviour	230
VI 3.5	Environmental awareness and environmental behaviour	231
VI 4.	Models for sustainable consumption in the future	233
VI 4.1	Options and limitations of advertising	233
VI 4.2	Developing indicators	236
VI 4.3	Replacing products by services	237
VI 5.	A framework of measures	237
VI 5.1	Basic principles	237
VI 5.2	Cooperation and support frameworks	239
VI 5.3	Information and advice	240
VI 5.4	Enhancing financial incentives	241
VI 5.5	Enlarging the scope of regulatory instruments	242

Chapter VII

Instruments and Indicators of Sustainable Development

VII 1.	Environmental law in the different scenarios	245
VII 1.1	Requirements for further development in the structural transformation and awareness raising scenario	246
VII 1.2.	Legal frameworks	250
VII 1.3.	Principles of German environmental law	253
VII 1.4	The contribution of planning law to sustainability	255
VII 1.4.1	Sectoral planning	255
VII 1.4.2	Overall planning	260
VII 1.5	Sustainable development through direct management of behaviour	264
VII 1.6	The role of environmental impact assessments	272
VII 1.7	Sustainable development through indirect management of behaviour	274
VII 1.8	Sustainable development through activation of the cooperation principle	276
VII 2	The necessity of an Environment Code	277
VII 3.	The greening of public finance	278
VII 3.1	The need for reform - basic elements	278
VII 3.2	Components of an environmental reform of public finance	280
VII 3.3	Basing subsidies on environmental considerations	281
VII 3.4	Basing charges and contributions on environmental considerations	286
VII 3.5	Greening the tax system	288
VII 3.5.1	Redesigning existing taxes and special charges along ecological lines	289
VII 3.5.2	Increasing existing charges and introducing new charges on activities that damage the environment	292
VII 3.6	Guidelines for a green tax reform	295
VII 4.	Environmental awareness raising and sustainable development	299
VII 4.1	Significance and development of environmental awareness	299

VII 4.2	The current state of debate on environmental awareness raising	301
VII 4.3	Proposals for future developments	304
VII 5.	Measuring sustainability - indicators for sustainable development	307
VII 5.1	The purpose of sustainability indicators	307
VII 5.2	The concept of environmental indicators	308
VII 5.3	Economic and social indicators	310
VII 5.4	Material, energy and transport intensities	312
VII 5.5	Environmental quality targets and environmental action targets	314
VII 5.6	A set of indicators for a sustainable Germany	315
	References	321