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The goal is green. The path is colourful.

Together we are strong.
Together we are sustainable.

Our contribution to the Agenda 2030



Dear Reader,

The current challenges posed by climate change require a fresh approach.

For the DVGW, sustainability is not just another buzzword. Rather, it has long since been a guiding principle for our activities. The subjects we address and the work we do reflect our responsibility for the environment, human beings and the generations to come.

We actively advocate the transition to a climate-neutral energy supply based on gas and hydrogen as well as sustainable water management and high drinking water quality. The DVGW supports utility companies and the industry with its research projects, sets of rules and educational offerings and raises public awareness for sustainable economic management. This commitment is strengthened by our cooperation with other associations.

We want to actively work with our network and our partners, and together pave the way for a climate neutral future.

Together we are strong. Together we are sustainable.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. Dr. Gerald Linke
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Dr. Wolf Merkel
Board of Directors



The goal is green. The path is colourful.

**Sustainability is one of the top issues discussed by politicians, business managers and society.
But what exactly do we mean when we talk about sustainability?**

Sustainability defines the resource-conserving management of our planet at the ecological, economic and social levels. Or, in simple terms: Living sustainably requires society to behave in such a way as to ensure that all living beings on Earth will be able to live well – now and in the future.

The United Nation's Agenda 2030 defines 17 goals (Sustainable Development Goals, or SDGs for short) that are aimed at implementing the long-term vision of a socially, economically and ecologically sustainable development and future. Intending to make the subject of sustainability more tangible, the DVGW focuses, in line with the SDGs and our statutes, on the following seven goals.

Our contribution to sustainable global development

Technically, the DVGW's key focus has always been on enhancing sustainability, be it the resource-conserving management of water, with the intention being to ensure the supply of drinking water for future generations on the one hand, or the support of the transition to a climate-neutral energy supply on the other.

The SDGs offer further guidance on how to accomplish our tasks in a more targeted and more effective manner.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



SDG 4: Quality Education

We aim to provide access to high-quality education for everyone in order to further the achievement of equal opportunities.

- ➡ We offer vocational training and technical in-service training across Germany, online or in person, in collaboration with DVGW Vocational Training, DVGW Kongress GmbH and other institutions.
- ➡ Results from research projects are edited and communicated by specialists in order to ensure the transfer of knowledge. Additionally, events like “Lunch & Learn” and research seminars also provide free access to technical information.
- ➡ We publish our expert knowledge on our website, on social media sites and in numerous other publications, and thus make it available to a broad public.



SDG 6: Clean water of the highest quality

Having access to clean and wholesome drinking water at any time is nothing to be taken for granted. In times of climate change and in view of increasingly frequent extreme weather situations, securing a future-proof water supply is of vital importance.

- ➡ The DVGW set of rules is aimed at promoting the protection of water bodies and the resource-conserving management of both our environment and our water resources.
- ➡ The “DVGW Innovation Programme Water” is the collaborative framework of all stakeholders of the German water supply sector, in which they develop future-proof solutions for securing the long-term supply of high-quality drinking water in sufficient quantities.



SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy

Germany aims to be climate neutral by 2045. The DVGW has been paving the way for the transition to a climate-neutral energy supply for several years already.

- ➡ The DVGW develops the technical rules and preconditions for repurposing the existing gas network for climate-friendly gases, like hydrogen or biomethane.
- ➡ The DVGW Service & Consult and the DBI Group have created “verifHy”, a central platform that offers companies an easy way to obtain information about the suitability for hydrogen of the existing gas assets and the associated products, components and materials.
- ➡ All hydrogen-related research investigates the energy system as a whole and searches for ways to make it climate neutral.



SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure

A resilient infrastructure, technical innovations and a sustainable industry are the prerequisites for future economic growth in Germany. Research and the early identification of technical challenges enable us to set standards for a modern, high-performance energy and water supply infrastructure.

- ➡ Our “Plattform Grüne Industrie” (“Green Industry Platform”) connects the industry with gas network operators, with the objective being to jointly develop climate-friendly, efficient solutions for a low-emission, hydrogen-based industry.
- ➡ The “Transformation Distribution Networks” (TransNetz Phase II) research project of the DVGW Hydrogen Innovation Programme aims to develop robust transition plans for the implementation of climate targets at the distribution network level.
- ➡ The “TRINK-Predict” project of the DVGW Innovation Programme Water meticulously studies the process stages that are of particular importance for the predictive maintenance of the water management infrastructure and upgrades them in line with practical application requirements.

Did you know that...?
§2 of the DVGW statutes describes the purpose and tasks of the association as follows:

§2 Purpose and tasks of the association

1. To promote the gas and water industry in all technical and technical-scientific aspects, with a particular focus on safety, environmental conservation and consumer protection, the precautionary principle and hygiene as well as all aspects of quality. [...]



SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities

While sustainable and inclusive urban and municipal planning is indispensable for achieving the goal of climate neutrality, it can also help to effectively meet the challenges posed by the effects of climate change when combined with pro-active water protection.

- The ASUE/AGFW “Praxisleitfaden Kommunale Wärmeplanung” (“Practical Guide to Municipal Heat Planning”) supports municipalities in preparing heat planning programmes and in their ongoing journey towards a climate-neutral future energy supply.
- Additional initiatives such as “H2vorOrt” collaborate with numerous companies to develop concrete plans for a secure regional supply of climate neutral gases. The “Gasnetzgebietstransformationsplan” (GTP, “Gas Distribution Transformation Plan”) has initiated a multi-year planning process aimed at decarbonising the distribution networks.
- The “Roadmap 2030”, a joint DVGW/DWA project, is not only an agenda for action relating to the future of the water industry, but also puts forward concrete demands directed at both politicians and society as a whole.



SDG 13: Climate action

The impact of climate change is noticeable – also in Germany. This being so, many of our research projects are driven by a passion for climate protection.

- Numerous DVGW research projects reflect the association’s commitment to safety, environmental compatibility and economic efficiency in the supply of energy and water.
- The DVGW promotes the transition from natural gas to new, climate-neutral gases such as hydrogen and biomethane and creates the technical and scientific basis for repurposing the existing gas assets for hydrogen. The association thus contributes considerably to making the energy turnaround happen.
- The second focus of the DVGW is on drinking water protection. The “DVGW Innovation Programme Water”, the result of a collaboration with our partners, already defines important guidelines for the future.

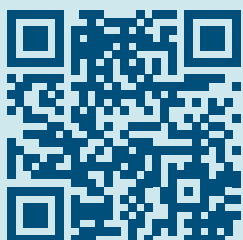


SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

Together we are strong! Intense exchange and trusting collaboration with research institutes, partners, associations and politicians promote the transfer of knowledge, technical know-how and acceptance for the implementation and achievement of climate targets.

- Our association wishes to promote and achieve the goal of a climate-neutral future together with our members, partner associations, authorities and other organisations.
- Initiatives, platforms and projects such as “H2vorOrt”, “Plattform Grüne Industrie” (“Green Industry Platform”) and the “Bund der Wasserstoffregionen” (BdWR, “National Hydrogen Regions Association”) illustrate the benefits and the potential offered by a lively exchange of knowledge between industrial stakeholders, researchers and politicians.

**Conserving nature and protecting the environment.
This is our task. Let’s continue working together.
Together we are strong. Together we are sustainable.**



**Learn more about our
contribution to the Agenda 2030**
www.dvgw.de/english-pages/dvgw

Imprint

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Published by

DVGW German Technical and Scientific Association for Gas and Water
Josef-Wirmer-Str. 1–3 · 53123 Bonn / Germany
info@dvgw.de · www.dvgw.de/english-pages

Design by

mehrwert intermediale kommunikation GmbH, Cologne
www.mehrwert.de

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Printing

Printed on 300g/sq natural offset paper, FSC mix, 70 % paper



© DVGW Bonn · Version August 2025