en.dwa.de

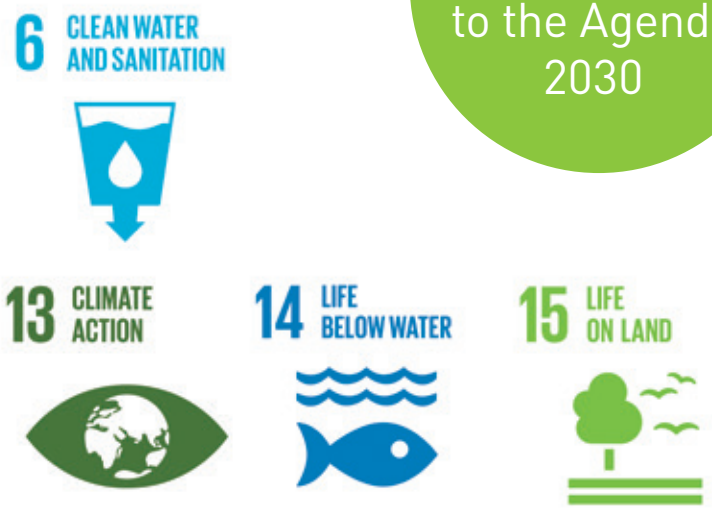
DWA
Clear Concepts. Clean Environment.

„Transforming our World“ Sustainable Development Goals

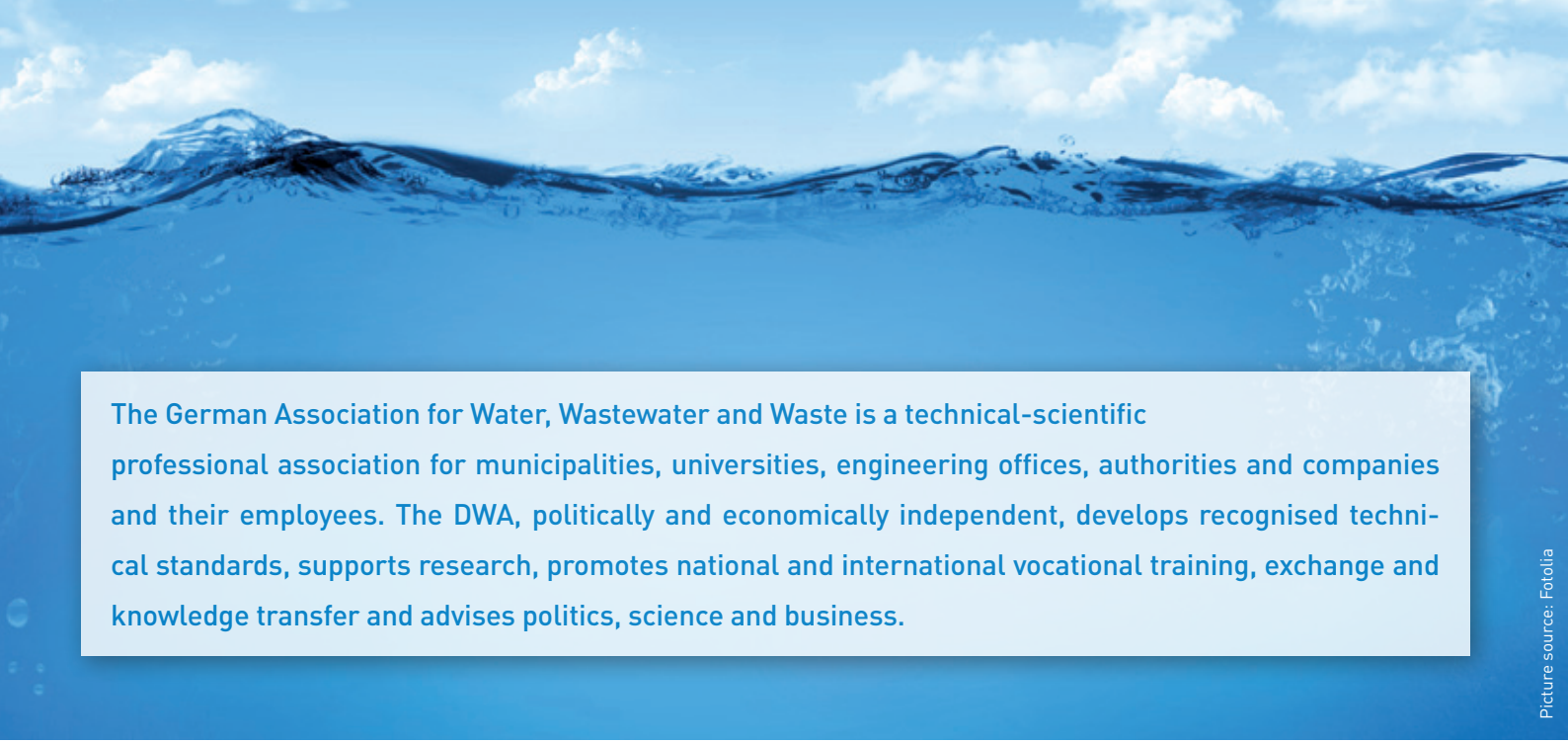
17 goals for creating a sustainable world

Contributions of the DWA to the Agenda 2030

As a professional association for water and waste management, the DWA actively contributes to the implementation of the goals.



Water and sanitation, terrestrial ecosystems, climate protection, education, nutrition, sustainable cities and international partnerships



The German Association for Water, Wastewater and Waste is a technical-scientific professional association for municipalities, universities, engineering offices, authorities and companies and their employees. The DWA, politically and economically independent, develops recognised technical standards, supports research, promotes national and international vocational training, exchange and knowledge transfer and advises politics, science and business.

Picture source: Fotolia

Water is life

For a life without poverty in a healthy environment and a developing economy, people need access to drinking water, sanitation, wastewater management, and sustainable management of water resources. Despite significant efforts and progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), some 1.8 billion women, men and children still have to drink contaminated water. Approximately 2.4 billion people live without adequate sanitation.[1)]

Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

In September 2015, all the member states of the United Nations (UN) agreed on a new common agenda for 2030 and 17 SDGs. The Sustainable Development Goals were adopted:

Those who take the SDGs seriously – and everyone is called upon to do so, from the government, civil society, private sector to science – want nothing less than to transform our world.

1) From the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)'s water strategy

What is new?

What's new in comparison to the previous MDGs is not only the greater number of goals, but also the integrative approach, the inclusion of the issue of water as an independent goal and the explicit involvement of all countries.

"In the SDGs, the water sector is especially embraced by SDG 6 with its indicators. According to this, by 2030 a sustainable supply of water and sanitation is to be secured worldwide for all (subgoals 6.1 and 6.2). Furthermore, water resources should, by then, be protected against pollution and overuse (subgoals 6.3 to 6.6)."[1)]

What is the significance of the SDGs?

With the resolution of the UN General Assembly "Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" the heads of state and government pledge to work tirelessly to fully implement this agenda by 2030. Then there is to be **no more poverty and hunger** in the world.

For the achievement of these central goals, many preconditions have to be created and all UN member states have to instigate the necessary measures and have to, by means of the continuous use of the agreed indicators to hold up the mirror of success.

The German Federal Government has also committed itself to working beyond its own borders for sustainable development, well aware that we are in Germany in some sectors still far from achieving sustainable living, sustainable business and sustainable use of natural resources in some areas.

For example, the Federal Republic of Germany currently fails to achieve the goals due to too much waste generation per capita, high imports of virtual water, high loss of biodiversity and continued unequal treatment of women and men.

With the new edition of the German sustainability strategy,

palpable goals and measures were defined across the entire range of political issues. All federal institutions are called upon to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs through their own activities in their respective fields. Due to this overarching cross-sectional character and the particular significance, the **responsibility for the German sustainability strategy lies with the Federal Chancellery**. Sustainable development is thus a matter for the Chancellor in Germany!

What does the DWA have to do with this?

Since its foundation in 1948 as a technical-scientific professional association, the DWA has been committed to the sustainable development of water management, wastewater disposal ans waste management.

In its mission statement, the DWA pledges itself to responsibility for clean water, intact soil and pure air, so as to maintain a healthy environment for future generations. Its members, be they universities, engineering offices, companies or personal DWA members, are committed to this mission statement and work to achieve sustainability.

Universities research and develop new technologies and assessment approaches which are adapted to the context. Engineering offices plan and advise state institutions, councils and municipalities around the world. Companies supply components, systems and know-how. The intensive professional exchange, the DWA set of rules, the training offers and the national and international association network are **fundamental building blocks for achieving the UN's water goal** (SDG 6). And not just at home - their work also radiates far beyond Germany.

The integrative approach of the SDGs means that without Goal 6 “Clean Water”, the other goals are not achievable

The DWA's specific contributions to eight of the 17 goals

2 ZERO HUNGER	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	13 CLIMATE ACTION	14 LIFE BELOW WATER	15 LIFE ON LAND	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Expert opinion on draft legislation	Collaboration in the Federal Institute of Vocational Training	Expert opinion on draft legislation		Expert opinion on draft legislation	Expert opinion on draft legislation	Expert opinion on draft legislation	
Soil protection and sustainable land management	Setting of educational standards	Protection of waters and groundwater	Water-sensitive city of the future	Water in the town	Nutrient reduction by use of waste-water technology	Groundwater-protective use of fertilisers	Organisation of international conferences e.g. within the framework of the IFAT worldwide
Groundwater protection	Train the trainer	Implementation of the WFD/aquatic ecology and quality	Demographic change	Flood and heavy rain precautions	Reduction of sediment input	Forestry and agriculture in line with water management objectives	Care and development of international partnerships (EWA and IWA)
	Development of teaching materials	Sustainable sewage systems	Resource and recycling management	Energy-efficient water management		Erosion prevention	Exchange and cooperation with international associations
	Implementation of training and qualification measures	Sustainable treatment of wastewater and industrial wastewater	New sanitation systems			Conservation of biological diversity	Consultation on setting up associations abroad
	University and professional competitions	Environmentally compatible handling of water-hazardous substances					Qualification courses for refugees
		Sustainable sewage sludge disposal					
		Intelligent (underground) infrastructures					