Climate Action Management at Local Level

GROUP B, CLIMATE PROTECTION
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German climate and energy policy

Focal Points

• Long-term climate and energy policy up to 2050 aimed at fundamentally restructuring the energy system, but also other sectors.

• Transition towards a highly efficient renewable energy system as an opportunity for the generations to come.

• Focus on innovation and advanced technologies, on effective and cost-efficient measures in line with market and competition principles.
Launched by the the German Environment Ministry in 2008

The programmes and projects cover a broad spectrum of climate-related activities, from developing long-term strategies to providing practical assistance and investment support.

Until the end of 2014, the National Climate Initiative
- supported some 19,000 projects of varying sizes
- made more than 555 million euros available

The National Climate Initiative is a key element in Germany’s strategy for meeting its climate targets. By 2020, we aim to cut greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40 percent, and by as much as 80 – 95 percent by 2050 (compared to 1990).
Municipal Directive

- The National Climate Initiative supports districts, towns and communities in the development and implementation of local climate strategies in the framework of the Municipal Directive.

- Municipalities with a climate strategy already in place can apply for funding for a climate manager to help implement their ideas. The German Environment Ministry subsidises the personnel costs for climate managers employed under this scheme for three years. Funding can be extended within the context of a follow-on project.
Local authorities in Germany: Political set up

- The federal government and the “Länder” (states) share legislative power. Federal States have legislative power concerning all planning activities.
- However, local authorities are independent in their decisions on how to organize local services such as energy supply, waste treatment, local planning decisions and building codes.
- This makes local governments key actors in Germany’s Energy Transformation.
Climate Action Managers are central contact persons for climate action at local level. They bring interested parties to the table, and anchor climate action in the local administration. In addition, they support the planning and implementation of climate action projects. So they represent the climate not just in relation to the authorities, but to the outside world as well.
Scope of action

- Increasement of energy efficiency in private households
- Expansion of renewable energies
- Development of climate-friendly mobility concepts
- Energy saving within the municipality
- Climate protection in the private sector
Practical examples

- Intercommunal round table at climate protection with citizens and mayors
- Conversion of street lighting to LED
- Educational project and resultant poster campaign
- Opening of a huge on shore windpark in our communities
- Training and 50/50 sharing agreement with all communal employees
Thank you for your attention!

Any further questions?
Please do not hesitate to contact me!

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