



Good institutional practices in promoting policy coherence for sustainable development

Building Block	Description
 Political Commitment	<p>The Chancellor stressed repeatedly Germany's commitment for an ambitious implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The Federal Chancellery, is in charge of the German Sustainable Development Strategy, the essential framework for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.</p>
 Policy Integration	<p>All ministries retain primary responsibility for their own contributions to the implementation of the German Sustainable Development Strategy within their respective policy areas. Newly appointed Ministry Coordinators for Sustainable Development strengthen policy integration and coordination (within each ministry).</p>
 Strategic Long-term Vision	<p>There is broad political consensus in parliament and across main political parties on the importance of SDG implementation and sustainable development. The first management rule of the German Sustainable Development Strategy includes intergenerational fairness as a core principal. Possible long-term effects of a particular regulation are part of the Sustainable Impact Assessment. Intergenerational aspects are further anchored in the Basic Law for the Federal Republic of Germany (Art. 20a).</p>
 Policy and Financing Impacts	<p>All proposals for new laws and regulations are subject to a Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA). The SIA is based on indicators, targets and management rules, which include intergenerational and transboundary dimensions. Since March 2018, laws and regulations can be checked against those through an online tool: www.enap.bund.de</p>
 Policy Coordination	<p>The State Secretaries' Committee (SSC), headed by the Federal Chancellery, is the central steering institution of the German Sustainable Development-Strategy/SDG implementation. A standing working group on Sustainable Development ("UAL-AG" – at Deputy Director General' level) chaired by the Federal Chancellery prepares the SSC's meetings with participation of all ministries. The SSC meets regularly to address relevant cross-cutting or sectoral topics, e. g. setting a new political frame or announcing concrete actions, and decisions are taken on a consensus basis. The coordination mechanism aims for decision-making, information sharing and consultations.</p>
 Local and Regional Involvement	<p>Representatives of the Länder and municipalities are invited to SSC meetings when relevant. Thirteen out of sixteen Länder have drawn up or are currently working on their own Sustainable Development strategies. The Federal-Länder Experience Exchange on Sustainable Development offers space for regular communication between the federal and Länder level. The Sustainable Development Council supports vertical integration by a Sustainability Network of Lord Mayors and the creation of regional hubs. An inter-ministerial working group on sustainable urban development (IMA Stadt), including i.a. the Association of German Cities and the German Association of Towns and Municipalities promotes the 2030 Agenda at the municipal level. The Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW) provides information on community-level development cooperation.</p>
 Stakeholder engagement	<p>The independent Sustainable Development Council advises the Federal Government on all sustainability matters. Its 15 members, last appointed in 2016 for a three-year term by the Chancellor, represent the three dimensions of sustainable development based on their professional and personal backgrounds. A Sustainability Forum is organized once a year by the Chancellery in order to give a selection of important stakeholders the opportunity to comment on sustainable development policy in Germany.</p>
 Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation	<p>The Sustainable Development Strategy includes domestic and international indicators and targets and defines longterm goals, most of them until 2030. The Federal Statistical Office continuously monitors the 63 indicators and publishes an independent indicator report every two years in which weather symbols illustrate whether the target is on track. The findings can influence agenda setting and evaluation within the SSC. The Parliamentary Advisory Council on sustainable development monitors the Federal Government's sustainability policy at national, European and international level in the Bundestag. The German Sustainable Development Strategy itself is reviewed every four years. In 2018, the strategy was updated for the first time. A comprehensive review is foreseen for 2020.</p>