

Ressourcenschonung als Zukunftsaufgabe

Ansatzpunkte für eine systemische Ressourcenpolitik

Publication

[Brochure](#)

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The national and international political agenda shows that resource conservation is a central task for environmental policy: In Germany, Europe and globally, there are political programmes and strategies aimed at fostering sustainable resource use. In five theses, this brochure from the SimRes project shows that an integrative and systemically designed resource policy contributes to achieving the goals of resource protection and climate protection. The study was carried out by Ecologic Institute with Martin Hirschnitz-Garbers and Susanne Langsdorf as co-authors. The brochure is available for download.

By using natural resources, people intervene substantially in social-ecological systems. In particular, the extraction and use of raw materials has reached an order of magnitude that causes drastic damage to nature and also harms people, e.g. through environmental pollution or mining methods. Despite political progress, since the beginning of industrialisation the amount of raw materials we use for a variety of purposes has risen dramatically: Between 1970 and 2015, the global annual extraction of non-metallic minerals, metal ores, fossil fuels and biomass almost quadrupled to more than 80 billion tonnes. Although it cannot be assumed that there will be any kind of collapse, the massive extraction of raw materials will nevertheless lead to considerable environmental pollution and hold the potential for social and political conflict.

For the further development of national and international resource policy, the focus will continue to be on how resource conservation can be achieved more effectively and sustainably in the future, and to identify the factors that are delaying progress towards sustainability and how these can be countered. This brochure presents some suggestions for the necessary debate in the form of theses.

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Authorship

[Susanne Langsdorf](#)

Dr. Martin Hirschnitz-Garbers

Ullrich Lorenz (Federal Environment Agency)

Credits

With the participation of/comments by:

Martin Distelkamp und Mark Meyer (Gesellschaft für wirtschaftliche Strukturforschung (GWS), Osnabrück)

Deniz Koca (Lund Universität, Lund)

Harald Sverdrup (Iceland University, Reykjavik)

Graphic design and layout:

Illusine (Atelier für Illustration und Design: www.illusine.de)

Editing:

Ullrich Lorenz (Federal Environment Agency, Germany)

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These 1:

Zukünftige Knappheiten erfordern eine vorausschauende Ressourcenpolitik und können durch Recycling verringert werden

These 2:

Eine systemisch und langfristig ausgerichtete Ressourcenpolitik muss über Effizienzorientierung hinausgehen

These 3:

Nationale Ressourcenpolitik kann den Wandel zu Ressourcenschonung unterstützen, ihn aber nur über gemeinsame internationale Aktivitäten gestalten helfen

These 4:

Für die Fortschrittsmessung der Wirksamkeit langfristig orientierter Ressourcenpolitik sind international vergleichbare gesamtwirtschaftliche Indikatoren vorteilhaft

These 5:

Ressourceneffizienz zu steigern bringt Vorteile für den Klimaschutz – die Vermeidung von Treibhausgasen führt zu veränderten Rohstoffbedarfen

3 Zusammenfassung und Ausblick – was zukunftsreiche Ressourcenpolitik beachten sollte

4 Literaturverzeichnis

Keywords

[Evaluation](#)

[Resource Conservation + Circular Economy](#)

resource policy, system transformation, policy instruments

Germany, Europe, global

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