

## CV

Director and Science  
Alumni  
Legal Team

## Susanne Altvater, Ass.iur.



Diplom-Ingenieur (FH)  
Senior Fellow

Susanne Altvater (née Friedrich) was a Senior Fellow with Ecologic Institute and [Ecologic Legal](#) [1]. She now works as senior consultant at [s.Pro – sustainable projects](#) [2] in Berlin. Here she is working on projects related to maritime policy like marine spatial planning and resource efficiency in Europe and abroad. Trained as a lawyer, she is specialized in European and international environmental law. Her research focused on biodiversity protection, including its integration into other policy fields, synergies between biodiversity and climate change policies, as well as climate adaptation measures. Additionally, she works on issues related to maritime spatial planning and environmental monitoring, marine conservation on the high seas, and the legal supervision of international negotiations. A native speaker of German, Susanne Altvater is also fluent in English and has a good knowledge of Spanish.

Susanne Altvater's project work at Ecologic Institute primarily addressed marine policy and regulatory issues. In cooperation with local actors, she was working on potential concepts for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICM) in four regions along the [German Northern and Baltic coastline](#) [3] and throughout [Europe](#) [4] (ICM EU). Additionally, she was undertaking research within numerous projects financed under the European Commission's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7), including [Policy-Oriented Marine Environmental Research for the Southern European Seas](#) [5] (PERSEUS) and leading a work-package in CLEANSEA ([Towards a Clean, Litter-Free European Marine Environment through Scientific Evidence, Innovative Tools and Good Governance](#) [6]), combining advanced institutional analysis with a participatory approach in order to identify and assess management measures, strategies, and policy options to reduce marine litter.

Susanne Altvater also contributed to the project [Policy Mix for an Updated German Adaptation Action Plan](#) [7] and lead the EU project [Climate Proofing of Key EU Policies](#) [8]. Beside this, she was working on a study of the impacts of implementing a potential future EU Soil Framework Directive on the German legal and administrative landscape.

She has authored two reports for the German [Federal Environmental Agency](#) [9] (UBA), one on [International Approaches to the Integrated Assessment of Aquatic Ecosystems](#) [10] and one regarding a [Sustainable Tourism Concept for Antarctica](#) [11]. Furthermore, she contributed a report on [Options for a German Environmental Policy for the Arctic](#) [12] for the German [Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety](#) [13] (BMU). For the EU's [Baltic Sea Region](#) [14] (BSR) Programme, she worked on the project [BALTADAPT](#) [15] where she was primarily responsible for the development of an [action plan](#) [16] for the climate change adaptation strategy within the region.

Due to her former work on access and benefit sharing at the [Federal Agency for Nature Conservation](#) [17](BfN), she continued to deal with the issue within the EU project [Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing of Genetic Resources](#) [18], analyzing the consequences of implementation in Germany and other countries.

Before joining Ecologic Institute in 2008, Susanne Altvater worked at the BfN's [Biodiversity unit](#) [19]. Between 2002 and 2006 she did research for the project [Long-Term Ecosystem Observation in the UNESCO Biosphere Reserves in Brandenburg, Germany](#) [20] at the [HNEE Eberswalde](#) [21] (Germany). While working at a law firm between 2000 and 2002, she was responsible for water and waste issues, as well as mediation.

Susanne Altvater has an interdisciplinary education. After she studied law at the University of Erlangen (Germany) and the University of Cork (Ireland), with a strong focus on international and environmental law, she earned a diploma in landscape management and nature conservation at the HNEE Eberswalde (Germany). During these studies, she performed two half-year internships in the [rainforest areas of Guatemala](#) [22] and Australia. Here she focused on the management of protected areas, traditional knowledge and alternative sources of income for indigenous populations.

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- [20] <http://lanuweb.fh-eberswalde.de/oeub/veroeffentlichungen.html>
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