

NaWiKo consists of activities in four areas:

- **Identification of the needs of the individual projects regarding coordination and outreach (document analysis, interviews with the funded projects, creation of a web platform)**
- **Knowledge exchange among and linking the individual projects (through national and international conferences as well as thematic workshops)**
- **Synthesis of overarching project results through several synthesis products, e.g. scientific and/or policy papers, exchange events (with recommendations for action) and special issues of scientific journals**
- **Knowledge transfer and public outreach (media outreach, transfer workshops and an advisory body of relevant actors from business, policy and civil society)**

With these activities, the project aims to contribute to the political and societal impact of the funded research projects.

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NaWiKo

networking • synthesis • outreach

Scientific coordination of research projects on a sustainable economy



Making societies and the economy sustainable – this has been, for some time, a stated objective of international and national policy-making.

How much of which products we produce and consume and how we do so are important factors in moving towards this objective. Yet, the transition to a more sustainable economy is a complex process, which requires cooperation among different actors. An economy is sustainable if it is at the same time competitive, environmentally friendly and socially just. As a consequence, a sustainable economy needs to be low-carbon, resource-efficient and socially equitable. Sustainable investments generate income and work.

transition living labs
indicators stakeholders
renewable energy
consumption community gardens
transdisciplinarity
food products mobility
co-working transformation
sharing economy

Insights and findings regarding innovation, sustainability assessment, consumer behaviour and communication, and the appropriate institutional and political frameworks can support the transition.

For that reason, a number of research projects on various aspects of how to make the (German) economy more sustainable are funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and (BMBF) as part of its funding programme **Sustainable Economy**. The latter programme is part of the ministry's focus on funding social-ecological research. Within the programme "Sustainable Economy" 30 collaborative research projects, which show perspectives for a more sustainable economy, are funded for several years. The research projects investigate a variety of topics, such as mobility, sharing economy, soft tourism, sustainable diets and clothes. Hence, the projects cover a wide range of ideas, levels of action (from local to global) and methods.

There is great potential for thematic and methodic synergies between all of these projects, which should be used.

This is why the project „Scientific coordination of research projects on a sustainable economy“ (NaWiKo by its acronym in German) has been created. Ecologic Institute, Fraunhofer ISI and the Environmental Policy Research Centre of the Free University of Berlin (FFU) collaborate in coordinating the work of the 30 research projects dealing with various aspects of the transition and identify synergies and stimulating exchange between them. The project started in October 2015 and will end in March 2019.

NaWiKo has an advisory body, consisting of policy-makers as well as representatives of civil society and the business community. It is chaired by Prof. Dr. Bachmann, Secretary General of the German Council on Sustainable Development (RNE).

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