

Plenary speakers include

Jürgen Trittin

Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Berlin.

Nicholas Ashford

Director, Technology and Law Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge

Frans Berkhout

Chair, IHDP-IT Scientific Steering Committee; Director, Institute for Environmental Studies, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Oran Young

Chair, IDGEC Scientific Steering Committee; Bren School of Environmental Science and Management University of California, Santa Barbara

Guy B. Peters

Maurice Falk Professor of American Government; Michigan State University, Pittsburgh

William Lafferty

Director, Program for Research and Documentation for a Sustainable Society, ProSus, Oslo

Martin Jänicke

Director, Environmental Policy Research Centre Freie Universität Berlin

Richard Odingo

Vice Chairman of the IPCC; Department of Geography, University of Nairobi

Andrew Jordan

School of Environmental Sciences University of East Anglia, Norwich

Olivia L. Castillo

President of the Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production (APRSCP)

Michael Maniates

Associate Professor of Political Science and Environmental Science at Allegheny College, Meadville, Pennsylvania

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On behalf of the



Environmental Policy and Global Change Section of the German Political Science Association (DVPW)

2004 Berlin Conference

on the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change

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Institutional Dimensions of Global
Environmental Change (IDGEC)

Invitation to the 2004 Berlin Conference

We are pleased to invite you to the 2004 Berlin Conference "Greening of Policies – Interlinkages and Policy Integration". Featuring 32 panel sessions and 11 keynotes, with altogether more than 100 speakers from all continents and various disciplines, the conference provides you with an excellent opportunity to learn more about the state of the art regarding this major challenge to present and future environmental policy.

Thematic Outline

Problems of Global and Regional Environmental Change are by their very nature sector-related. Their solution requires therefore sector-integrated approaches of policy-making. However, thirty years of environmental policy-making at the national and international level reveal tremendous problems in furthering the case of policy integration and interlinkages. In most cases, environmental protection has been added as a new, separate branch of government. Consequently, the framework conditions of the environmentally most harmful sectors, such as agriculture, energy or transport, remain largely untouched. The same holds true for the international level, where environmental regimes mostly lack an integrated policy approach.

Thus, the challenge is to establish institutional provisions that allow actors to depart from the traditional model of fragmented bureaucratic decision-making and to pursue a more coherent approach. The 2004 Berlin Conference will highlight the main obstacles to integrated decision-making, discuss successful strategies and pay special attention to interactions between regimes and policies on the international and national level respectively.

Core Questions

Paper givers and key note speakers will provide a comprehensive overview on the following issues:

Analysis of policy integration in practice: What kinds of institutions are successful in strengthening policy integration? Which actors, instruments and strategies are the driving forces of a greening of policies? What is the role of law in codifying integration requirements? What are the implications for environmental policy - do we face an over-complexity of decision-making due to extensive integration requirements, leading to a weakening of environmental policy? In how far are integration efforts affected by economic and political globalization, the shift from government to governance or the transition from environmental protection to sustainable development?

Instruments and knowledge base for policy integration: Which tools are available for policy integration? What methods are available or being developed that allow for an ex-ante evaluation of possible economic, social and environmental effects of planned policies and programmes? What indicators do we need for such an evaluation? Which experiences are available in integrating the different domains of knowledge?

Multi-level aspects: To what extent are international regimes affecting the capacities for a greening of policies at the national level and vice versa? What efforts have been undertaken to ensure a vertical integration among the different levels of policy making? To what extent are consequences of Global Environmental Change taken into account in policy formulation, in particular with respect to developing countries? What mechanisms are successful in ensuring the coherence of different international regimes, notably between trade and environment?

Draw lessons from many case studies that focus on different policy fields and different levels of policy-making. This includes empirical experiences from policy fields such as climate protection, energy, water, agriculture or transport, but also more conceptual approaches to the organisation of government. Experts from all levels of policy-making will analyse how local and national governments as well as international organisations deal with the challenge of policy integration and interlinkages.



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