

UPDATE

JUMP-STARTING THE SDGs IN GERMANY: NATURAL RESOURCES AND SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

2 – 4 MAY 2016, BERLIN

10 more days to go! Thank you very much for your interest in our conference “Jump-Starting the SDGs in Germany: Natural Resources and Sustainable Consumption and Production.” To those of you who have registered, we look forward to welcoming you to Berlin at this, the first major event of 2016 on the 2030 Agenda in Germany since the adoption of the SDGs in New York in September last year.

We are all in this together! The programme and the sessions

The German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL), the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies e.V. (IASS) and the conference partners are looking forward to engaging and meaningful discussions with a diverse group of stakeholder actors, both from here in Germany and from a rich network of international partnerships.

Please take a moment to take a look at the updated **programme and our list of speakers**. Session descriptions, along with their programmes and contributors, can also be found on our **website**.

All eight dialogue sessions will take place in parallel, on Tuesday 3rd May, from 13.30 to 18.30 hrs. All eight of the dialogue sessions will be held in English with simultaneous German translation being offered in the session **‘A Science–Policy Dialogue on Resource Efficiency and Planetary Boundaries – Two Complementary Approaches for Integrated SDG Implementation’**. This session will be held in the Saphir room, which is the main plenary room.

We are looking forward to learning from you; and hearing your individual ideas, experiences and approaches on how we can collectively move forward with the implementation of the SDGs in Germany and internationally. To quote our German Federal Minister, Christian Schmidt, on achieving the SDGs:

***‘They can only be attained if we act together!
Partnerships are the main instrument for implementing
a truly transformative Agenda 2030.’***





Dinner Info

Please join us after the dialogue sessions on Tuesday **3rd May** for the conference dinner at Restaurant Auster, which is located alongside the River Spree. The restaurant is located in one of Berlin's architectural landmarks, a famous 1950s congress hall, now the House of World Cultures (Haus der Kulturen der Welt), a prominent centre for cultural exchange. A shuttle bus will be provided, between the conference hotel and the dinner venue.

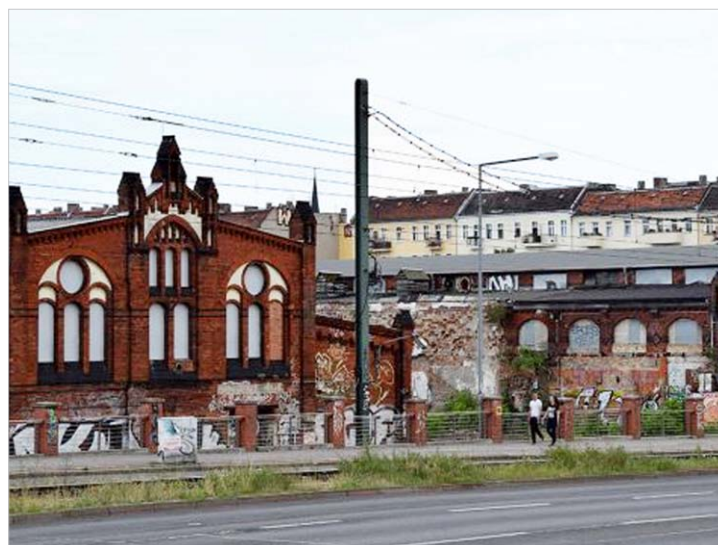
Photo Action

Please join us for the conference group-photo action, on Wednesday **4th May at 11 am**. The photo action will take place right after Plenary IV.

Where are we meeting?

The conference venue is Andel's hotel, which lies on the border of the Friedrichshain and Prenzlauer Berg districts, on the dynamic Landsberger Allee.

The hotel's location epitomises the dynamism of Friedrichshain. After the fall of the Berlin Wall, this predominately residential, working-class neighbourhood attracted students and artists in droves, who were attracted by the relatively cheap rents and squats. Today, however, as in many parts of former East Germany, numerous restoration works are under way and Friedrichshain, to the dismay of many, is becoming more gentrified.



© rbb-online.de



May 1st

Gentrification is one of the reasons given by some for participating in the anti-establishment demonstrations (and even riots) that occur across the city on International Workers Day (May 1st), which this year falls on the Sunday when most of you will be arriving in Berlin.

May 1st is host to many demonstrations in most cities around Germany, and these are usually small and contained. Berlin, however, is infamous for its May Day riots, which even attract tourists from other cities and countries! The district of Kreuzberg (which borders the other side of Friedrichshain, a few kilometres from the conference venue) is particularly notorious for its May Day protests and is best avoided. Please see the map on page 4. Together with the counter-events, which are intended to draw people away from any violence, many parts of the city are likely to be affected in some way by the protests, for instance by official road closures to permit organised demonstrations to take place.

Please remember that protests and demonstrations are an integral part of Berlin culture and are, in fact, a common occurrence on any given day here in Berlin!



© AFP



How do I get to Andel's hotel?

The closest tram (**M5, M6 and M8**) and bus stops (**M5**) are just across the street from the hotel, and will get you to Hauptbahnhof (Berlin's main train station) in around 20 minutes, and Alexanderplatz (which has a variety of shopping malls and restaurants) in just eight minutes. Tickets on the Berlin transport system (BVG) must be purchased prior to boarding 'S-Bahn' trains and the underground U-Bahn. Tickets can be purchased on-board buses and also on M-route trams .

From the central train station, a one-way ticket for zones A & B costs 2.70 Euro and is valid for all modes of public transport.

From Schönefeld or Tegel Airports, a one-way ticket for zones A – C costs 3.30 Euro.

In addition to the tram or bus, visitors can take the S-Bahn train to or from **Landsberger Allee S-Bahn station**, using the **S8, S9, the Ring-Bahn (S41 & S42) and S85**. The S-Bahn stop is a 2-minute walk from the hotel.

Further travel information can be found on our **website**.

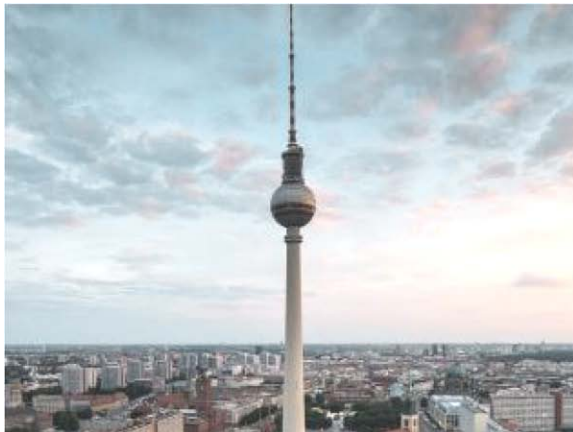




Local Attractions

Eleven minutes away from Andel's hotel, via the M5 and M6 tram lines, is the **Fernsehturm** or the **Berlin TV Tower** at **Alexanderplatz**. The tower was completed in 1969 by the East German administration (the German Democratic Republic, GDR), and at 368 meters is the tallest structure in Germany.

The **East Side Gallery**, located on Mühlenstraße in Berlin Friedrichshain is the world's longest open-air gallery (1,316 meters). It is the longest remaining section of the Berlin Wall, and was painted by 118 artists from 21 different countries.



Fernsehturm/Alexanderplatz
© visitBerlin, Photo: Artfully Media,
Sven Christian Schramm



A popular graffiti slogan on one section of the East Side Gallery, reading: "No more wars. No more walls. A united world."
© visitBerlin, Photo: Artfully Media,
Sven Christian Schramm

We look forward to seeing you soon!

The German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies e.V.

Conference Partners



With support from

