

MAKING A CHANGE NEEDS EVERY-ONE'S HELP - INCLUDING YOURS!

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Of course, you can also make a donation directly to Germanwatch

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Making a donation once – giving support for eternity

You can also give long-term support to Germanwatch by making a donation to the Foundation for Sustainability which funds the work of Germanwatch on a regular basis. More information:
www.stiftungzukunft.de or
info@stiftungzukunft.de

CONTACT

**Germanwatch
Berlin Office**
Schiffbauerdamm 15
D-10117 Berlin, Germany
Phone: +49 (0)30 - 28 88 356-0

**Germanwatch
Bonn Office**
Kaiserstraße 201
D-53113 Bonn, Germany
Phone: +49 (0)228 - 60 492-0

E-Mail: info@germanwatch.org

Internet: www.germanwatch.org

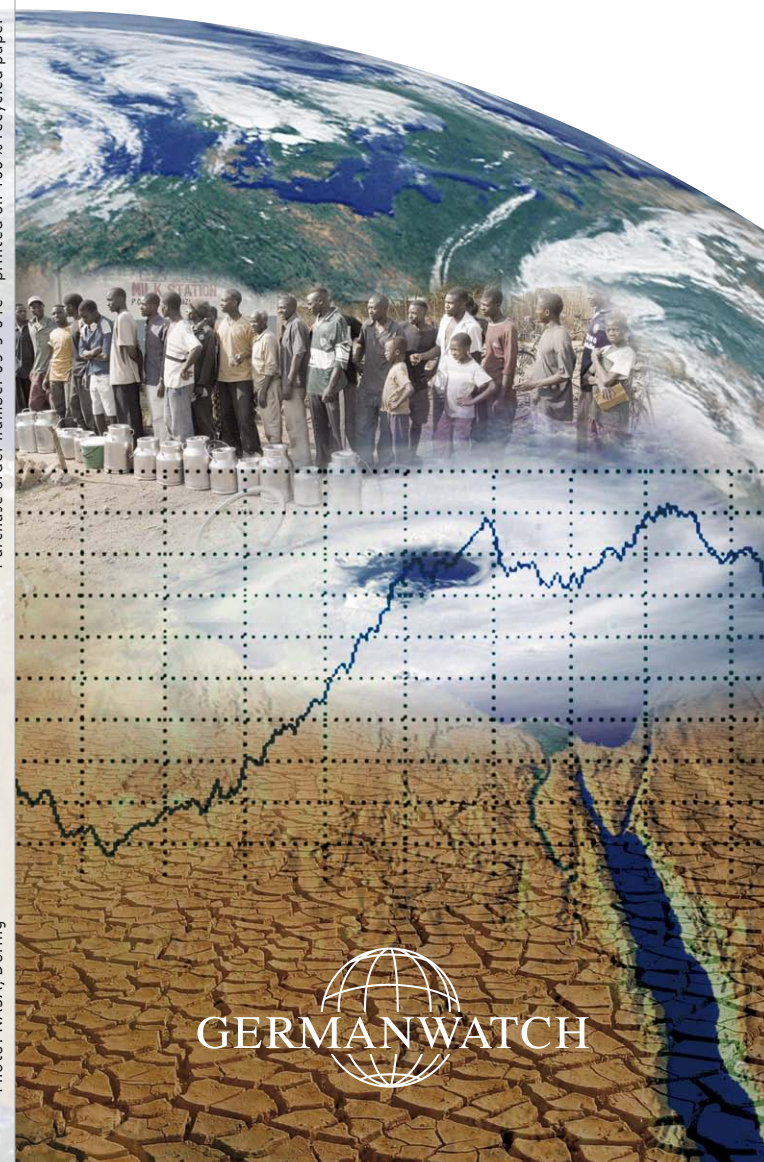
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...by the way:
Germanwatch is co-founder of atmosfair – after not flying this is the second-best climate protection option for flying.
www.atmosfair.de



OBSERVING FOR GLOBAL EQUITY ANALYSING AND THE PRESERVATION ACTING OF LIVELIHOODS



WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

“Observing, Analysing, Acting”

under this motto Germanwatch has been engaged since 1991 for global equity and the preservation of livelihoods. The politics and economics of the North, with their global consequences, stand at the centre of our work.

The situation of marginalised people in the South form the starting point for our engagement for sustainable development. The political and globalised market structures of the North, as well as their resource-intensive mode of production, which is now being increasingly imitated, are influencing human lives worldwide.

We advocate for a political, economic and social framework which can ensure a future for the people of the South, who are being pushed to the margins of society through unbridled globalisation and whose very existence is threatened by the loss of their ecological and economic foundations of their livelihoods.



The UN climate summit in Bali, 2007. Germanwatch is active in Germany, in the EU and worldwide in different political negotiation processes.



Germanwatch gives a voice to those whose concerns are heard too little: the people in the countries of the south affected by our lifestyles and our politics. Here: protests by farmers in Ghana against the EU trade policy.



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Photo: NASA, Döring

OUR GOALS

- ➔ avoiding dangerous climate change
- ➔ protecting the most vulnerable people in developing countries from the consequences of climate change
- ➔ the implementation of human rights including the right to adequate food
- ➔ making world trade rules compatible with sustainable development and environmental protection
- ➔ a clear and sustainable framework for the economy, in particular for multinational corporations
- ➔ appropriate financing of development cooperation
- ➔ a financial market adapted to both the challenges and opportunities of the future

HOW WE WORK

We pressure the relevant actors from politics and business to support these goals – in Germany, Europe and at the international level. On the basis of scientific analysis we inform the public, conduct advocacy work and education. We reveal the way to consumers how they can effectively contribute to global equity and to the preservation of livelihoods.

We network closely with individuals in the south, as well as with global development and environment organisations.

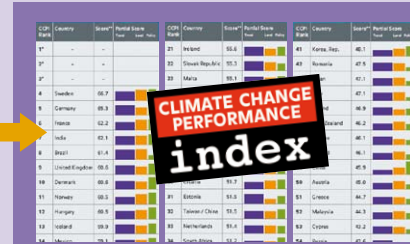
To achieve our political goals, we also collaborate with companies, labour unions, and organisations concerned with consumer protection. The principle of our relation with companies is: cooperation where possible, confrontation where necessary – depending on which strategy most effectively promotes the implementation of sustainability criteria.

About 25 people work in our two offices in Bonn and Berlin. The Germanwatch board is elected every two years by the members' assembly, and consists of up to nine people. Germanwatch is financed through members' fees, donations and grants from "our" Foundation for Sustainability, as well as through project funding from public and private sources. Germanwatch currently has about 500 members.

Would you like to support our work? Further information on membership and donations can be found in this flyer.

EXAMPLES OF OUR WORK

For more than 15 years, Germanwatch has been critically and constructively engaged in the UN climate negotiations. The Climate Change Performance Index is one effective instrument: published every year, it compares the climate protection performance of the highest emitting countries in the world.



Education is one of the keys to sustainable action. The Germanwatch Climate Expedition brings climate change to schools: with live satellite pictures on the already visible changes to our planet, and with lesson material, like, for example, worksheets and our own climate schoolbook.



The company union of the tire factory Euzkadi in Mexico became too insubordinate. The German company Continental simply closed the factory – a clear breach of the OECD guidelines for multinational corporations. Germanwatch protested together with other organisations.



The finance market is usually orientated towards short-term goals and often overlooks risks such as the risks of climate change. Together with partners, Germanwatch develops new concepts and advises rating agencies, investors and financial service providers like banks and insurers.



The trade policies of the industrialised countries often expose the poor in the South to ruinous competition, without any protection. Therefore Germanwatch calls attention to how subsidised food exports undermine the agriculture of developing countries, and develops proposals to work against this.



... AND WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Each time, the Climate Change Performance Index is the cause of debates in parliament and articles in leading media in many countries. Thus we contribute to the slow gathering of momentum in the race for more action on climate change – even if this is still much too slow.

The Germanwatch Climate Expedition has brought the topic of climate change closer to more than 70,000 school students – not with the threatening pointer-finger, but rather with fascinating satellite pictures. It has been named an official project of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

After years of confrontation Continental had to concede victory and transferred half of the factory to the Mexican workers. The factory was opened again in cooperation with a new investor. Germanwatch and its partners were awarded the international Public Eye Award for their involvement.

Germanwatch is co-founder of the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative. Their suggestions related to insurance for the most vulnerable regions against climate change are finding ever more agreement in the UN climate negotiations.

The awareness raising of Germanwatch and other organisations is showing its effect: even the German Agricultural Ministry is now pushing for an end to at least the direct subsidisation of exports to the poorest countries.

Germanwatch e.V.
 Schiffbauerdamm 15
 D-10117 Berlin
 Germany



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