



IN

INGOLSTADT SUSTAINABLE

SIMPLE ENGLISH

SHAPING THE FUTURE TOGETHER

EDUCATION & CULTURE
CLASSROOM
SUSTAINABILITY

CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT
& ENERGY
GREEN PLANS FOR
THE CITY

SUSTAINABLE LIVING
NEIGHBORHOOD
IDEAS



SHAPING THE FUTURE TOGETHER – LET'S GET IT DONE!



Christian Scharpf,
Lord Mayor of the City of Ingolstadt

Dear Ingolstadt residents,
We achieved a lot recently to make
Ingolstadt a good place to live,
including more:

- renewable energy
- green spaces; and
- resource protection.

We adopted the Sustainability Agenda in
2019 to meet the city's environment goals.

The first sustainability report tells you about
the progress and planned projects. You can find
the following in this magazine.

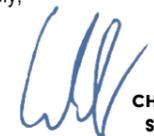
- How students and teachers work
sustainably
- The student sustainability association's
Steps Challenge
- An Ingolstadt meeting place shows where
you can get support
- Tips for living sustainably

This magazine teaches you more about the
city's sustainability efforts.

Thank you for your interest in the city. You
can give us feedback to tell us what you want to
hear about next. Scan the QR code on the cover
to fill in our questionnaire. Or ask the
Sustainability Office for a paper copy.

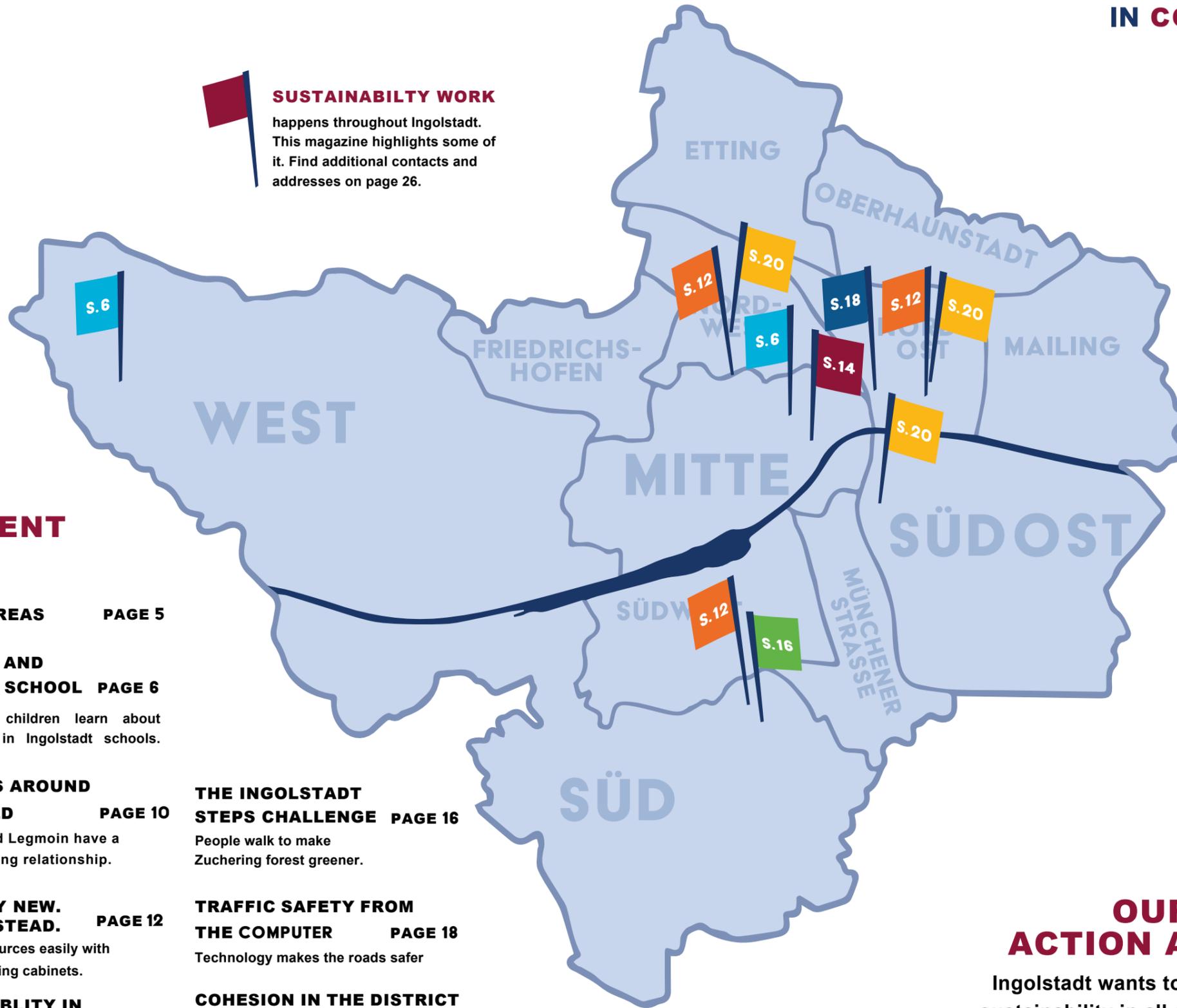
Let's continue to tackle Ingolstadt's future.

Sincerely,


**CHRISTIAN
SCHARPF**



SUSTAINABILITY WORK
happens throughout Ingolstadt.
This magazine highlights some of
it. Find additional contacts and
addresses on page 26.



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EDUCATION & CULTURE

Education is important for a sustainable life and a welcoming city for all cultures.



DIVERSITY & INVOLVEMENT

Ingolstadt provides a sense of community, diversity, and cohesion. Everybody's needs and potential are included.



CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

Sustainable living requires protecting the environment. Ingolstadt is committed to this.



ECONOMY & INNOVATION

Nature takes precedence over economic profit, so businesses become sustainable.



SUSTAINABLE LIVING IN EVERYDAY LIFE

A sustainable lifestyle has many parts. Ingolstadt discusses possibilities, thinks ahead, and gets involved.

OUR FIVE ACTION AREAS

Ingolstadt wants to strengthen sustainability in all areas of life.

The city and its residents have come up with five action areas based on the 17 sustainability goals from the United Nations Agenda 2030.



LEARN MORE

The Reuchlin-Gymnasium often holds concerts by the music study group. Find the dates at: dpaq.de/M4J27



The group "JAZZletics" from the Reuchlin-Gymnasium regularly rehearses for their performances. You can hear them at school festivals, Ingolstadt Jazz Days, or the Ingolstadt Civic Festival.

CREATIVE AND GREEN AT SCHOOL

Students learn with nature at the Reuchlin Gymnasium and the Irgertsheim elementary school. It makes them want to learn.

FLORIAN MÄNDL is a high school graduate at the Reuchlin-Gymnasium and a member of the group "JAZZletics".



THE ATMOSPHERE IS RELAXED. IT GIVES THE CHILDREN MORE CONFIDENCE TO SHARE THEIR OWN IDEAS.

The gong echoes loudly through the empty hallways. The classes at the Reuchlin Gymnasium in Ingolstadt are done for the day.

The classroom doors fly open, and students rush for the exit. The hallway is busy. It's Friday at 1 PM. Some people are starting their weekend. But a few students head to the second floor.

In the room next to the stairs, Robert Aichner (music teacher) has pushed the tables against the walls. A long string stretches across the room. Portraits of famous musicians from past years hang from it, including:

- Antonio Vivaldi
- Clara Schumann; and
- John Lennon.

Aichner leans against one of the tables with his saxophone next to him. He is ready for band practice.

Four bands meet every Friday afternoon to practice old songs and try new ones. They plan one hour for each band, but it usually takes longer.

"Sometimes the students ask to stay until the evening. They want to learn. The songs are often really difficult and go far beyond the curriculum, but I like involving them in what we're doing and not just shout orders," Aichner says. "Most of the time, I have to ask them to go home at the end,

so they don't stay at school all night," he adds, laughing.

The music room fills up slowly. Students put their instrument cases on the tables against the wall. They sit next to them and talk about the school day while tuning their brass instruments. Sheet music rustles in the background.

A student suggested a song the band "JAZZletics" wants to play. But before they can play, Aichner makes sure they know the basic format of the song.

"I think it's important that we work out the difficult parts together. I don't just write it down and ask them to copy it," Aichner says. "I want to teach them long-term musical knowledge. That way, they can recognize the same formats in other songs and know how to deal with them."

LEARNING INDEPENDENCE

In other respects, too, the music teacher The music teacher has a very sustainable teaching style in other areas too.

"I don't like giving my students as much knowledge as possible. If I did, they would recreate it in their tests and forget it later." He wants to offer enough knowledge to give the children appreciation, independence, and confidence.

Robert Aichner is a music teacher, coach, and mentor who gives young people space to learn.



JULIA MENIG is a member of the big band and the school garden group at Reuchlin-Gymnasium.



WHEN WE HARVEST OUR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, WE SEE WHAT WE HAVE DONE. THIS GIVES US SELF-CONFIDENCE AND SELF-ESTEEM.

"I want to encourage them to try things out for themselves and work on something. That way, they get to know their own strengths and contribute to the conversation. But I let them make mistakes so they can learn from them without getting bad grades. We get much more done and perform better with motivation and engagement. Pressure and fear aren't helpful." He focuses on the students' progress instead of performance.

Students at the Reuchlin-Gymnasium like how he teaches. Many young people are involved in a few groups like Florian Mändl from the "JAZZletics" band. The 17-year-old is in 12th grade and getting ready for his Abitur (school leaving exam). He says, "I'm going to miss it so much here. I love going to school, especially Mr. Aichner's classes and courses. He lets us express ourselves. The mood is relaxed. It makes you more confident to share your ideas.

Especially because he wants to hear them." Mr. Aichner is the reason the talented piano player wants to keep playing after graduation, even though he'll no longer be in "JAZZletics".

Also, Florian Mändl is committed to an environmentally friendly school life. He organizes environmental project days and teaches others about Fairtrade products and the economical use of resources.

His classmate, Julia Menig, finds these issues important too. The 13-year-old plays the trumpet in the big band. She is also a member of the school gardening group, where they planted greenery on parts of the schoolyard.

"We learn to take responsibility for our plants and take care of them," the ninth grader explains. "Once the flowers bloom and we can harvest our fruits and vegetables, we see what we've done with all the hard work. It gives us confidence and self-esteem."

BIG THINGS START SMALL

Even really young children learn about the environment and sustainability at the Irgertsheim Elementary and Nature Park School.

"We try to get the students excited about nature, creatures, and plants at an early age to make them aware of how to protect it," says principal Dagmar Spenger. "It works well at a young age because the children are more open-minded about it than they when they get older.

At Irgertsheim Elementary School, students often go outside and explore. For example, they look at the animals in the bodies of water nearby.



Other schools in Ingolstadt focus on sustainability too, including Fairtrade-Schools and "Eco-schools in Europe".

You can find a list of all schools in Ingolstadt here: dpaq.de/sK2zr



We make room for it in the elementary school curriculum.

For example, we talk about the forest in our local history and science lessons. But we don't just watch a film and fill in worksheets. We also go outside. That way, the kids remember everything they learn."

POTENTIAL IN SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

Campaigns such as the "Everyday Skills Week" teach children how to behave sustainably. There are also small competitions like:

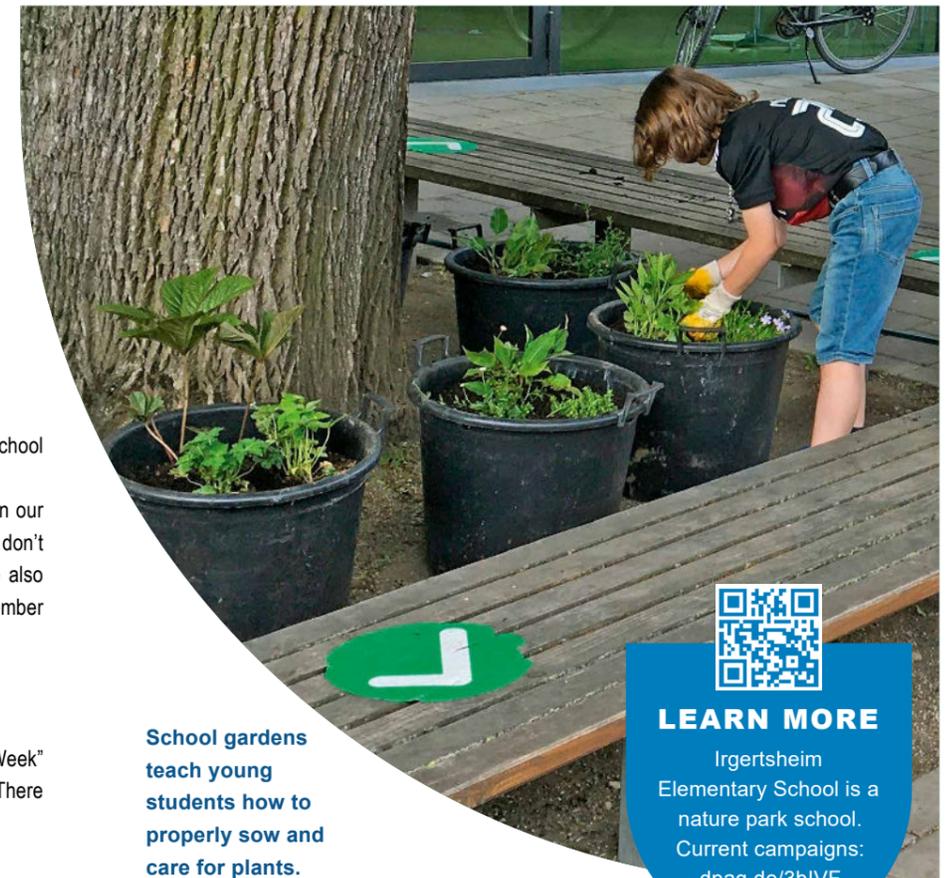
- packing lunches without any waste
- going to school on foot, by bike or by a bus without a guardian service; and
- taking part in the bean contest where the biggest plant wins a prize.

"The children are very inspired to do everything right and take good care of the plants in the school flowerbeds. Many students even have their own flowerbed at home. At the end, everyone proudly shares their harvest," says principal Spenger.

"A lot has changed in schools over the last ten years," he says. "Elementary schools have given great importance to the planet and sustainability. The fact that they are able to do their ideas is because of how close they are to the Altmühl Valley. Our location gives us an advantage over other schools. In other places, everything would be a bit more difficult because there isn't a forest around the corner."

Julia Menig, a student, says the surroundings and schools need to be greener. "There is too much concrete everywhere. It makes it difficult to plant. That could be better in future building projects," she says.

Until then, the schools are doing their best. A lot can be achieved even with pots and a little creativity.



School gardens teach young students how to properly sow and care for plants.



LEARN MORE

Irgertsheim Elementary School is a nature park school. Current campaigns: dpaq.de/3bIVF



QUICK AND EASY: GROWING MUSHROOMS IN COFFEE GROUNDS

Mushrooms are not only tasty, healthy, and versatile, they are also very easy to grow yourself without a garden. You can even use kitchen waste. Many popular edible mushrooms grow well in a mixture made from coffee grounds. Oyster mushrooms are good for beginners. Here's how to grow your own mushrooms:

- Rinse all containers and tools with hot water to stop mold forming.
- Pour damp coffee grounds into a plastic container. Make sure they are two days old or younger.
- Mix with mushroom spawn (mushroom seeds). You can buy it from special stores or use leftover edible mushrooms.
- Don't press the mixture too tightly. Make sure the container lids have holes for enough air flow.

- Keep the seed in a dark cupboard for three weeks. The temperature should be about 20 degrees Celsius.
- Use tap water to keep the seeds damp during the three weeks. Avoid waterlogging.
- Move the growing container to a cooler place (like a basement) when it is covered with white mushroom tissue. The temperature should be from 12 to 20 degrees Celsius.
- Keep it in the cool place for two or three weeks before they are ready to pick.
- Pick the mushrooms and use them in your favorite meal. Enjoy!

IN Ingolstadt, Grasse (a city in France), and Legmoin have been partners for ten years. Informal joint projects were started several years before. What do you think about working together so far?

CARINE NGUEGNIA It has been positive. I find the partnership very pleasant. We work together as equals. Over the years, a lot of trust has been built and even close friendships. We are a well-coordinated team and have been able to do many projects, especially with Engagement Global's help. People from Ingolstadt have been to Legmoin and vice versa. Young people from Legmoin started an apprenticeship through a new youth education center.

DARI SOMÉ We improved educational opportunities in Legmoin by working with the communities. We built schools and put a solar power system in Legmoin's marketplace. Now, students can do their homework there in the evenings. We also got a car to drive to places outside the community in emergencies. It helps us with the removal of garbage and other things. The people of Legmoin will not forget what the people of Ingolstadt have done.

IN What do you remember most about working together?

DARI SOMÉ My favorite memory was our first meeting. The trip to Legmoin was tiring for the Ingolstadt group. They had to sleep in the car, and we couldn't really understand each other. Even so, everyone was full of passion and motivation for working together.

CARINE NGUEGNIA My first visit in 2020 was good and bad. It was great to see what our work has achieved with my own eyes. The training center and women's education center wouldn't exist without the partnership.



The project groups have built new wells and schools in Legmoin.

LEARN MORE

Ingolstadt maintains partnerships around the world. Find more information about it here dpaq.de/qw1qz

PARTNERS AROUND THE WORLD

Ingolstadt, Grasse (France), and Legmoin (Burkina Faso) since 2013. The three towns share trust.



CARINE NGUEGNIA She is in the Ingolstadt city administration and looks after projects in Legmoin.



DARI SOMÉ is the Project Manager and Site Manager in Legmoin. He's the first contact for Ingolstadt.

At the same time, I had never seen so much poverty before. I cried at the beginning. Dari will remember that. The visit made me appreciate Ingolstadt. In Germany, we often complain a lot.

IN How have the impressions changed your everyday life in Germany, Ms. Nguégna?

CARINE NGUEGNIA I am more aware of how I use resources. Sometimes I have a guilty conscience about washing my car. So much clean water is "lost". The people in Legmoin have so much less than we do, and yet they always have a smile on their face.

IN What did you take from the project work, Mr. Somé?

DARI SOMÉ Many people in the world do not know how lucky they are. We don't have much in Legmoin, but we share everything. The people of Ingolstadt are very helpful. When our country was in bad shape because of a famine in 2021, they gave us money to buy grain.

IN What would you like to see in the next few years of working together?

DARI SOMÉ We must continue to support each other. Good friends do not let each other down. I hope that we will keep working together with trust. For my country, I wish for peace. Peace so that we don't have to flee across the sea and live a calmer life in Legmoin.

CARINE NGUEGNIA Both countries need political and economic balance to keep working together. We are starting a new project to build a welcome center for people in Legmoin who have to travel far to reach the youth education center and women's education center. The welcome center will give them food and a place to stay.

LEGMOIN AND INGOLSTADT: SUCCESSFUL TOGETHER

Legmoin is in Burkina Faso, West Africa. Around 15,000 people live with very little. Some people are 650 kilometers from Ouagadougou, the capital city. The help given by the partnership with Ingolstadt and Grasse can improve the difficult living situation of these people.

Do you have questions? Please contact: legmoin@ingolstadt.de.

Donation account: City of Ingolstadt, IBAN: DE48 7215 0000 0000 0009 27, BIC: BYLADEM1ING, Reference: Legmoin-Hilfe.

2006

Ingolstadt and its French twin city Grasse build six drinking water wells in Legmoin. Locals start using them in 2010.

2012

They build another six drinking water wells. Companies in Ingolstadt donate money to build solar panels.

2012/2013

Ingolstadt is a UNICEF Children's City. It gets donations of almost 500,000 euros. They build two schools in Legmoin with the money.

2014

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development helps build the youth training center "Centre de Formation des Jeunes (CFJ)". It offers training in:

- woodworking
- sewing; and leatherworking
- bicycle mechanics; and
- metalworking.

2016

Four future instructors from Legmoin go to Ingolstadt to learn how to teach.

2018 / 2019

The CFJ gets three new workshops. 80 girls start learning to sew at the CFJ.

2020

The Women's Arts and Crafts Center MFF opens. It employs and trains:

- widows
- unwed mothers
- young mothers
- rejected women; and
- abused women.

2022

Due to a famine and the large influx of refugees from other parts of the country, Legmoin faces a humanitarian catastrophe. The city of Ingolstadt and its population, as well as various institutions and groups, such as UNICEF and the Bürgerstiftung, donate more than 57,000 euros.



There is a walk-in recycling cabinet at the Spitalhof for working items. You can find other recycling cabinets at the Caritas workshops, the parish of St. Lukas, and the Viktualienmarkt.

The recycling cabinets make sure things are used for as long as possible to protect resources.

The cabinets come in different shapes and types. They can be shelves, display cases, or walk-in wooden huts, like the one in Ingolstadt.

You can take working everyday objects to the recycling cabinets for other people to use

When you use a recycling cabinet, you are making a good impact on sustainability. After all, many everyday items have a bad effect on the environment.

DON'T BUY NEW. REUSE INSTEAD.

Ingolstadt has many recycling cabinets. The walk-in wooden huts let used items find new homes.

JOIN IN

You can be a sponsor or donate a hut. Just email:

info@in-zukunft.de



SMARTPHONES & CO

- Around 1.35 billion new smartphones were sold in 2021 around the world. Almost 20 million were sold in Germany.
- On average, digital devices are replaced with new ones every two years in Germany.
- There are 53 different metals (like, gold, platinum, copper, and rare earth metals) behind a smartphone screen. Small-scale miners (i.e., miners that use basic tools) get the metals. They usually deal with poor working and safety conditions.
- Other devices with bad environmental and social impacts include:
 - laptops
 - game consoles
 - smartwatches; and other digital devices.



MEDIA

- Using second-hand CDs, DVDs, and Blu-Rays reduces the environmental impact of new discs and online streaming.
- Online video streaming generated almost 300 million tons of CO2 (carbon dioxide) in 2018. That's about one percent of global emissions.
- CDs, DVDs, and other media discs are made of polycarbonate (a high-quality plastic). Polycarbonate can be reused in computers and medical technology if it's recycled properly.



CLOTHING

- Making conventional clothing uses about 170 bathtubs of water per kilogram of cotton.
- Textiles make up around 14 percent of the global insecticide (a spray used to kill insects) market and about five percent of the pesticide (a liquid to control pests) market.
- Every kilogram of material uses up to one kilogram of chemicals that are difficult to get rid of. They often end up in wastewater. But they can go into rivers and oceans with very little treatment, depending on the location.
- Polyester, elastane, and other man-made fabrics cause microplastics (tiny pieces of plastic) when washed.
- Buying clothing and material in Germany makes CO2 emissions of around 135 kilograms per person every year.
- Pakistan, Bangladesh, and other countries that make clothing and textiles often have terrible working conditions and wages.

You can put a note for item drop-offs or exchanges on the outside of the recycling cabinets for things that don't fit inside the huts.

Food and broken items don't belong in the recycling cabinets. You can use other collection points for these things, like "Fair-Teiler" or social

Use the clothing container for unwanted material items.

Volunteer patrons keep the recycling cabinets in good condition. They go through all the items, tidy up, and decorate a few times a week.

"A resource-protecting lifestyle is important to us," says cabinet patron Michael Zinsmeister. "And we like that we can support each other using the cabinets with donations of clothes, for example."

Zinsmeister and his wife take care of the recycling cabinet at Spitalhof. They like that the recycling cabinets have also become a social meeting place. "Sometimes we stand there and guess what an item is," says Bärbel Zinsmeister.

The recycling cabinets have it all from kitchen appliances to musical instruments to wooden toy kitchens. "My favorite time was when I discovered an almost brand-new rice cooker," she says. "I gave it to our daughter as a gift."



THE QUIZ FOR THIS ARTICLE: dpaq.de/V87qo

SUSTAINABILITY IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Better overall sustainability starts with small things. Everyone can contribute to making the world a more environmentally friendly and social place. Changing old habits a little can be enough, even if they don't seem important by themselves. You can follow these tips to live more sustainably in your daily life.

EAT AND DRINK BETTER

- Eat vegetarian or vegan more often
- Cook meals with organic ingredients (fruits and vegetables grown without chemicals)
- Buy regional and seasonal fruits and vegetables
- Avoid buying foods from other countries
- Grow food yourself (for example, in a small flowerbed at home)
- Drink tap water instead of buying plastic bottles
- Save drinking water by using water from a well for your garden or flushing toilets. The city covers the costs. (dpaq.de/jbYJc)
- If you have babies, you can benefit from money off reusable diapers in Ingolstadt (dpaq.de/GO3v1)
- Avoid using plastic
- Separate waste correctly. Use the Waste ABC (dpaq.de/gBC0J) to help
- Sell, recycle, or donate items you don't need. You can give old laptops to the "Hey Alter!" campaign (dpaq.com/vMaby)

RETHINK MOBILITY

- Travel on foot, by bike, by bus, or by train
- Share a car with other people
- Drive at a constant speed as much as possible and don't race
- Travel by train instead of plane

CHANGE YOUR PATTERNS OF CONSUMPTION

- Buy products that last a long time
- Keep your current things longer
- Use second-hand items from flea markets or recycling cabinets
- Buy more organically made and fair-trade items
- Use items made locally
- Borrow everyday items (like drills, lawn mowers, barbecues) instead of buying them

AVOID PRODUCING TRASH

- Buy unpackaged goods
- Use your own containers and cloth bags
- Avoid products that are meant to be thrown away like to-go coffee cups, kitchen paper, and straws

OPTIMIZE YOUR ENERGY CONSUMPTION

- Turn off items that use a lot of power instead of leaving them on standby
- Use smart thermostats to heat and cool your house
- Choose green suppliers for electricity and gas
- Look for energy labels on new appliances
- Replace light bulbs with LEDs

VISIONS OF THE FUTURE: INGOLSTADT IN 2045

The path to a sustainable future for Ingolstadt needs big and small changes. The city will:

- have enough renewable energy to support itself;
- have a city center without cars;
- offer services that include everyone; and
- always improve eco-friendly practices;

to achieve sustainability.

Ingolstadt officials have already decided to do some of them. The rest were asked for by residents during the 2022 Bürgerbeteiligung or civic participation process. The city is discussing them. So, they could begin in 2023.

You can find the most important requests in the map "Visions of the Future: Ingolstadt in 2045".



FAIR I

The city comes up with a fair and sustainable plan for buying things like building materials, office supplies, and workwear.

FAIR II

The Viktualienmarkt puts up a display about fair trade.



CITY GARDENING

A sample city gardening project opens on Jahnstrasse. It allows the community to grow and harvest fruit and vegetables on public land for personal use.



CULTURE SUSTAINABLE

The city posts a guide for cultural venues to use to plan and host sustainable events.

DIVERS

Ingolstadt posts a diversity plan. It is based on the Diversity Charter which explains diversity in:

- age
- gender identity
- sexual orientation
- physical abilities; and
- mental abilities.

It will be signed in 2023

LOCAL

The idea of "Sustainable Neighborhoods" for residents works with the city to set goals.

NETWORKS

The city sets up the "Operational Sustainability Network". It will let companies in Ingolstadt share information and help each other when sustainability efforts grow.

CLIMATE-NEUTRAL

Ingolstadt is climate neutral. This means that the city saves as much carbon dioxide as it makes.



All businesses use electric vehicles.



NO CARS

The city center is car-free.

SELF SUFFICIENCY!

Ingolstadt is self-sufficient in terms of energy. This means that energy for heating and electricity is made locally.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

All public transportation runs on renewable energy.

INCLUSION

Each district follows a customized inclusion plan.

SOLAR PANELS

- All new buildings come with solar panels.
- Existing public buildings will be fitted with solar panels after getting an invitation.
- Existing private buildings will get solar panels where possible.



STUDY PROGRAM PLANS

Sustainability and democracy are important parts of school study programs.

Participation SUBMIT YOUR REQUESTS



You can keep sending requests for a sustainable future in Ingolstadt. There are mailboxes on the recycling cabinets.

Find all locations at: dpaq.de/iDybc

Discover more about the recycling cabinets on the two pages before the "Visions of the Future" map.

2023

2025

2035

2030

2040

2045



JOIN IN

The student association "DenkNachhaltig!" wants more sustainability in everyday life. Find the website here: dpaq.de/CANnG

Students and workers from the forestry office and city planted 100 trees during a planting campaign in the Zuchering forest.

THE INGOLSTADT STEPS CHALLENGE

Ingolstadt residents recorded their steps using an app for one month. For every 100 kilometers walked, the city gave the Zuchering forest a tree. They got 100 new trees.



Zuchering forest THE TREE POPULATION

The steps challenge achieved 19 million steps and 14,430 kilometers from almost 100 Ingolstadt residents last

summer. "I was out for at least two hours nearly every day," says Sophie Damme. She is studying for a master's degree in entrepreneurship and innovation at the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt. She helped organize the challenge.

In her free time, she takes part in the association "DenkNachhaltig!". As an event coordinator, she always looks for campaigns ideas that focus on a sustainable lifestyle and a mindful attitude to nature.

NEW TREE MIX FOR THE ZUCHERING FOREST

"I got the idea from an app to link a step challenge with a tree planting campaign," she says. "We asked the city, and they immediately said yes. 95 Ingolstadt people took part and recorded steps in groups of five for their health account and the trees at Zuchering forest," Damme says.

Damme, other students, and workers from the forestry department and city planted 100 oak trees sponsored by Ingolstadt last fall. Damme found it was the best time to plant trees.

"I was also surprised that in about 100 years, only two or three trees we planted will still be around," she says. The head of the Ingolstadt forestry office, Hubert Krenzler, explained why.

The Zuchering forest is roughly 70 hectares. It mainly has trees that shed their leaves every year (called deciduous trees) because they deal with warm temperatures and droughts better than conifers.

They also handle storms and pests better. Even so, conifers were the main type of tree for a long time. This was for economic reasons — they grow faster than and provide more wood. Climate change is forcing humans to think differently. So, the forest is returning to its natural roots — a mixed deciduous forest.

"The trees start a race the moment they are planted," says the forester. "The faster the trees grow, the better they get the light around other trees. The light lets them grow bigger roots and win over other trees." "Still, it pays to plant as many trees as possible in one area," he says.

KNOWING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FOREST

"Trees help air quality and biodiversity (the range of life). During their lifetime, they hold carbon dioxide and make oxygen. When they die, they are broken down by fungi and tiny living things like bacteria into humus. Humus is a natural fertilizer for other trees."

Using the wood for buildings or furniture also improves air quality and protects the climate. But behind cutting down trees are the economic interests in the forest, which Krenzler has to think about. He says, "Sustainability also means making sure that everyone's demands on the forest can be met for years."

Krenzler and his team planted 20,000 trees over 40,000 square meters in 2022.

Over the next years, the city wants to plant one million new trees. To do this, it needs space and help from the city and community.

"I like campaigns like the Steps Challenge. They tell people about the forest and its importance. Everybody at the forestry office is happy to take part," Krenzler says. And the "ThinkSustainable!" team is already coming up with more projects like the steps challenge.



The head of Ingolstadt's forestry office, Hubert Krenzler, welcomes campaigns like the steps challenge. He says they teach people about the importance of the forest

TRAFFIC SAFETY FROM THE COMPUTER

The city can use artificial intelligence to raise sustainability on the road. Ingolstadt is testing the possibility of this now.

Many people need individual travel. The economy needs it too. So, it's no wonder that traffic levels in Germany keep increasing. Passenger traffic levels are four times higher than they were 60 years ago. Goods traffic levels are three times higher.

As a result, other things are increasing, including:

- air pollution
- climate change
- the likelihood of road accidents
- noise pollution; and
- the number of traffic jams.

So, Ingolstadt is using digital technology to control traffic, limit harmful emissions, and increase road safety.

As part of the KIVI project (Artificial Intelligence in the Ingolstadt Traffic System), three busy intersections in the northeast of the city will be given digital technology. It records every road user in the area in real time, looks at the information, and improves safety with alerts. A sound or picture warning can be given on the road to remove dangerous situations.

In the future, KIVI will help to ease traffic in other areas of the city. After all, the more information and predictions, the better the traffic will be directed to stop traffic jams.

Our infographic explains how KIVI works.

1 Laser scanners on high masts record all the movement information of everyone on the road in real time. This includes people moving:

- by car
- on public transport
- on foot; and
- on bicycles.

2 Thermal cameras work with the scanners to find everybody giving out heat on the road. The cameras make sure people and motor vehicles are recorded. The scanners and cameras don't record personal information. So, data protection is promised.

3 The data goes from the sensors to a central computer at the intersection. This means that the information does not have to travel long distances and can be looked at immediately by artificial intelligence (AI). AI uses a system that always figures out predictions about safety-critical situations that could happen.

4 The AI uses sound or visual signals (like LED lights on the road) to give warnings when it thinks dangerous situations

between vehicles and other people on the road might happen.

5 In the future, the sensors could work with automatic and electric vehicles. For example, the sensors on the poles can give a bird's-eye view of the road and the speed of other vehicles. That way, the sensors on the road can make traveling safer and more comfortable.

6 Eventually, the information already given by the sensors can be helped by accurate data from other intersections with AI technology. It will make sure the city knows more about the traffic patterns.



Scientists are testing how artificial intelligence can make Ingolstadt roads better and safer in the KIVI project (Artificial Intelligence in the Ingolstadt Traffic System).

HOW INGOLSTADT'S TRAFFIC IS CHANGING TO BE READY FOR THE FUTURE

It takes time to bring sustainable transport ideas to life. Society, science, and politics must work together to overcome problems. Ulrich Schäpe, Head of the Office for Traffic Management and Geoinformation, explains what is needed.

IN What do you think road transport will look like in 20 years' time?

ULRICH SCHÄPE Society and the working world have changed a lot in recent years. Ten years ago, nobody thought so many workers would be able to work from home and that this would increase bicycle traffic or outdoor dining. In 20 years, I think the benefits of sorting out the roads will reach the population and it will be greener. Also, I think we will get climate neutrality.

IN What chances does this give sustainable transport in Ingolstadt?

ULRICH SCHÄPE Transport makes up about one-fifth of greenhouse gas emissions in Germany, and it is rising. Politicians know this and are trying to fight it. This is a great chance to increase smart mobility solutions.

IN What challenges do you face in doing so?

ULRICH SCHÄPE Cars are still status symbols in society. Changing this way of thinking and slowly changing transport behavior by teaching the advantages will be a big challenge. The practical parts of using electric vehicles must grow at the right speed too.

IN How can you reach your goals?

ULRICH SCHÄPE Society must be ready for change. The political system must help and trust the city administration. Also, we need research to make renewable energies perform better.



ULRICH SCHÄPE and his team in the city administration are coming up with new traffic ideas for Ingolstadt.

SOLIDARITY IN THE DISTRICT MEETING PLACE

There is always something going on in Ingolstadt's district meeting places. This is where people meet, get help, and make friends for life.



LEARN MORE:

Ingolstadt's district meeting places are part of the "Socially Integrative City" program: dpaq.de/3Zkdl

Neighborhood Manager Sabine Engert takes time for the concerns of visitors at the district meeting place.



Wind travels through the hallway as the big front door opens. Feet stomp on the mat to get snow off their winter boots and keep the cold out.

It's warm inside. Bowls of apples, tangerines, and cookies sit on a table near the entrance. It smells like fruit tea and fresh coffee. The coffee machine whirs in the corner. Building blocks, stuffed animals, and a doll lie on a colorful carpet.

Everything is ready for the family café at the district meeting place in the Pius district on this winter day in December.

LEARNING GERMAN AND ENGAGING IN CONVERSATION

The large white board is ready for today's German class in a different room. Four women are already there. They each have a folder with notes and worksheets in front of them. They talk about the weather quietly and almost shyly. Nilüfer Kosar and her daughter quickly join them. The lesson will begin in a few moments.

But they won't learn grammar or vocabulary today. Even though the district meeting place offers those lessons, they focus on talking and sharing on Thursdays. They start the hour by talking about their weekend.

They come from Turkey, Syria, Greece, and Canada. They came to Germany for different reasons and have lived here for different lengths of time. Their German speaking abilities are different, too. Even their ages, religions, and living situations are different. But they are all here to learn from and with each other.

"We want to help people connect with others from the neighborhood and practice German. We also offer support with administration problems that they don't know from their home country," explains the neighborhood manager Sabine Engert. "The goal is for them to be able to feel at home in Germany and our society in the long run. In other words, we want them to live sustainably here."

A POINT OF CONTACT FOR ALL

The three district meeting places in Ingolstadt do not have a specific target group. "We are open to everyone and look at what is currently needed and wanted," says Engert. "We organize the events ourselves or we make the rooms available to groups who want to work with us."

Many different people meet in the district meeting places. One of them is Fatma Abdullah. She comes here to share ideas with others and to find a connection.



STRANGERS BECOMING FRIENDS

It's women and mothers use the services at the district meeting place in the Pius district. They love the family café at the family support center. It normally happens three times a week.

You don't need to register to go to the family café. You can come with your children or without. And you can attend as many sessions as you like.

In the room with the cookies, people move the chairs around and pour coffee. Somebody puts a bouquet of on the table. The big window is decorated with colorful pictures painted by the visitors.

One of the women in the group today is Channy Eksi. "I love coming to the district meeting place with my daughter when you can't go to the playground in the winter," she says. "I'm on maternity leave. And as a mom I'm home a lot."



Ingolstadt's district meeting places OFFERS

You can find Ingolstadt's district meeting places in the Piusviertel, the Konradviertel and the Augustinviertel. You can use all the services, including:



- debt counselling
- pregnancy counselling
- language classes; and sports classes.

The meeting places also have lots of chances to meet other people in their family, senior, and parent cafés.

Find the contact information of the district meeting places and upcoming dates here: at dpaq.de/ZEXQ2



Many of the visitors to the district meeting place in the Pius district have a migrant background. German courses (above) help them feel at home. Channy Eksi likes coming to the family café with her daughter (bottom).

I'm home a lot. That's why I'm happy that my daughter can play with other kids here and I can talk to other women." The other women nod in agreement.

GETTING TO KNOW CULTURES AND LANGUAGES

Fatma Abdullah's children are already grown up, but she still comes regularly to the family café. "I want to get involved with society and improve my German. I've also signed up for a computer course. It's a lot of fun and grows my professional skills," she says. "I feel very welcome and comfortable at the district meeting place." She told a friend the same thing.

Like Abdullah, she comes from Syria. She is pregnant. She gets advice and support before the birth of her child at the district meeting place.

Many come here through personal contacts. "I heard about the family café from my neighbor. The neighborhood isn't that big, so I knew many of the women from seeing them around," says Eksi. "We might have said 'hello' while shopping or something like that. We meet outside the district meeting place sometimes. Especially in the summer at the playground. Friendships have really grown here between us and our children."

The room is busier. Someone is bringing more chairs in. The language course is finished, and the women come to the family café.

Nilüfer Kosar sits at the table with the other women. Her daughter runs to the colorful carpet with the toys. Eksi's daughter is already sitting and playing with a doll. The two girls know each other. They often play together here. "I think it's great that us and the children get to know different cultures and customs through the district meeting place that we wouldn't know otherwise," says Kosar. "Christmas and Easter are celebrated here, and Santa Claus visits. But we also celebrate Ramadan with Eid and the Feast of Sacrifice, or Yom Kippur and Passover. Everyone finds something for themselves."

The district meeting place considers different languages. "We had a fairy tale lesson. We read a short fairy tale in different languages." The head of the family café, Nadia Ben Amor, adds, "Afterwards, everyone translated it from their native language into German. It was interesting to see that the same story can be different in other languages. Names are changed to the country traditions. Even if the ending stays the same, the way there is often a bit different."

Personal connections are important to Ingolstadt's district meeting places. "The Corona pandemic was a very big challenge for us," recalls the neighborhood manager, Engert. "We tried online meetings. But it didn't work. Almost everything we had built up over the past few years fell away. Many volunteers and employees changed or quit. We are still sorting it out. But we are on a good path."

The war in Ukraine is a big topic at the district meeting place. In the beginning, the district meeting place was just an administration point. Many refugees came to get help with applications, forms, and documents. "Since then, we set up a German-Ukrainian family café. It always has a lot of visitors," says Engert.

Nilüfer Kosar is happy to use the services offered by the district meeting place. She comes with her daughter almost every day.



WITH EACH OTHER AND FOR EACH OTHER

It's not just the staff who look after people at the district meeting place in the Pius district. Everyone supports each other.

For example, language partner schemes let people learn from native speakers. Or a telephone service to help people through the pandemic or an illness.

"People take so much that many want to give back anything they can and want to provide," Engert reports. "Visitors give their time, support, and friendship to those who need it. I think that is sustainability."

THE SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

The landscape plan is meant to solve climate and nature protection with issues like farming and housing. But that can be difficult.



Participation TALKING ABOUT THE FUTURE

People could help design the new landscape plan in Ingolstadt during a “map dialog” meeting. They suggested bike paths, more green spaces, and fixed playgrounds.

They could name their favorite places for fun and relaxation or report problem areas online. Residents suggested over 50 attractive or problematic places from the categories of:

- nature and species conservation
 - resources
- sports and recreation; and
 - water.

The city will use the suggestions in the new landscape plan. You can find the results at dpaq.de/Fuhtm



Which areas are right for building new houses and apartments? Where can renewable energies, regional products, and organic food be made? How can the city center have more greenery to deal with climate change? Where is nature left alone?

These are just some of the questions cities must think about as they deal with the space, money, and environmental sides of sustainability. But the landscape plan deals with these problems.

DIVERSE KEY OBJECTIVES

The landscape plan is one of the most important tools for cities like Ingolstadt that are planning for sustainability.

It shows nature and landscape protection areas and states which habitats, bodies of water, and orchards must be made or maintained. Following the landscape plan makes sure the plants and animal life are protected.

All places in Bavaria must come up with a landscape plan as part of their land use intentions. It is required by the Bavarian Nature Conservation Act.

Ingolstadt’s current land use plan was made in 1996. It is being updated.

Climate protection must be thought about, according to the German Building Code. But sustainability also plays a main role.

To start with, the city planning office has worked with specialist departments to come up with ten goals that consider a wide range of topics. But none of the guiding goals is more important than another.

CONSTRUCTIVE SOLUTIONS

Nature and species protection, climate impact changes, and resource (e.g., soil and water) use are just as important as sports, leisure, and local recreation. The same importance is given to local farming and energy.

But the different goals do not have to fight each other. One example is the construction of the new Etting-Steinbuckl residential quarter in the north of Ingolstadt. Small, energy-saving residential buildings were put in the countryside. The flat roofs can be covered with greenery and used to make solar energy.



LEARN MORE

Find the goals of the landscape plan at dpaq.de/LnwTg

So, the plots are used properly while saving as much space as possible.

WORTHWHILE DEBATE

Practical solutions are not always so close together though.

This is shown by Ingolstadt’s second green belt. It plays a main role in giving the city center fresh air and other things. The old open space was reduced recently. But the city does plan to return it to its original size at least.

The second green belt near Haunwöhr: The new landscape plan will bring space, environmental, and financial interests in Ingolstadt together.

This is a classic topic for the landscape plan because it shows which areas are suitable. When redoing them, it is important to look at all the opinions of stakeholders in Ingolstadt in the best way.

A landscape plan is more than just a system for controlling the city. It impacts everyone. This is one of the reasons why the political and social debate about it is necessary. A landscape plan plays a main role in figuring out how people can live together sustainably in one place.

SHAPING THE FUTURE TOGETHER!

Ingolstadt has a lot of places where you can learn about sustainability efforts and get involved. Here are some of them.

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BÜRGERHAUS

The Bürgerhaus is the multi-generation house of the city of Ingolstadt and consists of two buildings.

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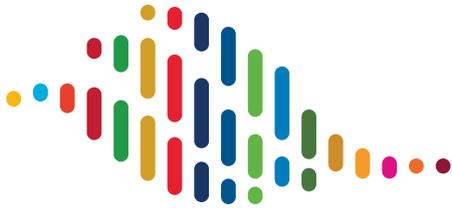
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