



# International exchange and networking for Resource Efficiency

## Purpose and background

During November 2019, 25 participants from the public and private sector from eleven emerging economies gathered in Berlin for the *Study Tour "Fostering Resource Efficiency and Climate Action: Examples from the public and private sector"*. The participants included representatives from ministries, business associations, international organizations and think tanks from **Egypt, Argentina, Chile, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, Thailand and Turkey**.



The study tour was organised by the *"Initiative Resource Efficiency and Climate Action"*, a GIZ project financed under the International Climate Initiative (IKI) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU).

During the four-day tour, the participants discussed measures how to promote resource efficiency and had the opportunity to exchange experiences with experts and representatives from other emerging countries as well as German and international experts. In addition to various lectures, the study trip also included company visits, networking formats and participation at the European Resources Forum.

## Feedback from participants

- 
- “ The study tour was a great opportunity to internalise resource efficiency as an important topic.
  - “ Appreciated the holistic approach on resource efficiency during the study tour.
  - “ The interaction between representatives of the private and public sector and with colleagues from other emerging economies was especially fruitful for me.
  - “ The networking with colleagues from other emerging markets was especially important for me.

## Programme

### High-level exchange and networking event

The study tour comprised various expert discussions with research scholars and key representatives from international organisations on resource efficiency.

Director Harry Lehmann from the German Federal Environment Agency (UBA) and Dr. Klaus Jacob from the Environmental Research Unit/Free University of Berlin lectured on the systemic connection between resource efficiency and climate protection and introduced the par-

Published by

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

On behalf of:



Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Nature Conservation  
and Nuclear Safety

INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE INITIATIVE (IKI)



of the Federal Republic of Germany



ticipants to conceptual frameworks of resource efficiency. Both experts conveyed the message that effective policy for resource efficiency should include three main approaches: educating and raising public awareness; capacity building in resource efficiency measures for companies; and a mixture of legal norms and market instruments.

Inputs from international organisations evolved around the topics of resource efficiency strategies in emerging markets and how to help businesses achieve resource efficiency goals and included inputs from the International Resource Panel (Janez Potočnik), the OECD (Shardul Agrawala) and the European Commission (Astrid Schomaker).

Participants contributed selected country case studies, inter alia, Jordana Carvallo from the Association of the Food Industry, COPAL, Argentina and Timotheus Lesmana Wanadjaja from the Indonesian Cleaner Production Center (ICPC), Indonesia. Guests from the BMU, GIZ and the European Commission took part in the dialogue.



### The 4th European Resources Forum

Participants also attended the 4th European Resources Forum (ERF), organized by the German Federal Environment Agency. The ERF provided a platform for the study tour participants to interact with European decision-makers and experts from the fields of policy development, industry, academia, civil society and the media. The sessions ranged from digitalization and sustainable resource use to strengthening fiscal and financial instruments.

### The European Resources Forum



has established itself as an important European discussion platform on the topic of sustainable resource use by focusing on the political and scientific debate on this topic. The ERF contributes to the development and implementation of common positions for policy making in Europe and internationally and is an important tool for communication on resource issues and for building networks at European and international level.



## Good practice company cases

The tour included visits to two companies that have adopted resource efficient practices, organized by the Centre for Resource Efficiency of the Association of German Engineers (VDI-ZRE). The first visit included Procter & Gamble, which has been operating in Berlin for over 80 years. Procter & Gamble have a corporate sustainability programme, which in addition to cutting edge facilities, includes the 'P&G Zero Loss Journey' waste management



system, resulting in zero waste going to landfill and material utilization rate of 96%. The second visit went to BMW AG Berlin Plant, where 26 of 29 different motorcycle models are produced. This plant offers state-of-the-art facilities and a waste collection system and makes use of water-based solvent-free topcoat and bio-based cleaning products for the components.

## Follow-up activities

- ▶ An Indian representative from the NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) reported that he classified research results and discussion points from an ERF panel on the importance of digitization for resource efficiency as so relevant and advanced that they were included in an official document "Status Report Circular Economy".
- ▶ In Latin America, the contacts between the participants from Argentina, Mexico and Chile continue after the study trip and exchanges on specific content-related issues relating to resource efficiency are planned. Here, the study trip contributed to the formation of an informal regional network.
- ▶ Some participants, e.g. the representatives of the industrial associations from Egypt and Turkey expressed interest in continuing an informal exchange regarding additional information and follow-up related to capacity building and discuss joint activities.





---

**Published by:**  
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH  
Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Address Köthener Straße 2-3, 10963 Berlin, Germany, [www.giz.de](http://www.giz.de)

**Project:** Initiative Resource Efficiency and Climate Action  
This project is part of the International Climate Initiative (IKI). The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) supports this initiative on the basis of a decision adopted by the German Bundestag.

**Contact:** Elisabeth Dürr, [elisabeth.duerr@giz.de](mailto:elisabeth.duerr@giz.de)

**Design/layout:** Additiv. Visuelle Kommunikation, Berlin

**Photo credits:** GIZ

**URL links:**  
Responsibility for the content of external websites linked in this publication always lies with their respective publishers. GIZ expressly dissociates itself from such content.

GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication.

Berlin, 2021