

DEKRA Sustainability Magazine 2026

Sustainability in Transition

Sustainability with a System

Future Needs Resilience

Projects Around the World

Board Preface

In a world that is changing faster than ever, the question is no longer whether sustainability is shaping markets and societies, but how consistently and credibly we act. For DEKRA, sustainability is not an additional business activity. It is an integral part of our DNA as an independent expert organization.

With the IMPACT 2030+ strategic framework, DEKRA is sharpening its commitment to maximizing its positive contribution to a sustainable world while ensuring that the company remains fit for the challenges and opportunities of the years ahead.

The three strategic DEKRA growth fields are closely interconnected:

Sustainability
Future Mobility
Digital Trust

The mobility solutions of tomorrow require climate credibility. Digital solutions require trust, safety, and responsible innovation. Sustainability, understood through a comprehensive ESG lens, provides the overarching framework: environmentally, socially, and economically.

Climate Action Requires Clarity

Clarity is particularly important when it comes to climate action. Through the DEKRA Climate Impact Program, we focus on measurable impact rather than compensation-based neutrality claims. We continue to reduce our own emissions while progressively transitioning our energy supply and vehicle fleet to renewable sources. An internal carbon pricing mechanism creates additional accountability and directs investments toward the areas where they can generate the greatest impact.

By our 100th anniversary in 2025, all sustainability targets had been achieved. At the same time, DEKRA further strengthened its role as a multiplier for sustainable development. With more than 500 services, we support our customers in advancing the energy transition, improving ESG performance, and transforming mobility for the future.

Taking Responsibility, Enabling Change

For DEKRA, sustainability therefore represents a dual mission: taking responsibility and enabling transformation. With our Sustainability Impact 2030+ goals, we have defined the next step on this journey. Our ambition is clear: by 2030 and beyond, we aim to create a positive impact as an independent and trusted partner in a rapidly changing world. In doing so, we remain guided by our purpose and promise: **Securing the future.**

Stan Zurkiewicz (CEO), Wolfgang Linsenmaier (CFO), Peter Laursen (COO) und Petra Finke (CDO)



From left: Stan Zurkiewicz (CEO), Petra Finke (CDO), Peter Laursen (COO) and Wolfgang Linsenmaier (CFO)

More Momentum for Greater Sustainability

Climate change is already posing significant risks to health, business operations, infrastructure, and financial stability in many areas of life. Sustainable action at all levels must therefore remain a top priority. Companies such as DEKRA play an important role in this transformation by providing expertise in Testing, Inspection and Certification (TIC). At the same time, DEKRA continues to embed sustainability within its own organization through strategic targets, concrete measures, and long-term programs.

Heat waves, ocean warming, droughts, extreme rainfall, wildfires, and melting ice: Looking back at the past two years, a growing number of concerning developments have become increasingly visible. What stands out is not a single record-breaking event, but rather the simultaneous occurrence and interconnection of multiple trends that tend to reinforce one another. As a result, climate change is increasingly becoming a broader sustainable development challenge, affecting ecosystems, human health, food security, water availability, economic performance, and social cohesion.

Sustainability therefore means addressing not only environmental boundaries, but also social equity, long-term economic viability, and the resilience of our societies. This holistic perspective is reflected in the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which provide a globally recognized framework for governments, businesses, and civil society. They also serve as an important reference point for many of DEKRA's sustainability initiatives.

Climate Change and Sustainable Development: Why Greater Momentum Is Needed

The challenge remains substantial. According to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals Report 2026, presented in New York in July 2026:



- Only 36% of the 139 measurable SDG targets are on track or showing moderate progress.
- 32% are advancing only marginally.
- 17% have stagnated.
- 15% have regressed compared to 2015 levels.

The United Nations therefore describes the period leading up to 2030 as a decisive final phase. The goals remain achievable, but only through significant progress in financing, international cooperation, climate action, technology, social protection, and peacebuilding.

Sustainability at DEKRA

DEKRA is committed to advancing sustainability both within its own operations and through its services. This commitment is built on the Group-wide sustainability strategy, clear objectives, and targeted programs and initiatives across various areas of action, which are presented in greater detail throughout the following articles. In addition, the magazine features selected examples from across the global DEKRA organization, highlighting how employees, teams, and business units contribute to a more sustainable future through their day-to-day activities and innovative projects.

Everyone Must Deliver: Sustainability Goals Across Business and Society

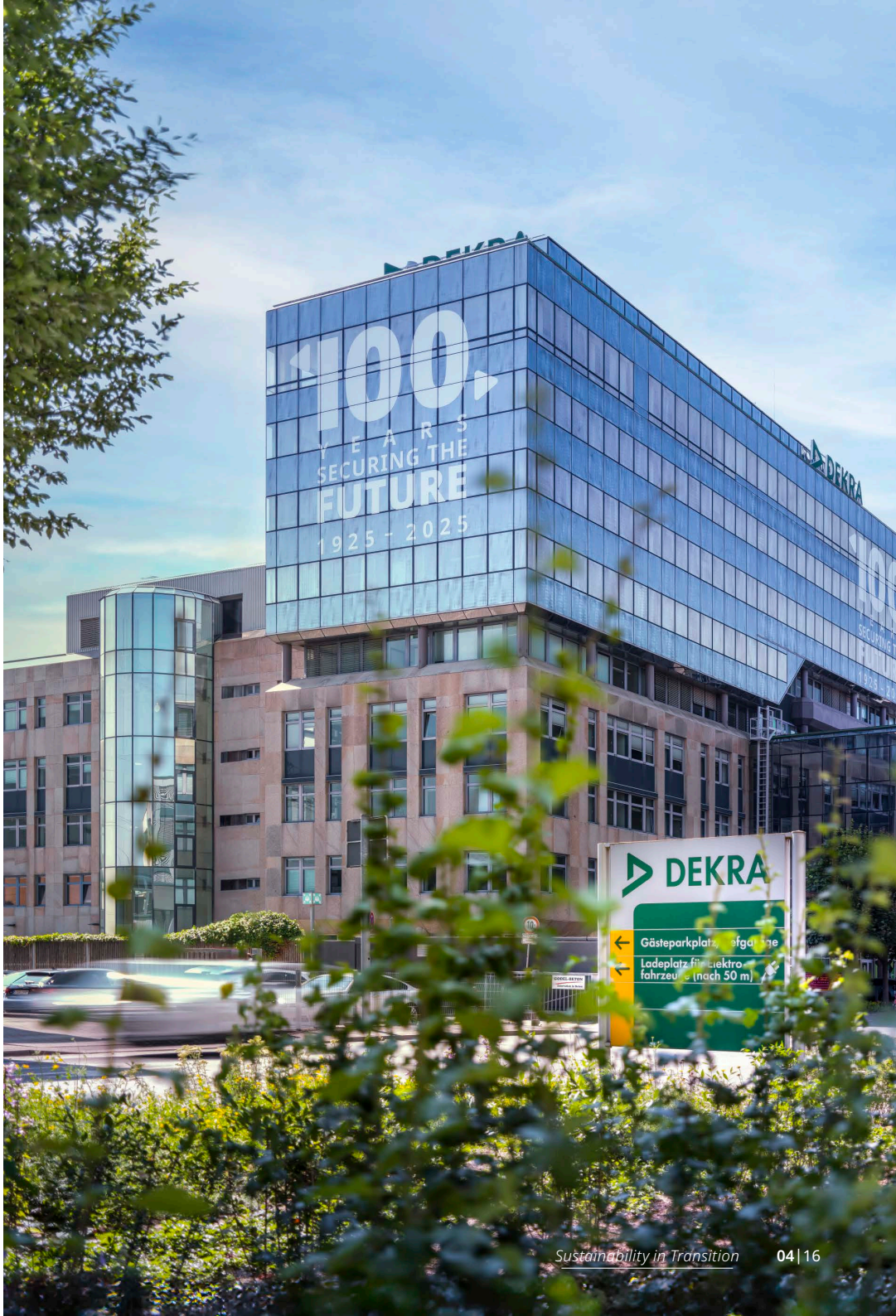
Today, sustainability is a requirement across virtually every sector: mobility, energy, manufacturing, supply chains, and real estate, as well as employee development, equal opportunity, and responsible consumption. All stakeholders are therefore called upon to intensify their efforts toward a more sustainable future.

The UN Sustainable Development Goals provide the overarching framework, complemented by political initiatives and regulatory requirements. In Europe, the European Green Deal establishes the pathway toward climate neutrality by 2050. At the same time, regulatory developments increasingly require organizations to systematically integrate sustainability into their business processes and report transparently on their progress.

Yet regulation alone will not create a sustainable economy. Reducing emissions and conserving resources requires investment in new technologies, more efficient processes, and future-ready infrastructure. Equally important is the ability to measure and verify sustainability performance. The greater the number of commitments being made, the more important independent verification becomes.

The Third-Party Principle Supports Implementation

This is where the TIC industry plays a critical role. Independent organizations such as DEKRA help businesses implement technical and organizational requirements and assess compliance in accordance with the third-party principle. Testing, certification, and auditing services based on recognized standards create transparency and provide credible evidence of where products, processes, and systems already perform well and where further improvements are needed.



Sustainability Services Are Becoming the New Benchmark: DEKRA's Sustainability Portfolio

What once started primarily as voluntary corporate engagement has become a core element of modern business practice. Sustainable thinking and responsible action increasingly influence investment decisions, products, supply chains, and business models. At the same time, expectations are rising. Organizations must not only define sustainability goals, but also demonstrate and continuously improve their impact. DEKRA supports businesses on this journey through a comprehensive portfolio of sustainability services.

RETHINKING ENERGY

The transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources presents companies with complex technical and organizational challenges. Whether it's wind power, hydrogen, or solar energy, DEKRA supports projects throughout their entire lifecycle—from planning and construction, through operation and regular inspections, to certifications and risk assessments.

REDUCING CO_2, DEMONSTRATING SAVINGS

Simply defining climate goals is not enough on its own. It is crucial to transparently track emissions, identify savings potential, and make progress measurable. DEKRA supports companies in areas such as CO_2 accounting, the verification of emissions data, energy management according to ISO 50001, and customized decarbonization roadmaps.

ESG IS BECOMING A MANAGEMENT TASK

Sustainability reporting requires reliable information and clear metrics. DEKRA assists companies with materiality analyses, ESG strategies, and reporting, and provides support for requirements such as the CSRD and EU Taxonomy as well as voluntary standards. This is complemented by independent verification and assurance.

CONSIDERING PRODUCTS THROUGHOUT THEIR ENTIRE LIFE CYCLE

Sustainability increasingly begins with product design. DEKRA assists with the independent validation of environmental claims. This enables companies to optimize their product design, reduce environmental impacts, and simultaneously pave the way toward a more circular economy.

KNOWLEDGE AS PART OF THE TRANSFORMATION

Sustainable business models require, above all, people who understand them and can implement them. DEKRA therefore offers customized training courses and workshops—including on sustainable construction, transportation concepts, ecodesign, climate strategies, and internal communication.

Sustainability with a System

Through its Sustainability Impact 2030+ strategy, DEKRA aims to further enhance its own sustainability performance while increasing its positive impact across the supply and value chain. At the same time, the organization seeks to incorporate the expertise gained from its own transformation more systematically into its services, supporting customers on their path toward greater sustainability and decarbonization.

"Securing the Future" became DEKRA's overarching strategic ambition in 2025, the year of the company's 100th anniversary. At the heart of this ambition is the commitment to helping shape a future that is both more resilient and more sustainable. A key question is how organizations:

- use energy,
- reduce emissions,
- manage supply chains, and
- assume responsibility for the impacts of their actions.

Sustainability is therefore no longer simply changing business processes. It is reshaping the very definition of future business success.
As part of its Strategy 2030+, DEKRA aims to achieve leading or at least top-five market positions in all markets in which it operates by 2030. This approach ensures that the company's future development remains aligned with evolving societal expectations, regulatory requirements, and global sustainability challenges.

Credible Sustainability Performance as the Foundation

Integrated into the corporate Strategy 2030+, Sustainability Impact 2030+ builds on DEKRA's previous sustainability strategy and continues to focus on four areas of action:

Environment & Climate

Employees & Society

Supply & Value Chain

Management & Governance

For DEKRA, sustainability is not only about fulfilling its own environmental and social responsibilities. A credible sustainability performance within the company also forms the basis for supporting customers through testing, consulting, and expert services related to sustainability and decarbonization.

The previous sustainability strategy was largely implemented successfully by 2025. Across the four areas of action, numerous targets were achieved or exceeded.

Carbon Footprint Reduced by 44 Percent Since 2019

Decarbonization has been at the center of these efforts. Since 2019, DEKRA has reduced its carbon footprint by 44 percent and transitioned the electricity supply of all DEKRA locations worldwide to renewable sources. Additional milestones include the launch of the DEKRA Climate Impact Program as a complementary approach to addressing climate responsibility and the validation of DEKRA's emission reduction targets by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi).

However, sustainability extends far beyond energy and emissions. DEKRA also placed a strong focus on its people. Global employee engagement increased by 20 percent compared to 2019. During the same period, the proportion of women in leadership positions rose from 17.1 percent to 22.2 percent, while the workplace accident rate declined by 39 percent.



External Ratings Provide Guidance

Responsibility extends beyond the boundaries of the organization. Sustainability requirements have been systematically integrated into procurement processes, and today all suppliers managed through Global Procurement are assessed against sustainability criteria. In addition, external assessments such as CDP and EcoVadis provide valuable benchmarks and guidance for continuous improvement.

Sustainability Services as a Growth Area

Sustainability is also a strategic growth area for DEKRA. In 2025, revenue generated from sustainability, ESG, and energy-transition-related services reached approximately €300 million. This demonstrates how sustainability impact and business success can go hand in hand: supporting organizations in their transition toward a more climate-compatible and resilient economy.

Building on these achievements, DEKRA has established Sustainability Impact 2030+ as the strategic framework for the next phase of its transformation journey. Further details on the strategy and DEKRA's sustainability targets through 2030 can be found in the latest Sustainability Report. What remains clear is that DEKRA will continue to intensify its efforts across all business and action areas, focusing on lower emissions, more renewable energy, greater diversity and safety, sustainable growth, and measurable impact throughout the entire value chain.

You can find out more about our sustainability strategy, goals, and progress here: *https://www.dekra.com/en/strategies-and-targets/*

Future Needs Resilience

With the launch of the DEKRA Climate Impact Program in 2025, DEKRA has intensified its efforts to address the consequences of climate change. In addition to implementing an internal carbon pricing mechanism, the program places a strong focus on actively supporting climate action and adaptation projects.

Climate change presents companies with a dual challenge: reducing greenhouse gas emissions while simultaneously adapting to a changing world. The DEKRA Climate Impact Program (DCI) was designed to address both dimensions through a holistic approach that combines climate mitigation and climate adaptation to strengthen resilience. Introduced in 2025 as part of DEKRA's 100th anniversary, the program represents a forward-looking climate commitment for the company's second century and aligns with DEKRA's purpose: Securing the Future.

The Two Pillars of the Program

The program has two pillars: DEKRA's own decarbonization and climate adaptation and the support of external climate-related projects:

- Within its own operations, DEKRA aligns its transformation roadmap with the 1.5°C pathway.
- Greenhouse gas emissions are measured, reduced, and reflected through an internal carbon pricing mechanism.
- Key areas of focus include energy and mobility.

At the same time, climate scenarios, risks, and opportunities help the company better understand the potential impacts of climate change and develop appropriate adaptation strategies at an early stage.

Supporting External Climate Projects

The second pillar extends beyond DEKRA's own operations. Through the DEKRA Climate Fund, the company works together with recognized partners to support projects that make a measurable contribution to the

DEKRA Climate Impact Program

The DCI program is an evolution of the former carbon-neutral on the balance sheet target and has emphasis on actual climate impact, via:

(I) Effective **internal decarbonization** in line with the (SBTi) 1.5°C-commitment

- DEKRA **decarbonization path** aligned with 1.5°C target
- Incentivized by an **internal carbon price** (ICP) mechanism with specific carbon targets & budget indications
- **Consequent emission reduction** with focus on buildings (renewable energies) and mobility (electrification)

BUSINESS AMBITION FOR 1.5°C

SCIENCE BASED TARGETS
DRIVING AMBITIOUS CORPORATE CLIMATE ACTION

(II) Innovative **external climate responsibility**, considering mitigation and adaptation

- Taking responsibility for remaining emission by **supporting external climate impact projects** (~20 €/T CO2e)
- Focus on (global) **climate impact** projects, in terms of:
  - **Climate Change Mitigation**
  - **Climate Change Adaptation**

  with measurable contribution to the **SDGs**

unicef WWF NABU

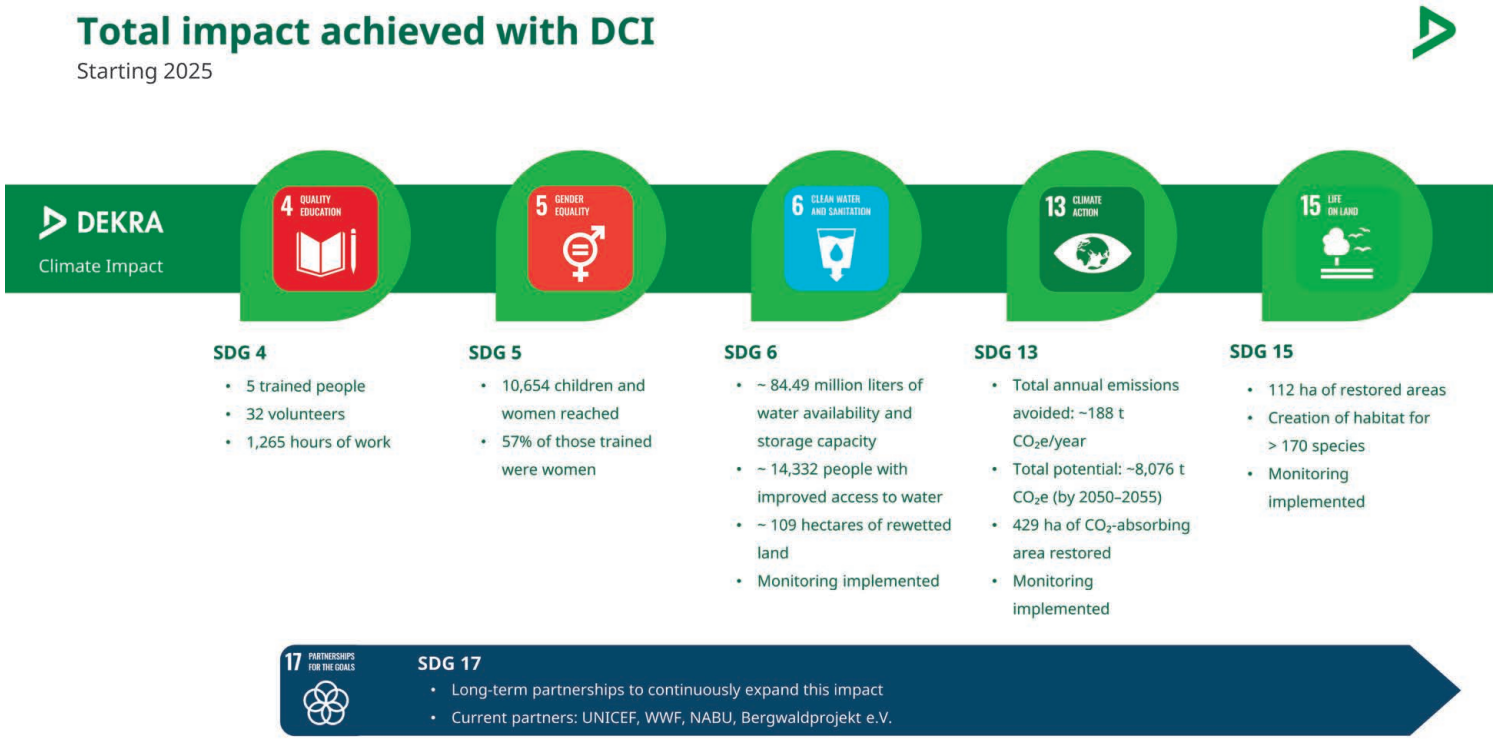
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These initiatives address both climate change mitigation and adaptation. Funding is linked to DEKRA's remaining greenhouse gas emissions but is deliberately not based on purchasing carbon credits or relying on traditional offsetting models.

Addressing the Consequences of Climate Change

The need for this broader perspective becomes clear when considering the impacts of climate change. Water scarcity can make entire regions more difficult to inhabit, while health risks, child mortality, and displacement may increase. Children and communities with limited adaptive capacity are often among the most vulnerable. One example is the partnership between DEKRA and UNICEF. In Ethiopia and India, climate-resilient water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) projects are expected to provide approximately 860,000 children and their families with access to safe drinking water. Over a five-year period, DEKRA is providing €5 million to support measures such as solar-powered water pumps, local capacity building, and modern water treatment solutions.

The protection and restoration of natural ecosystems also form an important part of the program. Together with the Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union Germany (NABU), DEKRA supports the restoration of peatlands in Germany, England, and Finland. Peatlands are among the world's most effective natural carbon sinks. When drained, they release large amounts of carbon dioxide; when rewetted, they can regain their capacity to store carbon and support biodiversity. Additional initiatives range from the restoration of forests and river landscapes in Brazil's Cerrado region, supported together with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), to peatland restoration projects carried out with volunteers from Bergwaldprojekt in Germany.



Making Climate Responsibility More Measurable and Transparent

The program reflects an evolving understanding of corporate climate responsibility. By 2025, DEKRA had achieved its target of carbon neutrality for selected emission

categories through voluntary compensation measures. With the Climate Impact Program, the focus is now shifting beyond the accounting-based neutralization of emissions toward the question of where tangible and lasting impact can be achieved. The emphasis is on effective action, both within DEKRA's own operations and in regions that are particularly vulnerable to climate change.

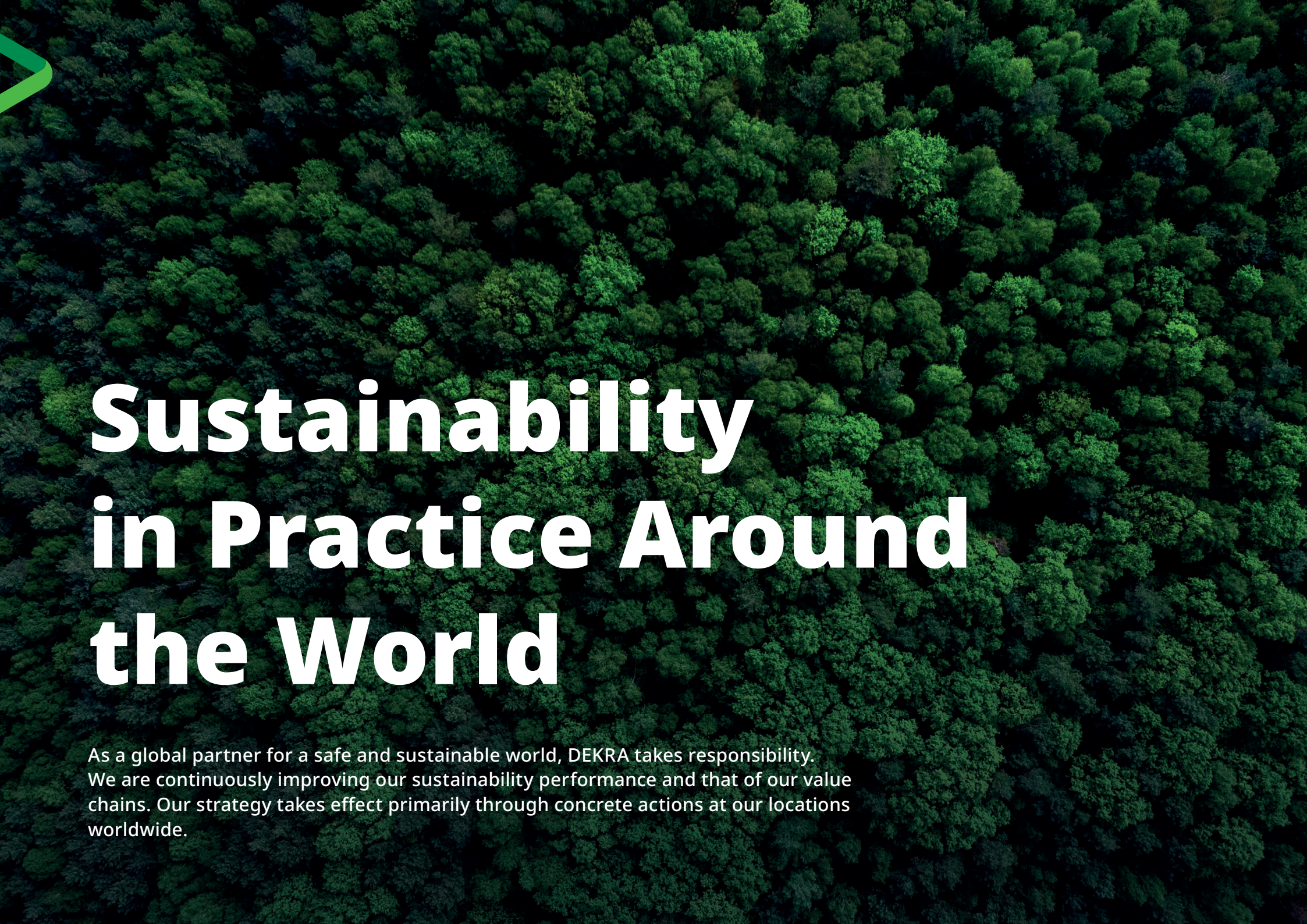
Measuring Impact

The impact of supported projects is evaluated through qualitative progress reports and quantitative performance indicators, which are aligned with the relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals. This approach aims to make climate responsibility more measurable, transparent, and credible. DCI is therefore more than a climate program. It represents a call to consider climate mitigation and adaptation as inseparable components of a resilient future. A society becomes more resilient not only by reducing emissions, but also by strengthening its ability to cope with the consequences of a changing climate.

Recognition for this approach has already followed. The program received first place at the German Sustainability Project Award 2026, was named a finalist in the Reuters Sustainability Awards 2026, and was nominated for the German Federal Government's CSR Award in 2025.

Learn more about the DEKRA Climate Impact Program, current projects, and latest developments: https://www.dekra.com/en/dekra-climate-impact-program/





Sustainability in Practice Around the World

As a global partner for a safe and sustainable world, DEKRA takes responsibility. We are continuously improving our sustainability performance and that of our value chains. Our strategy takes effect primarily through concrete actions at our locations worldwide.

Mainland China

Solar Energy, Sustainable Infrastructure, and ESG Leadership



In Mainland China, DEKRA continues to invest heavily in renewable energy and sustainable infrastructure. At the Shanghai Jiading Test Center, a photovoltaic system with a capacity of 2.629 MW has been installed across approximately 12,500 square meters. The installation is expected to generate around 2.3 million kWh of electricity annually. Between May and December 2025 alone, nearly 2 million kWh were produced and used directly within the laboratories. Sustainability is also a key consideration at DEKRA's new Suzhou site. The facility includes more than 1,400 square meters of photovoltaic installations, an expected annual electricity output of approximately 240,000 kWh, and 31 charging points for electric vehicles. For its contributions to ESG performance and the sustainable development of global supply chains, DEKRA China has received multiple ESG awards and recognitions.



Taiwan

Improving Road Safety for Children in Remote Communities

In Taiwan, DEKRA is strengthening its commitment to child road safety. As part of the Safety Child Caps Initiative, employees distributed reflective safety caps to children living in remote regions and conducted workshops on safe road crossing practices and blind-spot awareness. The initiative combines social responsibility with practical accident-prevention measures.



Americas Region

From Climate Progress in Chile and the United States to Lean Efficiency in Costa Rica

Within DEKRA's operations across the Americas, Chile has emerged as one of the leading examples of sustainability progress. Advancements in emissions reduction, resource efficiency, and local environmental partnerships are supported by strong governance structures and employee engagement. Examples include participation in the Chilean Ministry of Environment's HuellaChile program and the launch of a reforestation initiative in San Vicente. In the United States, DEKRA is transitioning its vehicle inspection fleet to hybrid vehicles to reduce carbon emissions. Meanwhile, DEKRA Costa Rica demonstrates how lean management approaches can contribute to environmental performance. Reduced waiting times at inspection stations resulted in a calculated reduction of approximately 693 metric tons of CO_2 during the first quarter of 2025 alone.







Germany, Switzerland & Austria

Energy, Biodiversity, Resource Efficiency, and Sustainable Mobility

Across Germany, Switzerland, and Austria, DEKRA demonstrated in 2025 how sustainability can be systematically embedded into daily operations and long-term business development. The award-winning Congress Center Wart combines modern conference facilities with a clear commitment to environmental stewardship. On-site photovoltaic generation, sustainable procurement practices, and food waste recovery through ReFood are integral elements of its operating model. At DEKRA's Stuttgart headquarters, outdoor areas were comprehensively redesigned following recommendations from the Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union Germany (NABU). Biodiversity-friendly green spaces, species-rich habitats, and measures to improve the local microclimate have transformed the site into a model for future DEKRA locations. At the Battery Test Center Klettwitz, sustainable mobility takes center stage. The facility supports the development of future battery technologies through environmental testing, extreme-condition validation, and safety-focused engineering services. Meanwhile, DEKRA's new Erfurt facility, completed in 2026, combines modern testing capabilities with energy-efficient infrastructure, including heat pump technology and photovoltaic systems.









Sweden

Engineering Expertise and Digital Services for Sustainability



DEKRA Sweden demonstrates how technical expertise can support sustainability across a broad range of industries. Examples include engineering assessments that enable the continued safe operation of decades-old grain silos, material fatigue analyses for Gothenburg's tram network, and the development of preventive maintenance programs designed to improve reliability and resource efficiency. Digital vehicle inspections delivered through the i2i platform help reduce travel requirements and resource consumption, while return inspections for electric buses in Umeå support the ongoing electrification of public transportation.

Netherlands

Community Engagement, E-Mobility, and Climate-Neutral Operations

In the Netherlands, DEKRA combines social engagement with practical sustainability initiatives. Volunteer programs such as DEKRA Doet support local environmental projects, while initiatives including Motopp help refugees gain access to employment opportunities and professional development. DEKRA's sustainability efforts also extend to its facilities and operations. Climate-neutral buildings in locations such as Alkmaar and Capelle aan den IJssel, solar installations at the Arnhem site, an all-electric company vehicle fleet, and a hybrid working model all contribute to reducing emissions. In addition, DEKRA Netherlands has established an internal Sustainability Community that encourages employees to develop new ideas and initiatives for environmental improvement across the organization.





Belgium

Energy Efficiency, Digitalization, and Circular Economy Practices

DEKRA Belgium continues to advance sustainability through a combination of energy-efficiency measures, electrification, and digital transformation.
Solar installations at the Herk-de-Stad and Ghent locations already cover a significant share of electricity demand. At the same time, more than 90 percent of the company fleet has been electrified, and employees receive support for installing home charging infrastructure. Digital appraisal processes and automated route planning help reduce travel requirements, while furniture and material reuse programs contribute to strengthening circular economy principles throughout the organization.These efforts are complemented by diversity initiatives and waste management programs that further support DEKRA Belgium's sustainability ambitions.

Denmark

Driving Further with Solar Power

In Denmark, DEKRA Academy continued the transition of its training fleet from conventional trucks and buses to electric mobility throughout 2025. As this transition requires substantial investment and time, existing vehicles were simultaneously upgraded with rooftop solar technology. By the end of the first quarter of 2026, solar systems supplied by Green Energy had been installed on 65 training vehicles across DEKRA Academy's 13 locations nationwide. The 240 Wp CIGS solar panels are mounted directly on vehicle roofs and integrated into the electrical system. They generate electricity both while driving and when parked, reducing strain on engines and alternators. Continuous energy generation helps lower fuel consumption, reduce idling, and extend battery life. At the same time, DEKRA Denmark is steadily expanding the use of electric trucks and buses within its training programs.

The Brabrand site reflects this integrated approach particularly well. In 2026, two vertical wind turbines entered operation as part of a broader energy concept combining wind power, solar generation, and battery storage. Together, these projects demonstrate how DEKRA is linking renewable energy with the expansion of electric mobility while developing site-specific solutions for a more sustainable energy future.









Morocco

Renewable Energy, Water Treatment, and Climate Resilience

DEKRA Morocco follows a comprehensive sustainability approach focused on energy efficiency, resource conservation, and climate adaptation. Nineteen photovoltaic installations generate approximately 110,000 kWh of renewable electricity annually, while 34 water treatment systems help reduce resource consumption and environmental impact. Additional initiatives include the digitalization of archives, recycling programs associated with document disposal, LED lighting conversions, photoelectric sensor technology, and the implementation of a new flood-protection plan designed to reduce climate-related risks across the organization's operations.



Portugal

Solar Energy, Digital Processes, and Electric Vehicle Fleets

DEKRA Portugal continues to invest heavily in renewable energy generation through photovoltaic systems, resulting in annual carbon savings of approximately 269 metric tons of CO_2. The digitalization of invoicing processes has reduced paper consumption by around 180 kilograms annually, while a complete transition of company vehicles to electric power is underway. Since 2026, these vehicles have increasingly been powered by electricity generated from DEKRA's own solar installations.



France

Solar Leadership, Social Impact, and Sustainable Buildings

DEKRA France has exceeded Group-wide targets for solar energy generation, achieving an installed generation capacity of 5.3 percent, enough to supply the equivalent electricity demand of more than 100 households. Photovoltaic projects have been implemented at locations including Trappes, Limoges, Sevrey, and Saint-Laurent-de-Mure, while social sustainability remains an equally important focus area. The DEKRA Move Charity Challenge engaged approximately 1,400 employees, generating more than 100,000 kilometers of activity and raising €10,000 for charitable causes. Partnerships such as the École de la Deuxième Chance help support young people facing barriers to education and employment. New facilities such as the Light House Project Lyon meet demanding low-energy building standards, while relocation projects in Saintes and Nantes prioritize the reuse of office furnishings, energy-efficient LED technology, and modern workplace concepts. During the annual World Cleanup Day, DEKRA teams in Bordeaux also contributed to local environmental improvement efforts.









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