

The ETH Domain's environmental policy

Guidelines

The ETH Domain fully acknowledges its long-term responsibility towards the environment. In their teaching and research, the institutions of the ETH Domain seek to achieve a leading global position in this area. All aspects of their services are provided in as environmentally responsible and resource-saving a manner as possible, and they act as role models in the construction and operation of their facilities.

Targets and implementation

The institutions of the ETH Domain define the principles and fields of activity for environmental management and specify indicators so that the progress of the ETH Domain's environmental performance can be measured. In each review period, they set shared environmental targets to ensure that their performance and the measures they take to protect the environment are constantly being optimised.

Principles, fields of activity and indicators

The following principles and fields of activity are defined in the ETH Domain's environmental management policy:

- The institutions of the ETH Domain meet all statutory requirements relating to the environment (legal compliance).
- The institutions of the ETH Domain measure their use of resources and optimise them in terms of environmental impact.
- The institutions of the ETH Domain construct and operate their buildings, infrastructure and green spaces in compliance with the principles of sustainable development.
- The institutions of the ETH Domain promote sustainable transport.
- The institutions of the ETH Domain take environmental concerns into account when choosing suppliers and partners.
- Employees and students of the institutions of the ETH Domain behave in a proactive and environmentally responsible manner.
- The institutions of the ETH Domain and the ETH Board prepare a full and transparent annual report on the measurements made, action taken and targets met. This report is made available to the public.

The ongoing development of environmental management in the ETH Domain is evaluated using the following indicators in particular:

- Efficient energy usage in infrastructure, teaching and research
- Reduction of direct and indirect emissions (quantitative and qualitative indicators)
- Efficient use of resources (water, paper, chemicals etc.)
- Advanced waste management with a high proportion of recycling

Responsibilities and organisation

The institutions of the ETH Domain are responsible for meeting the targets and implementing the necessary measures. For this purpose they have their own environmental management system in which the organisational structure, responsibilities, targets, actions, measurements and reporting system have been clearly laid down.

The ETH Board and its staff department assist the institutions with their environmental management, act as coordinators both internally and externally and are responsible for reporting at Domain level. The ERFA group "Environment and Energy in the ETH Domain" set up by the ETH Board ensures that experience is shared between the institutions, monitors how far they meet their targets and keeps the ETH Board regularly informed about the progress achieved (periodic reporting). The ERFA group has its own performance specifications.

ETH Board, Haldeliweg 15, CH-8092 Zurich, www.ethboard.ch

The ETH Board is the strategic management and supervisory body of the ETH Domain. The ETH Domain is made up of the both Federal Institutes of Technology, i.e. ETH Zurich and EPFL, as well as the four federal research institutes PSI, WSL, Empa and Eawag. The members of the ETH Board are appointed by the Swiss Federal Council. The ETH Board supervises the development plans of the institutions, is responsible for strategic management accounting and ensures coordination. It draws up the budget and the financial statements of the ETH Domain and coordinates the value maintenance and continued functionality of the properties. It is the authority responsible for appointments and represents the ETH Domain before the federal authorities. A staff assists the ETH Board in the preparation.