BUILDING FOR TOMORROW, TODAY.
A strong community of thinkers and pioneering doers.

Dear readers,

Welcome to the DGNB, an organisation founded in 2007 with one clear goal: to promote building environments that are quite simply good for all – because of the way they’re planned, built and operated, in such a way that they always take the interests of future generations into consideration. We set global standards when it comes to sustainable building. Within a few years we have developed into one of the most successful civil interest associations in Germany. This success is ultimately down to the energy and continual efforts of the honorary experts who work with us, who input voluntarily with know-how from a variety of fields of industry.

At the DGNB, the door is open to everyone interested in investing time and effort into sustainability, although for us, sustainable building is not just about energy efficiency. We’re also driven by issues beyond the current economic horizon, thinking about quality of life and the welfare of people.

As a non-profit organisation, our role is to bring together the vast array of different stakeholders – the people who play key roles in the overall value chain of the construction and property industry, ranging from small office businesses to major international corporations. All these people have one goal in common – they want to keep moving closer to our vision of an environment based on sustainable building.

In doing so, our focus is not on the interests of the individual. Instead, by pooling resources and joining forces, we work together on all aspects of sustainable construction. And in doing so, we make a key contribution to solving the challenges of our time – such as achieving global climate targets.

Join us in defining the shape of things to come, play an active role in assuming responsibility and benefit directly from our international network!

Prof. Alexander Rudolph
DGNB President

“The Council’s goal is to promote sustainability throughout the construction and real estate sectors and beyond, and to raise awareness among the general public.”

Section 2, Paragraph 1; DGNB Articles of Association

Achieving more together: the Board of Directors and the Executive Board of the DGNB (elected 2015).
Be part of a remarkable success story.

16 pioneers working in the construction and property industry pooled resources and founded the DGNB. Their aim: to foster sustainable building.

The DGNB was officially established on 25 July 2007 with 121 founding members.

The DGNB was named the official German partner to the World Green Building Council. Even at this early stage, the DGNB was appointed a member of the Board of Directors.

The first buildings were honoured with DGNB Certificates at the BAU 2009 trade fair in Munich.

The first courses took place to train as an official DGNB Auditor or DGNB Consultant, with 60 participants successfully completing their certification.

In 2010, the DGNB also established a strong umbrella brand for the international expansion of its system.

The green light was given for pilot testing of the international system and international training with the DGNB.

The DGNB introduced Masterplan Certification for similar or matching buildings.

The DGNB launched its Navigator, a unique tool that provides transparent information with the aim of helping everyone involved in product selection processes.

The DGNB started offering certification for urban districts within towns and cities.

The DGNB moved into new premises in the heart of Stuttgart, our Living Showroom, making sustainable building tangible and perceptible.

The 1000th DGNB Certificate was awarded at Expo Real 2015.

Beginning of a pilot phase for assessing the quality of designs and architectural culture.

Certification was launched for buildings already in use.

With over 1200 members, more than 2000 qualified experts and certified projects in over 20 countries, the DGNB is the clear market leader in Germany and a pioneer in sustainable building worldwide.

The DGNB started awarding the DGNB Sustainable Building Prize in collaboration with the German association Stiftung Deutscher Nachhaltigkeitspreis.

Ever since its foundation, the DGNB has worked closely with all members on establishing sustainable building standards. This goal – and the spectrum of fields represented by its members – are reflected in the DGNB logo with its loops that signal eternity.
Honoured with a platinum DGNB Pre-certificate: the new urban centre of Mongolia the Maidar Eco City.
Achieving more together.

Keen to make things happen? To be a pioneer and change your sector of industry? To do more about sustainability in our society? What better way to do this than joining with others. The DGNB is all about working together, making it the ideal platform for cross-industry collaboration. Work with us on shaping the key topics that drive our organisation. Join us on the vast array of projects we’re involved in, all of which have their sights firmly set on one key thing: the future.

Future living – future cities

Climate, energy, resources

Digital technology

Health, comfort, performance

Planning and building culture

The DGNB is a signatory to the Climate Action Plan 2050, which was drafted on behalf of German society.

Taking a stance and adding impetus.

The construction and property industry are in a continual state of flux. By working alongside you, we can shape change as it happens. Allow us to leverage maximum benefit from your foresight and know-how. Become actively involved in our advisory councils and committees. Take part in the many workshops we organise. Join us in drafting policy papers, stating our position and issuing guidelines. And in doing so, add important impetus to developments as they happen.
Keep up the DGNB momentum by adding your own expertise.

Our Certification System is built on a rock-solid foundation: the voluntary support of our experts and the work of the DGNB committees. You can also apply to become a member of the DGNB pool of experts and be actively involved in our project teams and working groups. It’s these groups that make the DGNB System what it is by continually moving the industry forward. Why not be part of this as we lay down new sustainable building standards? In doing so, you also benefit from important discussion and the interaction with other pioneers.

Shaping the future

- Active involvement
  - Committees
  - Board of Directors
  - Technical Committee
  - Committee for Sustainable Urban Development
  - Construction Products Committee
  - Real Estate Committee
  - Committee for Design Quality
  - Other advisory committees

- System development
  - Expert pool
  - Project teams and working groups
  - Drafting of schemes

- Active participation
  - Workshops on current issues
  - Drafting of position papers
  - Involvement in guidelines

Image: © DGNB e. V.
To show how sustainable building principles work in everyday practice, the interior design of our own premises is based on sustainable solutions, thanks to the support of 32 companies – each one of them a member of the DGNB.
Making a difference?
Tell us all about it.

Being a member of the DGNB and volunteering to work with us provides tangible evidence to others of your resolve to take responsibility – something that’s not only noticed by your organisation but also by society in general. You can communicate this responsibility by using the DGNB logo in your own materials or telling your partners, clients and the press about your involvement. Show how important sustainability is to you by featuring your organisation on the DGNB website. Want to go one step further? Become an official partner in collaboration with the DGNB at the BAU trade fair, the German Sustainability Award, World Green Building Week and the German Sustainability Action Days.

Keep informed and discuss key issues with us.

We define ourselves as a knowledge-sharing platform for sustainable building. As such, our priority is always to keep our finger on the pulse of current trends and ensure all of our members are fully up to speed with key developments. This may be through digital technology such as the DGNB website, our DGNB Blog or our social media channels, or during the many face-to-face meetings we organise. These include our DGNB Impulse Sessions and the open DGNB Discourse events. We also welcome ideas and suggestions from you – simply tell us what you’re interested in.

The DGNB has been awarding the DGNB Sustainable Building Prize with the German association Deutscher Nachhaltigkeitspreis since 2013.
Turning sustainable building into a tangible experience.

Our Living Showroom at the heart of the bustling city of Stuttgart was introduced with one thought in mind: to make sustainable building tangible and something to be experienced first hand. This can also work to your benefit as a member. By supporting us and inputting with your know-how and solutions, you can also win over business partners and customers. You can even hire our rooms for special occasions. We would also be delighted to conduct a tour for you through our permanent exhibition.

Roughly 2000 people visit the Living Showroom at the DGNB every year.

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Image: © DGNB e. V.
1200 members, 500 honorary experts plus a workforce of 40 people at the DGNB. That’s one powerful community with a common goal: to keep the vision of sustainable building moving forward.
Forging networks that keep you moving forward.

Looking for somebody with the right kind of expertise, with the know-how it takes to move your organisation forward? Then tap into our powerful network, the biggest of its kind in Germany for sustainable building. Our international network is also the ideal springboard for reaching out beyond the borders of Germany and linking up with people with common interests. You can also make use of our public speaker service to find the right expert to give a talk at one of your own events. Alternatively, allow us to introduce you as a speaker to other organisations.

Meet up with others in the DGNB community.

On top of the many events held throughout the year, we also hold an annual general assembly for all members to exchange information and views. For us, hearing what you have to say is what the DGNB is all about. You can also come and meet us at conventions or one of the leading trade fairs we attend – for example our special DGNB exhibition at the BAU trade fair, Expo Real, BAU Congress China, the guided tours at Light+Building in Frankfurt or at ISH. If our members are at an event, you’re bound to find us there!
Benefit from special terms and conditions.

There are many ways to cash in on tangible benefits as a member, whether you need certification, you’d like a DGNB Customised Event, you’re interested in using the DGNB Navigator, or somebody needs training as a DGNB Consultant or Auditor. As a member, almost all services and support offered by the DGNB are available to you at preferential rates. Why not book a tailor-made workshop, e.g. with a focus on sales strategies? Or enjoy exclusive discounts through our media partners? There are so many possibilities.

Image: © Sparkasse KölnBonn

Using the network

- Partner network
- Public speaker service
- General assembly
- Special exhibitions
  - BAU trade fair
  - BAU Congress China
  - Expo Real
- Tours
  - ISH
  - Light+Building
- Special terms and conditions
  - Certification fees
  - DGNB Customised Events including the awarding of certification
  - Product features in the DGNB Navigator
  - Training to become a DGNB Consultant or DGNB Auditor
  - Tailor-made workshops
- Media partners
  - Press advertising discounts
  - Free or reduced subscriptions

Just one example of a DGNB Customised Event: the official handover of DGNB Certification at the Sparkasse KölnBonn.
Interested in finding out more? Simply get in touch.

There are a number of ways for you to get in touch, including by simply picking up the phone. Alternatively, you may want to drop by personally at the DGNB office. We will invest plenty of time to talk with you about the different ways to make full use of your DGNB membership. We also run regular DGNB meet-and-greet days for new members. If you’re already a member, we hold plenty of workshops and webinars which highlight the current details of the many benefits enjoyed by our members.

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