

DECLARATION OF SUSTAINABILITY

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

This Declaration of Sustainability is a guideline developed within the “Phase Sustainability” initiative. Its aim is to enable different stakeholders to define sustainability goals during the early stages of projects in keeping with the concept of holistic planning. As a practical tool, this also makes it easier for all parties involved in the building process to gradually delve into the essentials of sustainability. By systematically guiding building owners and project clients through sustainability issues, it ensures focus is maintained on shared objectives.

This sustainability declaration cannot (and indeed should not) replace contractual arrangements. Instead, its aim is to offer input on the key sustainability goals that should be kept in mind in the planning process. These suggestions can thus be incorporated into considerations when drafting and planning contracts.

The Phase Sustainability initiative was launched by the German Sustainable Building Council (DGNB) in collaboration with the Federal Chamber of Architects (BAK). Its declared aim is to bring about a transformation in planning practice until sustainable building becomes the new normal! Architects specialised in all kinds of disciplines – as well as expert planners involved in any other related areas – are called upon to join forces and help foster this transformation together.

Why was this initiative started? Because we cannot afford to waste any more time when it comes to sustainable building, even though this is a highly complex issue. Because there are plenty of climate manifestos and non-binding lists of signatures – but in the building sector, nobody can solve this issue alone. Because we can all learn sustainable building step by step. Because with sustainability, we need to work together in acquiring, building and sharing know-how, experience and expertise. Because this requires strong people who are willing to take the initiative, form partnerships and provide support – plus many, many more committed people who want to join us on this journey.

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