



City of Munich

**Department of Labor and  
Economic Development**

**Department of Public  
Health and Environment**

# 20 years'

## ECOPROFIT Germany 1998 – 2018 Summary of Results



## 20 Years' ECOPROFIT – Main Results

ECOPROFIT is a local government program that provides smart environmental management solutions for local companies. Originally developed in Graz, Austria, it has been in use in the Bavarian capital since 1998. Today, more than 100 municipalities in Germany use ECOPROFIT in cooperation with over 4,000 accredited companies. What makes ECOPROFIT unique is that everyone works together: local governments, cooperation partners, companies and their staff. Anyone who is serious about conserving resources, mitigating climate change and advancing sustainability must pursue their goals constantly and with considerable commitment. Which is precisely what ECOPROFIT is all about: This environment management system has a practical, hands-on focus, concentrates on cutting-edge technologies and optimal organization, and as such yields successful results for companies in three ways:

First, ECOPROFIT reduces consumption of energy and raw materials, thereby cutting costs.

Second, ECOPROFIT makes companies more competitive and improves their image.

Third, ECOPROFIT motivates employees to work together to protect the environment.

Over the past two decades, the companies that take part have put potential for sustainable management to good use, adopting a wide range of measures to improve energy and resource efficiency and even enhance biodiversity. The underlying assumption has always been that measures should not yield savings only for a year, but on average for four years. In doing so, companies have trod new paths, developed new structures and optimized processes.

In Germany, ECOPROFIT has delivered the following achievements since 1998:

**7 million tonnes** less CO<sub>2</sub> have been produced – equivalent to the CO<sub>2</sub> storage capacity of nearly 5% of Germany's forested areas

**5 terawatt hours'** less electricity consumed – enough to supply 75,000 households for 20 years

**5 terawatt hours'** heating energy saved – enough to keep 22,000 apartments warm for 20 years

**880 million kilowatt hours'** less fuel consumed – enough to circumnavigate the Earth 800,000 times

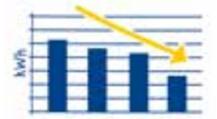
More than **1 million tonnes** of waste avoided

More than **22 million cubic meters** of water saved – enough to fill more than 9,000 Olympic swimming pools

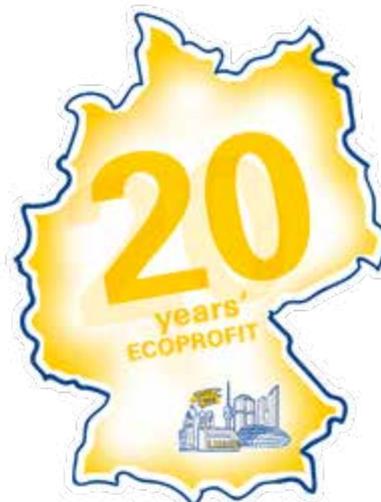
and, in total,

**1.3 billion** euros invested in protecting the environment and mitigating climate change,

while costs of **1.1 billion** euros have been saved.



ECOPROFIT is more than just a local platform for environmental protection and sustainability: It is also an important point of departure for supra-regional initiatives. Since 2016, ECOPROFIT has been a recognized format within the framework of the national "Energy Efficiency Networks" backed by federal government and business associations.



Special thanks are due to the City of Graz, capital of the Austrian province of Styria, to Graz-based consulting firm bit management Beratung GmbH, and to the staff of the ECOPROFIT branches throughout Germany. The local governments that give their backing to ECOPROFIT are grateful for the support of the ECOPROFIT cooperation partners, including the Chambers of Commerce and Industry, local utilities and waste management companies, other institutions like Effizienz-Agentur NRW and EnergieAgentur.NRW, as well as various consultancies and advisory experts. A debt of gratitude is also owed to the regional environment ministries – such as those in Bavaria, North

Rhine-Westphalia, Saxonia and Thuringia – that provide financial and other support to ECOPROFIT. Looking at how ECOPROFIT has constantly grown and developed, special recognition is likewise due to the German cities and rural districts that, in supporting the program, have demonstrated exceptional dedication over the past two decades, actively engaging with the ECOPROFIT network in Germany under the leadership of the City of Munich.

Plans exist to develop ECOPROFIT into a tool of sustainability management to ensure that the program loses nothing of its relevance and validity going forward.



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