

## We network networks

You can find detailed information on the Transfer-21 programme on the Internet. Teaching materials, tests and texts for discussion are available on the site. It takes just a couple of mouse clicks to contact everyone involved in the programme and beyond.  
[www.transfer-21.de](http://www.transfer-21.de) is an essential website in education for sustainable development.

### News

- News and dates
- Order the newsletter
- Press releases

### Programme

- Aims, basis and structure
- The future and education for sustainable development
- Gestaltungskompetenz—'shaping competence' and its constituent competences
- Information on the 'multiplier' programme

### People

- Contacts for the different federal states and the coordination office
- Database with details on all participating schools
- Addresses of cooperation partners and experts

### Materials

- Teaching and workshop materials for download
- Recommendations on teaching materials from other providers, including order form

[www.transfer-21.de](http://www.transfer-21.de)

## Contact us



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Programm  
**Transfer-21**  
Bildung für eine  
nachhaltige Entwicklung

## We shape the future together

Education for sustainable development





## We keep our eyes open

At the end of January 2007, Hurricane Kyrill swept its message across Europe: something serious is up with the world. This storm was the culmination of one of the mildest winters in the northern hemisphere since records began. A couple of days later, experts from the United Nations explained just what was going on: climate change is now in full swing.

We have known about this diagnosis for years now. We also know what mankind as a whole and every individual can do about it. As early as 1992, almost all of the nations of the world signed up to the principles of Agenda 21, the programme of action for the world in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

A storm of indignation tears across the country whenever there is talk of pupils' unwillingness to learn, or even of violence at school. Usually, it only takes one incident to make the problem a major issue. But possible solutions to the problem lie beyond the scope of headlines and soundbites.



In a world of uncertainty, school life has become more complicated. And the competition is growing: computers, games consoles, television and mobile phones lay unlimited claims on the attention of children and young people.

The findings of international comparative studies such as PISA and IGLU show up the consequences. Under pressure from the media, simplistic prescriptions are often made out and requirements are imposed on schools. These measures may target learning contents and teaching quality, or monitor success, but the criteria are often skewed by underlying interests or left wholly unclear. When schools put their quality to the test, being the best is often not their only goal: given falling pupil numbers, many are fighting for survival.



## We are doing something

For us, the future began quite some time ago. Since the 1990s, we have successfully sought out ways to get the themes of sustainable development across to pupils. Working together with teachers, educationalists and authorities in the federal states, we create teaching materials and methodologies to transmit *Gestaltungskompetenz*—‘shaping competence’—to children and young people.

*Gestaltungskompetenz* is a complete package of the competences required to shape the future with your own hands. This approach springs from Agenda 21. The Agenda was adopted in 1992 at the World Summit for Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro. Even back then, the summit showed the problems facing the planet and how to react to them. Education for sustainable development has already gone a step further: the stakeholders of tomorrow should not just react, but act—as should, ideally, the stakeholders of today.

## We are part of it

*“Our pupils have improved their social skills by dealing with others—including outside school.”*

*Bärbel Liebscher, headteacher, Wittenburg*

*“By passing on our experiences to others, we would like to give them courage to set out on a scenic, but also long and often rocky road.”*

*Lothar Nagel, headteacher, Cottbus*

*“Thinking ecologically, working in an interdisciplinary manner and passing on Gestaltungskompetenz are all part of our school life.”*

*Marga Feldenz, headteacher, Merzig*



## We create prospects

School development, school profiling and school programmes have been in discussion since the mid-1990s. Education for sustainable development has taken up these ideas for reform. For example, as part of the BLK's “21” Programme (1999–2004) the debate on school quality was brought forward, and an important instrument was developed further: the sustainability audit. The audit certificate enables schools to show just how sustainable they are. Transfer-21 helps schools to set the right goals and to achieve them. Management systems create prospects for all concerned—school, staff and pupils. In the foreground, however, is the continuing development of the statutory curriculum and school life, to make them fit for sustainable development.

## We have plenty in store

Experienced teaching staff have developed their own materials for Transfer-21 as part of school projects, and tested them with their pupils. The range of topics runs from protecting the natural basis for life, via sustainable forms of management and regional development, right through to international and intercultural cooperation.

Together with the Programme's technical board, representatives of the federal states have classified and systematised the materials and learning methods in Transfer-21 working groups. This has brought out links to the curriculum and teaching frameworks, setting horizons of expectation and providing appropriate tasks.



Transfer-21 also has teaching materials for teacher training which cover current issues in line with the educational standards of Agenda 21. In the classroom, trainee teachers can count on special support—they are the teachers of the future.

Developed and tested by professional teachers:  
teaching materials at [www.transfer-21.de](http://www.transfer-21.de)