



Initiative

Energieeffizienz- und
Klimaschutz-Netzwerke

Together

for more energy efficiency
and climate action

Find a network to
join now!

Visit the interactive map at
www.effizienznetzwerke.org

The Networks Initiative success story

Energy efficiency is a key precondition for the success of the energy transition and for achieving the energy and climate policy targets of the Federal Republic of Germany. With this in mind, the Federal Government – along with associations and organisations from German industry – launched the Initiative for Energy Efficiency Networks in 2014. Energy efficiency networks have proven to be a suitable instrument that enables companies to exchange experiences with one another and implement measures to increase energy efficiency. The Networks Initiative is, therefore, a successful tool of the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (Nationaler Aktionsplan Energieeffizienz, NAPE). From 2021 onwards, it continued operations under the name **Initiative for Energy Efficiency and Climate Action Networks**.

The range of topics covered by the networks has been expanded to include climate action, the energy transition and sustainability. However, increasing energy efficiency will continue to play an important role. By 2025, the Initiative aims to establish 300 to 350 new networks. These are intended to save between nine and eleven terawatt hours of final energy, and between five and six million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions. The Networks Initiative is implemented on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, the Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection, and over 20 associations and organisations from Industry. Numerous other partners, such as regional coordinators, support the Initiative as well.





Plenty of good reasons to take part!

Many different success stories demonstrate that networks pay off – for small and medium-sized enterprises just as much as for internationally active corporations. Collaborating in networks results in significant energy and CO₂ savings. Companies benefit from joining a network in multiple ways.

- They increase their energy efficiency, reduce energy costs and, as a result, boost their competitiveness.
- They reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and improve their reputation.
- They fulfil the legal requirement for an energy audit and their obligations to reduce greenhouse gases.
- They can take their first step towards implementing an energy or environmental management system.
- They obtain a solid database for investments in energy efficiency and climate action.
- They are connected with highly qualified experts.
- They receive professional support when applying for funds.
- They create energy transparency in their company and expand their knowledge of energy and climate action.
- They can network with actors from politics or industry and other players on site.

CLEAR RULES. GREAT FLEXIBILITY. VISIBLE SUCCESS!

What requirements do networks need to fulfil?



Network term:

at least 2 years



Participants:

at least 5 companies or company locations (of which at least 3 are in Germany)



Analysis of potential: When they start their network activities, every company is supported by qualified internal or external energy consulting, which can build on existing systems conforming to DIN EN 162471, the EMAS regulation or DIN EN ISO 50001, and ISO 124001.



Savings target: Based on the analysis of savings potential and the specified measures, every participant sets their own savings target in MWh/a of final energy. In addition, a goal in tonnes of CO₂ equivalents can be defined as well. The network goal combines the savings goals of the participating companies. Although they are not binding, the defined targets are important for successful network collaboration and real savings.



Network collaboration: All activities, such as the regular exchange of experiences or the implementation of measures, are supported and moderated by experts.



Results: The success of the network collaboration is measured by anonymous monitoring at the end of the network term, and further processed in order to document the success of the Initiative.



Average figures for networks*



10 participating companies per network



10,300 tonnes CO₂ saved per year



88% of companies rate the cost/benefit ratio as 'good' or 'very good'



29,000 megawatt hours final energy saved per year

How does the network collaboration proceed?

1 Founding the network:

agreeing on exchange of experiences in the network

2 Network activity:

analysis of savings potential, target setting, moderated exchange of experiences and implementation of the measures identified

3 Network impact:

ascertaining the savings effects and supporting the monitoring process

What players does a network consist of?



Network participants

Companies exchange experiences and implement measures.



Network moderators

Network supporters, energy consultants or energy service providers organise and moderate the network meetings.



Network supporters

Associations and organisations from industry, energy service providers or research institutes organise the foundation of the network and have overall responsibility during the network collaboration.



Energy consultants

Energy consultants or energy service providers administer the energy consultancy session.

Where can I find out more?

You can find detailed information about the networks at www.effizienznetzwerke.org:

- Brochure with success stories
- Detailed guidelines with practical information

- Tools, contract templates and examples of calculations

- Interactive network map showing players and contact information for a quick start

- News and tips for events
- Newsletter
- FAQ
- Contact

What our participants say

'Thanks to our network, we've already successfully tightened the screws on our energy costs and made a contribution to climate action. However, because there's still some room for improvement, we also want to achieve more efficient and environmentally friendly mobility!'

Waltraud Schöne, goldsmiths' workshop co-owner and member of the Essen Mobility Network of Guild Enterprises and Businesswomen



'Siemens has committed itself to becoming carbon neutral by 2030. The network is providing us with an excellent platform along the way. Professional exchange of experiences with other companies not only helps us to develop new ideas, but also to track down obstacles.'

Heiko Becker, Senior Sales Officer, Energy Efficient Solutions at Siemens AG and Member of the Frankfurt am Main Business Energy Efficiency Network

'Within the network we can make a contribution to climate action and cost-effectively implement measures on site that are still being discussed elsewhere.'

Stefan Franceschini, CEO, Graftschafter Krautfabrik Josef Schmitz KG and member of Bonn/Rhein-Sieg REGINEE



Networks AT A GLANCE

WHAT do energy efficiency and climate action networks do?

They support companies' efforts to reduce their energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions by effective and practical means – to achieve greater energy efficiency and enhance climate action and competitiveness.

WHO can join them?

Companies in Germany of all sizes and from all sectors. International networks are also possible if three companies located in Germany take part.

HOW do energy efficiency and climate action networks function?

Networks enable an open, systematic and purposeful exchange of experiences between companies, moderated and supported by energy experts.

WHERE can I join?

Networks are active all over Germany, and you can choose between those that focus on industries or on regions. The foundation of international networks is possible as well.

WHY should companies join?

Energy efficiency, climate action, sustainability and resource efficiency are becoming ever more important factors for competitiveness. Companies can increase your expertise more quickly and easily in a network.

Checklist for joining a network

- Do you want to increase your energy efficiency – thereby reducing energy costs and CO₂ emissions?
- Do you want to steer your company towards greater sustainability, use resources more efficiently and play a more committed role in climate action?
- Do you have to carry out an energy audit, or would you like to achieve the energy efficiency potential identified in an audit?
- Do you want to benefit from the experience and expertise of others?
- Do you want to make your commitment to energy efficiency and climate action visible?

If you answered 'yes' to at least two of these questions, then we recommend joining a network.



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80 MILLIONEN GEMEINSAM FÜR
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Initiators



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Collaborative partners



Coordinating office



Keep up to date with the Initiative
through our Newsletter:
www.effizienznetzwerke.org/newsletter



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