



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Climate Action,
Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety



IDZ International
Design Center Berlin

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From Hemp to High-Tech: 14 Projects Honored with the German Ecodesign Award

Germany's highest governmental award for ecological design honors visionary solutions spanning material innovation, digital intelligence, and the circular economy.

The Federal Ministry for the Environment and the German Environment Agency today announced the winners of the 2025 German Ecodesign Award in Berlin. The award-winning projects demonstrate the wide range of sustainable design today. Whether recycling, bio-based materials such as hemp and mycelium, AI-supported applications, or modular products—design here becomes a lever for resource conservation, innovative business models, and societal transformation.

This year's entries stand out for their particularly high quality and diversity. Out of around 380 applications, 149 submissions qualified for the jury session. After intensive deliberations, the interdisciplinary jury nominated 30 projects, from which 14 winners were selected today in the atriums of the Federal Ministry for the Environment.

High Transformative Impact of the Award

Rita Schwarzelühr-Sutter, Member of the German Bundestag, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for the Environment and jury member: *„Ecodesign benefits us in multiple ways: In times of geopolitical tension, it makes us less dependent on imports. Ecodesign makes us more resilient in crises. Thoughtful design and innovative materials are business models of the future. And ultimately, Ecodesign is good for our environment—we save resources and consume less energy. This isn't just sustainable; it's also economically successful and sensible.“*

Prof. Dr. Dirk Messner, President of the German Environment Agency: *„The German Ecodesign Award was established in 2012 to highlight the relevance of environmental aspects within the design process through real-world examples. Even in its 14th edition, it remains important to give pioneers a platform and send a signal to the industry. I am delighted with the strong mix of start-ups, SMEs, and global players among the award winners.“*

Call for Entries 2026: Next Competition Starts in January

On 19 January 2026, the Europe-wide call for entries will open again. Since 2012, the German Ecodesign Award has been jointly presented by the Federal Ministry for the Environment (BMUKN) and the German Environment Agency (UBA), in cooperation with the International Design Center Berlin (IDZ).

Awards are presented in four categories—Product, Service, Concept, and Young Talent—to projects that combine design excellence with ecological impact. The competition is open to companies of all sizes, design studios, and students across Europe.

Entries sought include durable, repairable, and circular products, processes, and systems—solutions that demonstrate how design drives the transition toward a sustainable economy and way of life.

The German Ecodesign Award goes to the following projects:

Young Talent Category

- **Amber - AI monitoring device** | Levin Budihardjo Welim & Emma Rahe (Hochschule für Gestaltung Schwäbisch Gmünd)
- **Felt the Future - walking with wool** | Philipp Remus (Hochschule Pforzheim)
- **Reefine** | Zhong-Wei Lin (Royal College of Art)

Concept Category

- **Concrete Lightweight Ceiling** | EIGNER Bauunternehmung GmbH (Head office: Nördlingen)
- **Designstudie zirkulärer Staubsauger** | Miele & Cie. KG (Head office: Gütersloh), Miele Design Center (Head office: Gütersloh)

Service Category

- **fix1.today** | FixFirst (Head office: Berlin)
- **KI-gestützte Abfallsteuerung** | Wasteer GmbH (Head office: Berlin)
- **orto space** | orto GmbH (Head office: Berlin)

Product Category

- **ecomade Matratze** | ecomade GmbH (Head office: Zürich)
- **LOVR™ – Circular Hemp Material** | Revoltech GmbH (Head office: Darmstadt)
- **The world's first mushroom coffin** | Loop Biotech B.V (Head office: Delft)
- **100% Recycltes Aluminium Autoblech** | Novelis Deutschland GmbH (Head office: Göttingen)
- **Recycling-Etiketten im Closed Loop** | Steinbeis Papier GmbH (Head office: Glückstadt)
- **SHIFTphone 8** | SHIFT GmbH (Head office: Wabern Falkenberg)

Jury of the German Ecodesign Award 2025

- Werner Aisslinger (Product Designer, Founder of studio aisslinger)
- Ina Budde (Fashion Designer, Co-founder and Managing Director of circular.fashion)
- Prof. Matthias Held (Product Designer, Professor at HfG Schwäbisch Gmünd)
- Prof. Dr. Claudia Perren (Architect, Director of the Basel Academy of Art and Design)
- Siddharth Prakash (Head of Circular Economy and Global Value Chains Group, Öko-Institut Freiburg)
- Paula Raché (Communication Designer)
- Dr. Bettina Rechenberg (Head of Division III "Sustainable Products and Production, Circular Economy" at UBA)
- Rita Schwarzelühr-Sutter MdB (Parliamentary State Secretary at BMUKN)
- Michael Volkmer (Communication Designer, Founder of the creative agency Scholz & Volkmer)

Information about the competition

bundespreis-ecodesign.de/en

Contact for image material

Luisa Stibbe | presse@bundespreis-ecodesign.de

German Ecodesign Award Office
c/o IDZ | Internationales Design Zentrum Berlin e.V.
Markgrafenstraße 88 | 10969 Berlin-Kreuzberg
Postal address: Hagelberger Straße 52 | 10965 Berlin

T +49 30 61 62 321-22

presse@bundespreis-ecodesign.de
bundespreis-ecodesign.de/en

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