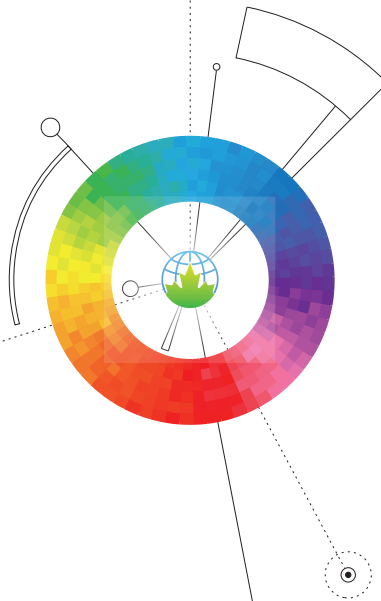


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GUEST EDITORIAL:
**GERMAN
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Germany's G20 Presidency and the Challenge of Creating Growth and Jobs in a Low-Carbon Economy

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Germany took over the G20 Presidency on December 1, 2016. With its member nations representing 80 percent of the world's GDP, the G20 is an important forum for economic and financial cooperation. It traditionally focuses on issues concerning global economic growth, international trade, and financial market regulation.

Germany's G20 Presidency will build on the results and decisions of the successful G7 Summit at Schloss Elmau in June 2015. The Germany Presidency will also address issues that reflect growing global challenges. Germany would like to help improve sustainability in the G20 and beyond. To this end, the G20 will help ensure that the goals of the Paris Agreement and the Agenda 2030 are achieved. We want to discuss the opportunities and challenges presented by the spread of digital technology, and to look at solutions. Within the framework of the G20 Presidency, we also want to discuss sustainable climate and energy concepts.

We have to be ambitious if we are to achieve the goals laid out in the Paris Agreement, which include the transition to a low-carbon economy. But reducing emissions while also growing the economy is possible; this has been proven many times over the last few years. For example, since 2000, more than twenty countries have reduced annual emissions while growing their economies. Between 1991 and 2012, Germany's GDP increased by 28 percent, and during the same period emissions shrank by 22 percent. Even in countries like China and the United States, economic growth has in recent years been "decoupled" from growth in emissions, with emissions declining or growing slower than the GDP.

Investments in renewable energy sources, smart grids, electric transportation, and digitalization are important steps in the direction of a low-carbon economy. They represent investments in a cleaner future and they create growth and jobs at the same time. Today in Germany we have more than 350,000 jobs in the green technology sector. In 2016, we saw \$287 billion of global investment in renewables. This shows that economic growth, job creation, and decarbonization are possible.



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