

RESEARCH. TRANSFER. SUSTAINABILITY.



Our mission

FiW is a respected transfer institute for research and consulting services in water management and beyond. We work on solutions for the great challenges of our time: water, climate, energy, resources. We want to create values – for businesses, politics, science, and society.

As a non-profit association under German law and an affiliated institute of RWTH Aachen University, we bring research results into practical application – with a team of around 45 employees and a strong network of partners. Members of FiW are German public water associations, municipal drainage companies, utility companies, engineering firms, RWTH Aachen University, and personal members who honorary support the association's aims.

Our vision

FiW develops long-term strategies and innovative processes to promote sustainability in the water sector, tackling water quantity and water quality challenges in times of climate change.

In particular, we support the water sector in coping with its “double key role” addressing climate adaptation while becoming a driver for sustainability towards energy efficiency, climate neutrality, circular economy, digitalisation, and the market ramp-up of the hydrogen economy.

We are convinced that the pressing challenges of our time must be viewed globally and solved locally with knowledge-based decisions, sustainable strategies, innovative technologies, public services, commitment and participation, so that the next generations also can adopt clean water, necessary resources and an environment worth living in.

Our guiding principles

FiW is striving for technical quality, customer and partner orientation, cost-effectiveness, and the engagement of our strong team. As a compass, we have summarised our culture and our values in six guiding principles:



1. Our **action** create **sustainability**.

We contribute to sustainability in all aspects of water management. In research and consulting services, we work with funding agencies, clients, members and partners to develop sustainable solutions and support their implementation – in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany, Europe and in international cooperation.



2. As a **transfer institute**, we bring **research into practice**.

We combine research, transfer, and application. We develop individual technical solutions and innovative strategies for our customers – from laboratory tests to pilot plants and system operation.



3. As a **non-profit institute**, we work **independently, economically, and without the intention of profit-making**

Our work is based on facts, open to technology, independent of manufacturers and politically neutral. We convince funding agencies and clients, and secure financing of the institute by implementing economically adequate and timely projects.



4. **Sustainable** solutions require joint action with **neighbouring disciplines**.

We are proud of our broad network in science, businesses, administration and politics. Membership in the Johannes-Rau-Forschungsgemeinschaft, the Zuse-Gemeinschaft as well as the FiW Research Advisory Board all contribute to the Institute's success.



5. We are committed to engage with **emerging and developing countries**

We develop adapted strategic-technical solutions with partners from emerging and developing countries and support their implementation with capacity development and vocational training. Development agencies have been among our clients for years.



6. We **initiate progress**

Even long journeys begin with a first step. As initiator and coordinator of large collaborative projects, as providers of ideas for commercial product developments, as operators of pilot plants, as mediators in dialogue processes, as event organisers and as a talent incubator of urgently needed experts and managers for the water sector.