

Press release

IFAT Munich 2026: Leading politicians from the German government, the EU Commission and the Bavarian state government underscore the high relevance of environmental technologies

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- Germany's Environment Minister Carsten Schneider, EU Commissioner Jessika Roswall, and Bavaria's Environment Minister Thorsten Glauber to open IFAT Munich 2026
- Adapting to climate change: Day of Resilient Municipalities
- Practice-oriented event program with solution tours and live demonstrations

With its opening by high-ranking representatives from the German government, the European Commission and the Free State of Bavaria, IFAT Munich 2026 is focusing on environmental technologies as a key lever for climate protection, resource security and resilient infrastructures. The world's leading trade fair is thus underscoring its role as a platform that brings together political objectives and practical solutions. **Germany's Environment Minister Carsten Schneider, EU Commissioner Jessika Roswall** and Bavaria's **Environment Minister Thorsten Glauber** have announced their visit to the exhibition center in Munich. They will open IFAT Munich 2026 together with the Management Board of Messe München on Monday, May 4, at 10 a.m. on the Blue Stage.

"Reducing dependencies, increasing resilience, strengthening supply security, and ensuring climate and resource protection are becoming increasingly important, especially in geopolitically volatile times" says Stefan Rummel, CEO of Messe München. "Environmental technologies and IFAT as a global platform offer solutions for precisely this. That's why it is particularly important that the industry receives this attention and priority from politicians – both nationally and internationally."

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Day of Resilient Municipalities

What is negotiated politically and regulated at international and national level ultimately has an impact at municipal level: It is the municipalities that put the circular economy into practice, for example, in water management, waste treatment or infrastructure planning. At the same time, they themselves are under growing pressure. Extreme weather events, water shortages and an increasing burden on existing infrastructures make resilient, resource-saving solutions indispensable on site. Against this background, IFAT Munich will have a separate focus on the municipal sector.

Under the title “Day of Resilient Municipalities”, IFAT Munich will specifically address the challenges facing cities and municipalities on Thursday, May 7. In cooperation with the German Technical and Scientific Association for Gas and Water (DVGW), the German Association for Water Management (DWA) and the Association of Municipal Enterprises (VKU), the program offers lectures, expert panels and guided tours. The aim is to provide decision-makers from the municipal sector with practical inspiration and concrete solutions.

Varied event program

The trade fair will be accompanied by a varied event program focusing on transferring innovations into practice. Guided solution tours, live demonstrations and topic-specific presentations will enable visitors to experience technologies and applications first-hand.

You will find more information about **IFAT Munich** at <https://ifat.de>

IFAT Munich

IFAT Munich is the world's leading platform for environmental technologies. Every two years, it presents solutions for water, recycling and circularity. The next IFAT Munich will be held at the exhibition center in Munich from May 4 to 7, 2026.

IFAT worldwide

In addition to the world's leading trade fair IFAT Munich, IFAT is currently the world's largest network for environmental technologies with eleven trade fairs. The global IFAT network includes IE expo China in Shanghai, IE expo Chengdu, IE expo Guangzhou and IE expo Shenzhen as well as IFAT Africa in Johannesburg, IFAT Eurasia in Istanbul, IFAT India in Mumbai, IFAT Delhi in New Delhi, IFAT Brasil in São Paulo, Singapore International Water Week (in cooperation with IFAT) in Singapore and, from 2026, IFAT Saudi Arabia in Riyadh.

Together, the events of the IFAT network are driving the transformation toward sustainable technologies worldwide.

Messe München

As one of the world's leading trade fair organizers, Messe München presents the world of tomorrow at its around 90 international trade fairs. Its portfolio comprises trade fairs for capital and consumer goods, as well as for new technologies. These include 14 of the world's leading trade fairs such as bauma, BAU, IFAT and electronica, cooperative events such as the IAA MOBILITY, and numerous guest events. With an international network of affiliated companies and foreign representatives, Messe München is active worldwide. Together with its around 1,200 employees in the Group, it organizes trade fairs in China, India, Brazil, South Africa, Turkey, Singapore, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Thailand, the U.S., and Saudi Arabia. Around 150 events held annually attract more than 50,000 exhibitors and around three million visitors in Germany and abroad. That makes Messe München an important economic driver, triggering purchasing power effects in the billions.