

BACKGROUND AND AIMS

A key objective of the circular economy is to use products and raw materials for as long as possible with high added value and to return as much waste as possible to the economy as a raw material. The intention is to pursue the goals of the circular economy – protecting people and the environment, conserving natural resources and protecting the climate. Research is of considerable importance to investigate opportunities, trade-offs and to quantify the impact of measures to increase circularity. The central objective of the annual DGAW Science Congress for PhD researchers is to discuss the latest findings from research projects. The DGAW-Science Congress is the largest German language scientific conference in the field of waste management and circular economy.

PROMOTION OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS

The congress is targeted at researchers who are currently pursuing a PhD degree or have recently completed their PhD research. The congress is organized by the DGAW e.V. and supported by a scientific advisory board, which currently comprises around sixty professors. Researchers from all engineering disciplines and related fields working on topics in the circular economy are invited to answer in this **CALL FOR PAPERS** and to present their work in an oral presentation or as a poster.

PLATFORM FOR NETWORKING

The congress provides an opportunity for exchange of ideas between PhD researchers, professors and practitioners. It serves as a forum for research, policy and industry to get an overview of the current state of research and future developments. The ideal conditions are in place for an intensive exchange over the two days of the congress. This makes the congress a superior forum for exchange between science and society, industry, politics, administration, municipalities and the interested public.

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CALL FOR PAPERS



16th DGAW Science Congress 2–3 March 2027

Hosted by Prof. Dr.-Ing. Silke Eckardt and
Prof. Dr. Martin Wittmaier

City University of Applied Sciences Bremen and Institut
for Energy, Recycling and Environmental Protection at
City University of Applied Sciences Bremen

Neustadtswall 30 | 28199 Bremen



HSB

Hochschule Bremen
City University of Applied Sciences

The DGAW-Science Congress

The **DGAW-SCIENCE CONGRESS** sees itself as a platform on which the latest research in the field of waste and resource management is presented and discussed.

The event's scientific advisory board is looking forward to high-quality contributions on innovative research topics in the field of the circular economy, especially at PhD level. All abstract submissions will be reviewed several times by the advisory board. In this way, the advisory board ensures the topicality and outstanding quality of the event.

THE DGAW SCIENCE AWARD

The **DGAW Science Award** will be awarded by a jury of experts in the categories lecture and poster at the end of the event. Since 2025, ITAD has also been awarding a special prize.

SPONSORS

The DGAW offers sponsors from industry and administration a unique forum to present and to address potential specialists and managers. Contact via info@dgaw.de.



A LOOK BACK

The 15th DGAW Science Congress took place in Pforzheim on 24th and 25th of February 2026 with about 160 participants at Pforzheim University.

THEMATIC AREAS

Proposals can be submitted on all topics relating to waste and resource management, including

- ✓ Circular economy/business models
- ✓ Digitalization/AI
- ✓ Cascade use concepts
- ✓ Avoidance and reuse
- ✓ Processing and sorting technology
- ✓ Recycling
- ✓ Material flow management and -evaluation
- ✓ Biological processes
- ✓ Thermal processes
- ✓ Landfill
- ✓ International waste and resource management

APPLICATIONS

Participants can apply for an oral presentation and/or poster presentation. Affiliation with a University (of Applied Science) or Research Institution (e.g. Helmholtz, Leibniz, Fraunhofer) is a pre-requisite for submission. The abstract (one page) should include the following points: Research question, methodology, implementation, results, discussion and conclusions. If the work has not yet been completed, interim results, or the expected range of results, should be presented. Submissions can be made in German or English. The congress language is German, but posters and presentations can be held in English as well. The presentations and posters will be announced mid-November 2026.

The complete documents for abstract submission (template, accompanying form) are available at www.dgaw.de/de/veranstaltung/wissenschaftskongress.

EXTENDED DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

9th OCTOBER 2026

Please send your abstract and the submission form under the keyword **Wissenschaftskongress 2027** by email to: info@dgaw.de.

EVENT ORGANIZER

DGAW. e.V. | Von-der-Heydt-Str. 2 | 10785 Berlin
Scientific management: Prof. Dr.-Ing. Anke Bockreis, Innsbruck University
Org. management/contact: Birte Turk | T +49 160.84 300 71



PROGRAM

There will be presentations and short poster presentations. The contributions will be selected by the scientific advisory board. The number of full presentations with Q&A in the program is **limited to 20**. There is no limit on the poster presentations, which will be presented by the participants in short pitches and presented in the poster exhibition. The detailed program will be prepared by DGAW and will be announced once the presentations have been selected. The conference will be chaired by the advisory board members.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

All participants are publishing their research topics in the digital conference proceedings. The contributions for the conference proceedings must be submitted by **January 11, 2027**. Further details about the proceedings and length of the articles are sent out once the contribution has been accepted.

PARTICIPATION FEE

The participation fee for the congress is **180 €** (speakers, incl. poster presenters and DGAW-members) and **210 €** for others. This includes catering on both days of the congress, the evening event and the conference proceedings.