



Over the last 30 years, the German city of Freiburg-in-Brisgau has been working on improving its environment, and has prioritized three issues: transportation, waste and energy. Using bicycles and public transportation is encouraged: 400 kilometres of bike lanes have been established, and the city's residents can take public transit for a low cost. Waste is sorted, recycled and valorized through the production of energy. Substantial energy savings have been achieved, and the production of renewable energy is at the heart of the city's energy policy.

The city has been able to attract businesses that are environment-related, such as the *Solar Fabrik*, which manufactures photovoltaic solar panels. Freiburg's environmental policy has led to the creation of 10,000 jobs in the field of environmental protection.

In the mid-1990s, two new neighbourhoods (Vauban and Rieselfeld) were built. The goal was to maximize energy conservation and, more generally, overall environmental excellence. The buildings' insulation is remarkable, and part of the energy that the residents need is produced on-site. Two other principles have guided the design of these neighbourhoods: social diversity and the mixing of generations. The residents participated actively in the development of their neighbourhood.

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present

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Sustainability and the City
 Freiburg-in-Brisgau - Germany

8 minutes



Video DVD in English and French

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