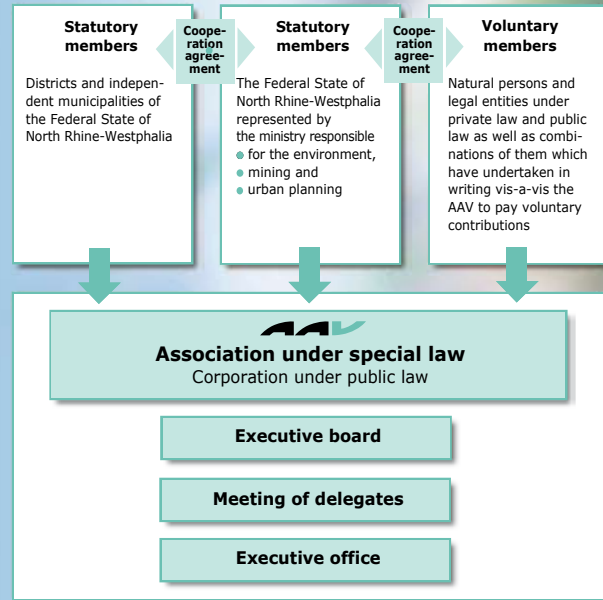


AAV - Association for land recycling and remediation of contaminated sites



The cooperation model in NRW

North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) has a long industrial and mining tradition. As one of the oldest industrial regions in Europe, the Federal State of NRW has a significant number of areas of land suspected of being contaminated and of sites known to be contaminated. In many cases it is not possible to hold a polluter responsible for the remediation of contaminated sites. For the remediation of such areas of land, the AAV - Association for land recycling and remediation of contaminated sites was founded on the basis of a special law. With the AAV there is a successful model for cooperation between private industry and the public sector in the areas of land recycling and remediation of contaminated sites. The Federal State of NRW, municipalities in NRW and business have been successfully cooperating in the financing of the association and on its boards for more than 20 years. With the cooperation agreement for the land and contaminated site alliance of NRW dated 24.10.2012 the successful partnership model was updated.

The AAV members

The Federal State of NRW, all of the districts and cities and municipalities as well as various commercial enterprises support and pay contributions to the AAV - Association for land recycling and remediation of contaminated sites, which remediates brownfields and contaminated sites and prepares them for new uses.

According to the AAV Act, voluntary memberships of companies and associations from all sectors of the economy are possible.

The members are represented on the boards of the association such as the executive committee, the meeting of delegates and the commissions. They are involved in all fundamental decisions relating to the implementation of the AAV's tasks.

The members also promote the AAV's successful work with the personal commitment of experts on the boards of the AAV, by contributing their know-how and expertise.

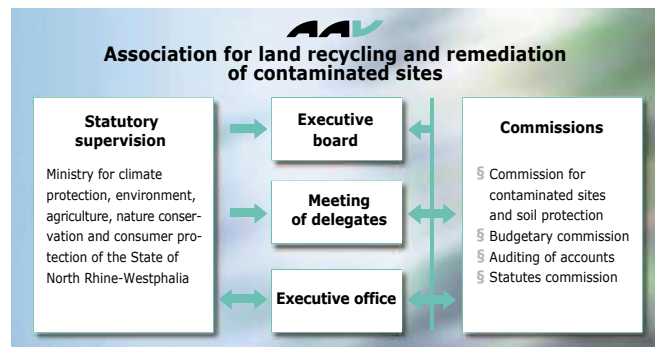
Land recycling, remediation of contaminated sites and consulting – the AAV's main tasks

The AAV's core tasks include the remediation of soil and groundwater in the case of old sites and old deposits as well as the redevelopment of land in the case of brownfields and old sites suitable for it as well as the advising of its members on questions of the remediation of contaminated sites and of land recycling as well as the development and testing of remediation technologies and innovative remediation procedures. The AAV can, on certain conditions, continue to assume guarantees and sureties in order, to a limited extent, to avert feared residual risks in plots of land already remediated (contaminated site risk fund). Moreover it can, on certain conditions, take action in connection with sites contaminated as a result of mining activities.

The operative handling of the association projects is done by the AAV's executive office where an interdisciplinary team of specialists works.

The steps of land recycling and remediation of contaminated sites from the brownfield via building demolition and remediation of soil/groundwater to the new use





The statutory basis

According to the AAV Act, the association can manage remediation and redevelopment projects in the case of the following measures (text of the AAV Act abridged):

1. Remedial investigation, planning and remediation of contaminated sites or of areas still in use with changed soil characteristics in accordance with the regulations of the German Federal Soil Protection Act, including the measures to be taken in connection with them,
2. Land recycling to reactivate derelict areas of land (brownfields) and contaminated sites for a new use and hence to reduce the land consumption of areas close to nature and those used for agricultural purposes,
3. Development and testing of new technologies and innovative procedures for the remediation of contaminated sites and of areas still in use with changed soil characteristics to supply land for recycling as well as water pollution control.

In the first case these must be measures for averting dangers,

1. which are taken by the appropriate authorities by way of substitute performance, or
2. about the implementation of which a contract under public law has been concluded with the party obliged to carry out remediation, or
3. in anticipation of later identification of the party obliged to carry out remediation, or
4. for the performance of which a party obliged to carry out remediation cannot be found or a party is financially unable to carry it out – or is only partially able to do so – , or

5. on plots of land for which there is a remediation obligation of municipalities or of associations of local authorities, also plots of land having to be included for which there is a remediation obligation of private-law legal entities in which municipalities or associations of local authorities directly or indirectly hold shares of more than 50 %.

Advice and expert support for the members



The AAV advises and supports its members

- with the determination of the starting condition as regards pollution of the soil and the groundwater in accordance with the European industrial emissions directive and the European water framework directive,
- with the introduction and application of new technologies for the remediation of contaminated sites and of areas still in use with changed soil characteristics to supply land for recycling as well as of water pollution control,
- with regard to the provision of collateral for waste disposal plants within the scope of a shared risk pool,
- by moderation and mediation in the case of contaminated sites and of areas still in use with changed soil characteristics,
- on issues of remediation of contaminated sites and of areas still in use with changed soil characteristics as well as of land recycling.

Clearing office

Within the scope of the business and environment dialogue of the government of the Federal State of NRW a clearing office has been set up which is intended to solve conflicts in approval and monitoring procedures and hence render court proceedings lasting many years superfluous. The aim is for controversial subjects of dispute – in particular of general significance – between the administration and business to be settled with a solution which is as consensus-based as possible. The procedure is independent of appeals in accordance with the statutory provisions so that deadlines for lodging appeals are not interrupted or suspended. The place of business of the clearing office is the AAV's executive unit. Disputed cases can be filed there.



Land and soil alliance

The „land and soil alliance NRW“ set up in 2006 is intended to establish the dialogue between the large variety of political, social, economic and private interests which exert an influence on land use. The AAV supports it on all issues of land recycling and rehabilitation of areas previously used.



Association for land recycling and remediation of contaminated sites

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Alliance for Land Recycling and Remediation of Contaminated Sites in North Rhine-Westphalia

Land Recycling and Remediation of Contaminated Sites in NRW –

Tasks of the AAV



Association for land recycling and remediation of contaminated sites