



AGÖF stands for competence, continuity, and independence for more than 25 years. We facilitate exchange between experts, critically examine everything, learn from observations in the field, and initiate new developments.

In our work, we are proud of our independence from industry, interest groups, and politics. Human health and a healthy environment are the focus of our work, which we approach with analytical reasoning and expert knowledge.

Equally important to us is a fertile as well as interdisciplinary exchange between theory and practice. The decades-long experiences gained from field measurements and laboratory analyses serve as a solid foundation for developing guidelines and guidance values or for actively participating in committee work.

Our members appreciate the professional conferences; there they can discuss the issues emerging in their daily work, build connections, and further their continuing education. Laboratory round robin testing, testing equipment calibration, and quality assurance procedures ensure an ongoing high level of quality control for all member institutes.

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The team at the head office is here for you to help you:

- Find local experts
- Locate independent expert witnesses
- Search for technical information
- Learn dates of conferences and seminars

Association of Ecological Research Institutes e.V.

Professional association for consulting, indoor pollutant measurements and laboratory analysis, ecological product testing, and the concept development of sustainable and healthy buildings



The Association of Ecological Research Institutes e.V (*AGÖF*) is a Germany-wide umbrella organization of independent consulting and services companies. They offer consulting services as well as indoor pollutant measurements and laboratory analysis, ecological product testing, and the concept development of sustainable and healthy buildings.

Membership benefits:

- Media and public relations services that represent member interests and provide lobby activities
- Regular professional seminars promote cooperation, exchange of experiences, and continuing education
- Accompanying laboratory round robin testing and equipment calibration testing ensure measurement accuracy
- *AGÖF* Quality assurance program offers certification even for small institutes
- *AGÖF* Odor testing provides training for sensory detection and assessment of odors
- *AGÖF* Professional conferences are a forum where members present their current research and developments
- Working groups address current issues and develop guidelines and solution-based strategies
- *AGÖF* Research projects reflect the long-standing experience of its members

The association and its member institutes are very big on interdisciplinary cooperation and devoted to a science-based knowledge transfer between theory and practice. We seek and develop solution-based strategies for indoor air problems. Our guidance values and guidelines set new standards for diagnosis and assessment.

Developed and written by us:

- *AGÖF* *Guidance Values for Volatile Organic Compounds in Indoor Air (VOC)* offer guidance for the assessment of indoor air measurements.
- *AGÖF* *Guideline regarding Odors in Indoor Spaces—Sensory Detection and Assessment* provides recommendations for the context-related assessment of odors in indoor environments.
- The research project VOC Database provides an opportunity of linking and evaluating large numbers of data sets of event-specific measurements by members.
- *AGÖF* Professional Conferences provide a forum for such topics as *Environment, Buildings & Health* where not only members but also other companies, universities, and agencies present their latest research and development projects.
- *AGÖF* Member institutes are also active in various committees and commissions that develop standards and quality seals.

AGÖF Member institutes provide consulting services, measure, analyze, and assess indoor air quality, write expert reports, develop remediation concepts, offer building checkups and product testing. Internal and external quality assurance systems ensure an ongoing high level of quality control for all member institutes.

Services offered by our member institutes:

- Consulting, residential home inspection, writing of expert reports, building checkups, development of remediation concepts and supervision
- Indoor air quality testing, including VOC, formaldehyde, PAH, PCB, asbestos, wood preservatives, mold, man-made mineral fibers
- Odor testing for indoor environments and building materials
- Building science assessments for moisture and mold problems in indoor environments
- House dust testing for biocides, PAHs, PCBs, plasticizers, flame retardants, and heavy metals
- Laboratory analysis, test chamber investigations / thermo extraction, testing for building materials and consumer products
- Soil and material analysis, water analysis, contaminated site assessment