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## ‘Clear Direction for Climate Protection’ / DBU presents German Environmental Award

Lübeck/Osnabrück (ots) -

The German Federal Environmental Foundation confers this year’s German Environmental Award today (Sunday) in Lübeck, worth a total of 500,000 euros – presented by German Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier to climate scientist Professor [Friederike Otto](#) and wood construction pioneer [Dagmar Fritz-Kramer](#). Despite ongoing devastating wars, ‘the two award winners inspire us to continue working towards species conservation and environmental protection. A clear direction for climate protection is now more vital than ever,’ said Professor Kai Niebert, Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the DBU, and DBU Secretary General Alexander Bonde.

### Danger for the ice shelf

Recent studies have confirmed this call to action: A study by the [British Antarctic Survey](#) concluded that the ice shelf in the Amundsen Sea in the western Antarctic could melt away completely – even if the 1.5-degree target is achieved. And a [United Nations report](#) warned of irreversible climate tipping points. Key risks: Species extinction, droughts, water shortages and space debris.

### Key role to play

Friederike Otto from [Imperial College London](#) has made a significant contribution to attribution science. This discipline investigates the link between climate change and weather. In 2015, the now 41-year-old climate scientist founded the [World Weather Attribution \(WWA\) initiative](#) together with Professor Geert Jan van Oldenborgh, who has since passed away. Dagmar Fritz-Kramer is the managing director of the family company [Bau-Fritz GmbH & Co. KG](#) – demonstrating how prefabricated timber construction in houses, apartments and renovation projects can protect climate and environment. [Wood](#) stores large amounts of carbon and thus prevents the formation of climate-damaging carbon dioxide. The construction sector has a key role to play, as it causes 40 per cent of the 746 million tonnes of emissions of climate-damaging greenhouse gases in Germany each year.

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