

Sustainable materials and structures

For the transfer of sustainable technologies into the private sector and society at large.

Increasing levels of pollution, growing scarcity of key resources and insufficient access to recycling: many of the most urgent environmental and economic problems can be traced back to the inefficient use of resources. ETH Zurich is launching numerous projects and activities to help future-proof our material and resource cycles.



Advancing the materials
of the future

[Make a gift](#)

Our goal

We want to create two new professorships that concentrate on fundamentally overhauling how we produce, use and re-use materials. The focus will be on incorporating sustainability into the very beginning of the value chains for materials, processes and products.

- The professorship for “Sustainable Materials and Devices” addresses the sustainability of both the materials themselves and how they are produced – by optimising processes to reduce the consumption of resources and energy

- The professorship for “Sustainable Structures” will deploy innovative material systems to develop lightweight structures for transportation, machine tools and robots as well as manufacturing processes that are energy efficient and environmentally friendly

Your support enables

- initial funding for two new professorships at ETH Zurich dedicated to researching how the complete life cycle of materials and structures can be made more sustainable;
- using the new professorships to harness synergies between materials science, civil engineering, and mechanical and process engineering;
- the development of technological advances that fight the consequences of climate change with sustainable, efficient solutions.



Your contact

Dr Donald Tillman

Managing Director

+41 44 633 69 62

donald.tillman@ethz-foundation.ch

<https://ethz-foundation.ch/en/projects/topics/sustainability/sustainable-materials-and-structures/>

PDF exported on 02/15/2026 05:21

© 2026 ETH Zurich Foundation