# ECOLOGICAL FACTSHEET - GERMAN CASE STUDY (UPPER BAVARIA)

## Agri-environmental payments:

13% - EU Payments linked to Natura 2000 and the Water Framework Directive.

**37%** - Other rural development payments (e.g., for physical modernisation, investments, quality standards).

**12%** - Subsidies for organic farming.

22% - Less Favoured Area (LFA) payments.

**16%** - Other agri-environmental and climate change payments.



Percentages above are official data of the rural development program for the funding period 2014-2020 and show planned payments for Bavaria. Only payments from the second pillar of the CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) were taken into account. The following payments were not considered: Basic Scheme Payment, and/or Single Farm Payment, and/or Single Area Payment, Non-EU public subsidies (State, local government), Coupled Subsidies, Forestry Payments.

## Characteristics of the case study area



Source map: www.firmendb.de

In total, 51 farmers participated in the LIFT large-scale farmer survey. In 2018 ca. 17% of the surveyed farms were organic and about 15% of the interviewees were female farmers. The average size of all surveyed farms was 66 ha and the median size was 57 ha, which is much larger than the average farm size in Upper Bavaria.

Bavaria represents 20% of Germany's area. The average size of Bavarian farms is 47 ha, but only 27.7 ha in Upper Bavaria. Bavaria is one of Germany's leading regions in terms of organic farming: in 2021, 13% of Bavarian agricultural land was organic. The case study region of Upper Bavaria makes ca. 25% of the total area of Bavaria. 45.3% of Upper Bavaria are under agricultural use (33.7% is forest). Nearly two thirds of the farms in Upper Bavaria (64%) focus on forage production or pasture farming (dairy cows).



Share of organic certified agricultural land in Bavarian districts in 2021 (in %):

Anteil Öko-LF in Prozent		-	Datengrundlage:
	< 5 %	<u>Source</u> :	Geobasisdaten: © Bayer. Vermessungsverwaltur (www.geodaten.bayern.de)
	5 % bis < 10 %		
	10 % bis < 15 %		
	15 % bis < 20 %		
	20 % bis < 25 %		🚺 I FI
	≥ 25 %		Agrarökonomie

#### Categorisation of surveyed farms in Upper Bavaria based on LIFT typology protocols

Germany (51 farms)



![](_page_0_Picture_20.jpeg)

![](_page_0_Picture_21.jpeg)

The uptake of ecological approaches by the surveyed 51 Bavarian farms is shown in the graph on the right. As some farms can be classified as belonging to several categories, the different circles are intersecting. More than half of the farms (29) are putting the system of conservation agriculture into practice (brown circle). This is partly due to the nature of the sample analysed. The majority of these farms are either dairy farms or have a mixed farming system, namely animals and arable cropping. As the graph shows, 8 farms are organic farms (green circle).

### IMPACT OF NEIGHBOURING FARMERS ON ECOLOGICAL PRACTICES

![](_page_0_Figure_25.jpeg)

In the LIFT large-scale farmer survey the farmers have been asked to what extent the following statements describe their attitude and beliefs. They were asked to choose between five possible answers ranging from "strongly agree" (green bar) to "strongly disagree" (red bar in the left graph). The following statements have been assessed by surveyed farmers:

a) "Collaborative efforts in the adoption ecological of practices between neighbouring farmers should be rewarded".

b) "I can think of ecological practices for which adoption by a sufficient share of neighbouring farmers would lower my cost of adoption".

c) "I am keen to participate in an agri-

Source: Ecozept on basis of a face-to-face survey on 51 farms located in Upper Bavaria. The survey was conducted from May to August 2019 with a standardised questionnaire. The sampling was done by Ecozept out of a group of 107 farmers already working on water conservation projects.

environmental scheme in which the amount of subsidy I receive depends on both me and my neighbours' uptake of new practices".

d) "The environmental impact of my uptake of an ecological practice can be impeded by my neighbours' decisions". The farmers agree especially on item (b) and are likely to adopt ecological

practices if the related costs are lowered by a sufficient share of neighbouring farmers (ca. 70% of farmers agree "somewhat" or "strongly").

![](_page_0_Picture_34.jpeg)

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Low-Input Farming and Territories -Integrating knowledge for improving ecosystem-based farming www.lift-h2020.eu В O

![](_page_0_Picture_37.jpeg)

![](_page_0_Picture_38.jpeg)