

Energy Transition

Agriculture & the Food Sector

Nature & Lake Conservation

Business & Biodiversity

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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The return of the octopus

A few days ago, I finished reading "The Wrath of the Octopus": In the year 2029 – that means in the near future - a climate alliance of the most powerful states is desperately trying to turn the tide and prevent the worst effects of climate change. The authors leave it open whether this will succeed. I was impressed by how little science fiction this novel contains and how close it is to reality - apart from the climate alliance, which of course we are light years away from.

In 2021, the international community again debated and took decisions on the most important challenges our planet is facing: COP 15 in Kunming on the Convention on Biological Diversity and COP 26 in Glasgow under the UN Climate Convention. Are the decisions agreed upon concrete and far-reaching enough to still have a glimmer of a chance to stop the dramatic developments by 2030?

Measured against the urgency of action, COP 26 was another climate policy failure: no commitment to phase out coal, only a „phase down“. Methane emissions from industrial agriculture are to be reduced by 30% by 2030, sustainable agriculture is to be promoted and the conservation and restoration of forests is to be ensured. Important steps, but not enough! And then these steps still have to be implemented. The pledge of 100 billion USD annually in climate finance to support developing countries, for example, has still not been achieved. The governments are still negotiating the targets for the protection of biodiversity. The Kunming Declaration remains rather vague in its recommendations for action, and funding has not been clarified. Globally, there is a shortfall of around 700 billion euros per year to halt the dramatic loss of species and the rapidly progressing destruction of ecosystems and habitats.

It does not look good for 2030 - if we do not act immediately and decisively and quickly bring the numerous good solution approaches into mainstreaming! We are not discouraged and contribute to the fact that perhaps a positive third part of the novel - the „return of the octopus“ - can be written after all. Lake Constance Foundation initiated and supported a variety of solutions in 2021: In order for the energy transition to pick up speed again, we are working intensively with actors in citizen energy and supporting municipalities and larger energy suppliers in implementing renewable energy projects while taking nature conservation into account. For more sustainability in education, training and advice for actors in agriculture, Lake Constance Foundation has developed and published training modules as well as training materials on climate change adaptation and the promotion of biodiversity.

As if the lakes did not have enough problems already, there is another one in the form of microplastic. As part of the EU LIFE project „Blue Lakes“, Lake Constance Foundation is developing, among others, recommendations for action for municipalities to reduce plastic and microplastics.

Thanks to our practical assistance, biodiversity-oriented premises are receiving more and more attention from businesses. We actively supported the creation of the sector initiative „Food for Biodiversity“, whose members have signed an ambitious voluntary commitment to protect biodiversity. And with the LIFE project „Insect Responsible Sourcing Regions“ we are treating an innovative landscape approach, supporting regional alliances and bringing insect protection to the field and beyond in seven sourcing regions.

On behalf of the Lake Constance Foundation team, I thank you very much for supporting our work!

Keep very well and all the best,



Marion Hammerl – Managing director and programme manager of the Lake Constance Foundation

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marion Hammerl".



ENERGY TRANSITION

- CoAct – Integrated Urban-rural Concept for the Production of Activated Carbon and Energy Sources from Residual Biomass
- COALESCCE – Community Owned and Led Energy for Security Climate Change and Employment
- CSSC Lab – City Storage and Sector Coupling
- Nature protection aspects in the heating sector
- PV-Network Schwarzwald-Baar-Heuberg
- SocialRES - Together we make energy



AGRICULTURE & THE FOOD SECTOR

- ACCT – Climate Protection and Agriculture (cooperations with AgroCO2ncept, dairy companies and ACCT trainings)
- ALB-GOLD – More Biodiversity in Durum Wheat Cultivation
- AWA – Agricultural Information Service on Sustainable Adaptation to Climate Change
- CAP4GI – Levers and Potentials in the Common Agricultural Policy for Better Support of Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.
- GeNIAL – Educating for Sustainable Adaptation of German Agriculture to Climate Change – Sensitising, Informing, Training
- GIZ INCAS – Sustainability and Added Value in Agricultural Supply Chains
- IKI - From Farm to Fork
- LIFE Clean Air Farming – Reducing Ammonia and Methane Emissions from Agriculture
- LIFE Insect Responsible Sourcing Regions
- Establishment of Model Fruit Plantations for the Promotion of Biodiversity
- PRO PLANET – Apples from Lake Constance



NATURE & LAKE CONSERVATION

- People – Bees – Biodiversity: Engagement with a Benefit
- IKI Living Lakes
- LIFE Blue Lakes – No Microplastic just Waves



BUSINESS & BIODIVERSITY

- LIFE BooGI-BOP – Boosting Urban Green-Infrastructure through Biodiversity-Oriented Design of Business-Premises
- UBi – Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt (Business for Biodiversity)



The mountain is calling!

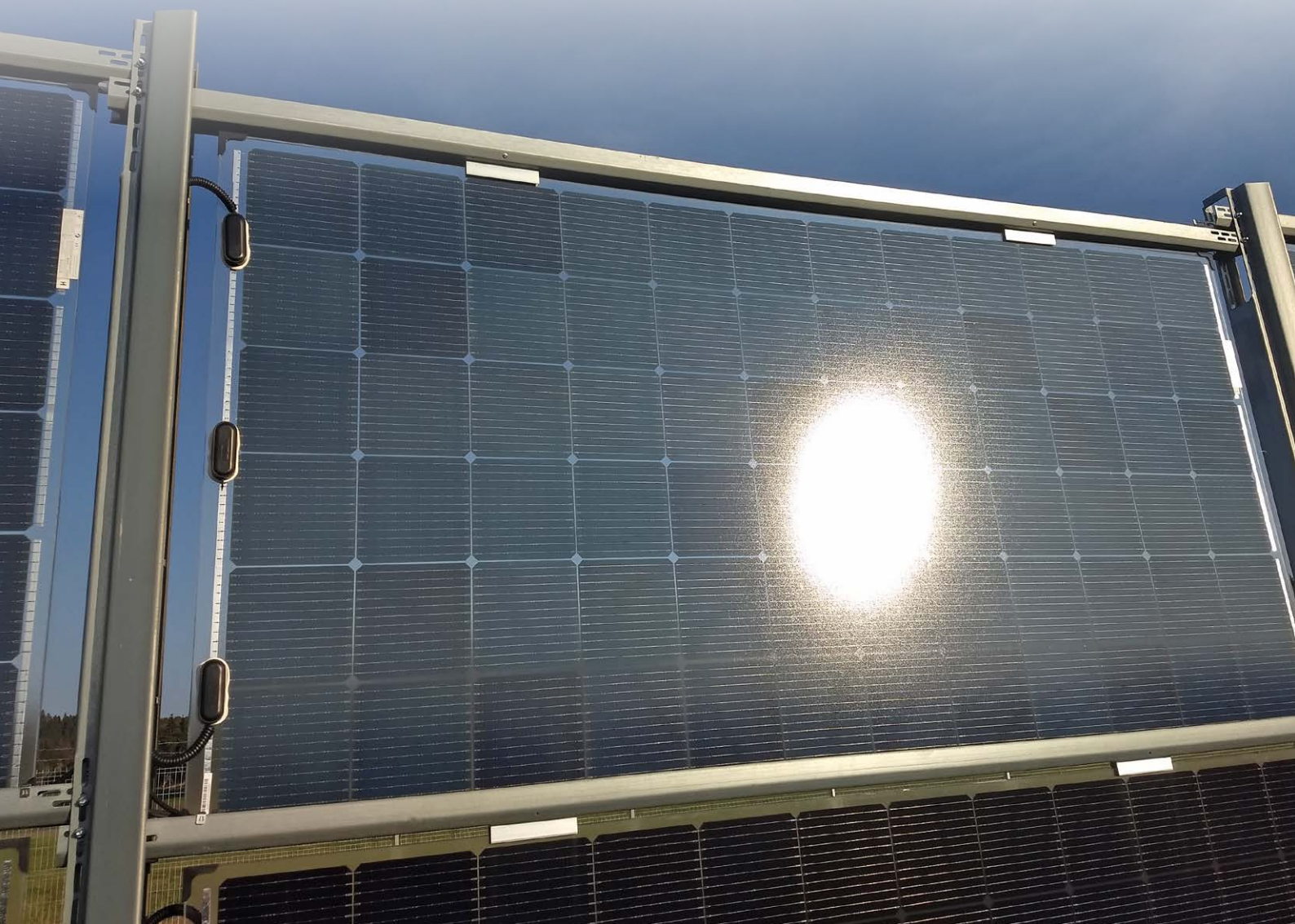
The direction is clear. The path to the 1.5-degree goal is marked with milestones. Since the climate conference in Glasgow, we can also assume that the world's politicians have recognised the signs. It seems that the vast majority of countries now intend to march in the right direction! But the path is steep and strenuous, which is why everyone prefers the flat panoramic path around the outside instead of climbing the mountain as quickly as possible. Even the path with the gentle incline will reach the summit at some point, but unfortunately it will probably be too late by then.

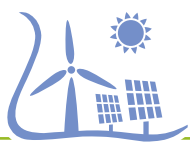
It is crucial time to pick up the pace and not be afraid of the effort. We can help each other and make it up to the top. If not the majority reach the summit in time, it will be very uncomfortable for ALL. The last cable car has already left and the dark night is falling.

In Germany, the society has also recognised this necessity and sent out a clear signal of departure at the last federal election. Let us hope that this momentum will also be used and that Germany will courageously move towards the mountain, motivate and help others

in the process. This confidence is also reflected in all our projects on energy transition, in which we are helping to pave the way in Germany and at the same time encouraging and supporting citizens and municipalities in other European countries.

We are convinced that it is not too late and that we can do our part to protect the climate and make the inevitable change bearable for nature and people. There are many opportunities along the way and if we do it right, we all win!





SocialRES – Together we make energy

Renewable energy is now considered the most important source of energy and, according to calculations by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, two-thirds of the energy needed globally could be provided by green electricity by the middle of the century. Citizens have contributed significantly to this success by implementing important and pioneering projects in private initiatives, energy cooperatives, crowdfunding and aggregation. In order to remain competitive in the future, all these organisations must evolve and create new business models.

This is where SocialRES comes in, with a consortium of research institutions and case studies from across Europe funded by Horizon 2020. Together, current business models are being examined for their potential for expansion, as well as the possibility of combining some of them or developing new ones.

Research questions as a guideline

To what extent can and should the different forms of organisations – cooperatives, crowdfunding platforms and aggregators – work together? What political framework conditions must be

in place to support social innovation in the energy sector? What makes citizens get involved in renewable energies and change their consumption patterns for electricity and heat?

These and other questions are being investigated in SocialRES and interesting interim results are already available. The Lake Constance Foundation supports the research partners with up-to-date regional information, details on the participating cooperatives and organizes study participants or interview partners from its large network. The project website already contains a lot of information on the appropriate framework conditions for social innovations in the energy sector and guidelines for the cooperation with public institutions, renewable energy communities and direct marketing or the possibilities of online trading between prosumers.

Boundless exchange

To share the knowledge with as many actors as possible and to strengthen the socially innovative sector, the partners have developed the exchange platform EESIP (European Energy Social Innovation Platform). Experts on social innova-

tion or renewable energy can register and network on this platform. In addition, numerous reports, studies and best practice examples from all over Europe can be found there. www.eesip.eu

These studies are accompanied by a very concrete exchange and joint learning of the participating case studies. The exchange took place digitally in 2021 and experiences and approaches to solutions were discussed. The workshops dealt with topics such as professionalisation, internal and external communication, mobility as a business model and cooperation with municipalities.

This exchange forms the basis for the individual development of the organisations. This process will be intensified during joint study trips and workshops in the 2022.

COALESCE – THE THIRD PHASE

The pandemic has hit many sectors and businesses hard. Likewise, the field of civic engagement has suffered greatly, and much progress has been wiped out. The Lake Constance Foundation, together with its partners in seven European countries, attempts to investigate how citizen energy has been affected and what solutions have been found. The good approaches are to be shared and disseminated so that the tender shoots of the burgeoning citizen energy do not completely wither, especially in Southern and Eastern Europe. For this purpose, Interreg Europe provided additional funds for another project year.



All-electric local transport connects the cities of Biarritz and Bidart. What still seems futuristic to us has long since become reality in other European countries. This is another reason why the international exchange in the projects is so important.



Six model solutions proposed for the Danube region

As part of the CSSC Lab project (City storage and Sector Coupling), the Lake Constance Foundation has identified six technologies that are particularly suitable for small and medium-sized cities in the Danube region.

The main goal of the project is to facilitate the implementation of new technologies by municipalities. Many technologies have already been implemented or have the potential to be implemented in individual cities. These and other technologies have been presented in factsheets. In order to filter out the six most likely to be implemented from this selection of case studies, the Lake Constance

Foundation conducted numerous interviews with experts. The following criteria had to be met: innovative character, technological availability, transferability and feasibility in the respective partner countries. The results are presented as the six „Model Solutions“:

1. **heat pumps**
2. **electric cars**
3. **batteries**
4. **latent heat storage in combination with photovoltaic systems**
5. **sensible heat storage in combination with photovoltaic systems**
6. **fuel cells in combination with solar systems or heat pumps**

The model solutions were described in detail and provided along with local examples. To ensure the highest possible applicability, all information was translated into all national languages of the participating partners. In the future, the information will be available via an online tool and will enable municipal employees to find the appropriate CSSC solution for their municipality. The project is carried out in Germany in cooperation with the Energy Agency Regio Freiburg.

PV-Network

Why does photovoltaics still need support at all in 2021? Photovoltaics is a mature and well-known technology and visible on many roofs. Acceptance is apparently high.

Nevertheless, the potential in Baden-Württemberg is far from being exhausted. For this reason, the Lake Constance Foundation has been participating in the 1,000 MW campaign of the Baden-Württemberg Renewable Energy Platform since 2021, with the goal of installing 1,000 MW of solar power per year. To achieve this, it will take more than private rooftop installations. Facade PV, parking lot PV, agri-PV, floating PV and solar farms need to be installed as well. The platform has calculated that to meet the target, there must be at least 300 MW per year provided by solar farms, 500 MW could be built on large rooftops of industrial or commercial buildings. 200 MW is contributed by private homeowners* and special installations. For the



A regional train passes through the Mooshof open-space facility: unfortunately, the energy from the solar cells is not yet always introduced into the transport sector, e.g. to move trains. This is because the prerequisite for this is electrification of transport. Unfortunately, diesel locomotives are still in use on many railroad lines in Germany, as is the case here.

success of the campaign, the Lake Constance Foundation has been working together with the energy agency in the Schwarzwald-Baar-Heuberg region and the regional association of the BUND for three years now.

PV-Network

Schwarzwald-Baar-Heuberg

The common focus on an ecological implementation of solar parks shows first successes. In the meantime, no more solar parks are planned regionally wi-



without taking ecology and biodiversity into account. This is a great success of the PV network, as previously the issue played a subordinate role with project development offices and energy supply companies.

Architecture and PV

Architects often see themselves as artists in the construction business. Legal requirements for PV are often understood by architects as a restriction of their artistic freedom. In cooperation with the PV network Donau-Iller and the Chamber of Architects, the PV network organized adapted online training courses in which numerous interested architects participated. The offer was supported by the LEADER group in Schiltach, which acted as a multiplier in the Black Forest region to point out the potential of large rural houses. It remains to be hoped that with the solar obligation introduced for Baden-Württemberg from 2022 for new construction and for large roof renovations, consistent use of the entire roof potential will increase and this will also be implemented artistically.

Municipalities have a duty

Municipalities have the control over the development of PV on their localities. With an area of two percent that each municipality is to make available for ground-mounted PV, a target figure has been defined for the first time. Municipalities must lead by example and equip public roof potential with PV systems and create additional incentives for private homes. Municipalities have taken up the network's offers. In order to further support the municipalities and show new ways, support will be continued in the state of Baden-Württemberg from 2022 (see info box).

PV-Network Schwarzwald-Baar-Heuberg – reloaded

With the decision of the state government of Baden-Württemberg to continue the successful PV networks in the 12 regions in Baden-Württemberg, it was clear to the Lake Constance Foundation that a new edition would not be a gentle reload! The focus is no longer on overcoming concerns, but on providing information and advice to accelerate the expansion.

Under the motto „smart and simple“, the attractiveness of PV will be highlighted and intelligent, modern

solutions for all PV applications will be presented. The connection with sector coupling and energy storage plays a special role. The numerous letters of support from the Chamber of Crafts, the Chamber of Industry and Commerce and all participating districts (!) give the project team with the energy agency of the Schwarzwald-Baar-Heuberg region and the regional BUND a lot of tailwind for the new project phase. The Lake Constance Foundation is looking forward to the start of the cooperation in January 2022.



Mooshof (rechts).



Combining heat transition and nature conservation in an optimal way

Many people are united in their desire to stop climate change. People are already experiencing the consequences of the climate crisis not only in distant regions of the world, but are also confronted with it in Europe.

Policymakers must present solutions and paths for how the energy transition can succeed. In doing so, they must keep in mind the consequences of their decisions for the environment. So far, the focus has been on electricity generation, but the switch to renewable energies must also succeed in other sectors. With 50 percent of final energy consumption in Germany, an environmentally compatible conversion must also succeed in the heating sector. To date, well over 80 percent of the energy required for buildings, water heating and process heat is generated from fossil fuels. The use of renewable energies has consequences for energy supply and the environment.

Tackled by the North and the South of Germany

In the two-year project „Aspects of nature conservation in future regulations for heating and cooling“, the Lake Constance Foundation, together with the Hamburg Institute, examined political instruments and analysed their effect on nature conservation. Synergy effects for climate and nature conservation were described in order to achieve a maximum benefit for nature with a manageable additional effort. The integrative consideration of nature conservation, climate protection and energy production also increases the acceptance for upcoming measures in the heat sector and supports the work with the local population.

New insights for known technologies

While the conflict between nature conservation and renewable energy is well studied for electricity generation from wind, ground-mounted PV as well as biomass, this is hardly the case for heat technologies so far. In the project, an orientation framework and knowledge base for the integration of nature conservation concerns into the development of future heat supply was established. Concrete recommendations for the adaptation of policy instruments support the implementation of heat projects and the balance between stakeholders.

For all available and probable technologies, efficiency measures and infrastructures, the specific impact on nature, landscape and area was determined. These impacts were analyzed and discussed in exchange with a project advisory working group (PAG).

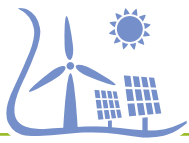
With the findings from the analysis and the input of the PAG, basic principles and concrete recommendations for action for a nature conservation-compatible heat transition could be derived. The future role of biomass has been particularly controversial. „Biomass should continue to be used for heat generation according to current political objectives. However, it is recognized that the available domestic potential is limited by land restrictions,“ states the final report, which will be published in BfN's Skripten Reihe in early 2022. For the Lake Constance Foundation, which for many years has advocated increased greening in biomass production, this is a good sign to continue paying increased attention to the proper use of biomass in the future. There is an opportunity to do so within the framework of the new project „Municipal Heat Planning“ (see BOX).

Municipal heat planning

The aim of municipal heating planning is to support municipalities in the expansion and conversion of a climate-neutral heat supply. Measures that can be implemented are presented to the municipalities, always with a view to ensuring that the heating concepts complement each other and are applicable to the entire municipal or city area. In cooperation with the energy agency of the Schwarzwald-Baar-Heuberg region, which is in charge of this project, the Lake Constance Foundation will coordinate the expert network

from Jan 2022 and promote the creation of best practice examples for easier implementation. In addition, the Lake Constance Foundation will incorporate the new developments and findings from the European projects CSSC and COALESCCE in order to make the Schwarzwald-Baar-Heuberg region a pioneer region for municipal heating planning in Baden-Württemberg.

The project is funded by the state of Baden-Württemberg and has a duration of 36 months.



CoAct enters the next phase

In the five-year CoAct project to produce activated carbon from residual biomass, the three-year research and development phase came to an end in 2021. At the end of this phase, the project partners compiled the results to date in an internal report, which also represented the second milestone for the project. It was dependent on this report, or rather the results and findings presented, whether the CoAct project could enter the second phase – the implementation and continuation phase.

Conclusion of the R&D phase

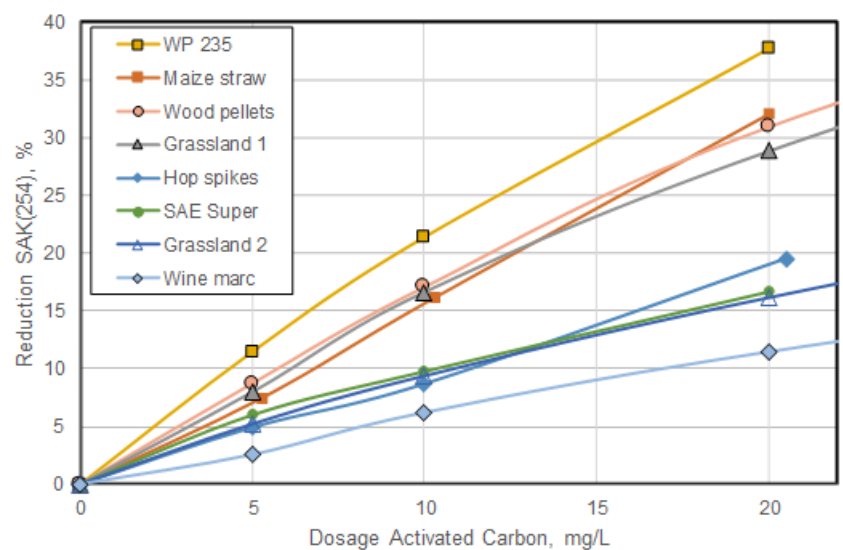
The essential information of the potential and status analysis is quickly summarized: There is a high theoretical potential of residual biomass in Lake Constance district. Even if the residual biomasses are limited to the project-specific focus biomasses corn straw, high trunk cuttings, shrub and hedge cuttings, landscape maintenance material from litter meadows, roadside greenery, hop chaff, grape marc, which are available to a greater extent or are interesting for utilization based on the preliminary investigations, there is still a high potential that exceeds the Lake Constance district's demand for activated carbon many times over.

On a laboratory scale, activated carbons could be produced from all of these focus biomasses. In tests with treated wastewater from the Kressbronn-Langenargen wastewater treatment plant, some activated carbons were found to have purification efficiencies comparable to those of conventional powdered activated carbons. In the removal of some indicator trace substances, such as the painkiller diclofenac, the bio-based activated carbons were even able to achieve higher purification efficiencies.

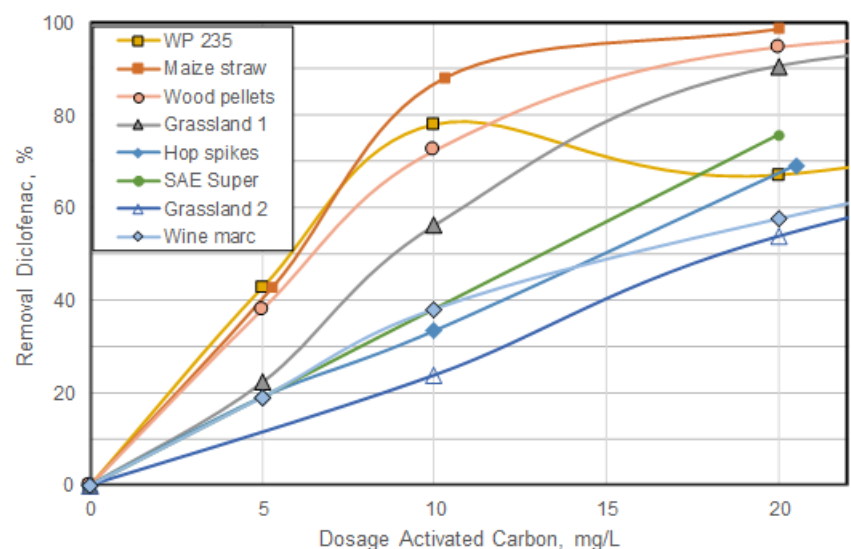
Comparison of biogenic CoAct activated carbons vs. conventional fossil activated carbons

The life cycle assessment tool was used for the ecological evaluation. For this

purpose, emissions and resource consumption from the processes from harvesting or collection to treatment and thermal utilization of the loaded bio-based activated carbon were added up and compared with the current



Removal performance for SAK(254) of different CoAct carbons (TZW)



Removal performance for diclofenac of different CoAct carbons (TZW)



recycling routes and the use of fossil activated carbons. Overall, each plant-based activated carbon produced in the project yields savings in ecological loads (greenhouse effect, resource depletion, acidification, eutrophication, particulate matter (PM_{2.5})).

For the economic analysis, the recycling of the residual biomass via a possible CoAct process was compared with the current recycling routes. So far, none of the biomasses considered has been able to compete with the current recycling route via the CoAct process. This is certainly largely due to the fact that the CoAct plant was planned „on a greenfield site“. The affiliation with existing facilities such as recycling centers, wastewater treatment plants or biogas plants with existing infrastructure offers significant potential savings. Further development of the very young technology will also reduce investment costs. To bridge this phase, funding for the pilot plant could be supportive.

An important chapter in the report was the biomass checklists. Here, all results

and findings available for the prioritized residual biomasses were compiled. In order to be able to transparently present the changed utilization paths of the residual biomasses in terms of their ecological, economic and social impact and thus compare the different residual biomasses, the information was entered into a biomass decision matrix developed in the project. In a further step, the biomass checklists were prepared for interested parties and posted on the website: www.bodensee-stiftung.org/coact/. (German)

Stakeholders in the region

From the very beginning, the actors in the region involved in the generation and disposal or recycling of residual materials played an important role in the CoAct project. Farmers, building yard managers, service providers and representatives of municipal institutions have contributed with their knowledge to the success of the project so far. In order to bring the stakeholders along at the conclusion of the R&D phase, the Lake Constance Foundation offered a digital information event at which the results

were presented in edited form. The recording of the information event can also be found on the project website. In a scenario workshop, the project partners discussed four plant variants at various locations in the region with selected regional stakeholders. The discussions clearly showed the advantages and disadvantages of individual plant variants and what needs to be considered in each case. One result was a clear endorsement of a plant variant with IFBB technology (integrated solid fuel and biogas production from biomass). By mashing and subsequent pressing, both woody and herbaceous residual biomass can be processed. The positive feedback from the participants confirms the work done so far in the project.

Implementation and stabilization phase

In the implementation and stabilization phase, which is now underway, the focus is on developing the CoAct plant scenarios at the Kressbronn-Langenargen wastewater treatment plant and a disposal center in the Lake Constance district.



In the second phase, the previous findings will be deepened and concretized in an exemplary manner for the two site options disposal center and wastewater treatment plant Kressbronn-Langenargen (archive 2019).



„The Future of Agriculture – A Task for Society as a Whole“

This is the title of the final report of the German Commission on the Future of Agriculture (ZKL), which was presented by its 31 members in the summer. The commission consisted of representatives of all stakeholder groups relevant to agricultural politics: the agricultural sector, businesses, consumer protection, environmental protection, animal welfare and science. The task seemed unsolvable: agreeing on a transformation of agriculture and the food system, taking the whole society into account. Going away from an agricultural policy and food industry that has been heading into a dead end for decades, with dramatic damages to farms, livestock, nature and the climate; towards an ecologically sustainable, economically successful and socially accepted agriculture.

It is a huge success that the ZKL has largely succeeded in doing this coherently. All commission members deserve great respect and acknowledgement for

their sense of responsibility and for the results. The key points are:

- An attractive remuneration for all farms helping produce common goods, so that e.g. climate protection and biodiversity promotion become worthwhile branches of farming.
- A minimum share of ecological structures and non-productive areas for the preservation of flora and fauna.
- Linking CAP direct payments to societal goals such as nature, environmental and climate protection.
- Greater cooperation at regional level between agriculture and nature conservation in the implementation of agri-environmental and climate measures.

Many stakeholders from nature conservation and agriculture see this as a sign for a nature-friendly, socially just and economically viable agriculture. Considering that the ZKL estimates the

social follow-up costs of the current agriculture in Germany at over 90 billion euros annually, it is not only a climate and biodiversity crisis, but also economic necessities that make an agricultural and food transition inevitable. The ZKL estimates the costs for a change of course at only seven to eleven billion euros. So, a transition is worth for nature, the climate and our wallets!

The solution for saving farms, climate and nature is now on the table. The key players agree on the goals, the way to achieve them and that the transformation has to start now. Unfortunately, the new federal government has hardly taken up the ZKL results in the coalition agreement. That is not acceptable. It is not possible. The ZKL results must be translated into ambitious political objectives, effective laws and attractive funding programmes.

Implement! ZKL results! Now!





LIFE Insect-responsible sourcing regions – making the country buzz again!



Following the Krefeld Study of 2017, more and more studies show that the loss of insects has taken on a dramatic extent. Almost every second wild bee species in Germany is endangered or already extinct. In the meantime, more flower strips and nesting aids for insects can be seen all over the country. However, to reverse the trend, insect protection measures need to be much more effective on a larger scale - and not only on fields and meadows. Therefore, the Lake Constance Foundation has once again significantly increased its efforts for insect protection and launched the

EU LIFE project Insect-responsible Sourcing Regions.

Achieving more impact through regional alliances

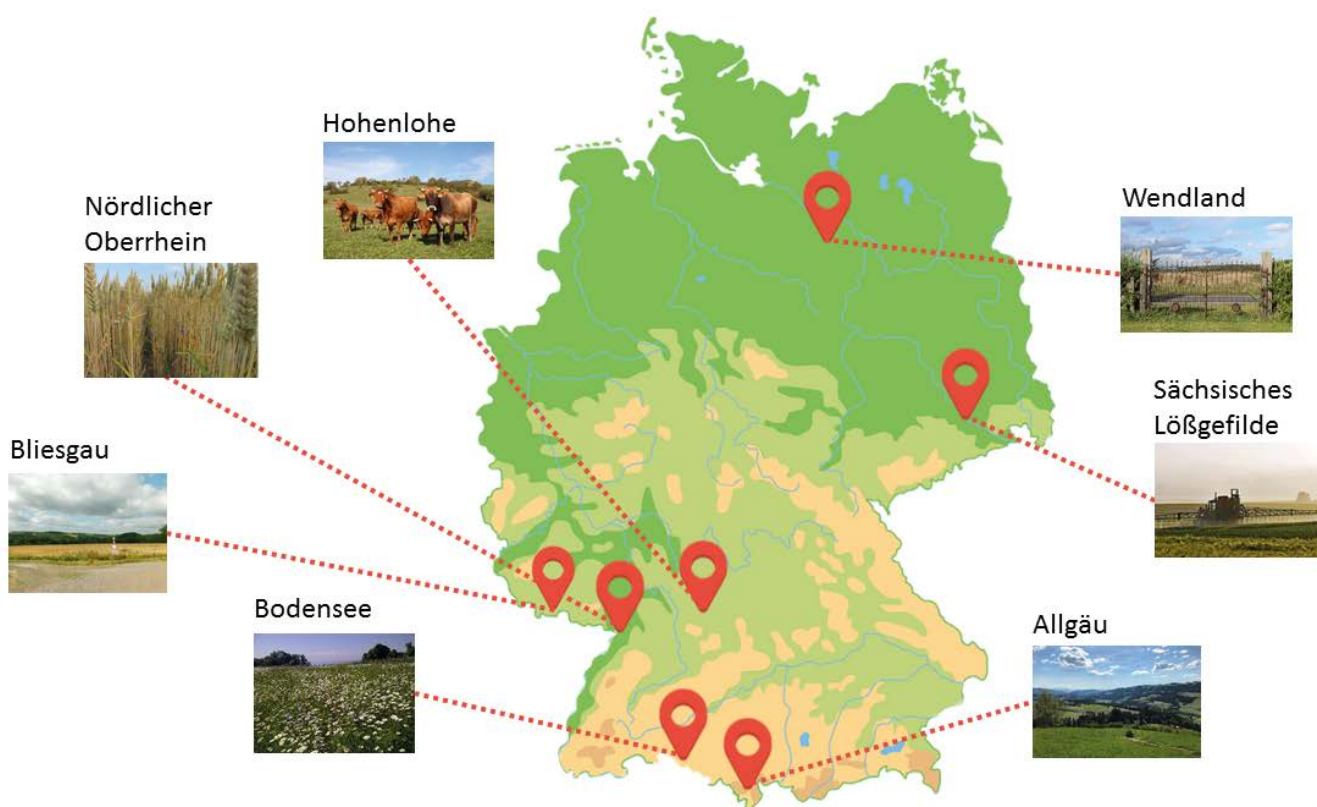
Together with the project partners Global Nature Fund, Netzwerk Blühende Landschaft, Bäuerliche Erzeugergemeinschaft Schwäbisch Hall and Nestlé Germany, seven insect-responsible sourcing regions (IRSR) have now been created (see map). The IRSR Lake Constance and IRSR Northern Upper Rhine are managed by the Lake Constance Foundation. In all regions, regional alliances are being

created with experts from agriculture, the food industry, nature conservation and local authorities to establish insect conservation measures over large areas. A regional strategy and a tailor-made regional biodiversity action plan for each IRSR serve as the basis for this.

Insect protection measures for arable land, grasslands, orchards and vineyards

Regional priority measures for the different land uses are defined with local experts. In the IRSR Lake Constance, the stakeholders want to promote accep-

Our insect-friendly regions



The seven insect-friendly regions have very different agricultural structures.



The maize and runner bean mixture provides an additional food source for bumblebees in late summer.

tance for following measures on arable land, in order to create more food sources and habitat for wild bees and butterflies in the region: mixed cropping with a flowering component, undersowing of flowering plants, crops with an added value for insects (e.g. poppies) or strips for beneficial insects to reduce pesticides. In orchards and vineyards, driving lanes should be made more species-rich and mulched alternately. This not only promotes pollinators but grasshoppers as well. There is also great interest in agroforestry, the combination of agriculture with trees and shrubs on the same area.

Demonstration farms for effective insect protection

Ten demonstration farms in each IRSR are making insect conservation a reality in the first phase of the project. On these farms, closely accompanied by

the project partners, measures are implemented, tested and in some cases accompanied by species monitoring. An important goal is to better link the landscape and farm level: measures are to be implemented primarily where they are particularly important and effective for insects. In the coming years, the experiences will be presented in the region. On-field events with exchange of experience between practitioners are planned.

Insect protection not only on farmland

In addition to agriculture, insect protection measures can also be established in municipalities, in forests or in quarrying sites. The first municipalities, forestry companies and also the Industrieverband Steine und Erden Baden-Württemberg (industry association rock and earth, ISTE) have expressed interest in becoming active in the project. At the IRSR Lake Constance, the concept of bee deals will be presented to municipalities. Insect-friendly lighting and the optimisation of the biotope network are further important topics.

In the IRSR Northern Upper Rhine, forest is of considerable importance (~36 % forest share in the Rhine-Neckar district). The regional forestry administration, which already pursues nature conservation objectives on considerable parts of the forest area, is very open to the IRSR project. In April 2022, all employees of the forestry office will be trained on the topic of „Promoting insect diversity through tree species selection“. In addition, there are large properties of the Rhine-Moselle Federal Forestry Office in the Rhine-Neckar district. The management of restricted areas, which are mainly used for military purposes, will be re-planned in terms of nature conservation from January 2022. The Lake Constance Foundation will be able to contribute to the conception of the biodiversity strategy of the Federal Forestry Office.

Performance should pay-off – this also applies to insect protection

The close cooperation of all stakeholders along the supply chain, from agriculture to food processing and retailing, is a key aspect in ensuring that ecological services can be better valorised. Farmers need attractive incentives to do more insect conservation on their land. The possibilities range from better communication to regional flower funds to surcharge marketing concepts, and should be developed and tested in the regions. A recent survey of consumers on the topic of „insect-friendliness“ by the project partner Nestlé serves as orientation. The survey clearly shows that the sensitivity, demand and willingness to pay for food with an added biodiversity value are firmly anchored in the minds of the majority of customers.

Strengthening insect competence – especially in the food sector

Awareness and knowledge on the enormous importance of biodiversity and insects must also grow rapidly in the food sector, among companies and quality standards. Nature conservation must be much more strongly understood and rewarded by buyers and product managers as a fundamental part of product quality. To this end, the Lake Constance Foundation has developed special training modules and training materials for the sector and has very successfully carried out a first training course in South Tyrol. The materials can be used by companies, associations and standards for their own training.

More information:

www.insect-responsible.org



„Biodiversity bears fruit“

This is one of the slogans of the campaign to raise consumer awareness for buying bananas and pineapples that have been produced in a more biodiversity-friendly way. Bananas are the second most popular fruit among Germans, right after apples. Even though sustainability standards and organic labels are becoming increasingly important, many bananas and pineapples are still produced unsustainably. Biodiversity is particularly affected by these negative impacts!

The conception of the campaign and the motivation of the actors along the supply chain to participate is an important task of the Global Nature Fund and the Lake Constance Foundation in the IKI project „From Farm to Fork“. The campaign started at the end of 2021 with information on social media. In 2022, campaigns in supermarkets and advertisements in household brochures are to follow. Fairtrade and Rainforest Alliance support the campaign and guarantee with their standards that the certified bananas and pineapples were grown in a more biodiversity-friendly way.

In the meantime, more than 60 banana and pineapple plantations in the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica have completed a “Biodiversity Check Agrícola” and, with the support of the project team, have selected on-site measures to protect ecosystems and species. They are currently implementing their Biodiversity Action Plans and protecting or restoring habitats, creating biotope corridors, improving their soil and water management or switching to integrated pest management. The measures are adapted to the different baselines of the plantations. For the monitoring of the activities, the Biodiversity Performance App is available.

The “Biodiversity Check Agrícola Convoy” was developed for smallholder farms or-

ganised in cooperatives. Here, a biodiversity action plan is drawn up for all members of the cooperative. A check of about 10 representative plantations provided the basis for the selection of measures. Managers of the cooperative receive comprehensive training to support the smallholders in the implementation.

The campaign „Biodiversity bears fruit“ wants to sensitize the stakeholders of the supply chain and consumers that these products have an added value and that they should be prepared to pay an appropriate price for them. The protection of biodiversity is essential - but includes costs and cannot be realized for free!

Another important component of the project is the financing of biological corridors in areas where bananas or pineapples are intensively cultivated. Currently,

measures are planned for two out of three corridors to restore and connect habitats, improve the water quality of rivers, protect endangered species, etc. Food companies, producers and exporters have the opportunity to invest in biodiversity by financing packages of measures and therefore can support the conservation of ecosystems and their important „services“.

Due to COVID19, the trainings for farmers, plantation managers and workers could only take place virtually in 2021, but were well received. In the meantime, other institutions have included the modules in their training programmes. The project duration was extended by one year to October 2023. This means that pandemic-related delays can be caught up and all project goals can be achieved.





Sector Initiative „Food for Biodiversity“

In March 2021, the association „Food for Biodiversity“ was founded and currently has 21 members coming from the food industry, agriculture, science and NGOs. All of them have signed an ambitious voluntary commitment. The consideration of a basic set of biodiversity criteria for agricultural products that have a negative effect on species and eco-

systems, biodiversity monitoring, training for producers and for managers in companies, or incentives for farmers to improve the protection of biodiversity... - the work plan is extensive! Companies and standards underline the benefits of working together on the major challenge of mainstreaming biodiversity protection in the food production in all supply chains.



Strengthening biodiversity and sustainability in global agricultural supply chains

Three years ago, the Lake Constance Foundation, Fundación Humedales and Rainforest Alliance developed the Biodiversity Performance Tool for coffee plantations in Colombia. After that, the application stalled and is now being revived as part of the GIZ INCAS project. Since December 2021, Fundación Humedales cooperates with the COOCENTRAL cooperative with over 600 small-

holder coffee farmers in Colombia. The aim is to implement a Biodiversity Action Plan at the landscape level - using the Biodiversity Performance Tool. The Fundación is supported by the Lake Constance Foundation.

In addition to substantial improvements of the biodiversity performance in the cultivation of coffee and cocoa,

the GIZ project aims to achieve appropriate marketing of the products. On the one hand, the current revenues are often not enough for smallholder farmers to feed their families and send their children to school. On the other hand, companies and consumers expect social and ecological standards to be met - measures that are often associated with additional costs. Smallholder farmers cannot bear these costs!



Global Nature Fund and the Lake Constance Foundation have taken on the task of getting companies in the food industry on board by motivating them to buy biodiversity-friendly coffee and cocoa and to reward the added value of the products. The association „Food for Biodiversity“, founded in March 2021, is a very good platform for this, but companies beyond this association are also being approached.

Coffee plantation with shade trees and banana trees in Colombia.



Cooperation with 4C Coffee Code of Conduct

The 4C Coffee Standard certifies about 1.6 million tons of green coffee annually, making it the most widely used standard for coffee. In the past year, the Lake Constance Foundation and Fundación Humedales have been supporting the 4C Standard and the Vietnamese environmental organisation ADC in adapting the Biodiversity Performance Tool to coffee cultivation in Vietnam. Not so easy in times of COVID19, but ADC managed to apply the Biodiversity Performance Tool (BPT) on five pilot farms and to document and assess the current situation. ADC then worked with the smallholder farmers to develop a Biodiversity Action Plan for each farm, which is now being implemented. The farms document the improvements in the BPT. With the BPT, 4C provides coffee producers with a tool to better implement the biodiversity criteria of the standard.



Living fences around the coffee plantation provide habitat for species in Vietnam.

Fruit orchards for the future are being created in Baden-Württemberg

In close cooperation between agriculture, nature conservation, research and education, six exemplary model orchards are being created across the state of Baden-Württemberg. The Lake Constance Foundation is a partner in the project „Model Fruit Growing Orchards for the Promotion of Biological Diversity“, which is coordinated by the Baden-Württemberg Land Agency and funded by the Ministry for Rural Affairs and Consumer Protection Baden-Württemberg.

Model orchards offer practical demonstrations

The planning and realisation of the orchards is carried out in close profes-

sional cooperation with the State Teaching and Research Institute for Viticulture and Fruit Growing Weinsberg, the Lake Constance Centre of Competence for Fruit Growing, the Centre for Agricultural Technology Augustenberg, two fruit-growing farms and the Landsiedlung Baden-Württemberg.

The measures for more biodiversity in the model orchards are diverse. The spectrum ranges from nesting aids for birds and wild bees, roosts for bats and shelters for lizards and other species, to the creation of flower strips and species-rich flowering driving lanes. Earthworms benefit from a reduction in herbicide

use, grasshoppers from strip mulching. Hedges and anchor plants create additional habitat for wildlife.

The Lake Constance Foundation has developed a training concept to ensure that this knowledge is also used in professional training, practice and expert advice. It includes a teaching module with teaching materials for use in agricultural schools. In the next phase of the project, excursions to the model orchards will be developed and educational videos will be produced in order to motivate as many fruit growers as possible for more nature conservation.



The annual species monitoring includes the survey of wild bees, birds and grasshoppers as well as the flora. Based on the monitoring results, nature conservation measures can be optimised and thus the potential of orchards for nature conservation can be better utilised.

Maximum sustainability in the orchard of the future

From 2022 onwards, an experimental orchard will be planted on the Heuchlingen experimental fruit farm under the direction of Dr. Franz Rueß, in which the latest findings on the most sustainable production of apples will be brought together. The goals are to do away with treatments of the tree trunk in the long



Species-rich sown tramlines provide food for insects and habitat for grasshoppers.

term and to greatly reduce the use of fungicides and insecticides.

New wild bee monitoring in the PRO PLANET apple project at Lake Constance

The fourth wild bee monitoring took place in 2021. This time wild bee experts also examined flowering areas and nesting aids planted by around 150 fruit farms as part of the PRO PLANET apple project. The results are expected in January 2022.

ALB-GOLD: Biodiversity proven – project currently on hold

Everything was already organised in spring. The concept for more biodiversity in durum wheat cultivation developed by ALB-GOLD, the Ifab Institute and the Lake Constance Foundation was to be presented to all contract farmers of the pasta producer in southern and eastern Germany during several field

days. Then came the third COVID19 wave, and the exchange of experiences in the field turned into several virtual field days with low participation. Pleasing was, that positive effects for biodiversity could be demonstrated on the pilot farms in summer. Unfortunately, the project has to be put on hold now

and cannot be implemented as planned from the 2021/22 growing season. The reason for this is the extreme increase in durum wheat prices due to crop failures in North America and Europe, which is why it has not been possible to conclude cultivation contracts with the measures to be implemented.



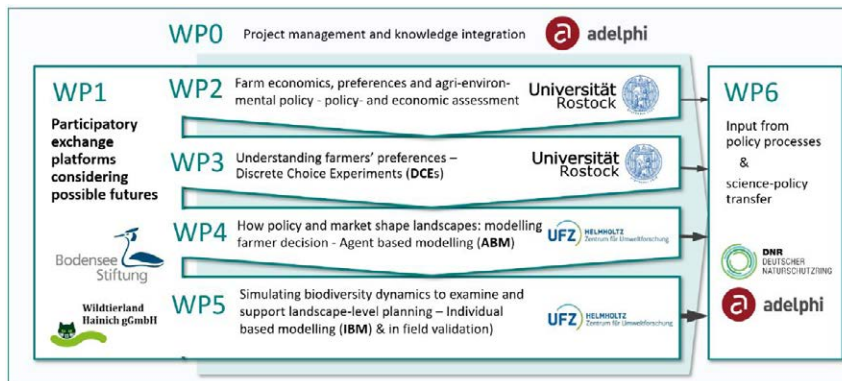
Perennial flowering strip planted as part of the ALB-GOLD project



CAP4GI – New project for more exchange with agriculture

The CAP4GI project application has been approved! In close dialogue and exchange with agriculture, the aim is to find ways to improve the ecological effectiveness of measures through a landscape approach by 2024. The ambitious

research project is a joint initiative of adelphi, the Thünen Institute, the University of Rostock, the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ) and the German Nature Conservation Ring (DNR). The Lake Constance Foundation and Wildtierland Hainich gGmbH are practice partners and responsible for so-called participatory exchange platforms in the two model regions Baden-Württemberg and Thuringia.



Project structure of the CAP4GI research project.

LIFE Clean Air Farming – Air pollution control through agriculture

At the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow (COP26) this year, an important milestone was set for the reduction of methane emissions. More than 100 countries, including Germany, have joined the „Global Methane Pledge“ launched at the COP26. The goal is to reduce global methane emissions by 30 % by 2030 compared to 2020. Agriculture plays a key role in this.

Around 40 % of global anthropogenic methane emissions come from agriculture. In Germany, 63 % of methane emissions came from this sector in 2019. In order for Germany to contribute to the Methane Pledge, emissions from agriculture must be reduced.

In the project Clean-Air-Farming, ways to reduce methane emissions are being identified. A position paper, which was intensively discussed with agricultural associations, formulates demands to German policy-makers on how a reduction of methane and also ammonia emissions can be achieved.

One of the positions is to formulate a reduction target for methane. This has now been achieved at the COP26. The hope remains, that targets for the agricultural sector will be set at the European level. The project is working on this through dissemination activities with partners in Brussels.

For a clean air, an additional reduction of ammonia emissions is very important. With the position paper and the



demand for an air quality programme for agriculture, a first step can be taken. But the food industry can also make an important contribution. The recommendations developed for effective criteria for air pollution control were disseminated to relevant standards and food companies in Germany and in Europe. Since France, along with Germany, is a major emitter of ammonia in Europe, it is important to address the companies there as well.

The recommendations are available in English, French and German and are intended to serve as a guideline for standards and companies to revise their criteria and pay more attention to air pollution control.

The digestion of ruminants causes around 77 % of methane emissions in Germany.



GeNIAL - Education for Sustainable Adaptation of Agriculture in Germany to Climate Change – Raising Awareness, Informing, Qualifying

Current training materials for agricultural schools available

One of the approaches of the project GeNIAL is to introduce the topic of climate change and adaptation to future farmers. To this end, the Lake Constance Foundation, together with its partners, the LLH (Landesbetrieb Landwirtschaft Hessen), the LTZ (Landwirtschaftliches Technologiezentrum Augustenberg) and the LEL (Landesanstalt für Landwirtschaft, Ernährung und ländlichen Raum, Schwäbisch Gmünd), has developed training materials for agricultural schools. Teachers have access to documents on 18 different topics such as the general topic of climate change, fertilisation, plant physiology, grassland, cattle feeding and many more. The documents consist of a teaching module with instructions on how to prepare the lesson, a

PowerPoint presentation, supplementary work assignments for the students as well as tips on literature and links. All of the material can be used, but it is also possible to only integrate certain slides or assignments in the lessons. The training materials are available to teachers in Hessen and Baden-Württemberg via their Moodle platforms and to all other interested parties for download from the GeNIAL website: www.genial-klima.de.

Brochures for a self-check regarding farm vulnerability and adaptation are available

Another result of the project are the vulnerability and adaptation brochures, which farmers can use in a first step to independently assess the vulnerability or adaptation status of their arable farms to climate change. The

aim is to make farmers more aware of this issue and to increase their motivation to (further) reduce their vulnerability. In order to be able to maintain farm yields and qualities at a good level in the future, sustainable adaptation measures are presented that can simultaneously contribute to sustainability, climate protection and biodiversity. These brochures are also available for free download on the GENIAL website (see above).

Training events on concrete adaptation measures

In order to be able to pass on information on concrete adaptation measures directly to interested and already trained farmers, a field event on the cultivation of chickpeas was organised together with the LTZ. This crop, which originates from south-eastern



All information and results on the GeNIAL project now at: www.genial-klima.de



Turkey, is attracting increasing interest due to its heat and drought tolerance, but also due to the growing demand from consumers for regional products. In the field of forage production, an event on the topic of maize-bean mixtures was held together with the LAZ-BW (Baden-Württemberg Agricultural Centre). Mixtures with legumes have a positive effect on soil structure and can thus enhance the soil as a central element on the path of on-farm adaptation to climate change.

The project GeNIAL could be presented to interested farmers, farm advisors and teachers at various (mostly digital) events and seminars this year, including the KTBL symposium on soil,

the symposium of the International Academy for Rural Advisors (IALB) and the BioAgrar trade fair. Until the end of the project in April 2022, concepts

will also be developed to support the advisory staff in their everyday advisory work on the topic of climate change adaptation.



Heavy rainfall and long periods of rain severely restrict cultivation.

A webtool for sustainable adaptation in Europe

The „AgriAdapt Webtool for Adaptation“, or AWA for short, which was developed in the LIFE project AgriAdapt, was the starting point for the development of a new tool at European level on behalf of Copernicus, the EU's Earth observation programme. The development was done in collaboration with Solagro, Fundación Global Nature and Estonian University of Life Sciences.

Copernicus offers a climate change service (C3S) that „supports society by providing reliable information on past, present and future climate“. C3S offers a wide range of information and datasets around climate change, which are also interesting for agricultural stakeholders. However, the data sets are often too big and not in a format that can be used by agricultural stakeholders. The aim is therefore to develop an agriculturally relevant and easy-to-use tool to build a bridge between scientific findings and their application in the agricultural practice.

This requires, for example, ready-made graphs with indicators relevant to agriculture. It was important to the project partners to choose indicators and

thresholds that can be applied across Europe. The tool will be available to agricultural stakeholders across Europe in 2022.



By spreading the risk on a single farm, mixed cropping is an effective measure for adapting to climate change.



Climate protection in agriculture

Step by step towards more climate protection in agriculture

The goal of the Lake Constance Foundation is clear: food should be produced in the most climate-friendly way possible, thereby reducing greenhouse gases (GHG) from agriculture. One focus of the Lake Constance Foundation in recent years has been on dairy farms. On the one hand, emissions from greenhouse gases are particularly high in this sector, but on the other hand, the milk-processing industry shows a big interest in climate mitigation and a willingness to act. In order to achieve the greatest possible effect, the Lake Constance Foundation is therefore working on several projects with cheese dairy and dairy companies, but also with advisors for climate mitigation of the federal states (Germany) and cantons (Switzerland).

An ideal climate mitigation project combines three different working areas:

- calculation of GHG emissions and selection of suitable measures
- further training and motivation of farmers
- integration of climate mitigation into the companies' sustainability programmes and implementation of measures.

So far, each project has focused on one of these aspects. In the future, however, the other topics will also be increasingly addressed in long-term cooperations.

Increasing demand for ACCT 2020 training courses

There are currently several tools and methods for conducting greenhouse gas balances for farms. One of the most popular is ACCT 2020, which was co-developed by the Lake Constance Foundation. Its strengths are the detailed analysis, the full transparency and traceability

of the calculations and the manageable effort for users. This is why more and more advisors from administration, agriculture and the food industry are interested in being trained in the use of the tool as well as in climate mitigation measures. In 2021, ACCT training courses were held for the Swiss cantons of Graubünden and Zug, the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate, and for various private consulting firms. The Lake Constance Foundation passes on ACCT 2020 to participants free of charge after they have successfully completed the two-day training, as every consultation with it leads to more climate mitigation on farms.

AgroCO2ncept - long-term partnership in the Canton of Zurich

Last year, the long-term cooperation with Swiss farmers from the Flaachthal brought numerous insights that are important for the project itself, but also for the implementation of sustainable climate mitigation measures in agriculture in general. The Lake Constance Foundation analysed selected measures in detail, such as adapted animal management and the use of manure in a biogas

plant, and calculated the possible GHG savings. In addition to the detailed analysis of individual measures, the Lake Constance Foundation monitored the progress towards lower GHG emissions at farm level - taking into account all existing knowledge from the previous project years. The long-term project, which was launched in 2012, will continue to be accompanied by the Lake Constance Foundation in the coming years. The long-term cooperation with the Swiss partners offers a unique opportunity to gather practical experience over a long period of time and to jointly develop and implement sustainable solutions.

Cheese dairy Hochland and dairy Bechtel - on the way to the ideal project

The Lake Constance Foundation works intensively with the cheese dairy company Hochland and its supplier, the dairy company Bechtel. Here, the first step was to implement working area 1, with the calculation of greenhouse gas emissions for a total of 69 dairy farms. The results of the analysis served as a basis for calculating the mitigation potential of selected measures and selecting suitable climate mitigation measures for the companies. The aim was to get an initial overview of the GHG emissions per litre milk, so that in the next step these measures could be integrated into the quality requirements of the dairy companies and thus bring about more climate protection on the supplying farms. The chances are good that this cooperation will lead to an ideal climate mitigation project: with the calculation of emissions and the selection of measures, the further training of farms and the integration into the sustainability programmes of the companies.



Dairy farms are a focus of the Lake Constance Foundation in greenhouse gas balancing.



Cheese dairy Champignon: lighthouse farm for more climate mitigation

In summer 2021, the Lake Constance Foundation officially launched the „Low Carbon Farms“ cooperation with the cheese dairy company Champignon in Allgäu/Bavaria. Together, five dairy farms were selected to comprehensively calculate and evaluate their climate footprint. Intensive consultation with the lighthouse farms began at the end of the year. Together with the farm managers, the results are discussed and individual action plans for saving greenhouse gas emissions will be developed. In 2022, the Lake Constance Foundation will support the farms in the implementation of climate mitigation measures and subsequently draw up new GHG



By cultivating legumes, nitrogen fertiliser can be saved - a simple climate protection measure.

balances in order to verify the climate mitigation effects. The lighthouse farms are to clearly demonstrate the feasibility

of the climate mitigation measures and thus convince other farmers and motivate them to become active themselves.





The „Hyper-Mutant“ or: Solutions are available – but the problems continue to grow!

Despite the many reasons to be pessimistic, progress to protect nature and water bodies and their associated ecosystems has been made and a number of achievements can be announced: overall, the general awareness for the need to conserve and restore nature and water bodies has been growing. Lake Constance foundation is partner in the ambitious project “Blue Lakes” which aims at reducing immissions of microplastics in water bodies. Additionally, the international network “Living

Lakes” has just received support for the implementation of a large “IKI-project” and – last but not least – another batch of “flower ambassadors” was trained as part of the activities of the project “Citizens-Bees-Biodiversity”. Again, the training workshops were fully booked.

However, the next “hyper-mutant” is just around the corner: with the grace of a bull in a china shop, climate change has been “sneaking up on us” for quite some time. Surprise! It finally caught up:

over the course of the next years and decades, it will disrupt the ecology of our rivers and lakes – for most ecosystems, a rough ride lies ahead. This will lead to some tense debates: While it will always be the right course of action to keep microplastics out of our rivers and lakes – however our efforts to mitigate climate change turn out – the question of what kind of nature we want to (and can!) conserve has not even started yet. While it may be a dubious pleasure: entertainment guaranteed!





IKI Living Lakes – Protection of Biodiversity and Climate

The joy in the Living Lakes Network was great when in 2020 the invitation of the Federal Ministry for the Environment came to further formulate and prepare the application for a comprehensive IKI project. In 2021, the Global Nature Fund and the 13 Living Lakes members involved - among them the Lake Constance Foundation - concretised the planned measures and discussed them with the ministries in the federal states. Indicators and budgets were revised and then in October the time had finally come: The complete IKI application was submitted.

What do we want to achieve with this large project with a budget of over 8 million euros and a duration of five years? In 10 lake regions, the foundations for effective lake protection are to be improved: Extensive training for those involved in lake management in municipalities and in environmental organizations; Sustainable Leadership Journeys to sharpen the knowledge and commitment of young staff; a trainee program for young lake managers who want to gain experience in other lake regions. With well-trained individuals, communities and NGOs can better engage in implementing laws and regulations to protect lakes.



The Living Lakes Conference 2022 will take place at Lago Titicaca.

Similar training activities are offered for fishermen and farmers. The goal here is to get low-impact fishing and farming practices on the ground to reduce negative impacts on lakes.

A frontrunner initiative will be implemented in each region - with a working solution approach to a pressing problem. These initiatives will motivate stakeholders in other lake regions to adopt the solutions. A fund is available for financial support of further initiati-

ves, from which up to 50% of the costs can be drawn.

Of course, the IKI project will also strengthen the International Living Lakes Network: a Living Lakes Academy, the further development of the sub-networks on three continents, international Living Lakes conferences and extensive public relations work with the support of the Ramsar Convention will contribute to this.

LIFE Blue Lakes: Lake Paper – a Charta for Lakes and Rivers

Lakes and water bodies are endangered in many ways. Many of these threats are often not visible to the eye. Microplastic is one of them, which has been detected in all lakes and water bodies in Germany in recent years and is becoming a problem. Microplastics are created through the degradation of plastic waste or are directly added to products for various applications. Con-

trary to other waste, microplastic cannot be removed once it has entered the ecosystem. It remains or is transported until it reaches the sea.



So how do we fight microplastics?

The most effective measures are to dry up the sources of microplastics. Together with the Global Nature Fund and the Italian project partners, the Lake Constance Foundation has identified the most important causes within the framework of the Blue Lakes project. Improperly disposed of waste, so-called littering, leaching from artificial turf



pitches or tyre wear are among them. Subsequently, it was investigated which mechanisms are most effective. Municipalities play a central role in this. They can act against littering and sanction it! They can ban disposable packaging, as was decided in Tübingen, for example. But above all, they can raise awareness and create incentives for their citizens to reduce plastic and thus also microplastics. And finally, cities and municipalities should set a good example and avoid plastic waste.

The Lake Constance Foundation provides municipalities with a matrix on how to successfully reduce plastic and microplastic. The toolbox contains numerous suggestions underpinned by positive examples where municipalities can find information on how to organise a plastic-free weekly market, for example. In order to tackle the microplastic problem successfully, not only the right tools are needed, but also the will of a municipality to do so. For this purpose, the Lake Constance Foundation is prepa-

ring a Lake Charta as a draft resolution for the municipal or city council. This is to be adopted by as many towns and municipalities as possible as a voluntary commitment on the part of the municipality. Not only the municipalities at Lake Constance and Lake Chiemsee are motivated, but municipalities in all lake regions in Germany. The Living Lakes Network supports the Lake Constance Foundation and the Global Nature Fund in this endeavour.

People – Bees – Biodiversity: Engagement with a benefit

After three years, the Interreg project „Citizen-Bees-Biodiversity“ ends successfully. The focus of the work was the training and support of more than 150 flower-ambassadors, who are engaging voluntarily for flowering landscapes. With advice and actions, they motivate and encourage, so that an „ocean“ of more colourful and diverse habitats is created, which benefits flower-visiting insects as much as us humans.

Bee-Deal: Insects give us a lot - time to give back!

Singen, Dornbirn and the municipality of Moos have launched a „Bee-Deal“ in 2021. The idea is to motivate all social stakeholders and support them with an information offer to become active themselves - be it on the company premises, in their own garden or in the church garden. On-site information events such as online lectures on nature-friendly garden design and plant selection or a tour of a biodiversity-friendly photovoltaic facility were offered. Especially the online events achieved a high attendance rate. The city of Dornbirn reported on the Bee-Deal in its municipal bulletin. In addition, the participating cities and municipalities have also begun to initiate

their own measures. Overall, the „Bee-Deals“ are a promising approach - but it is precisely the Bee-Deals as a communication and information service that have suffered particularly from the restrictions of the pandemic. Nevertheless, we are thinking about how we can develop the approach further and encourage more Bee-Deals in the future.

Flower-Ambassador Sibylle Möbius is committed to a Biodiversity-oriented design of business premises

Thüga Energie GmbH was determined to contribute to the preservation of

biodiversity at its site in Singen. But how to start? And what exactly does a biodiversity-oriented business premises look like? As a very experienced flower-ambassador, Sibylle Möbius advised with great commitment on the redesign and has since accompanied the various measures, the first successes of which can be seen next spring. However, Thüga Energie served as a model for other companies as early as 2021: At an on-site event, company representatives were able to find out more about the general principles and the concept at Thüga.



Flower ambassador Candida ten Brink and nature garden planner Nicole Döbert lend a hand at Franziskuswinkel.



Even beyond the project period, the city of Singen aims to continue to be active for flower-visiting insects, for more natural municipal areas, company premises and private areas, with the help of flower-ambassadors, citizens and a healthy portion of dedication to the topic!

Singen: St. Francis's Corner

Flower-ambassador Candida ten Brink from Singen has set herself big goals: the biodiversity-oriented redesign of parts of the lawn of the Liebfrauen-gemeinde in Singen - the St. Francis's Garden. Clearly visible at the roadside, the concept is designed for transferability and is intended to create habitat for flower-visiting insects with nesting aids and deadwood structures in a small space. In March of last year, with the active support of the local BUND group and nature garden planner Nicole Döbert, the first steps were taken to create a creation garden. Thanks to the efforts of the flower-ambassador and the community, further funds for the pilot project could be acquired to enhance larger areas. Let's keep our fingers crossed that the work in the St. Francis's Garden will continue to progress and that many other communities will take the ecological design of their areas as an example!

Flower-Ambassador:

An idea with "pull"

These and many other activities were initiated by the numerous flower-ambassadors active in the Lake Constance region, in Vorarlberg and in Allgäu. The demand for trainings to become a flower-ambassador remains high. Thus, 22 more volunteers were trained last year - this time in the district of Ravensburg. In many respects, the Lake Constance Foundation also had to be flexible in 2021 - for example, part of the course was redesigned at short notice to include online seminars. Theoretical content was easily conveyed in weekly evening webinars. The exchange was



22 new flower ambassadors joined the ranks in 2021!

promoted on many excursions at the end of the summer.

It was also gratifying that the Schwefurth Foundation, which had already started a training course for aspiring flower-ambassadors in Munich in 2020, was able to offer further courses last year - this time in Weilheim as well as Munich. In October, another course began in Ulm: One of the flower-ambassadors who took part in the 2020 course in Friedrichshafen wanted to carry the concept further in her environment, which is why the circle of volunteers is now growing!

Flower-ambassadors, their activities as well as a collection of useful publications can be found on the project homepage, which will continue to be maintained beyond the project duration: www.bluehbotschafter.eu

The project was supported by the Interreg Alpenrhein-Bodensee-Hochrhein program with funds from the European Regional Development Fund. The Lake Constance Foundation would like to thank the Elobau Foundation for its generous donation.

Flower kids

Courses to become a flower-ambassador are aimed exclusively at adults who would like to become active for flowering landscapes in their personal environment. But why not introduce children to the topic? They usually have just as much influence - be it with their parents, grandparents or other educators. That's why the „Flower-Kids“ project got off the ground at the end of October. Flower-Kids are children of primary school age who are sensitized to the topic of wild bees and their habitat through many playful units in the format of „project-groups“. In the course of the project, areas are also actively redesigned together with sponsors.

The project is funded by the Baden-Württemberg Foundation in the „Learning Sustainability“ program.



Business & Biodiversity: Beyond Awareness Raising?

Projects to raise awareness and sensitize stakeholders are common practice for environmental NGOs. These projects often try to generate a sense of personal affection and nature as an experience by concentrating on cute animals or blooming flowers and the beauty of nature in general.

These projects are important and have without any doubt played an important role to gather momentum and support for action. Thus, they provided much of the foundation for the next steps which - while usually not well suited to generate influencer-content or offering much in terms of "sustainability as an experience" - constitute the actual implementation of the aim to protect biodiversity. The amount of "cuteness" involved in the "Guidelines of the Federal Government to Support Forest-friendly Supply-Chains" is limited and neither the "ISO/TC 331 Biodiversity" nor the "Working Group on Biodiversity in Landscape-

Gardening" offer their members much in terms of experiencing the beauty of nature during their sessions.

However, these cumbersome phrases and terms designate the processes by which the protection of biodiversity is supposed to be integrated into our economy. Thus, they are milestones on the long road towards a biodiversity-friendly economy.

There are hurdles to take and success is by no means guaranteed: Whether the federal guidelines for forest-friendly supply-chains will really (and until when!) stop deforestation is unclear at the moment. The federal guidelines do however put the topic on the agenda of all involved stakeholders and describe a procedure through which a solution should be developed. Such procedures and processes offer the possibility to systematically integrate the protection of biodiversity in our economy.

Lake Constance Foundation contributes to such processes and tries to support their initiation wherever possible. This entails maintaining dialogues with companies and organisations, that don't inherently share our ideas and ideals: Companies and organisation that are already eco-friendly and share our positions are important allies - but they are in the end the proverbial choir, that doesn't need convincing. Aforementioned standards and processes play a valuable role to motivate stakeholders that have been a bit tardy in the past to enter into a - hopefully productive - discussion about how to achieve a given goal - while reducing the impulse to discuss if it should be reached at all.

Thus, we feel that important milestones have been reached - although the way ahead is long and will most likely take some turns and detours. Patience and tenacity will be our best friends. The resulting Instagram-Stories might be lacklustre, the change hopefully sustainable and lasting!





LIFE BooGI-BOP – Biodiversity-oriented design of business premises (BOP) for everyone, everywhere!

Ten years after Lake Constance Foundation started the first project to promote “Biodiversity-Oriented Design of Business-Premises (BOP)”, the idea has grown from a tender seedling into a sturdy shrub – not yet a large tree, but extensive enough for at least a few birds to nest. The number of individual consultations planned in the LIFE BooGI-BOP project had been almost reached by the project partners last year, and in Germany consultations were increasingly carried out online in 2021, because the planned quota of on-site consultations had been exhausted. In addition, it has finally been possible to win over municipalities that would like to ecologically upgrade their industrial estates and even their interest in the somewhat unwieldy topic of „monitoring systems for biodiversity-oriented design of business premises „ is growing.

Even more encouraging are all the initiatives and projects that are emerging, with or without the Lake Constance Foundation, which take up „Biodiversity-oriented design of business premises“, develop the idea further and bring it into the mainstream: For example, some nature parks in Baden-Württemberg have discovered company grounds as potential for their flowering campaigns, and the Baden-Württemberg land agency and NABU will be offering numerous consultations in the state over the next few years.

Where necessary, Lake Constance Foundation supports these initiatives. The Potsdam Chamber of Industry and Commerce, for example, wants to engage its members and asked Lake Constance Foundation for support.



The vocational training center of the Liebenau Foundation Ravensburg introduced BOP and received a notice board in 2021.

Nevertheless, in times of COVID, progress was slowed down in some areas, which is why an extension of the project-life-time has been requested for LIFE BooGI-BOP until the end of 2022.

Companies in the Ravensburg district particularly committed

In the meantime, 11 of the 15 companies participating in the „Initiative for biodiversity-oriented design of business premises in the Ravensburg district“ have begun upgrading their sites.

Fortunately, it is even becoming apparent that the consultations, information events and training courses offered by the Lake Constance Foundation in Ravensburg will trigger more far-reaching activities. For example, the Liebenau Foundation plans to introduce an environmental management system in the next few years, in which the protection of biodiversity will be a prominent field of activity. Part of the activities will be to bring more biodiversity to the about 200 sites of the Liebenau Foundation - based on the experience gained at sites in the

Ravensburg district. Additionally, their in-house landscape-gardening department will be trained in biodiversity-oriented design and maintenance of areas, and the biodiversity-oriented areas are not only to promote biodiversity, but also to have an enriching effect in therapeutic or educational areas through targeted utilization concepts.

Another showcase project has developed at the community level. On the initiative of Mayor Katja Liebmann, the council of the municipality of Schlier has unanimously decided to develop a sustainable concept for the planned commercial-area/industrial-zone „Wetzisreute-Ost“. In addition to some binding specifications in the development plan with regard to the biodiversity-oriented design and maintenance of the public and private green spaces as well as a roof greening obligation, companies are to be motivated to take further steps by means of a bonus system and an associated price reduction when purchasing the land as well as targeted information. This includes, for example, construction



Environmental heroes at DB Cargo.

that saves as much space as possible or the use of ecological building materials. A green corridor through the industrial park and the creation of breeding areas among other things, are intended to ensure continuity for the amphibian species that occur in the area, such as the specially protected European tree frog. At the same time, the biodiversity-oriented green area is also intended to serve as a break and recreation area for employees in the industrial park.

Young environmental heroes create biodiversity!

When considering how to anchor biodiversity in Deutsche Bahn's property management, the focus is on criteria for the ecological purchase of services for the design and maintenance of green spaces, but it is also important to involve the employees. Young people in particular are interested in sustainability issues and appreciate being given opportunities to get involved. Together with trainees from DB Cargo, training courses were developed and carried out that offered both an introduction to the topic of

biodiversity and DB's special responsibility for preserving biodiversity, as well as providing approaches to the kind of biodiversity projects that trainees can implement at their own sites. Above all, the trainees also wanted to learn more about the interactions between climate change and biodiversity.

The result is a training concept with an attractive mix of methods that conveys complex content to the trainees in an almost playful manner and repeatedly establishes references to their own environment and sensibilities.



Short lectures and group work phases alternate, and in a joint role play, the newly learned is used in an argumentative way.

With this new background knowledge, the trainees now set about planning their own biodiversity area in the second part of the training, which will be implemented by the trainees at some DB Cargo sites next spring.

Outlook

In 2021, we had an increasing number of requests from companies with numerous sites that would like to systematically strengthen biodiversity in „Corporate Real Estate Management“: throughout Germany and in some cases internationally. A trend that offers the opportunity to achieve a true „mainstreaming“ of biodiversity-promoting design: We are confident that this will also generate a demand for „green services“ for the design and maintenance of green spaces, which will have an impact on planners and implementers in the long run.



Biodiversity-Business: Successful Initiative expands

The partners Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production (CSCP), Biodiversity in Good Company, Global Nature Fund, German Chamber of Commerce and Lake Constance Foundation will continue the project "Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt (UBi)" for the next five years. The project is funded by the German Federal Biodiversity Programme.

UBi will motivate business associations and their members to focus on the protection of biodiversity and to integrate biodiversity into their management.

Besides continuing the existing action- and dialogue-platform, the project will offer pragmatic tools and coordinate activities, in which companies and business-associations can take part.

UBi will continue to offer the annual B&B-conference and offer awards for frontrunner companies. The German Chamber of Commerce will coordinate biodiversity-roadshows and coachings. The Global Nature Fund and Lake Constance Foundation will develop a broadly applicable toolkit and sector-specific instruments like biodiversity-checks that support companies from five sectors to improve their biodiversity-performance. Lighthouse-initiatives like „Food for Biodiversity“ and the "Biodiversity-Oriented Premises" will support the pragmatic implementation of activities.



„Boosting Urban Green Infrastructure through Biodiversity-Oriented Design of Business Premises“

Weitere Informationen:
www.biodiversity-premises.eu

LIFE BooGI-BOP
LIFE17 GIE/DE/000466

Projektlaufzeit:
01/07/2018 - 31/12/2021

Gefördert vom
LIFE Programm der EU



Mehrwert für Mensch und Biodiversität

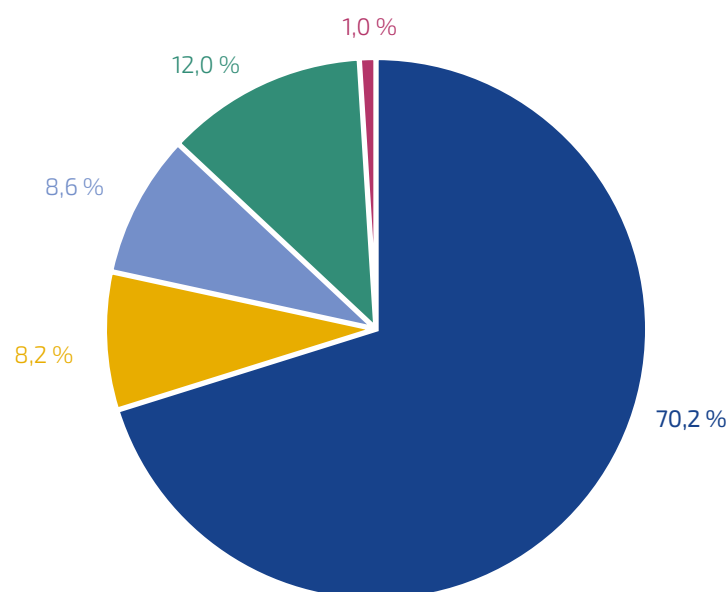
Der Verlust der Biodiversität schreitet weltweit rapide voran. Dabei macht dieser Trend vor unserer Haustüre nicht halt, im Gegenteil: 40% unserer heimischen Tier- und Pflanzenarten sind in ihrem Bestand gefährdet.


Von unseren 560 heimischen Wildbienenarten sind gar über die Hälfte vom Aussterben bedroht. Auf unserem Firmengelände entwickeln sich artenreiche Blumenwiesen mit standorttypischen, heimischen Pflanzenarten. Dabei wurde auf ein ausgewogenes Verhältnis von Frühblüheren bis hin zu Blumen des Spätsommers geachtet, so dass über die gesamte Vegetationsperiode Nahrung für Insekten zur Verfügung steht.

Und nach der reichen Blütsaison dienen die Samenstände verschiedenen Vogelarten als Winternahrung und die hohlen, scheinbar toten Pflanzenstängel sind Unterschlupf und Überwinterungsort für viele Insekten. Deshalb werden die Flächen z.T. auch erst im Frühjahr gemäht.

 Evangelische Heimstiftung
Stephanuswerk Isny

Revenues 2020



	EU COMMISSION (EU LIFE, Interreg, Horizon 2020)	1.699.137,00 €
	NATIONAL MINISTRIES (BMU/BfN, BMBF)	199.380,00 €
	STATE MINISTRIES, AUTHORITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES	207.749,00 €
	PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS AND COMPANIES	291.281,00 €
	DONATIONS, OTHER	23.920,00 €

As an organisation without significant endowment capital, the financing of activities and projects is every year a major challenge for the Lake Constance Foundation: elaborating and submitting project applications and at the same time securing co-financing through local or regional administrations, business partners, foundations or donations.

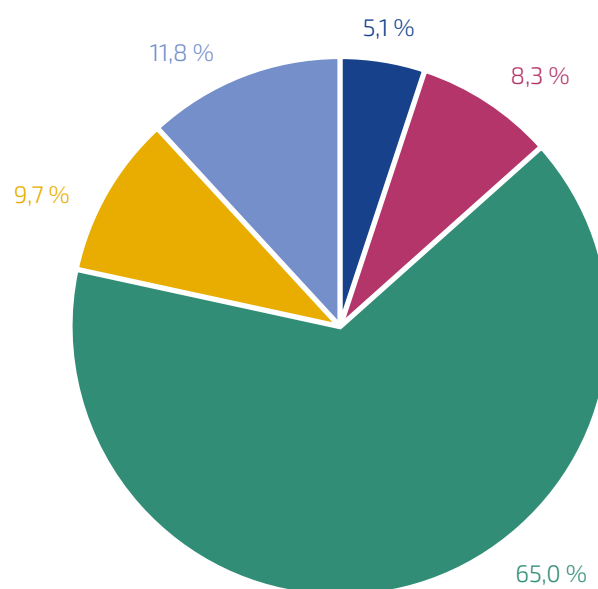
And then - at the end of the year - there should preferably be a black zero or a small surplus that flows into the reserves ... for the difficult years.

This has always been a challenge and in times of the pandemic it has become even more difficult, as especially municipalities and some of the business

partners have financial problems. Fortunately, we were also in 2021 able to secure funding for the project work and the launch of innovative ideas!

At this point, a big thank you once again to all our supporters and donors for their trust in our organisation and support of our work!

Expenses 2020



	OVERALL COORDINATION / OVERHEAD COSTS	119.617,00 €
	NATURE & LAKE CONSERVATION (Living Lakes LIFE Blue Lakes, Ponds for Lake Constance Region, People – Bees – Biodiversity)	195.559,00 €
	BUSINESS & BIODIVERSITY (LIFE BooGI-BOP, Pro Planet, Biodiversity in fruit orchards , LIFE Food & Biodiversity, QZBW: More Biodiversity in Crops Cultivation, IKI Project, EU LIFE Insect Responsible Sourcing Regions)	1.528.665,00 €
	AGRICULTURE & CLIMATE (LIFE AgriAdapt, GENiAL, LIFE Clean Air Farming, Climate Protection and Agriculture)	229.264,00 €
	ENERGY TRANSITION (COALESCCE, CoAct , SocialRES, CSSC Lab, Nature protection aspects in the heating sector, PV Network Schwarzwald-Baar-Heuberg.)	278.515,00 €

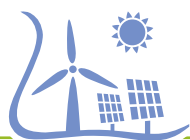
An overview of the income and expenditure of the implemented projects and other activities of the Lake Constance Foundation in 2020 can be found on these pages. The expenses are assigned to our fields of action. We have structured the income according to the funding sources. Lake Constance Foundation undergoes an independ-

ent audit every year. Since 2017, the annual financial statements have been audited according to the requirements of the German Commercial legislation and foundation law, distinguishing between ongoing and completed projects and used and unspent donations and grants. The annual financial statements since 2012 with annual balance sheet,

profit and loss account and the auditor's observations can be viewed on the Foundation's homepage.

EVENTS 2021

The Lake Constance Foundation contributed expertise and project results at a number of events. The majority of events took place online. Here is a selection:



ENERGY TRANSITION

- March: DUH Bioeconomy Network
- March: IBH_Labs Panel Discussion
- March: Knowledge exchange in community energy from the Ministry of Environment BW
- April: Conference on wood energy of the HFR
- June: Information event on the production of activated carbon from biogenic residues
- June: Workshop to discuss CoAct implementation options; Institute for Rural Structural Research (IfLS)
- August: Utilization of landscape management material
- September: SmartGrids - Presentation of the CSSC-Lab project
- October: EUSEW-Panel empowering citizens in the energy transition
- November: BBEn and BUND 3-point plan citizen energy



AGRICULTURE & THE FOOD SECTOR

- January/
February: Two AKRIBI workshops with representatives of the food industry on the assessment of risks for biodiversity in the procurement of agricultural raw materials.
- March: Founding meeting of the association „Food for Biodiversity - Biodiversity in the Food Industry
- March: KTBL symposium „Making good use of soil - new arable farming systems“
- April: REWE Dialogue Forum on Sustainability
- May: Conference „Biodiversity in the Food Industry“ with the DBU and the association Food for Biodiversity
- June: IALB Conference „Life and Agriculture in Transition“
- June: Nationwide working group PRO PLANET apple project
- June: Nestlé Germany stakeholder workshop „Climate protection, social responsibility and health - how do we bring them together?“
- June: Teacher training course „Rural Areas, Agricultural Structure and Landscape Management“ of the State Institute for Agriculture, Food and Rural Areas (LEL)
- June: Workshop with banana growers' associations in Azua (DomRep) on the establishment of a biotope corridor
- July, October,
December: Network agri-climate advice
- July: Field day on chickpea cultivation as a climate adaptation measure; Agricultural Technology Center Augustenberg (LTZ) and Lake Constance Foundation
- August: Nationwide DVS workshop for Operational Groups (OGs) and Innovation Service Providers (IDL)
- September: DVS online workshop „Food Protecting Biodiversity - How to Establish it in the Value Chain?“
- September: Event „Sustainable Vegetable Cultivation in Nature Reserves“ in Moos
- October: Symposium „Promoting Biodiversity in the Food Trade“ in Fulda
- October: Fair Bio-Agrar in Offenburg

- October: International plenary meeting of ISO 331 Biodiversity
- November: TheKLa Annual Conference - Nationwide Expert Network Greenhouse Gas Balancing and Climate Protection in Agriculture
- November: Seminar „Maize-bean-intercropping - Adaptation to Climate Change“; Bodensee-Stiftung and Landwirtschaftliches Zentrum Baden-Württemberg - LAZBW
- November: Dialogue workshop on the further development of the quality programs of the state of Baden-Württemberg
- December: European Business for Nature Summit 2021
- December: Conference of the Landwirtschaftlicher Versuchsring Balingen-Rottweil „Arable Farming Under Changing Conditions“
- December: Climate Week of the LEL - Digital Education and Consulting Week
- Over the year: Meeting of the Environmental Focus Group for the revision of the Global G.A.P. Standard



NATURE & LAKE CONSERVATION

- February: Awarding of the State Nature Conservation Prize BW 2020
- May: Blue Lakes roundtable with representatives of Lake Constance communities
- July: „Biodiversity in the Municipality“ - Seminar of the Area Agency Baden-Württemberg
- September: Seminar „Adjusting Screws for Municipalities to Reduce (Micro-) Plastic“.
- October: Regional meeting of the Network Nature Conservation for the Lake Constance / Upper Swabia region in Wilhelmsdorf
- November: Global Lake Marathon - a common day for lakes worldwide
- November: Encuentro Binacional Multinivel para la Conformación de una Estrategia Transfronteriza para la Seguridad, la Gobernanza y el Desarrollo de la Región del Lago Titicaca
- November: Roundtable on the Lakes Paper - A Charter for Lakes and Rivers in the Fight against Microplastic



BUSINESS & BIODIVERSITY

- February: International Facility Manager Training: Biodiversity oriented Business Premises
- March: Dialogue Forum of „Enterprise Biodiversity“
- April: Seminar „Monitoring of nature-oriented company sites“
- May: Day of the wild bees - lecture at the event of the IHK Potsdam
- June: Biodiversity-promoting company grounds as part of the Climate-Positive Cities initiative
- June: Designing nature-oriented company grounds - one-day seminar in the DGNB training series
- August: Apprentice training at DB Cargo in Seelze, Germany
- September: Dialogue „Nature on time“
- October: Apprentice training at DB Cargo in Saarbrücken
- October: 6th Ulm Conference „Fit for the Future? Field-tested instruments for sustainable management“
- October: Nature-oriented company sites in the Ecofit network Stuttgart (Ökoprofit)
- October/November: Advanced training series Biodiversity in Facility Management for IHK Potsdam

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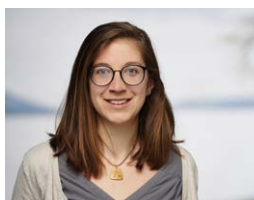


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- Aktionsbündnis für gentechnikfreie Landwirtschaft in Baden-Württemberg
- Arbeitskreis Grünland des NGP Baar
- Begleitkommission Benken/Schweiz, Expertengruppe für die Schweizer End-lagerstandortsuche
- Bio Austria Vorarlberg
- Bioenergie-Regionen
- Deutscher Naturschutzring (DNR)
- DIN Spiegelausschuss zur Erarbeitung der ISO 268
- ECOCAMPING
- ECOTRANS – Netzwerk für nachhaltige
- Europäisches Bodenbündnis ELSA
- European Partnership for Sustainability Management for Local and Regional Authorities
- Franz- und Hildegard Rohr-Vogelschutz Stiftung (Sitz in der Bodensee-Stiftung)
- Initiative Gentechnikfreie Bodenseeregion
- Integrierte ländliche Entwicklung Bodensee e.V.
- Internationales Seennetzwerk Living Lakes
- ISCC International Sustainability & Carbon Certification
- Klimaallianz Baden-Württemberg
- Kompetenzzentrum Wasser Bodensee e.V.
- „Nachhaltigkeitsmanagement für Kommunen“
- Landschaftserhaltungsverband Konstanz
- Netzwerk Blühende Landschaft
- Netzwerk Lebendige Seen Deutschland
- Netzwerk Stiftungen und Bildung im Bundesverband Deutscher Stiftungen
- Netzwerk Umwelttechnologie BSM
- Netzwerk Agrar-Klima-Beratung
- Plattform Erneuerbare Energien BW
- Steering Committee des EU ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme
- TheKLa – Bundesweites Expertennetzwerk Treibhausgas-bilanzierung und Klimaschutz in der Landwirtschaft
- Tourismus Untersee
- Tourismuspolitik in Europa
- Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt 2020, eine Initiative des Bundesumweltministeriums, Wirtschaftsverbänden und Umweltorganisationen
- Umweltgutachter-Ausschuss
- Umweltrat Bodensee
- Verein „Food for Biodiversity“

Supporters 2021



Cooperations 2021



15 Years of the Rohr Foundation – Commitment to Bird Protection

Hildegard Rohr looks back on a fruitful and happy life. Even when she and her husband Franz Rohr still lived in Erlangen, they came often to enjoy the nature of Lake Constance region. But she is also aware of the dramatic decline in biodiversity, especially of birds. That is why she and her husband set up the Franz and Hildegard Rohr Bird Protection Foundation in 2006 with the aim of protecting birds and their habitats in the Lake Constance region.

Although the foundation is not yet able to support larger projects from the proceeds of the foundation's capital, smaller activities of BUND, NABU and the Lake Constance Foundation have been regularly supported over the past 10 years. "Bird protection is an important part of nature conservation. And what is good for the birds is also good for people, because both need intact livelihoods," Hildegard Rohr (88 years old) sums up her motivation.

Lake Constance Foundation coordinates the Rohr Foundation and thanks Hildegard and Franz Rohr, who has unfortunately already left us, for their decision to support nature conservation in the long term and thus sustainably.



**We will keep you
up to date!**

You can receive current
information about our
activities and projects
through our newsletter
(approx. 3-4 times a year).

Please register for this
on our homepage:

www.bodensee-stiftung.org

We look forward to your contribution!



Donations account, Germany
Volksbank Konstanz-Radolfzell
IBAN: DE98 6929 1000 0210 7950 06
BIC: GENODE61RAD

“To hope for change without doing something yourself is like standing around the train station waiting for your ship to come in”

(Albert Einstein)

naturschutz
nachhaltigkeit
mitmachen!
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www.bodensee-stiftung.org

Founding organisations:

