

Bavaria's Kulturlandschaftsprogramm (KULAP) & Vertragsnaturschutzprogramm (VNP)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Germany

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Bavaria has paid farmers through KULAP and VNP since 1988 to manage land for biodiversity — VNP area grew from 90,000 to 164,000+ hectares (2018-2023) — but peer-reviewed research on Bavarian dairy farms found no clear environmental efficiency gain from participation.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	1/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	1/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-07-10

Bavarian State Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry (StMELF) / Bavarian State Ministry for the Environment and Consumer Protection (StMUV) — accessed 2026-07-10

StMUV: Artenvielfalt in Bayern deutlich gestärkt (VNP press release) — accessed 2026-07-10

StMELF: KULAP programme overview — accessed 2026-07-10

Ait Sidhoum, Mennig & Sauer (2023), *European Review of Agricultural Economics* — accessed 2026-07-10

Zindler et al. (2023), *Environmental Management* (farmer/nature-manager survey) — accessed 2026-07-10

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