



Federal Ministry
of Food
and Agriculture

Rural Development in Germany

Dr. Klaus Heider, Head of Directorate-General for Rural Development, Digital Policy, Innovation, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Germany)

Policy Lab: 'Enhancing policy coordination for vibrant rural areas'

28 November 2024

[bmel.de](https://www.bmel.de)

Rural Development - Strategic Framework

Key Objectives:

- Equivalent living conditions
- Sustainable development / Climate
- Resilience of rural regions
- Climate strategies and targets
- Transformation
- Competitiveness of rural regions

Main Pillars:

- Strategy and Cooperation - Inter-Ministerial Reports
- Political Coordination
- Rural Proofing and Rural Observatory

Strategy and Cooperation- Inter-Ministerial Reports

- Basis: regular inter-ministerial reports on living conditions focusing on structural aspects
- Including political targets
- Most important:
 - Rural Development Report (2020-2024; [Link](#))
 - Equality Report (2024; [Link](#))
 - Report of the Commissioner for Eastern Germany (2024; [Link](#))



Political Coordination

Federal Level

Working Group of
Parliamentary State
Secretaries
(PSt-Arbeitsstab)

Members:
parliamentary state
secretaries (deputy
ministers) of all
relevant ministries

Exchange of political
information and
discussion of
current topics

Working Group of Inter-
Ministerial Directors
(IMAG)

Including
collaboration on the
government report
on rural
development

Federal to State Level

Federal-State Working
Group
(ArgeLandentwicklung)

Promoting exchange
of experience and
cooperation
between various
stakeholders,
especially the states
(Länder), regarding
rural areas

Experts (including municipal level and civil society)

Council of Experts on Rural
Development (SRLE)

12 independent
experts

Discussion /
Publication of
statements on
current topics

Rural Proofing and Rural Observatory

Evaluation and impact orientation

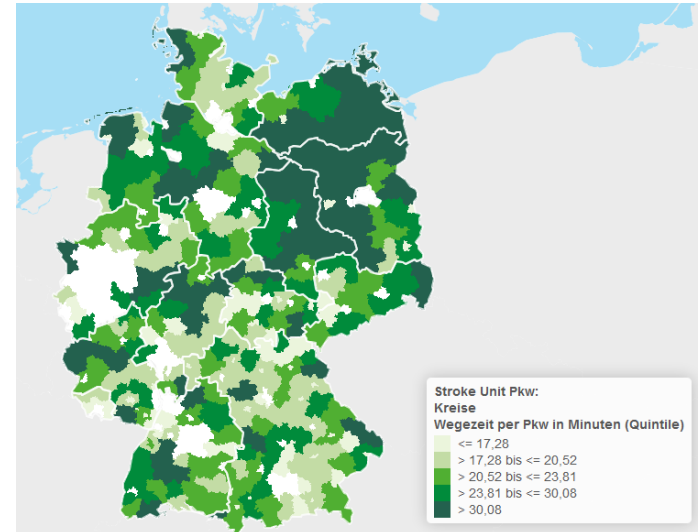
- Evaluation and scientific monitoring organisation: Federal Research Institute of Rural Areas, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Thünen Institute)

Equivalence check

- Proofing tool, examining the impact of the policy on rural areas
- Further development for mandatory application

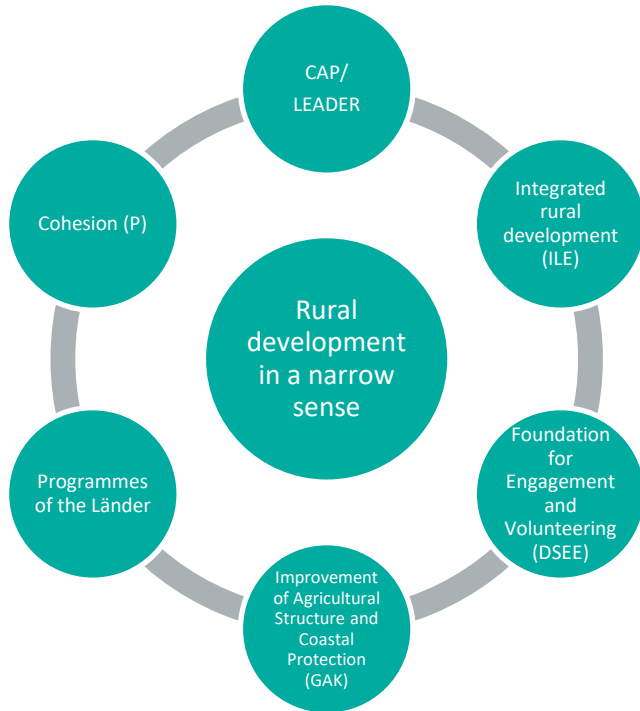
Landatlas and Deutschlandatlas

- Interactive maps, data on demographics, economy, infrastructure, ...
- [Deutschlandatlas](#) (BMI, BMEL) and [Landatlas](#) (Thünen Institute)

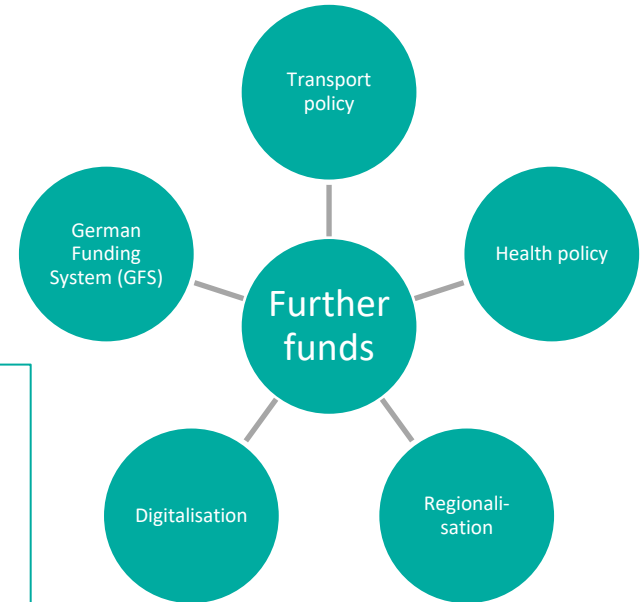


Source: Landatlas, Thünen-Institute

German Funding Environment for Rural Areas



Using tools for rural development is necessary to improve complementarity and various funding opportunities while keeping in mind the need for an easy and targeted approach for small structures in rural areas



Thank you for your attention!

Contact

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