



BRIDE - Building Rural Identity

GRUNTDVIG –
of the
Learning-Partnership

Guideline for the analysis of rural areas in Europe - The analysis of rural areas in Bavaria

Landesbildungswerk KLB in Bayern e.V.

Autor: Veronika Stich, November 2014, Translation: Elaine Griffiths, Heidelberg

Project Number: 2013-1-IT2-GRU06-51885 4

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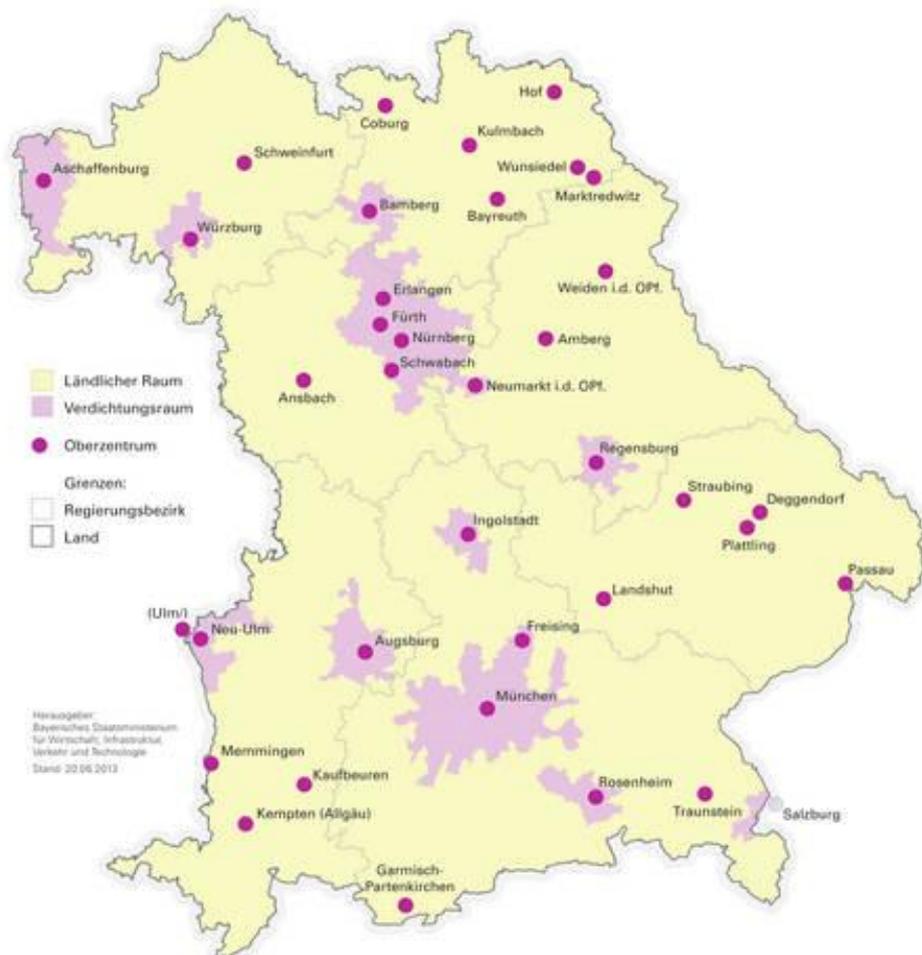
Reference Maps and table

- Seite 3: Rural areas and urban agglomeration = Bavarian State Ministry of Economic affairs, Media, Energy, Technology
- Seite 7+8: Agricultural report Bavaria 2014, State office of statistics
- Seite 9: Agricultural report Bavaria 2014,

1. Rural population

- Distinction between farmers, rural and urban population with chronological description**
 In 1950 Bavaria had 9.2 million inhabitants, and by 2013 their number had grown to 12.6 million. A good 60% of the population live in the countryside. In 1950 there were 390,995 farms in Bavaria and in 2013 there were 93,300. During the same period the number of people working in agriculture fell from 1,385,200 (=30.6% of the workforce) to 152,390 (=2.2% of the workforce). The land is divided into more densely populated areas with urban centres (18% of total land area, 37% of the population and 43% of jobs) and rural areas (82% of total area, 63% of the population and 57% of jobs).

Maps: Rural areas and urban agglomeration



- Public/private institutions representative of the rural population**

The government minister responsible is the State Ministry for Food, Agriculture and Forestry plus the “Home [*Heimat*] affairs” department the State Ministry for Finance. Questions related to rural areas are dealt with explicitly in the Bavarian Parliament by the Committee for Agriculture, Food and Forestry. The municipalities meet in their own council of municipalities and regional districts. In addition, there are trade associations, civic initiatives, along with cultural and church-related organisations.

- **Public/private institutions representing the farmers**

The agriculture ministry has local offices for agriculture. The Bavarian Farmers Association (KÖR) is the representative for public concerns and so the official, elected representative of the farmers. Membership of this democratically organised body is on a voluntary basis.

In addition there are private groupings such as associations of organic farmers, the federation of German dairy farmers (BDM) or the small-holders association (ABL), which understand themselves as an “agri-opposition”, along with specific association such as forest farmers, wine-growers etc.

Furthermore there are all kinds of cooperatives, farm machinery pools (“rings”), producer organisations (milk, meat, forestry etc), that fulfil important business functions for farmers.

- **Elections**

Farmers hold mandates in local government and also at the regional level in the Bavarian parliament. Representatives of trade associations, cooperatives and self-advocacy organisations are elected by their members.

2. Rural areas

- **Explicit distinction between urban, periurban, and rural areas in public governance: are there different local policies (action and funding) for different areas?**

In Bavaria the goal is to create the same living conditions between the urban and rural areas (schools, jobs, culture.....). The state provides special funding and development programmes for both types of area. Inequalities between the municipalities are equalised financially in order to even out the different economic levels. European Union funding from programmes for rural areas (ELER, LEADER, EFRE, ESF etc) plays an important role. Bavaria provides cofinancing and also the relevant advisory centres.

- **Public institutions for the governance of rural areas (water, soil, administration ...)**

Water supply and waste water removal is a matter for the municipalities, which frequently join in associations for special purposes. Farmers can raise their concerns via regional agricultural authorities, which report to the agricultural ministry. State forestry administrations are also responsible for advising private forest owners. In Bavaria there are three schools for village renewal to support those with leadership responsibility in the municipalities. There are also directorates for rural development, e.g. village renewal, land consolidation, and the voluntary exchange of land. These are both state-run organisations.

- **Forms of participation by the rural and agricultural population in the governance of rural areas.**

Village development programmes, different action for rural development are founded on civic engagement, to which farmers naturally also contribute. Furthermore, there are local initiatives by citizens with different concerns. Local and district councils are elected for a 6-year term. Farmers also declare their readiness to sit on these councils and thus make a considerable contribution to shaping their environment.

- **Local, national, European funds for the agriculture and rural development and role of agricultural representation in defining the application of the rules for receiving subsidies**

In 2013, 111.734 farms in Bavaria received just under EUR 1.07 billion in direct payments. In addition, there is investment funding for individual farms, diversification support, compensation for disadvantaged areas, support for organic farming and agricultural environmental programmes. All these are programmes are cofinanced by the state of Bavaria. Furthermore, there are support programmes of the state of Bavaria ("Bavarian Programme" and the Federal Republic of Germany (e.g. social policy payments). This support totalled EUR 3,589 billion in 2013. Representatives of farmers are involved at all levels in the advisory process about the legal prerequisites for obtaining financial assistance.

- **Types of organisation in the rural population (religion, culture, environmental associations, etc.)**

The population in Bavaria is made up of three ethnic groups: Franks, Bavarians ("Bajuwars"), Swabians (from the Alemannic tribes) and displaced persons expelled from different areas of eastern Europe (after World War II). There are corresponding differences in mentality. 53.7% of the citizens in Bavaria are Roman Catholic, 20% Protestant, 4% Muslim and 0.1% Jewish. 19.2% belong to other religions or none.

Associations of lay church members are well represented in Bavaria and particularly active in rural areas. Church traditions give shape to the year in many areas and many people work in a voluntary capacity in their church, although a slight decline may be noted here. Strong cultural associations (music, folk costumes, theatre, choirs) enliven community life in the country. In rural areas, culture is understood as being culturally active, not just a consumer of cultural offerings.

Besides different associations there are also several nature protection associations or groups concerned in various ways for the environment, along with different citizens' action groups, mostly working for local or regional causes.

3. Education in rural areas

- **For the rural population (vocational education, participation, others kinds of education)**

The school system is the same in towns and in the country, but the distances are growing ever greater due to demographic change. In the country, more and more schools have had to be closed, which means longer journeys even for primary school children; the “country” children at secondary schools frequently stay in the town all day. Besides the strain on the children of such long journeys, this also impacts negatively on the children’s social contacts in the village.

Vocational training takes place in the “dual system“, alternating classes and practical work in companies. Bavaria has installed universities of applied science in small towns as well; the aim is to enable people to train, and then work, closer to home.

- **for farmers (vocational education, participation, others kinds of education)**

There are different forms of education and training for farmers: apprenticeship/vocational school, technical school, training as a master tradesman or technician, or studying agricultural subjects at a university. In addition, there are further educational offerings for personality formation, mostly in block teaching units. Professional/trade associations and rural adult education colleges offer continuing training options in a large variety of fields.

4. Farming system

- **Public perception of the farmer’s profession**

The picture people have of farming is very distorted – on the one hand, there is a strong popular wish for an “intact world”, while, on the other hand, people expect the food they buy to be cheap. Yet it cannot be grown at such low prices. The scandals in the area of food have in some cases made the farmers subject to “general suspicion”. In the villages the side-effects of agricultural work are not always accepted either. The great worry about the “industrialisation of agriculture” sometimes stirs up irrational fears and polemics. Different initiatives have formed, that sometimes draw attention to their concerns with huge demonstrations. On top of that, many different initiatives are able to give objective information about agriculture – e.g. through activities such as open days, school classes visiting the farm, or other forms of exposure to farm life.

- **% of agricultural land owned, leased, and other typologies of land use**

The bigger the farm, the greater the share of tenant farming:

up to 5 hectares of own acreage = 22.7% leased;

10 - 20 hectare = 24,8%; 20 - 30 hectare = 37,8%;

50 hectares or more of own acreage = 60.7% leased

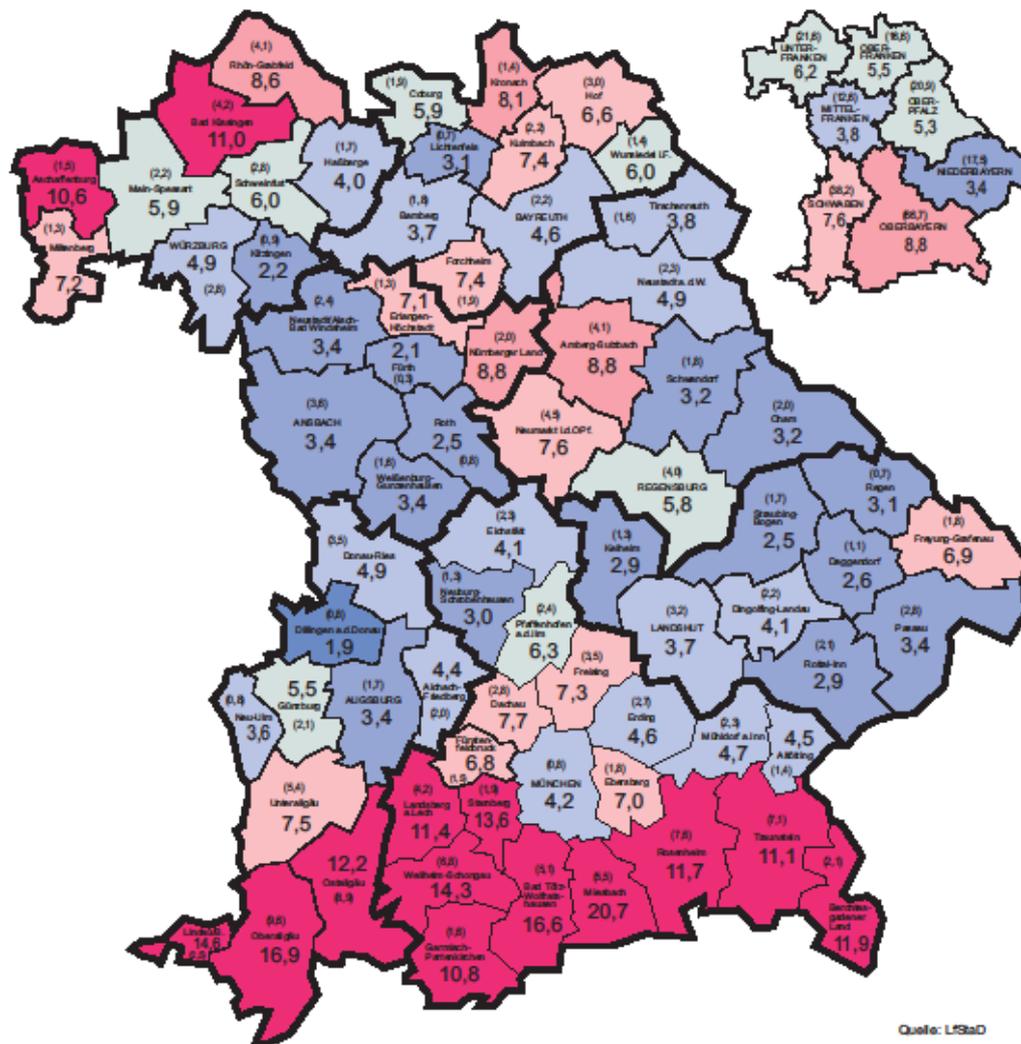
- Principal farmers' production activity (%)

Agricultural area in Bavaria amounts to 3.14 million ha. That includes 65.9% arable land, 33.7% permanent pasture, 35 % forest area.

Organic farms (6.600) constitute 212.000 ha (2013), vines 6.288 ha, hops 14,443 ha, horticulture 23,600 ha, cattle 3,243,000, including 1,218,112 dairy cows, 3,401,000 pigs, 223,861 sheep.

Karte 7

Anteil und Umfang der ökologisch bewirtschafteten Fläche 2010 (in % bzw. in 1.000 ha)



Quelle: LfStD

Anteil der landwirtschaftlich genutzten Fläche (LF) der ökologisch wirtschaftenden Betriebe an der LF insgesamt in %

<2,0	2,0-3,4	3,5-4,9	5,0-6,4	6,5-7,9	8,0-9,5	9,5 o. mehr
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Die Zahl in Klammern gibt die LF in 1.000 ha an, die von ökologisch wirtschaftenden Betrieben ab 5 ha bewirtschaftet wird.

Bayern	2010
Anteil der nach VO (EG) Nr. 834/2007 landwirtschaftlich genutzten Fläche (LF) der ökologisch wirtschaftenden Betriebe an der LF insgesamt ¹⁾ :	6,2 %
Umfang der landwirtschaftlich genutzten Fläche (LF) der ökologisch wirtschaftenden Betriebe ¹⁾	194.065 ha

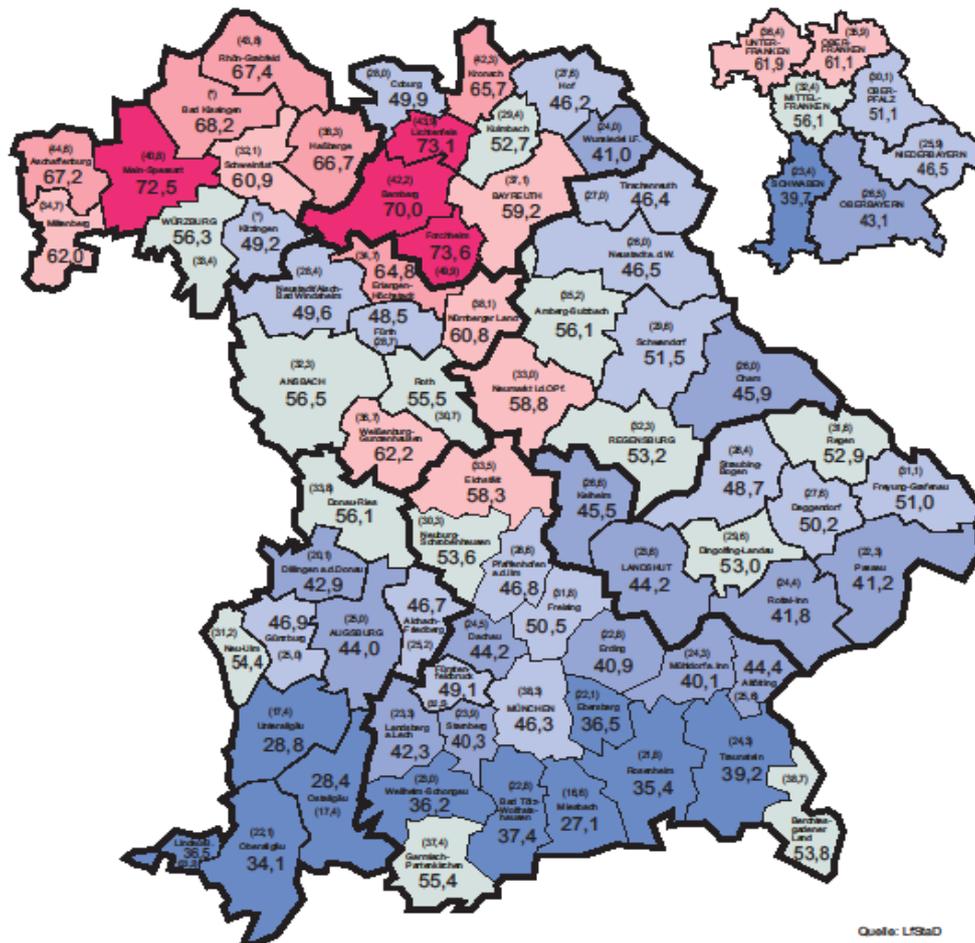
¹⁾ Ergebnis der Landwirtschaftszählung 2010, weicht methodenbedingt geringfügig von Angaben im Kapitel Ökologischer Landbau ab. Einschließlich der Betriebe, die aufgrund anderer Erfassungsgrenzen gezählt wurden.

- Labour importance of agriculture in the rural area (% of family farms, cooperatives etc.) and the agro-food system

Agriculture and forest economy, fishery in Bavaria provides 241.600 jobs (1/3 of full-time Jobs) , i.e. 3,4 % of all jobs in Bavaria. On average 48.7% (2010) of farms and 28.8% of agricultural land are farmed as a sideline, with a very broad distribution (27.1%-73.6%).

Karte 6

Anteil der Nebenerwerbsbetriebe an der Zahl der landwirtschaftlichen Betriebe 2010 (ab 5 ha LF) und Anteil der von Nebenerwerbsbetrieben bewirtschafteten landwirtschaftlich genutzten Fläche (in %)



Anteil der Nebenerwerbsbetriebe an den Betrieben insgesamt^a in %

< 40,0	40,0–45,9	46,0–51,9	52,0–57,9	58,0–63,9	64,0–69,9	70,0 o. mehr
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Die Werte in Klammern geben den Anteil der von Nebenerwerbsbetrieben bewirtschafteten landwirtschaftlich genutzten Fläche (LF) an^b.
 (*) Keine Angabe wegen Geheimhaltung.

Bayern	2010
Anteil der Nebenerwerbsbetriebe an den Betrieben insgesamt:	48,7 %
Anteil der von Nebenerwerbsbetrieben bewirtschafteten LF ¹	28,8 %

^a 100 % = landwirtschaftliche Betriebe, die als Einzelunternehmen geführt werden.
^b 100 % = LF aller Einzelunternehmen.

2013 in Bavaria: Sideline farms 59%
 Full-time farms 41%

Quelle: Landesamt für Statistik
 Agrarbericht Bayern 2014

Workforce of Farms in Bavaria 2013 (in 1.000)

Legal form of farm	Employee total	incl. owner and family members	including family members	Only part-time work	incl. non-family workers (incl. Saisonal worker)
Total employee	241,6	184,0	95,9	116,7	57,7
Legal entities (0,3%)	3,2	– ¹⁾	– ¹⁾	– ¹⁾	3,2
Partnerships (5,3%)	20,6	– ¹⁾	– ¹⁾	– ¹⁾	20,6
Individual companies (94,4 %)	217,9	184,0	95,9	24,0	33,9
- Full-time farms (41%)	121,6	92,8	50,5	19,7	28,8
- Sideline farms (59%)	96,3	91,2	45,4	4,8	5,1

Workforce of agro-food system / of upstream or downstream of farming

One in 7 jobs in Bavaria is upstream or downstream of farming, which amounts to 900,000 jobs, about 14% of all employment in Bavaria.

- **Protection of farmers' property in inheritance/when sold**

Farming land should be maintained as such. The Real Property Transaction Act lays down rules and agriculture takes precedence in terms of land use. The sale of land greater than one hectare has to be approved. When parents leave a farm to their children, the brothers and sisters who will not work on it in future must be compensated with appropriate sums (based on the earnings value). That way the heir who takes it over will continue farming on a viable scale. The point of passing on the farm is to keep it going.

- **Constraints that farmers and rural population face in their everyday work**

Many German laws stipulate what specialist agriculture involves (fertiliser ordinance, pesticides, livestock ordinance), veterinary ordinances, emissions control law, building law, quality tests, documentation in databases, food law, subsidy rules etc)

5. Forms of protection or development of agricultural land use in rural areas

- **Changes in land use around the city (or the main urban centre)**

At present there is an enormous consumption of land going on – every day 20 ha are lost in Bavaria (through e.g. production sites, roads, general construction work, compensation areas). Since 1970, Bavaria has lost 500,000 ha of farmland. Farms requiring a lot of space are settling on the outskirts of cities, in particular.

- **Process of land use change, institutions involved and role of farmers (if any)**

Bavaria has issued an ordinance on compensation. Building blocks are getting smaller, unfortunately only for private housing, as gaps between buildings are closed and older building stock is exploited. In the commercial field, the local authorities' expectation of tax income reinforces their readiness to give planning permission for building to more and more new areas. It is possible to appeal against the municipal zoning plans, but the chances of success are small. Large areas are being consumed by renewable energy - biomass, arrays of photovoltaic panels, etc.

- **Projects and partnerships for the protection of agricultural land use**

The farmers' associations have launched different campaigns, e.g. a petition to the German federal parliament in Berlin, and young farmers have staged a demonstration in the centre of Munich to draw attention to the problem. Awareness still needs to be raised about the value of the soil, and the UN's International Year of soils in 2015 will seek to contribute to this.

- **(if relevant) relationships between agricultural land use and environmental land use**

There are 158,495 ha of nature reserves, 22,500 ha of national parks, 2,122,992 ha of landscape protection areas, (approx. 1/3 of the whole area, along with European and international protection categories, e.g. Natura 2000, flora and fauna habitats (FFH areas) and biosphere reserves. Restrictions in farming activity sometimes lead to compensation payments that rise with increasing prohibitions.

4.5% of the land area has been declared water protection areas, which corresponds to 153,000 ha of utilised agricultural area. Farmers receive staggered compensation payments. In Bavaria there are about 200 cooperation agreements between farmers and water supply organisations, above all with respect to increasing nitrate pollution.

6. **Agrifood market**

- **Relationships between agricultural production and agri-food industry**

The bulk of agricultural production goes into the food industry – possibilities for other forms of marketing are limited. A positive development is the growing trend towards regional marketing in the shops: customers want to know where the product comes from. Farmers and food retailers cooperate in providing information (regional origins, special quality and processing). Apart from that, there is direct marketing (particularly from organic farming) at farm shops and weekly markets, delivery service etc. In cheese processing, small cheese-making cooperatives with special regional products are able to occupy a niche market, sometimes linked to a farm café etc. The same thing applies to processing their own meat and grain. One difficulty is that this means more work for the farmers and customer numbers tend to fluctuate.

- **definition of the quality of products**

Despite the EU and national regulations for the producer, the rest of the production chain is not always transparent. There are already many labels on the market, and sometimes this only adds to the confusion, rather than bringing clarity.

- **Education on food and nutrition**

Food education is given little time at primary schools, and in secondary schools only in the social affairs stream. The agricultural authorities provide food advice for target groups (e.g. young families, kindergartens, large-scale catering firms). With campaigns and public relations, also involving women farmers, we try to convey the importance of healthy food and the value of food. The federal agriculture ministry has launched a nation-wide campaign against wasting food by throwing it away unnecessarily. (www.zugutfuertietone.de)

- **forms of association for the quality assurance of food production (cooperatives, processing, retailing) and the price**

The nonprofit dairy association Milchprüfring Bayern e.V. brings together all interest groups in the Bavarian dairy industry. It is a neutral quality control organisation and checks on the quality of raw milk in Bavaria. There is a similar check on quality in the meat sector. The state of Bavaria has introduced the quality assurance system “tested quality from Bavaria” www.gq-bayern.de, that comprises the areas of meat (all types), milk and dairy products, cereals and cereal products, eggs, eating potatoes, vegetables, and honey. It conducts inspections, holds advice sessions, if necessary imposes sanctions and awards an appropriate quality label.

Besides this there are different labels such as “without GMOs”, an “organic” label, “regional window”, to name but a few. They are intended to bring in a higher price for the producers. Consumers can also obtain quality tests and information from consumer bodies and different inspection institutions, e.g., “Stiftung Warentest” “Öko-Test”, or internet portals such as www.lebensmittelklarheit.de

7. Settlement of immigrant populations in rural areas

- **Workforce in rural and agricultural activities**

There are great differences regarding rural and farm employment within Bavaria. In southern Bavaria and around the big cities there are jobs that are easy to reach. In many areas of northern Bavaria the work situation is very difficult, which is leading to a worrying rural exodus.

Small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) are of particular importance in rural areas, including manual trades, and the production of goods and services. Only 3% of jobs are related to

agriculture, but in the upstream and downstream area – which is often located in the countryside - they constitute 14% of jobs. Seasonal workers from eastern Europe are hired to look after special crops (fruit and vegetables), as required.

- **Institutions and public services**

The state job centres are responsible for job seekers. They also help in cases of hardship, or give special training sessions. Many jobs are found via the newspapers, journals or personal contacts.

8. Application of Rural Development Programme (RDP)

- **Individual participation in tendering**

Rural development is promoted both by Bavarian programmes and also through the second pillar in the EU Programme ELER (co-financed by the Bavarian and the German government).

Instruments of the Bavarian programmes:

- ❖ Integrated rural development and municipal alliances
- ❖ Village renewal
- ❖ Land consolidation
- ❖ Infrastructure programmes

The citizens are intensively involved in these programmes (approx. 1.1 million in 2013). There are three state colleges for village development and in each governmental district (of which there are seven) there is a directorate for rural development. These institutions accompany the citizens and municipalities at the local level. The stakeholders in the villages join together to form participant groups.

The programmes of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) have the following priorities:

1. Promoting knowledge transfer and innovation in agriculture, forestry and rural areas
2. Promoting the competitiveness of all kinds of agriculture
3. Organising the food chain and risk management in agriculture
4. Improving ecosystems that depend on agriculture and forestry
5. Promoting resource efficiency and supporting the agricultural, food and forestry sectors in transition towards a low-CO₂ and climate-resistant economy
6. Promoting social integration, combating poverty, and promoting economic development in rural areas

The LEADER programme plays a major role here, building as it does on the various forms of innovation undertaken by citizens to promote sustainable development in their home regions.

- **Participation of groups**

All the groups in a village can get involved in the “Bavarian programmes”, and their leaders try to involve as many people as possible. The LEADER programmes are bottom-up processes that presuppose that those most involved play an active role. At the regional level, the stakeholders join in local action groups (LAGs). Here too the aim is to involve as many groupings as possible in the projects. The LAGs are accompanied by LEADER managers at the agricultural offices in their area.

- **Role of agricultural representation in defining and implementing RDP programmes**

Through their elected representatives, the farmers are involved in developing the programmes which, after all, frequently affect them directly or indirectly. The farmers association must be consulted as it represents the farmers’ interests in public. Farmers frequently get actively involved in the projects – farming and the rural life go hand in hand.

9. Application of environmental rules

The provisions of the Common Agricultural Policy (1st pillar) contains important decisions on sustainable, environmentally and climatically sound farming. The regional and federal governments have issued a number of laws to farmers to protect the environment (fertiliser and pesticide ordinance, water protection, climate protection, emissions control, livestock protection etc and support programmes (e.g. cultural landscape programme, flower strips etc).

- **And the promotion of traditional food production**

This takes place through specialist and legal advice, publicity campaigns, sometimes also through project support. Sometimes seals are awarded as “protected trademarks”. In order to protect regionally important products from imitation, agricultural products and food have since 1992 been registered at the European level with protected labels of origin, protected geographical information and guaranteed traditional specialties. The European quality registers contain high-value agricultural products and foods from all EU member states and third countries. Traditional food production is a unique selling proposition, a piece of identity of the region.

- **role of agricultural representation in defining the application of the rules**

All elected members of parliament (regional, federal, EU) with a farming background bring their expertise to their work. Agricultural trade associations are consulted during the process.

10. Application of food safety rules

Regarding instruments available on the production sites, see para 6. Trade inspectorates and food supervisors conduct checks in processing and retailing. There are also private and public quality control institutes. The state authorities must inform the general public of gross infringements.

- **And the promotion of traditional food production** See above
- **The role of agricultural representation in defining the application of the rules** See above

11. Knowledge of rural and agricultural area and population developed for urban population

People's knowledge about agriculture and the rural areas is very meagre, or even distorted. They do not fully recognise their importance for society as a whole. Food is regarded as something that is always available as a matter of course and the countryside as above all a place for holidays and nostalgia. This is not least a consequence of advertising, that disseminates images of farming and the countryside that have nothing to do with reality. Besides that, there is a trend towards a customer and consumer awareness favouring regional and organic products.

- **Newspapers**

Some magazines concentrate on country life (fun in the countryside etc); they are widely read but convey the countryside as idyllic. The farming journals are only read by farmers, not the citizens. Daily papers mostly only take up current and often negative stories, which often lack objectivity.

- **Formal or informal public/private actions of education**

The state organises campaigns such as "School on the farm" – every child is supposed to have been to a farm once as a school trip, and promotes information for teachers from the farms. Courses on healthy food are provided by health insurance authorities and adult education centres. Associations try to provide information through a variety of campaigns (nutrition, food, traditional crops, farming).

- **Television**

Television reports on food scandals stick in people's minds – they instil in them the wish to have the best food, but neglect information about the necessary preconditions for that. On Bavarian radio and TV there are a few programmes that give sound information about farming and the rural areas. Unfortunately people are often only interested in the scandals.