

ENACT Partner

Germany



Summary

With the Federal Action Plan on Nature-based Solutions for Climate and Biodiversity (ANK), the German government aims to make a key contribution to significantly improving the general condition of ecosystems in Germany, thus strengthening their resilience and climate mitigation performance. With the Action Plan, the German government will protect, strengthen and restore ecosystems. The plan links climate action with nature conservation and ensures that degraded ecosystems regain their health, their resilience and their biodiversity. It comprises 69 measures in a total of ten fields of action, for example, peatlands, forest ecosystems, seas and coasts, settlement and transport areas or research and capacity building. Agriculture and forestry will become sustainable and allow more space for a diverse range of flora and fauna on the managed areas.

At the core of the program are the financing of restoration measures and incentives for adapted economic approaches that contribute to nature-based climate action. New funding programs are launched for this purpose. Given the diversity of the affected ecosystems and potential funding recipients, there cannot be a “one-fits-all approach”. Rather, tailor-made implementation concepts for the individual funding areas are developed. With the Action Plan, the German government ensures that funding goes where it can best be used so that nature-based climate action can unfold its long-term benefits.

Alignment with 2024 Discussion Paper

The Action Plan will contribute to the biodiversity, climate and further sustainability goals of the German government through a great variety of approaches and aligns different areas of policy through the strengthened NbS implementation.

Furthermore, the ANK is a broad-based program that makes particular use of synergy effects between nature conservation and climate action. Therefore, there are many links to other federal government programs. For example, there is a particularly close link between the ANK and the Climate Action Program. The measures that were incorporated into the 2023 Climate Action Program for the land use sector are fed by the ANK. These measures are formulated and implemented as part of the ANK. There is also a particularly close link to the EU Nature Restoration Regulation. The ANK will make a key contribution to implementing the European restoration goals.

Through the different funding guidelines, the ANK will also enhance financing for NbS throughout different land use sectors in Germany. The governance on NbS implementation will be strengthened through the non-investive approaches of the Action Plan.

Responsible Units/Departments

Overall coordination by Working Group N III 2 (Climate Policy in the Land Sector, Restoration of Nature); Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection

Further Divisions within the Federal Ministry are responsible for implementing the individual measures.

Key Partners/Stakeholders

The Action Plan is the result of a comprehensive participatory process in 2022. The Federal Environment Ministry received around 120 opinions and more than 1,000 online comments. The content of every proposed improvement was reviewed. It helped forge a broad alliance for implementation including landowners, nature conservationists and other local stakeholders.

The Action Plan is implemented in close cooperation with the Bundesländer (Federal States). In the implementation phase of the ANK, the national Centre of Competence for nature-based climate action (KNK) is the first point of contact for the topic at the federal level. In addition to coordinating nationwide advice on the topic of nature-based climate action, the competence centre provides information about various funding opportunities, provides specialist information and also brings stakeholders and interested people together in various event formats. The KNK not only promotes networking in the countries, regions and those involved locally, but also supports the practical implementation of measures with established care structures - both at the local, regional and national level.