



9th Sino-German Agricultural Week:

Shaping the future of our food systems together: Our transformation agenda

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

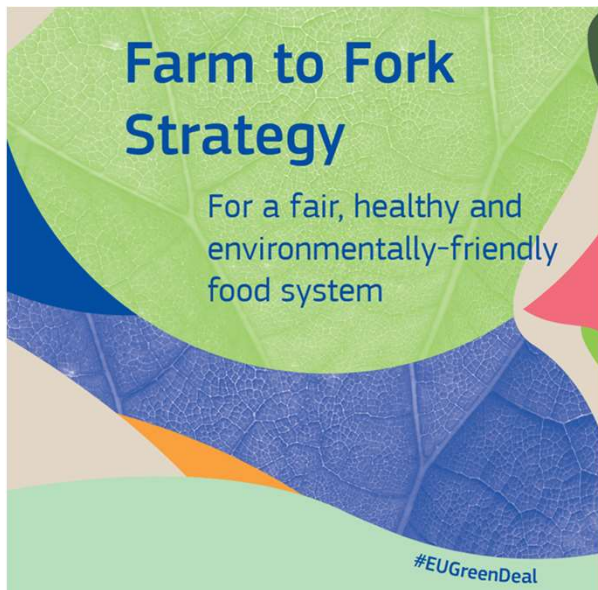
1. A short approach to a comprehensive term: what is “transformation”?

1. What is “transformation”?
2. Transformation in Germany at national level
3. Transformation at international level
4. Conclusion

Transformation requires leadership...

“ Food systems **hold the power** to realize our shared vision for a better world.”

READ, *the Secretary-General's Chair Summary and Statement of Action on the UN Food Systems Summit*



...and principles...

- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Human rights based approaches (**Right to food**)
- Paris Agreement
- UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
- UN Convention on Biological Diversity
- Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
- EU Green Deal



...leading to action:



There should be no „or“ between **agriculture** and **environmental protection**.

Guiding principles for transformation

- We need **holistic approaches** (everything is connected – from farm to fork).
- We need **achievable and attractive goals** – shared positive visions lead to innovation.
- We need **benchmarks and best practices** (like organic farming).
- We need **science and expertise**.
- We need **all relevant actors and stakeholders** to get involved.
- We need **strong partnerships** (at national as well as international level).
- We need **incentives**.

Trans – holistic approach, coherent policies

Form – new ideas and innovation

Formation – play together as a team

From reaction to action: „Let’s shape this change together!

2. Transformation in Germany at national level

»Worried about biodiversity loss? Focus on food.

Worried about freshwater supply and quality? Focus on food.

Worried about deforestation? Focus on food.

Worried about overfishing? Focus on food.

Worried about climate change? Focus on energy, and food.«

(Richard Waite, World Resources Institute)

The BMEL's overarching goal:

To elaborate the political framework for sustainable agro-food systems and shape the therefore necessary change (= transformation)

Transform food production and nutrition into a system

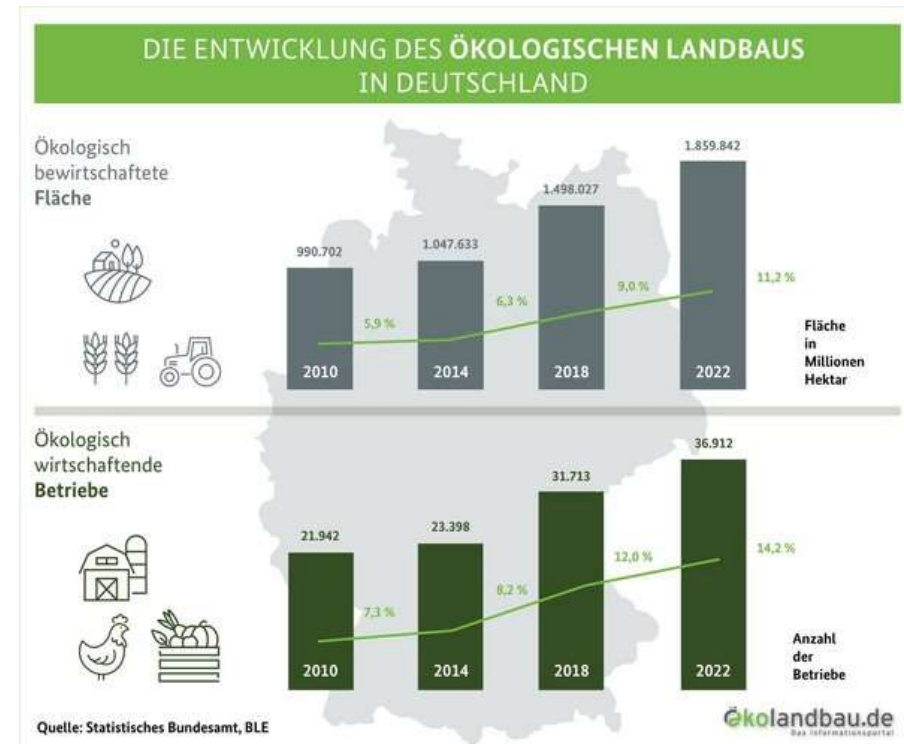
- that permanently secures the basis for **healthy and adequate diets**,
- in which **farmers** can operate in an **economically viable manner**,
- that **protects** the environment, animals and the climate.

A photograph of a pea field. The plants are lush green with many purple flowers and developing green pods. The sky is a clear, bright blue. A white text box is overlaid on the center of the image.

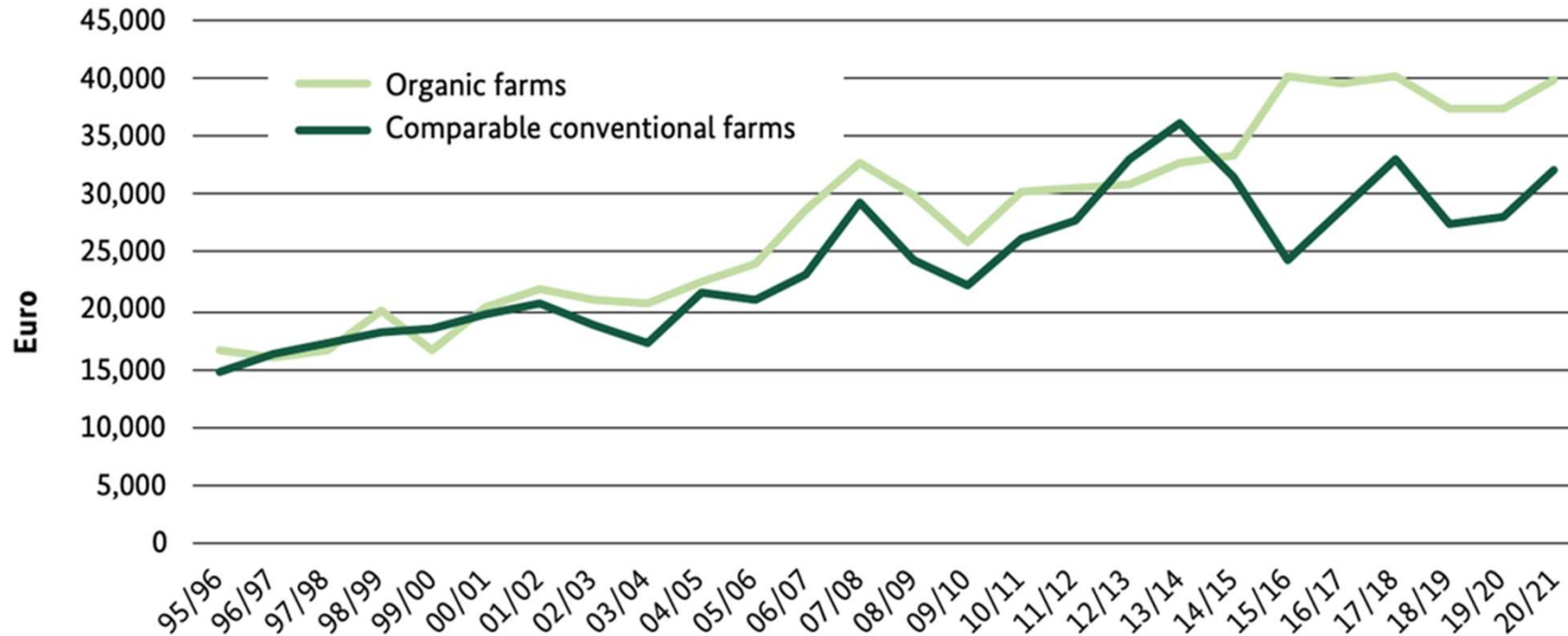
Mainstreaming organic farming

Mainstreaming organic farming

- There are **almost 37,000 farms** with 1.8 million hectares under organic management.
- In 2022, 605 farms opted for going organic and converted **57,000 hectares** to organic farmland; this is equivalent to roughly **80,000 football fields**.



Profit plus labour costs per worker



¹ The increase in income in the 2020/21 financial year is caused in part by a change in comparison criteria.

Source: Thünen Institute based on test farm data (FY 1995/96 – 2020/21)

Mainstreaming organic farming

Objectives:

- overall system of a sustainable supply chain from production to processing and marketing
- sustainable land use
- protecting biodiversity
- animal welfare
- sustainable food and nutrition
- innovation driver for agrobusiness

Action:

- ✓ 30% organic by 2030
- ✓ benchmarks and guidelines for catering: e.g. school meals
- ✓ Federal Organic Farming Scheme (BÖL)
- ✓ Protein Crop Strategy
- ✓ 2030 Organic Farming Strategy

Towards future-proof animal husbandry



» A vast majority in Germany (94 percent) find it very important or important to ensure better animal husbandry conditions with fewer animals in stables. «

(2023 Nutrition Report)

Transition towards future-proof animal husbandry

Objectives:

- **animal welfare**
- better **animal health** – fewer antibiotics
- labelling resulting in more **sustainable consumption**
- Food-Feed-Fuel-Fiber-Nexus

Action:

- ✓ **animal husbandry label**
- ✓ **incentives for and promotion of investments in good husbandry conditions**



The Food and Nutrition Strategy

»74 percent of German consumers consider better compatibility with climate stewardship or environmental protection, animal welfare and taste as decisive purchasing factors.«

(2023 Nutrition Report)

Food and Nutrition Strategy

Goals

- aims to make it as easy for **everyone** in Germany to eat **healthily** and **sustainably**.
- promoting a more **plant-based diet**
- transformation of our food systems is **vital for climate action and species conservation** and hence also for **future food security**

Action:

- ✓ promoting and creating appropriate **beneficial dietary environments and patterns**.
- ✓ improve community catering such as in schools and hospital (with a higher share of seasonal, regional and organic food)
- ✓ National Reduction and Innovation Strategy for Sugar, Fats and Salt in Processed Foods
- ✓ Campaign “To good for the bin”
- ✓ Labelling (Nutriscore)
- ✓ Model Regions

A vibrant, sunlit forest scene. The foreground is filled with green undergrowth and a path of brown leaves. Tall, slender trees with green foliage rise into the background, with bright sunlight streaming through the canopy, creating a warm, golden glow. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

Sustainable forest management

» Around 1,2 billion tonnes of carbon are stored in the biomass of sustainably managed forests in Germany, and are thereby permanently removed from the natural carbon cycle. «

(National Forest Inventory)

Sustainable forest management

Objectives:

- **protecting biodiversity**
- **immense carbon sink**
- **replacing fossil resources**
- **protecting forests as suppliers of food, medicine, building material and energy**

Action:

- **National Forest Inventory**
- **financial support for private forest management**
- **Forest Climate Fund**
- **competition for sustainable housing construction**
- **regulation** of deforestation-free products



Strengthening rural regions

» It is important to me that the people in rural areas, who make the indispensable contributions to climate stewardship, the energy transition and to the future of our country, also benefit appropriately from it. «

(Federal Minister Cem Özdemir)

Strengthening rural areas

Objectives:

- strengthening the stakeholders in this transformation
- turning rural areas into innovation hubs

Action:

- ✓ Federal Rural Development Scheme
- ✓ Joint Task for the Improvement of Agricultural Structures and Coastal Protection (GAK)
- ✓ Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)
- ✓ Green Professions

3. Transformation at international level

2024 GFFA: Food Systems for Our Future - Joining Forces for a Zero Hunger World!



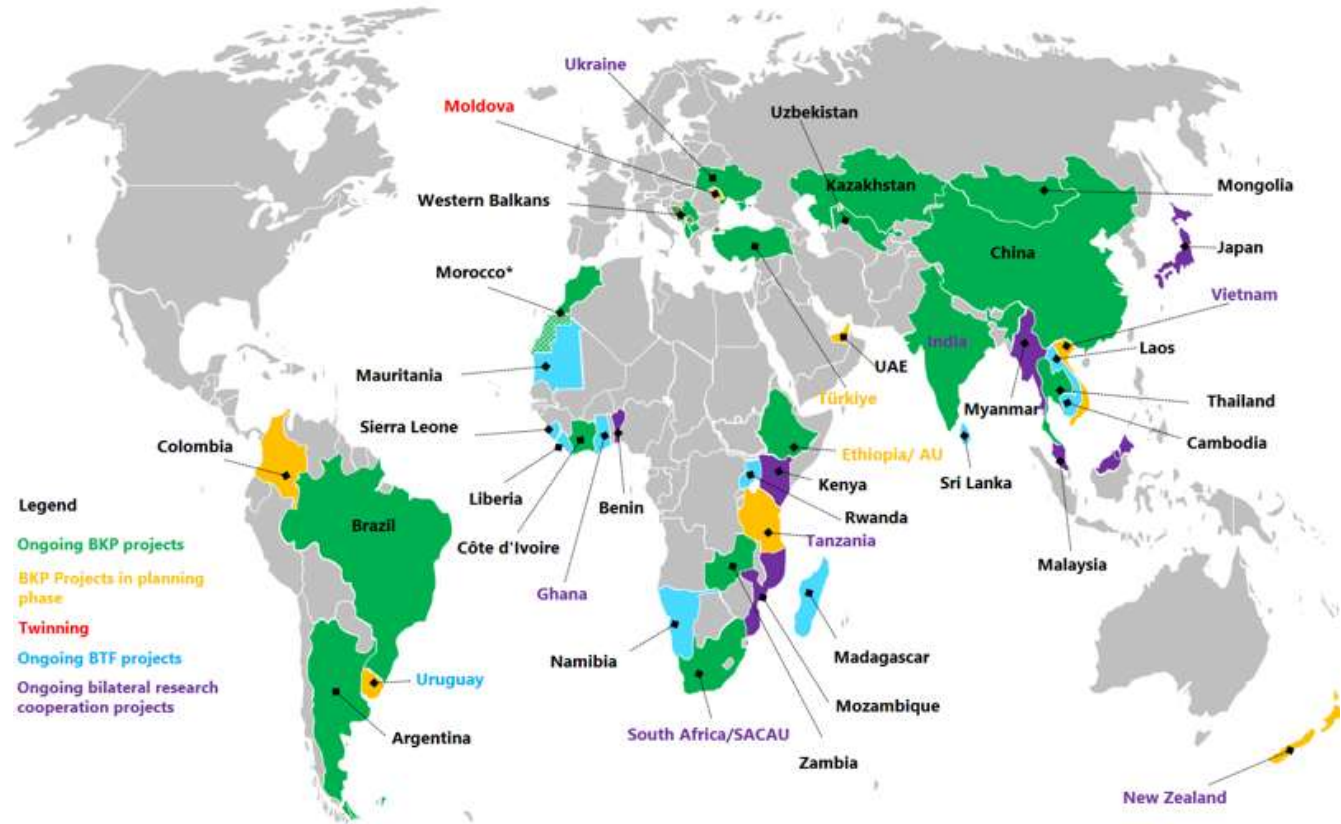
International engagement

Bilateral project cooperation (BKP)
with currently 21 partner countries

Projects with the FAO within the
Bilateral Trust Fund (BTF).

BMEL food security research programme

Hand in hand to speed up the
transformation towards
resilient and sustainable food systems



*This map does not reflect the position of the German Federal Government under international law in each individual case. The map does not make any statement about the respective disputed territorial claims.

Goal & objectives of our international projects



Overarching goal: contribute to the right to food

1. **strengthening agroecology** for more climate-resilient, resource-friendly and sustainable food production
2. strengthening **food sovereignty** (seed sector, land use etc.)
3. providing strategies, legislation and structures for **sustainable food production**
4. **involvement** and participation of civil society & research institutions
5. taking account of gender dimensions (e.g. women in agriculture) & indigenous knowledge



Strengthening CFS (BTF with FAO)

Mainstreaming human rights based approaches

Upcoming BTF-projects

1. VGGT
2. Agri-Accelarator Hub 2.0
(CFS/RAI - focus youth)
3. CFS project
4. food loss and waste in city
regions (agroecology)





Too precious for the bin: Food Waste and Loss & Agroecology in City Regions (BTF with FAO)



**New cooperation with the African Union:
Creating the future food systems together**



Sino-German Agricultural Center (DCZ) in China

Research on global food security: focus on agroecology



Funding research on global food security



- aim: improving global food security by supporting and **building partnerships between research institutions** (food and agriculture) in Germany and in the global South
- contribute to SDG 2
- new funding call due for next year: focus to be on the **potential of agroecological value chains** for food and nutrition security
- strong regional focus so far: **Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia**

4. Conclusion / Invitation

We are ready to shape
our future - TOGETHER.

Thank you for your attention!

謝謝