

Competent support for Excellent Research in Bavaria, Europe and the World





The **Bavarian Research Alliance**

Organisation, tasks and objectives

The Bavarian Research Alliance (BayFOR) is an organisation committed to promoting Bavaria as a centre for science and innovation within the European Research Area (ERA). It was set up at the end of 2006 on the initiative of the Bavarian universities and universities of applied sciences to strengthen their networking at regional, national and international level and help them prepare to meet the requirements for European research funding. BayFOR supports and advises Bavarian scientists and industry stakeholders in the competition for regional, national and European funding for research, development and innovation. BayFOR is a partner organisation in the Bavarian Research and Innovation Agency (www.research-innovation-bavaria.de).

Areas of activity

BayFOR's Information and Support Center for EU-funded **Research and Innovation Projects** connects Bavarian stakeholders from science and industry at European level and assists them with acquiring EU funding. The focus is directed at the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation "Horizon Europe". Scientific experts provide subject-specific information and offer strategic advice and active support for initiating projects, setting up international research consortia and submitting proposal applications. Upon successful evaluation, BayFOR is able to provide support during grant preparation with the European Commission and, when requested, BayFOR can carry out project management and communication activities throughout the project duration. The key thematic areas include: health research, biotechnology and food, information and communication technologies, nanosciences, new materials and production, transport and aviation, environment, energy and bioeconomy, social sciences, humanities, and security and defence research

In addition, **BayFOR's EU Liaison Office in Brussels** represents the interests of Bavarian universities at European level. It increases their visibility and acts as their point of contact with European institutions. This significantly increases the chances of success for Bavarian applicants within the European Research Area. Another objective is to boost the participation of Bavarian companies, particularly SMEs,

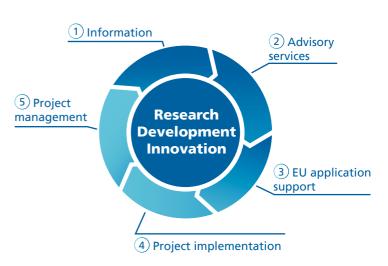
in funding programmes. BayFOR therefore also acts as an interface between science and industry in the **Enterprise Europe Network, a consulting network for SMEs**.

BayFOR manages the **Bavarian funding programme for the initiation of international research collaborations (BayIntAn)** on behalf of the Bavarian State Ministry of Science and the Arts. This funding is intended to establish or strengthen international research partnerships involving Bavarian state universities and universities of applied sciences.

BayFOR also coordinates the joint activities of the **Bavarian Research Associations** and supports their networking at European level.

BayFOR's **Scientific Coordination Offices** provide support for bilateral and multilateral research and innovation projects carried out by Bavaria in cooperation with the Canadian provinces Québec and Alberta, with some of its other strong partner regions, as well as with Israel and Africa.

■ BayFOR as a full-service provider



Highlights 2024

The global innovation climate has changed in 2024. The addition of Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to the BRICS group, which now accounts for 40 per cent of global GDP and nearly half of global oil production, is shifting the economic balance of power towards the south and east. Meanwhile, Donald Trump's re-election is altering the transatlantic agenda while the Iran-Israel conflict is exacerbating the already tense situation in the Middle East. At the same time, ambitious climate targets and new energy alliances are accelerating the race for clean technologies, presenting a significant opportunity for Bavaria's cutting-edge research.

Here at BayFOR, we have seized this opportunity and supported numerous researchers in acquiring EU funding for their projects. Overall, 2024 was a strong year: We secured €47.5 million of funding for 44 projects involving Bavarian stakeholders. In addition, in October 2024, the EU Innovation Fund confirmed that three Bavarian projects supported by BayFOR during the application phase had been selected for funding. Sadly, one project could not be realised because a major investor in the beneficiary company withdrew after the application was submitted. The remaining two projects will receive a total of €91 million in funding in 2025 to develop new sustainable energy and mobility technologies. Three BayFOR units – 'Environment, Energy & Bioeconomy', 'ICT, Engineering & Natural Sciences' and 'SME Advisory Services' – contributed to this success. Notable successes were also achieved in the 'Health Research & Biotechnology' unit, including the EU project 'Inkjet-bioAM', which is funded by Horizon Europe. This project is developing a digital precision printing process for manufacturing medical and pharmaceutical products. Another EU project involving Bavarian stakeholders received – with our support – €10 million from the European Defence Fund.

Success is not only measured in euros; it is also reflected in special events and successful strategic developments.

On 13 September 2024, Ursula von der Leyen, the President of the European Commission, visited an EU flagship project in Munich-Neuperlach, in which BayFOR was a project partner. Over the past three years, the 'Creating NEBourhoods Together' project has transformed the neighbourhood in Neuperlach in line with the New European Bauhaus (NEB) concept, with citizens, the administration, businesses and scientists working together equally. Mrs von der Leyen was impressed by the cooperation and progress on site.

Despite the difficult global situation, BayFOR's scientific coordination offices (WKS) strengthened their international ties in 2024: The WKS Bavaria-Québec/Alberta/International celebrated 35 years of bilateral cooperation between Bavaria and Québec, bringing together high-ranking guests in Munich including the Québec Minister Martine Biron, and the Bavarian Minister for European Affairs, Eric Beißwenger. Meanwhile, the WKS Bavaria-Israel welcomed its first visitors since 7 October 2023: two universities from Jerusalem - the Holon Institute of Technology and the Hadassah Academic College. The focus was on health technology and establishing new partnerships with Bavarian universities.

At the end of the year, the WKS Bavaria-Africa event 'Cooperation Lounge Africa-Europe: Science Meets Politics'

took place in Brussels, bringing together researchers, political decision-makers, and institutions from Bavaria, Europe and Africa. The aim was to take concrete steps to strengthen science diplomacy in the context of African-European cooperation.

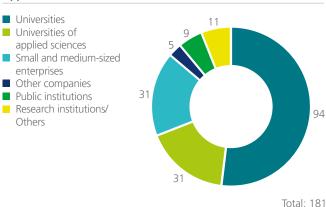


The BayFOR EU Funding Centre: Facts & Figures

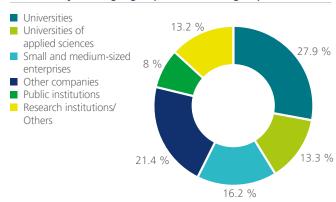
Which applicants did BayFOR support in 2024? How are the submitted applications distributed among the various funding programmes? Here is an overview of the most important figures.

All diagrams should be read in clockwise order.

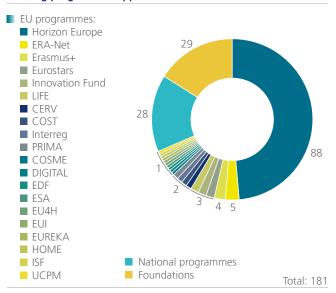
Applicants



Share of BayFOR target groups in the funding acquired



Funding programmes applied to



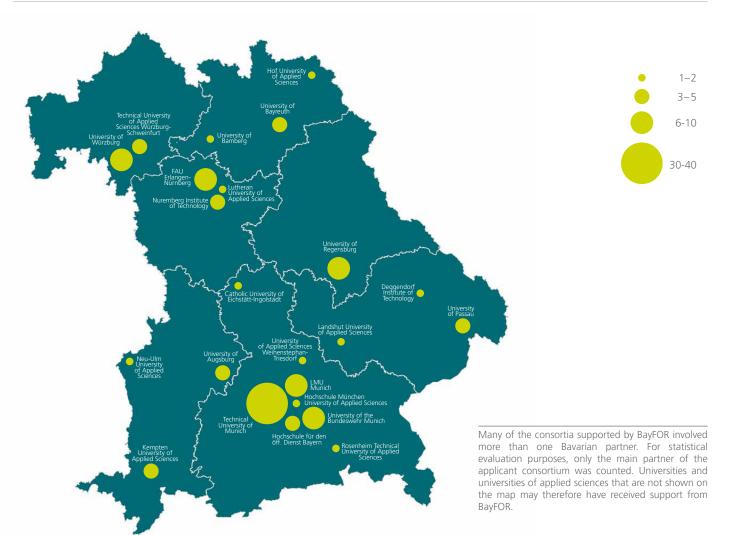
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Due to the often long timeframe between preparing an application and signing the grant agreement, the funds approved for 2024 largely stem from applications submitted in 2023. Many of the consortia supported by BayFOR comprised more than one Bavarian partner. For statistical evaluation purposes, only the main partner of the application consortium was counted. In addition to the 181 projects submitted with BayFOR's support, BayFOR provided numerous funding consultations throughout Bavaria that did not directly result in an application.

Track record for 2024

Project proposals submitted (number)	181
Funding approved (in EUR)	174,647,403
Of which for Bavarian stakeholders (in EUR)	47,548,879

Applications submitted by universities and universities of applied sciences



In **2024**, BayFOR was a partner in the following EU projects:



CIRCOTRONIC

https://bit.ly/circotronic

Programme: Interreg Central Europe

BayFOR's role: Project partner WP1 and WP3



Circular Flooring www.circular-flooring.eu **Programme:** Horizon 2020, Circular Economy

BayFOR's role: Project management, dissemination



CIRCULAR FoodPack

www.circular-foodpack.eu

Programme: Horizon 2020, Societal Challenges

BayFOR's role: Project management, dissemination



www.climate-tipping-points.eu

Programme: Horizon Europe, Climate, Energy and Mobility,

Climate Science and Solutions

BayFOR's role: Project management



FDIH DINO

https://bit.ly/edih-dino

Programme: Digital Europe and ERDF

BayFOR's role: Associated partner (training)



EEN2EIC

https://een2eic.eu

Programme: Horizon Europe, European Innovation Council (EIC) BayFOR's role: Consortium Innovation Leader, Local Node for Women Entrepreneurs and Seal of Excellence (SoE)



Enterprise Europe Network/ www.bayfor.org/een/en Bavaria2Europe

Programme: Single Market Programme (SMP COSME) BayFOR's role: Full partner – responsible for R&I funding

programmes



www.hvflow-h2020.eu

Programme: Horizon 2020, Societal Challenges

BayFOR's role: Project management, dissemination



INCITIS-FOOD

www.incitis-food.eu

Programme: Horizon Europe, Food Systems

BayFOR's role: Project management

InShaPe

www.inshape-horizoneurope.eu Programme: Horizon Europe, Green, Flexible and Advanced

Manufacturing

BayFOR's role: Project management, dissemination

IntelliMan

www.intelliman-project.eu

Programme: Horizon Europe, Digital, Industry and Space

BayFOR's role: Project management, dissemination



NEBourhoods

www.nebourhoods.de/en

Programme: Horizon Europe, NEB – New European Bauhaus

BayFOR's role: Project management, dissemination



ONEforest

www.oneforest.eu

Programme: Horizon 2020, Societal Challenges

BayFOR's role: Project management



RecvLIB

https://recylib.eu

Programme: Horizon 2020, Industrial Leadership BayFOR's role: Associated partner (dissemination)



RTIT

https://interreg-danube.eu/projects/rtit

Programme: Interreg Danube Region

BayFOR's role: Associated partner (funding support)



SMHYLES

https://smhvles.eu

Programme: Horizon Europe, Climate, Energy and Mobility BayFOR's role: Business planning, dissemination



SOPLAS

www.soplas.org

Programme: Horizon 2020, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

BayFOR's role: Associated partner (training)



TwinVECTOR

www.twinvector.eu

Programme: Horizon Europe, Widening participation

and spreading excellence

BayFOR's role: Project management, dissemination and

capacity building



UPSCALE

https://upscale-h2020.eu

Programme: Horizon 2020, Societal Challenges

BayFOR's role: Project management



WE-ACT

https://weact-project.eu

Programme: Horizon Europe, Innovation Actions

BayFOR's role: Project management



Bavarian funding programme for the initiation of international collaborations in research and innovation: **BayIntAn**

In the wake of globalisation, transnational cooperation has become an indispensable part of research and innovation. This is why the Bavarian State Ministry of Science and the Arts, in cooperation with BayFOR, launched BayIntAn in 2012, entrusting BayFOR with the implementation of this funding instrument. The funding is intended to help initiate and deepen cross-border research cooperation between scientists from Bavarian universities and international research institutions. In the long term, the programme aims to increase the participation of Bavarian scientists in international projects, particularly EU research and innovation projects.

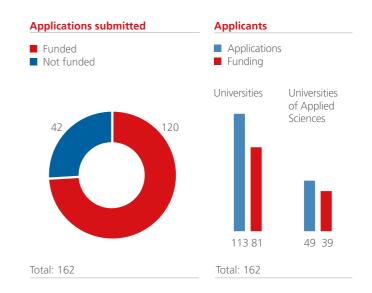
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Track record 2024*

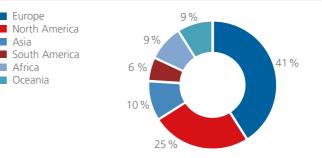
Selected results from BayIntAn funding:

Joint projects planned80
Research proposals submitted to non-Bavarian funding bodies20
Of which already approved4
Funding already secured as a result (in euros)
Cooperation agreements30
Agreements on personnel exchanges31





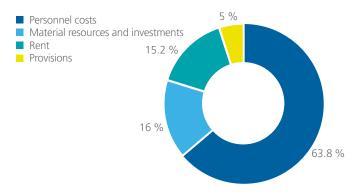




BayFOR in Figures 2024

Use of funds

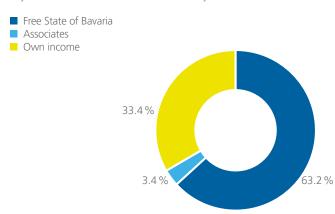
In 2024, BayFOR's annual budget amounted to €7.55 million, compared to €7.74 million the previous year. These funds were mainly allocated to the following items:



As of 31 December 2024.

Financing

BayFOR's business activities were financed by:



All diagrams should be read in clockwise order.

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