

SERVIÇOS DOS ECOSSISTEMAS NAS CIDADES

A biodiversidade e a adaptação climática ao serviço da qualidade de vida



Ecological Account in Germany:

Halting the Loss of Biodiversity by Using the Polluter Pays Principle (PPP)

5 years of experience with the Eco Account decree

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Ecological Account in Germany:

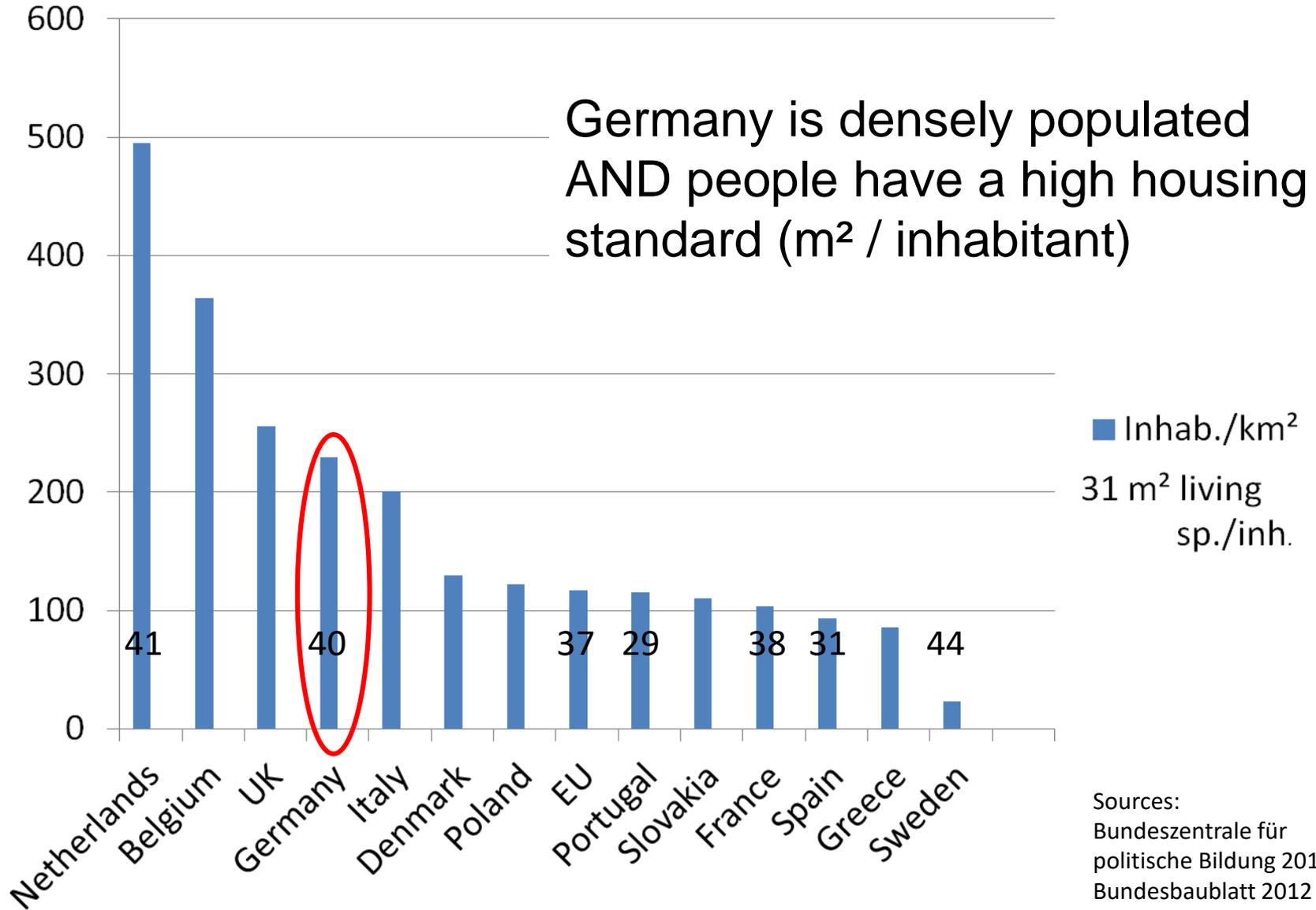
Halting the Loss of Biodiversity by Using the Polluter Pays Principle (PPP)

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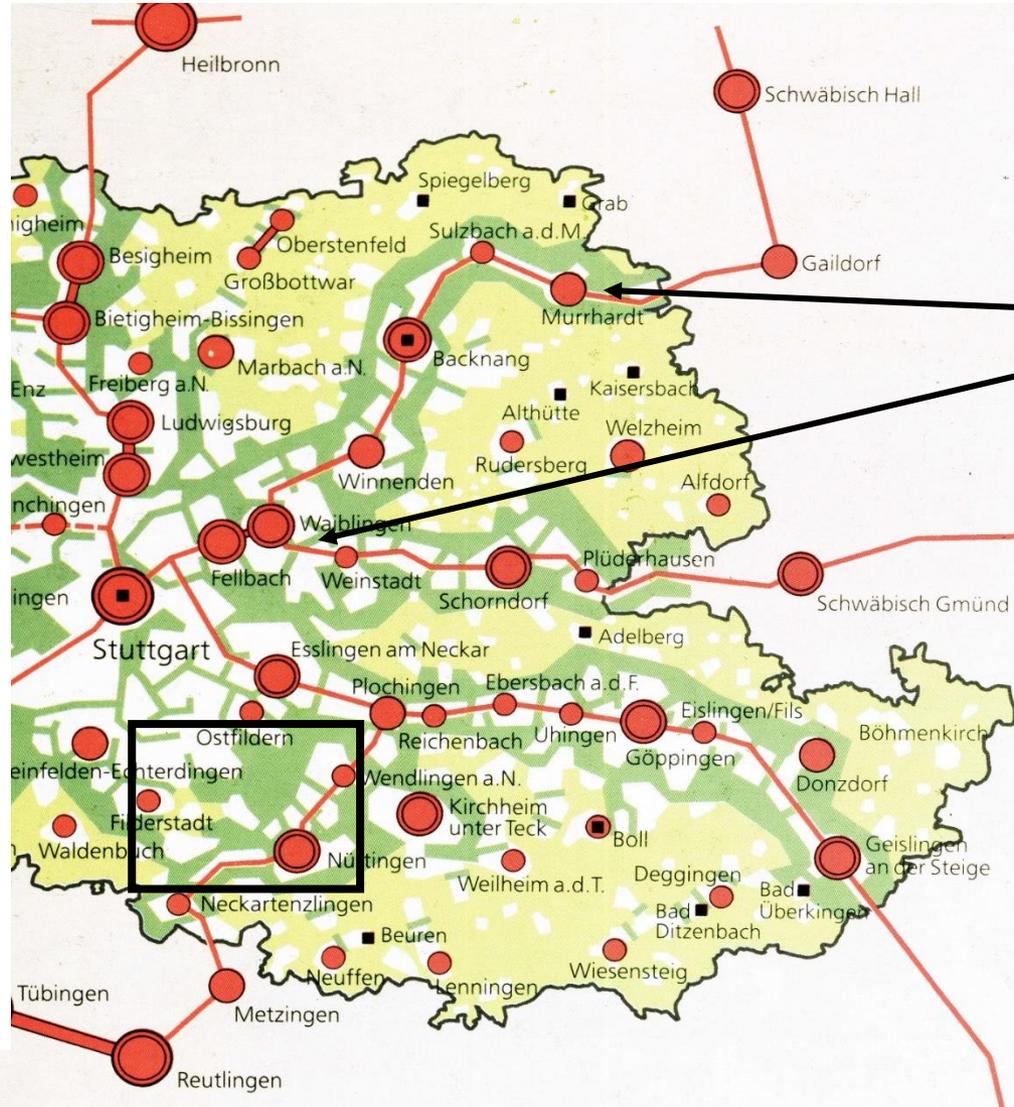
New: not the system / method itself but its application to all (!) impacts

Population density and living space in the EU



Basic planning concept: Regional Plan

To maintain ecological coherence:
defined corridors (along existing transport infrastructure)
for residential, commercial, and industrial development
...



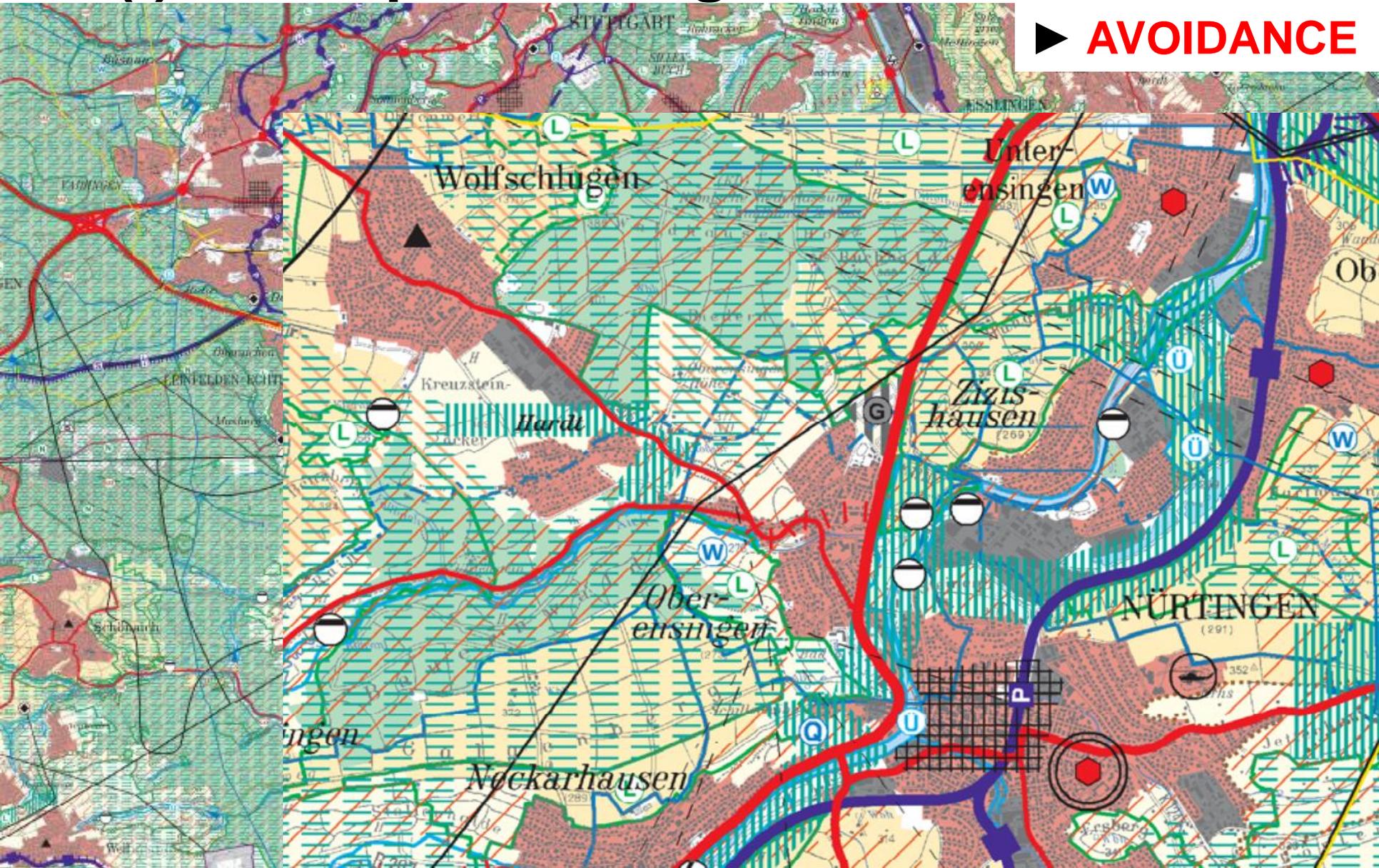
as well as definition of green belts and green breaks

created by landscape planning in the Greater Stuttgart Region

(§2+3 LplG)

Restrictions given by Regional Planning: no (!) developments in green belts and breaks

► **AVOIDANCE**



Important outcome of restrictive Regional Plan: urban renewal has to be considered in Land Use Plans

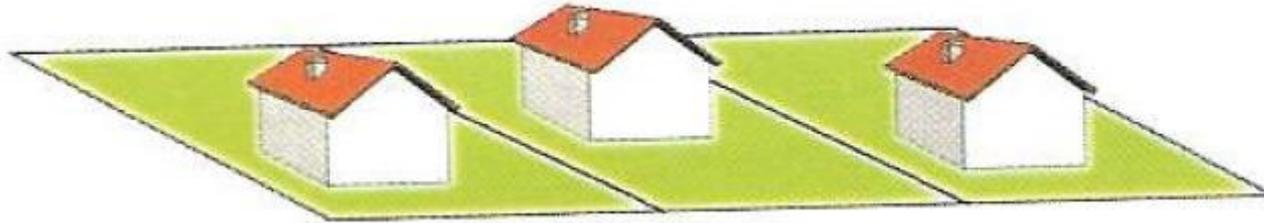
▶ **AVOIDANCE** | ▶ **MITIGATION**



W = Wohnen = residential
M = Mischgebiet = mixed
G = Gewerbe = commercial

New developments outside existing urba areas:

§15 BNatSchG: **avoid** avoidable impacts, **compensate** the rest!



impact: new buildings, roads, pathways, ...



(partial) mitigation by measures inside the impacted area

But:
how much
is x?

obligatory
for all (!)
impacts!

plus x outside
impacted area

Evaluation system of existing and planned biotopes: Ökokontoverordnung (ÖKVO; decree for offsetting impacts)

(2011: coming into force - 2016/17: evaluation / update)

ID number for type of biotope	Type of biotope (name)	Existing biotopes [EP]	Planned biotopes [EP]
33.10	wet meadow	14 / 26 / 39	14 / 26 / 34
33.41	typical meadow on fertile soils	8 / 13 / 19	8 / 13 / –
36.70	xeric grassland	22 / 37 / 50	22 / 31 / 37

Additional or reduced number of EP depending on

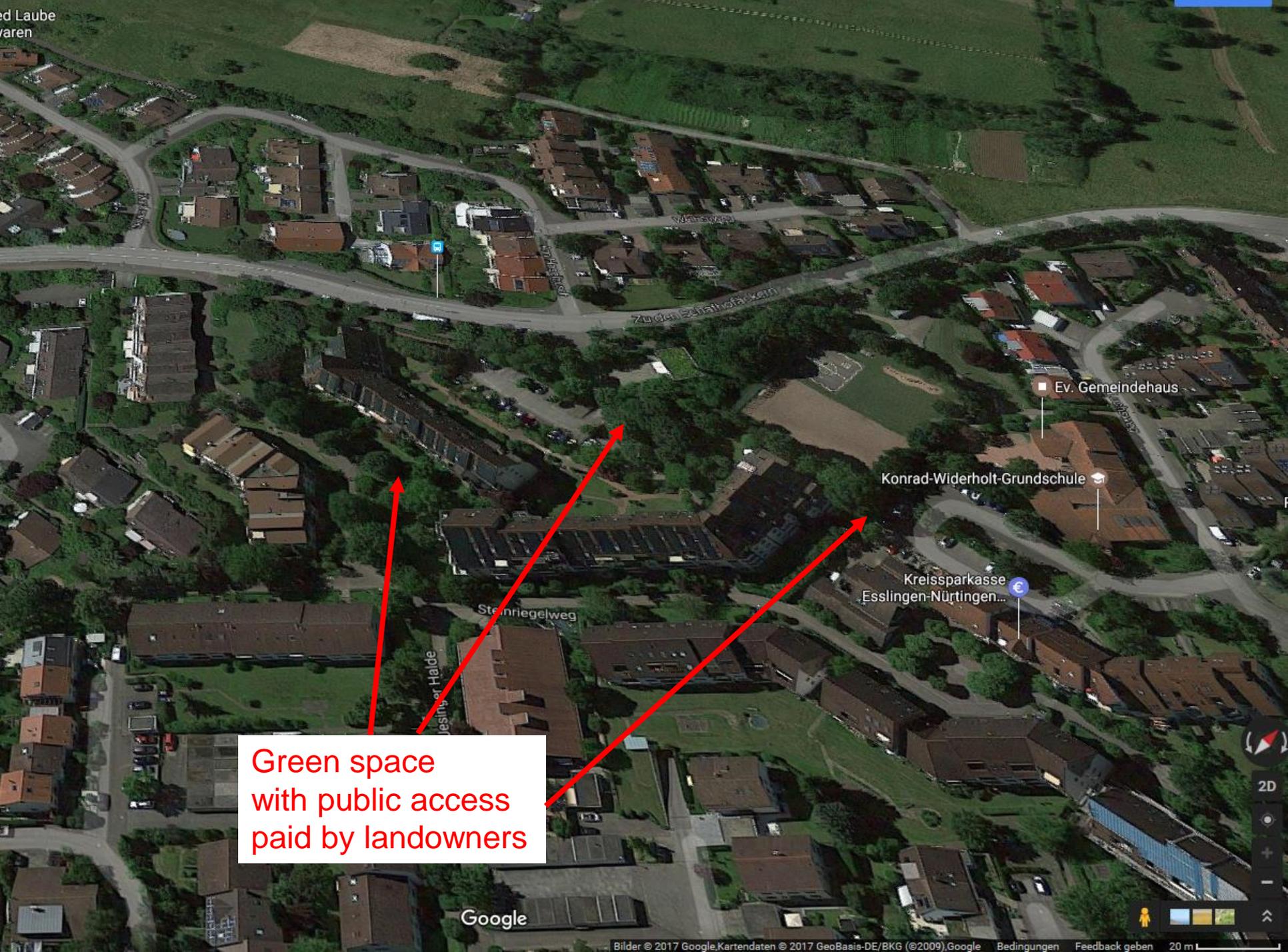
- + number of endangered species living in biotope above average
- + rich in structures, ecotones etc.
- + ...
- number of endangered species living in biotope below average
- eutrophicated sand/or disturbed site,
- ...

Importance of a valid evaluation system and legal regulation

- basis for PPP: internalization of ecological cost
 - ▶ who benefits from urbanization (= transformation farmland to urban land) has to pay for measures to balance its negative effects
 - transparent for all participants in the planning process ▶ reliability
 - very strong impacts get expensive ▶ **avoidance, mitigation**
 - clear / mandatory system ▶ helps against arbitrariness and corruption
- ▶ **§20 Kommunalabgabengesetz** (law regulating municipal taxes):
- municipalities **MUST** raise a tax for access roads, special pathways, **parks, other urban green space, and playgrounds** (up to 95%!)
- are **ALLOWED** to raise a tax for other non-covered expenses for residential or commercial site development **like compensatory measures**



Green space
with public access
paid by investor



Green space
with public access
paid by landowners

ed Laube
waren

Zu den Schahofäcken

Ev. Gemeindehaus

Konrad-Widerholt-Grundschule

Kreissparkasse
Esslingen-Nürtingen...

Steinriegelweg

Jesingner Halde

Google

compensation of impacts:

quantified through Eco Account System / financed through PPP

Residential/
commercial
development
-> cost for
ground,
infrastructure,

and
ecological
compensation

-> paid by
property
owners
($\approx 2\%$ extra)



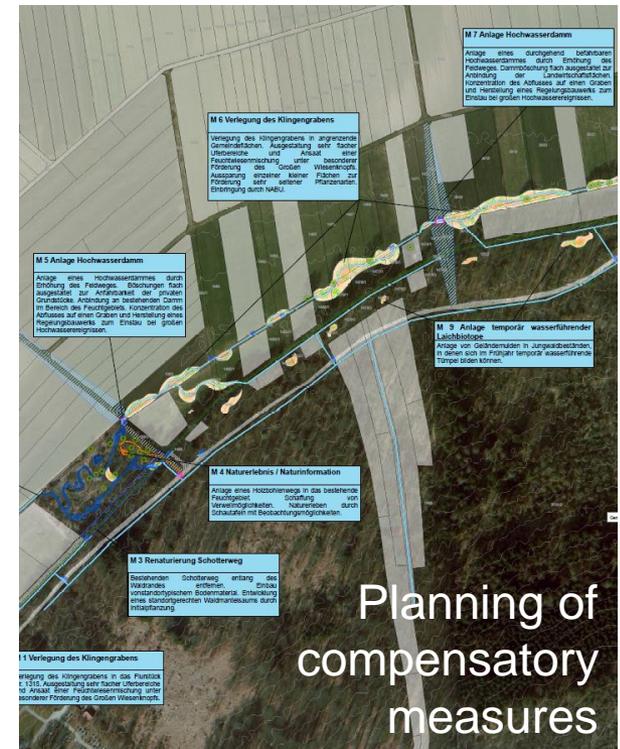
impact



implementation



Polluter Pays Principle



Planning of
compensatory
measures

Importance of the Polluter Pays Principle

Investor (private) Community (public)	Advantage	Disadvantage
without using PPP	externalized environmental cost, high interest of investment -	administration has to take over the cost to re-establish ecological functions, green infrastructure etc. ¥: no compensatory measures

Ex. 1: mitigation inside

impacted area





BOSCH Research Centre, Renningen (BB):

green roofs (water, local climate)

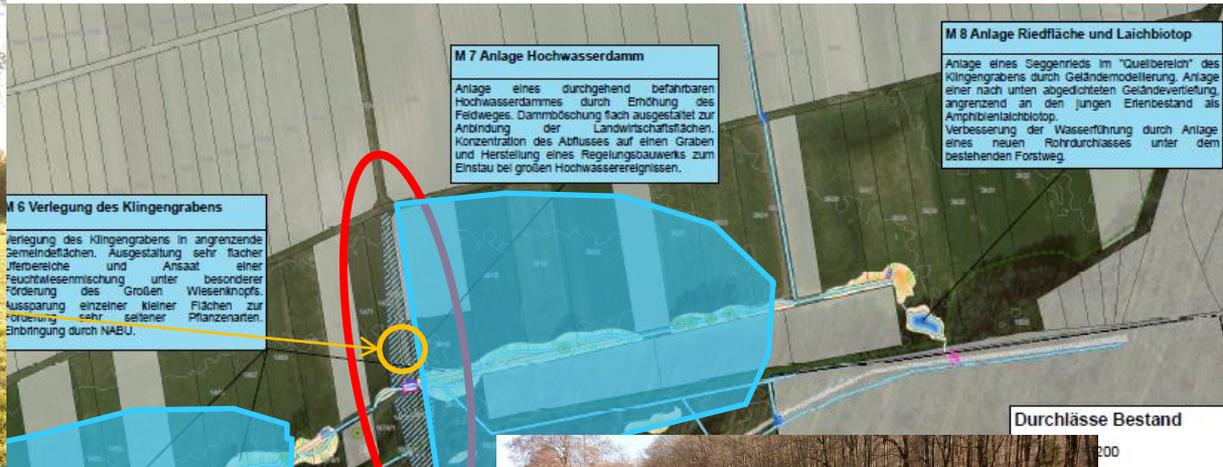


high quality grassland around parkings

additional tree plantings (fruit / insects)



Example 2: compensatory measures in „Riederwiesen“: avoid flooding / improve biodiversity / create sustainability (farmers!)



Meanders, broadened creek, amorphous forms more humid spots

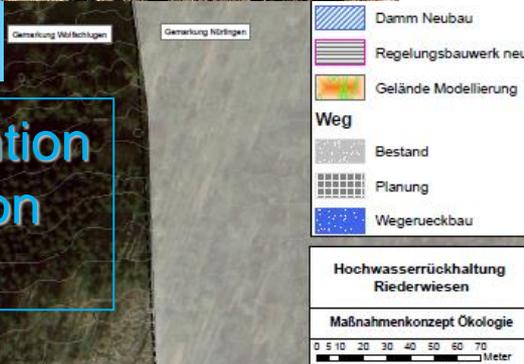
Anlage eines Hochwasserdammes durch Erhöhung des Feldweges. Böschungen flach. Anknüpfung der privaten Grundstücke an bestehenden Damm nichtgeplant. Konzentration des Abflusses auf einen Graben und Herstellung eines Regelungsbauwerks zum Einstau bei großen Hochwasserereignissen.

Forest and forest edge temporary spawning areas

5.000 m³ water retention for flooding prevention (100 years period)



Stabilisierung Schotterweg
Stabilisierung des Schotterweges entlang des Grabens durch Einbau von typischem Bodenmaterial. Entwicklung von naturnahen Walddarmstreifen durch Anpflanzung von Gehäusen.



Example 2: **compensatory measures in „Riederwiesen“:** impact and compensation (both measured in eco points, EP)



1. Residential development „Wolfloch“

ecological deficit (impact on biotopes, soils, ...): ⇒ -219.000 EP



2. Riederwiesen

impact on soils: ⇒ - 18.000 EP

sum of impacts: ⇒ -237.000 EP



3. Riederwiesen

benefit to ecology: ⇒ +620.000 EP

remaining on Eco Account: +387.000 EP

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Conclusions

1. A powerful, mandatory regional planning helps to conserve biodiversity and is the basis to face spatial challenges ▶ AVIODANCE
▶ MITIGATION
2. Notably in densely populated regions, Eco Accounts play a key role in Germany to achieve sustainability: from 2011 on, compensation rate has risen strongly! ▶ COMPENSATION
3. The conservation of biodiversity needs a legal frame, liability and money: compensatory concepts can be driven by / financed through the Polluter Pays Principle ▶ IMPLEMENTATION

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Centro de Congressos do Laboratório Nacional de Engenharia Civil, Lisboa

thank you for your attention!

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