# Forest as One Field of Action for Municipal Biodiversity Conservation

webinar series for municipalities NATURE RESTORATION & MUNICIPALITIES 12 December 2024







Bayerischer Naturschutzfonds Stiftung des Öffentlichen Rechts



#### Florian Lang

degrees

- Business Administration (Diploma, University of Applied Sciences Landshut)
- Geoecology (M.Sc., University of Bayreuth)

work experience

- 2018-2021: Project management strategic biodiversity conservation in ten bavarian municipalities Marktplatz der biologischen Vielfalt
- 2022-2023: Freelance consultancy in biodiversity conservation for municipalities
  *BKB Beratung für kommunalen Biodiversitätsschutz*
- since 2023: Project management biodiversity conservation consulting for bavarian municipalities KomBi – Bayerische Kommunen verstärken den Biodiversitätsschutz



a project of:





funded by:

Bayerischer Naturschutzfonds Stiftung des Öffentlichen Rechts

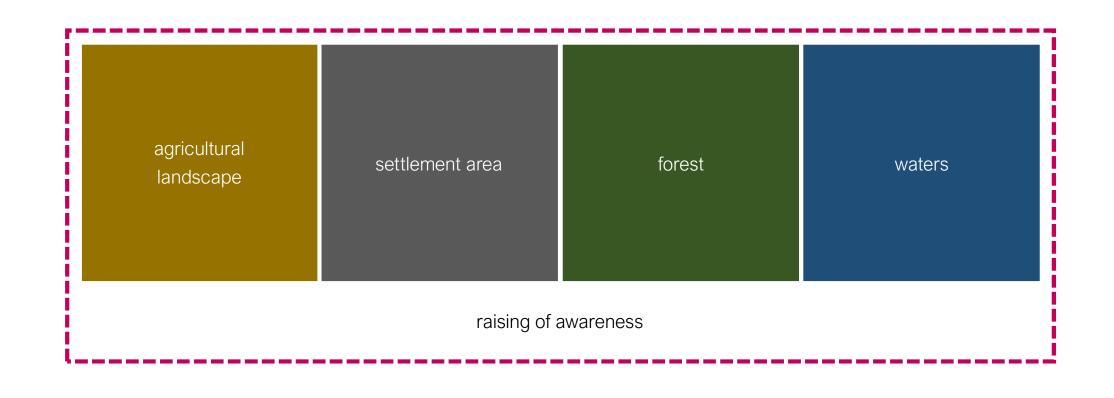


# Municipalities are an ideal level of action to preserve and support biodiversity

- 1. Direct access to municipal plots of land
  - 2. Close relationship with citizens
- 3. Established network with competent authorities, experts and key actors

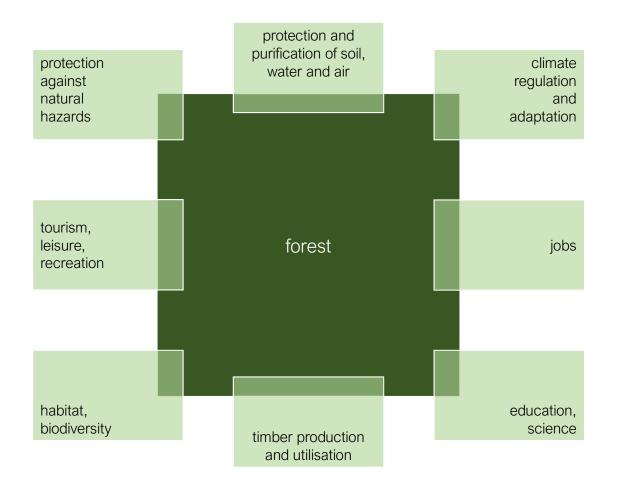


# Forest – one field of action





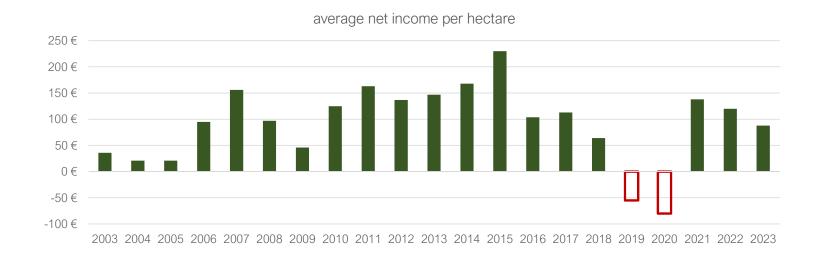
# Forest functions

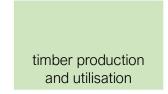




## Financial results of timber production

Bavarian test network of municipal forestry departments (at least 22 municipalities; > 200 hectare municipal forests)



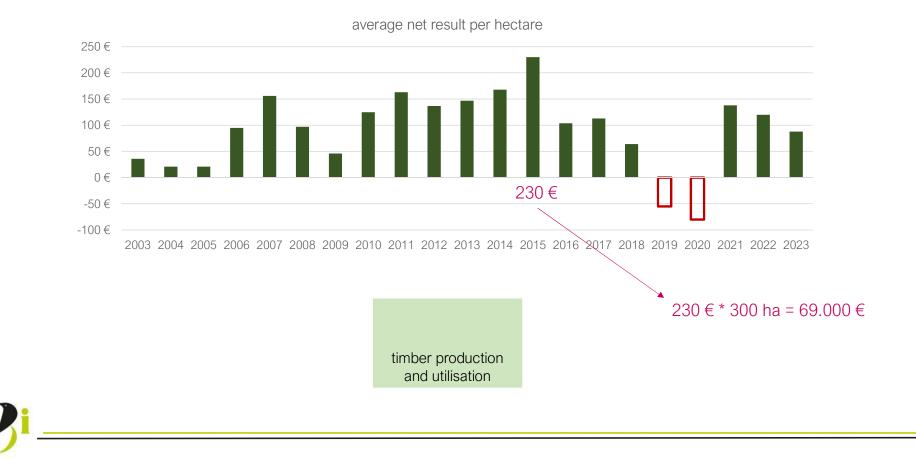




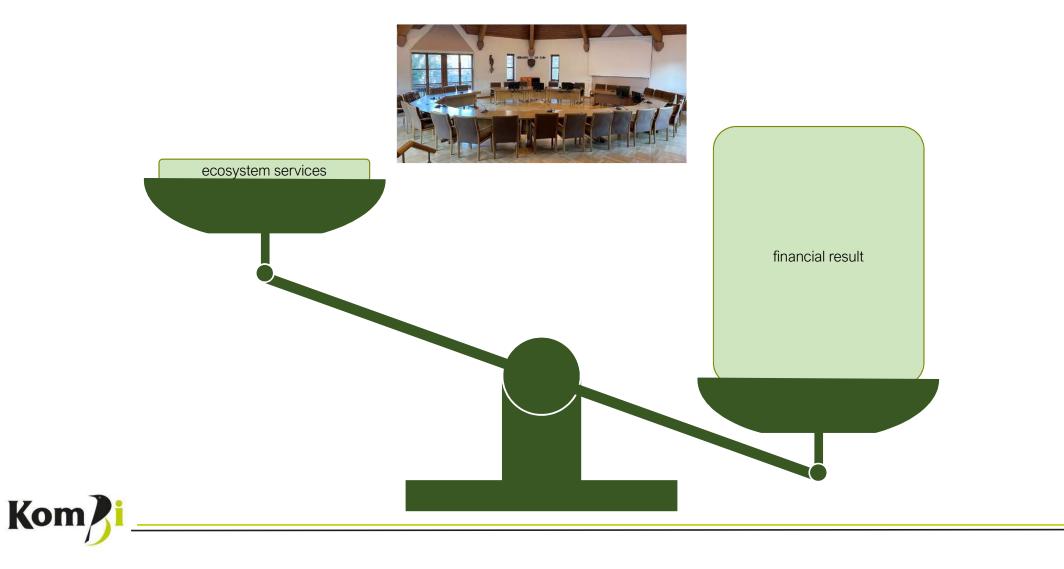
# Financial results of timber production

Kom

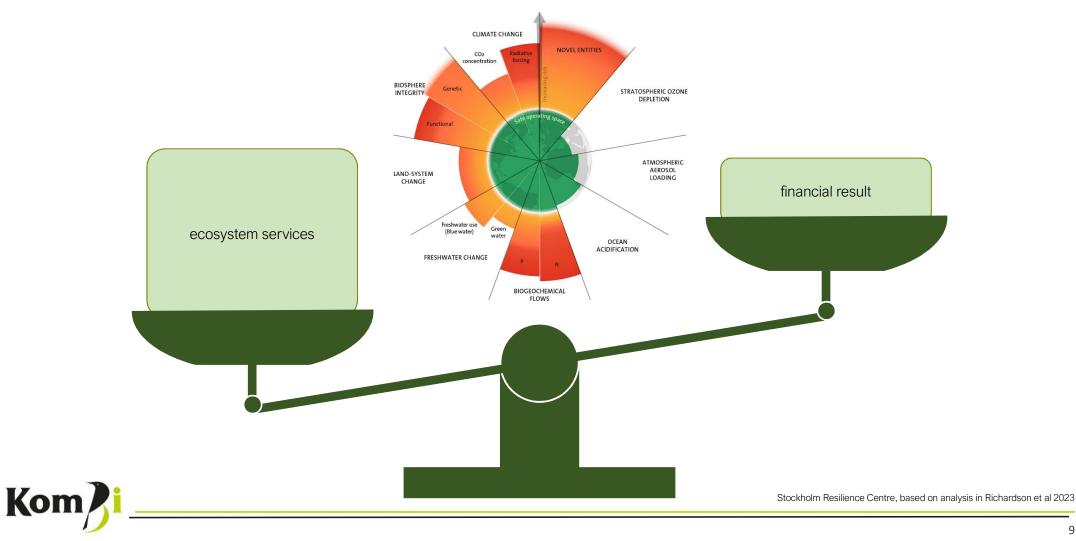
Bavarian test network of municipal forestry departments (at least 22 municipalities; > 200 hectare municipal forests)



Usual consideration in municipal politics



# Recommended consideration in municipal politics



# Forest structural diversity promotes biodiversity (and ecosystem services)

#### short-term

- Protection of habitat trees (caves, cracks, nests etc.) and ancient trees
- Creation, restoration, protection and maintenance of biotopes (e.g. rocks, springs, pools)
- Ecological management of forest clearings
- Specific species conservation
- Soil-conserving harvesting

#### medium-term

- Increasing the proportion of standing and lying deadwood (diameter at breast height [DBH] > 40 cm)
- Stepped, sinuous forest edges
- Forest management plans targetting ecological parameters (as well)
- Areas of natural development

#### long-term

- Increasing tree species diversity
- Mixed-age forests

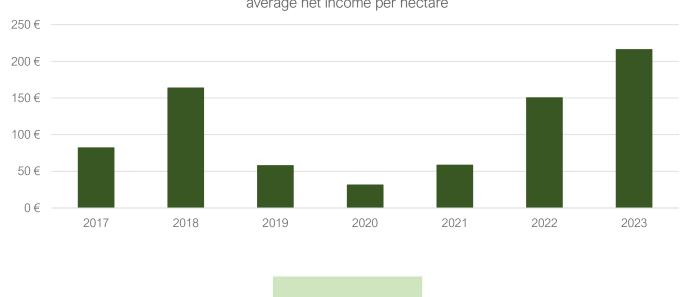






# Ecosystem services and timber production combined

Lohr a.Main



timber production and utilisation

average net income per hectare



# Forest conversion project in the municipality of Rohr (Central Franconia)

#### Bavaria's largest forest conversion project

#### Starting situation

- Dense pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) monocultures
- Intensive game browsing requires fencing to protect forest regeneration plots

#### Forest conversion project

- Municipal and privately owned forests
- Approx. 1.000 ha project area
- Approx. 300 ha planting area
  - European red beech (Fagus sylvatica) on 50 % of the area
  - Natural forest regeneration on the other half of the area
- Adapted but species-rich game population enables regeneration without fencing



#### Project term

• 01/04/2023 bis 31/03/2028

#### Projekt area

Bavaria

#### **Financial matters**

- no costs for consulting and support
- no financial assistance via KomBi

#### **Contact details**

Florian Lang Stadt Lohr a.Main, Schlossplatz 3, 97816 Lohr a.Main +49 151 70591313 flang@lohr.de www.kommunale-biodiversitaet.de





