

The DBU PhD Scholarship Program



Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt



- established on July 18, 1990
- Foundation under civil law
- € 1.3 billion foundation capital (today: € 2.4 billion)
- around € 55 million in funding each year
- > 10,600 projects to date, € 1.97 billion in funding



General Secretary
Alexander Bonde

Activities

- Project funding
- PhD funding
- MOE-Fellowships
- Green Start-up funding
- Deutscher Umweltpreis



Mission & Guidelines

- Innovative, exemplary and solution-oriented projects to protect the environment
- Special consideration to small and medium-sized enterprises
- Interdisciplinary funding projects
- Projects with implementation relevance and feasibility
- Based on current scientific findings



Quelle: Bundesregierung/Vereinte Nationen;
Richardson et al 2023

Aims of the DBU PhD Scholarship



Scientific
knowledge gain



New approaches
to environmental
protection and
nature
conservation



Qualification of
young scientists
with high
environmental
competence



Networking of
environmental
experts from all
disciplines

The DBU PhD Scholarship



- About 55 doctoral scholarships annually
- Above-average university graduates **from all disciplines**
- Ambitious solution-oriented PhDs with high environmental relevance
- funding period: 36 months



The DBU PhD Scholarship



Financial funding

- funding period: 36 months
- 1600,- € plus 210,- € grant for material costs per month
- Additional material and travel expenses possible to a limited extent
- Support for scholarship holders with children through child grants, part-time arrangements, extension options

Idealistic support

- Support through personal contact persons at the DBU
- interdisciplinary seminars on environmental issues
- integration in activities of the foundation
- connection to the DBU network



The DBU PhD Scholarship



How to apply...



jeweils 15.01.
und 15.06.
eines jeden Jahres



Online Bewerbung



Prüfung der Vollständigkeit



Erstbewertung



*externe
Begutachtung*



Bewertung durch DBU



Vorstellungsgespräch



Willkommen im
Promotionsstipendienprogramm
der DBU



Summary

- Above average university degree
- Stringent studies
- Good German language skills
- Complete application in German language
- PhD not yet started (< 1 year)
- To be carried out mainly in Germany

NEVER
STOP
asking QUESTIONS





UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG
ZUKUNFT
SEIT 1386



Legal Regulation of Sustainable Peatland Use

An Analysis regarding specific Instruments of German and European Environmental Law

Jakob Rehder | Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt



Peatlands in Germany

close to nature



drained



rewetted



- ▶ Broad definition (organic soils):
Terrestrial ecosystems whose soils contain a layer of organic deposits over 20 cm thick with a minimum proportion of 15%
- ▶ Approx. 1,824 Mio. acres
- ▶ Approx. 5 % of German territory
- ▶ Specifically relevant: Lower Saxony, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Schleswig-Holstein, Brandenburg, Bavaria

Reference Areas

Non-productive use



https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moor#/media/Datei:Blühendes_Wollgras_4.jpg

- ▶ Approx. 8 % of national peatland areas

Agricultural use



<https://www.fotocommunity.de/photo/im-moor-versackt-lequel64/33013801>

- ▶ Approx. 71 % of national peatland areas

Forestry

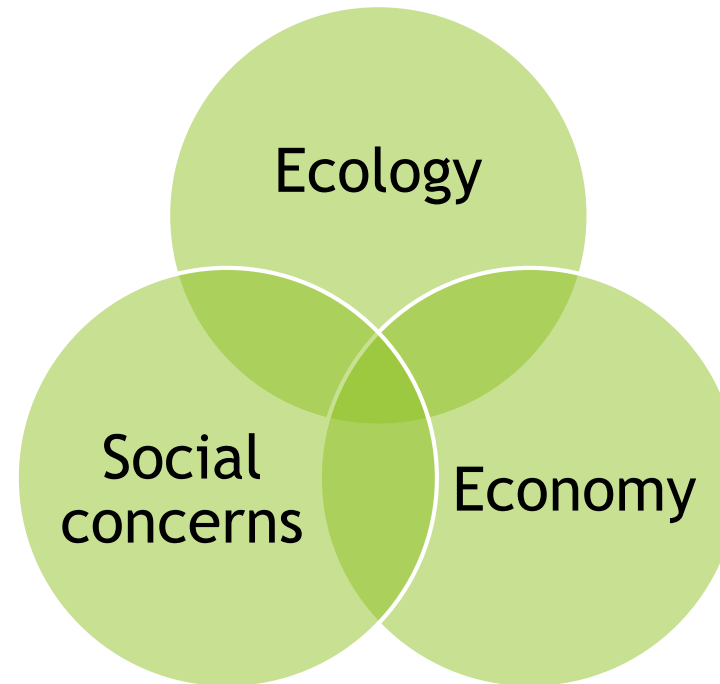


<https://www.baysf.de/de/medienraum/pressemitteilungen/nachricht/detail/kleines-waldmoor-mit-grosser-klimaschutzwirkung.html>

- ▶ Approx. 15 % of national peatland areas

Sustainability Concept

- ▶ **Three-dimensional understanding**
Equitable balance between ecological, economic and social concerns within and between generations
- ▶ **Balanced Sustainability**
Nature capital is only partially substitutable within natural limits - especially planetary boundaries
- ▶ **Development of peatland-specific goals and focus areas**



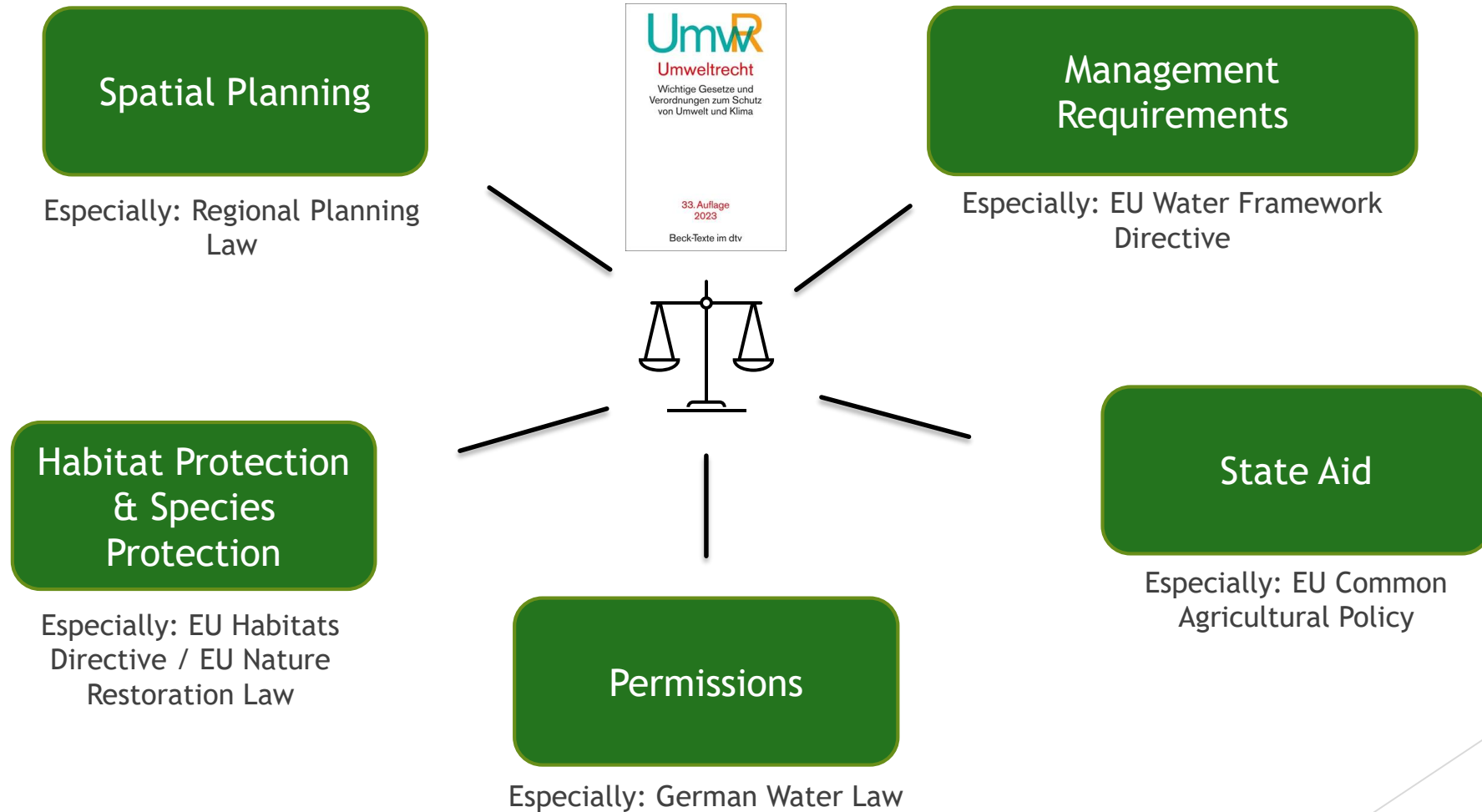
Challenges of Sustainable Peatland Use

- ▶ Main goals
 - ▶ Climate: mitigation and adaptation
 - ▶ Biodiversity protection
 - ▶ Sustaining commercial use
- ▶ Area-specific focus
 - ▶ Rewetting
 - ▶ Multifunctional commercial use - “paludicultures”
- ▶ Implementational focus
 - ▶ Access to and availability of land
 - ▶ Acceleration of administrative procedures



Tobias Dahms, lensescape.org (Schilfernte bei Anklam, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern)

Regulation Through Environmental Law



Advantages of the DBU PhD Scholarship

- ▶ Funding allows full concentration on research
- ▶ Interdisciplinary seminars
 - ▶ Insights into research projects from various disciplines
 - ▶ Making friends
- ▶ Practical insights into the rewetting activities of “DBU Naturerbe GmbH” (affiliate company)
- ▶ Academic exchange at specialist conferences hosted by DBU
- ▶ Connection to stakeholders as part of the DBU network



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