

**Interreg
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Down to Earth

Down to Earth in the Neckar-Alb Region

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NECKAR-ALB REGION

3 counties: Reutlingen, Tübingen Zollernalb

2.531 km²

717.000 inhabitants

66 municipalities

Diverse Region:

Urban areas with a high population density in the Alb foothills contrast with quiet, rural areas in the Swabian Alb.



NECKAR-ALB REGION



Source: © Statistisches Landesamt Baden-Württemberg

OUR SITUATION

environmental risks and demographic change

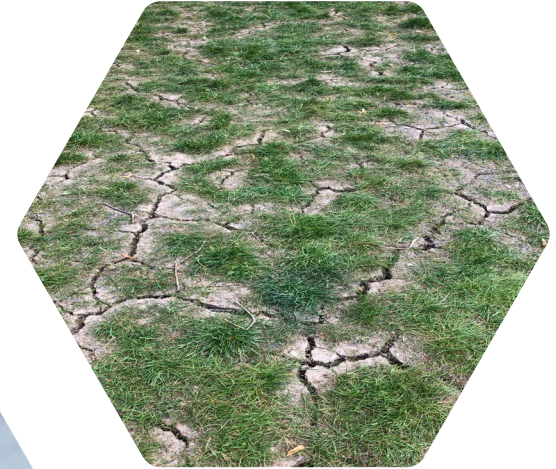
Planning instrument: Regionalplan Neckar-Alb

- NO "Empty spaces"/ "depopulated areas"
- densely populated and rural areas
- No Consciousness about climate risks
- Extreme spacial pressure increases climate risks



ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS in Neckar -Alb

- Heat waves and drought
- drinking water supply
- Heavy rain events (and thus flooding)
- extreme weather conditions (e. g. thunderstorms, heat, hail)
- erosion



MAIN TOPICS in rural Neckar-Alb



Overarching trend: Transformation in rural areas

- Regional value creation
- Support for rural areas
- Renewable energies and services of general interest
- Combating climate change, strengthening climate adaptation / protection
- Environmental protection and tourism
- Land consumption / pressure Regionale Wertschöpfung



TARGETS

in Neckar-Alb

Mitigate climate change and environmental risks

- Research
- Workshops

Promote mobility and local supply in rural areas

- Study
- Meetings with local suppliers



Supporting sustainable farms (climate adaptation and business succession)

- Workshops with farmers and agricultural associations

Expand renewable energies and secure service functions

- Planning spaces for wind- and solar energy
- Boost awareness

RELEVANT STAKEHOLDER in Neckar-Alb

Working Group
for Rural Areas

Regional
Council

Agricultural
associations

State Farmers'
Association

environmental
protection
associations

Countrywomen

Regional
Universities

District offices

Biosphere area
Swabian Alb

Academy Rural
Area

Rural Youth

municipalities

With Down to Earth we want to



- ◆ increase climate resilience in our rural areas
- ◆ gather **local-specific information** and challenges about the **impact of climate change**
- ◆ Increase the **consciousness** for environmental risks especially in rural areas
- ◆ **Connect stakeholder** to work on professional input about climate risks/ adaption
- ◆ Support farming and help to make it sustainable
- ◆ Explain the meaning of climate change in ecological, social and economic processes
- ◆ Recognize opportunities for climate adaptation in the municipal design processes of rural municipalities

**Time for
questions**



Thank you!