

## Project description

### **„Bio-based insulating materials for residential buildings in Bavaria“ (BioDämm)**

To achieve the climate targets, the building stock must also become climate-neutral. This requires ambitious energy standards for new buildings and a significant increase in energy-efficient refurbishment of existing buildings. The materials used are also of crucial importance. Bio-based insulating materials are an important building material in this respect. Through their increased use, the energy standard of buildings can be improved and a contribution to the implementation of the goals of the Bavarian Climate Protection Program 2050 can be achieved. At the same time, a reduction in the consumption of fossil raw materials, a contribution to environmental protection and resource conservation as well as to healthy living can also be achieved.

However, conventional insulating materials have been the main choice for insulating buildings in Germany to date, while bio-based insulating materials still play a minor role. In addition, the market share of bio-based insulating materials has hardly increased in Germany, although they are on a par with conventional insulating materials in terms of technical properties, have ecological advantages and contribute to healthy living. Despite the higher costs in some cases, however, some consumer studies in Germany show positive attitudes toward these insulating materials among private individuals and a basic willingness to use them. In contrast, research suggests that the low market penetration is partly due to the lack of willingness of various other players in the construction industry to install bio-based insulating materials, or their insufficient level of knowledge about it.

One possibility to bring bio-based insulating materials further into the market is their financial support. Since the use of bio-based insulating materials is currently not promoted at the federal and state level, municipalities can provide special incentives. This possibility is also used by various municipalities in Germany, e.g. to better achieve their own climate targets.

Against this background, the aim of the *BioDämm* project is to investigate the status quo of the use of bio-based insulating materials in private residential buildings in Bavaria. The project addresses different economic and social actors, namely private homeowners and builders, actors in the construction industry as well as the role of municipalities. Specifically, the project results will be used to answer the following questions:

(1) To what extent are bio-based insulating materials used in residential buildings in Bavaria so far and specifically in municipalities with municipal support for bio-based insulating materials?

(2) What is the current interest and acceptance of bio-based insulating materials among private homeowners, builders and relevant actors in the construction industry in regions with and without municipal funding in Bavaria?

(3) Which factors inhibit and promote an increased use of bio-based insulating materials in residential buildings in Bavaria?

(4) Can municipal incentive programs increase the use of bio-based insulating materials in private residential buildings, and how must the programs be designed to lead to increased use of these materials?

(Translated with [www.DeepL.com/Translator](http://www.DeepL.com/Translator) (free version))

The project is funded by the Bavarian State Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry and runs from 01.01.20223 to 31.12.2025.

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