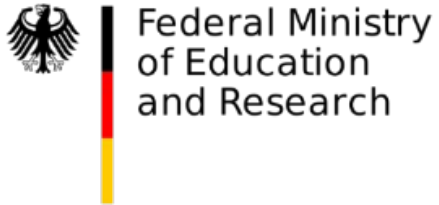




# SUSALPS: Sustainable Use of Alpine and Pre-Alpine Grassland Soils in a Changing Climate

2016 – 2025; funding ca 8 million Euros total (9 years, entire consortium) by



Partner	Institution and research field
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**Demonstration areas/case study areas: Grasslands in State of Bavaria (1700 m – 360 m asl)**

## Main Goals:

- evaluate environmental risks of current grassland management and benefits of climate smart management for grassland productivity and other key grassland soil functions as well as biodiversity
- Inform agricultural practice with improved climate and soil adapted management recommendations at plot, farm and regional scale
- **Note:** mountain pastures small aspect, focus on fertilized grasslands



## Main Actions:

- *List the key actions you foresee to achieve (or have achieved) those objectives*
  - *App-based decision support tool for farmers (currently test phase)*
  - *Factsheets and training material for farmers and agricultural schools developed with farmers*
  - *Recommendations for legislation such as fertilizer ordinance*
  - *Mountain pastures: policy brief on mountain pastures directed to Bavarian government, cooperation foreseen with Alm farmer association*

## Main results:

- *Intermediate land use intensity offers lowest benefits: neither biodiversity and C storage nor protein-rich fodder*
- *→ Either highly extensive grassland management to maximize ecological soil functions, C storage and biodiversity (e.g. extensive pastures), or highly intense grassland with modern fertilizer management to maximize economic soil functions – there is no useful “in between”*
- *This requires a landscape approach with spatially compartmentalized highly extensive and highly intensive grasslands (where environmental impacts are reduced through improved fertilizer management)*



## Policy implications:

- *highlight the main policies targeted and indicate if applicable the expected contribution of your project to implementation, design or take-up of regional, national or European policy initiatives*
- *→ legislation: fertilizer ordinance,*
- *policy initiatives are mainly foreseen through cooperating Bavarian State agricultural and nature conservation/environmental protection authorities, and farmer associations.*