



Organisation, tasks and objectives

The Bavarian Research Alliance GmbH (BayFOR) is a private non-profit organisation whose purpose is to promote Bavaria as a location for science and innovation within the European Research Area. It was set up at the end of 2006 on the initiative of the Bavarian universities and universities of applied sciences to strengthen their networking at regional, national and international level while at the same time helping them prepare to meet the requirements for European research funding. To achieve this, BayFOR supports and advises Bavarian scientists and stakeholders from the private sector in the competition for regional, national and European research funds.

Areas of activity

BayFOR's **EU Funding Advisory Service** networks Bavarian stakeholders from science and academia and the private sector at European level, and assists them with acquiring EU funding. The focus is directed at the current EU Framework Programme (FP7) and the next Framework Programme (FP8). Scientific experts provide subject-specific

information and offer strategic advice and active support for initiating projects, setting up international research consortia and submitting applications. If the evaluation proves to be successful, BayFOR provides support during the contract negotiations with the European Commission and if required takes care of research-related project management. The key thematic areas include life sciences, medicine, information & communication technologies, nano-sciences, new materials and production, environment and energy, aviation, social sciences, economic sciences, humanities, security and education.

Furthermore, BayFOR's EU Liaison Office in Brussels represents the interests of Bavarian universities at European level. It raises their visibility and acts as their intermediary establishing contacts with European institutions. This considerably enhances the prospects of Bavarian applicants succeeding within the European Research Area (ERA). The aim is also to increase the participation of Bavarian enterprises – particularly SMEs – in funding programmes.

For further information, please visit: www.bayfor.org.

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