

Knowledge creates change!

The research network FoodBerlin (www.foodberlin.de) connects about 30 university working groups and non-university research institutions in the capital region Berlin/Brandenburg. Intensive cooperation links research and teaching in the field of sustainable food systems and develops innovative approaches. At the heart of the work is the question of how the production, processing and marketing of food and animal feed can be made sustainable.

The range of topics covers the entire food value chain:

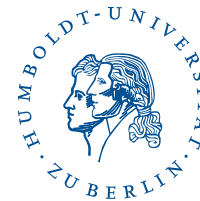
- production bases such as soil, climate, biodiversity
- production of vegetable and animal foodstuffs
- processing of food and feed
- food safety
- markets, producers and consumers

FoodBerlin has the critical mass to address research, education and consulting on sustainable food systems in an innovative and interdisciplinary way. Farmers, veterinarians, biologists, food technologists, economists and psychologists work closely together here.



Who is behind FoodBerlin?

Freie Universität  Berlin



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FoodBerlin, a research network for sustainable food systems

About 9 billion people will live on Earth in 2050. Limited arable land, climate change and distribution issues make feeding the future world population a huge challenge. In addition, safe and healthy food, animal welfare and the preservation of biodiversity are also important. To meet these requirements, our food systems must be sustainable. Science can make a future-oriented contribution to this.

What does FoodBerlin do?

- Support research: Making contacts, creating collaborative projects
- Promoting young talent: Mediation of graduation theses, PhD day, summer school
- Consulting for companies, politics, stakeholders
- Public relations for sustainable nutrition systems

Our core themes

Animal health and welfare

Already the breeding of farm animals should consider the animal welfare from the outset, instead of focusing only on performance parameters. In projects we work on the nutrition of young animals, the role of microbiota and species-appropriate husbandry.

Intensive agricultural production systems

The focus is on cultivation systems that allow better utilisation of land, such as the combination of fish farming and vegetable production in closed circuits ("aquaponics"). These systems are mainly suitable for urban and periurban spaces.

Food safety

Research focuses on pathogens that can be transmitted from animals to humans in food. How do such pathogens get into food and survive there, how can they be minimized? These questions are dealt with using molecular-epidemiological approaches.



Sustainable nutrition systems in the society

Society has a right to sustainable use of natural resources, respect for animal welfare, climate protection and the preservation of diverse landscapes in food production. In order to meet these demands and still remain competitive on global markets, governance concepts are developed and the social discourse is structured.

Food security in Africa

In view of a growing population, limited arable land and climate change, only a sustainable system can ensure food security in Africa. Intensive research in cooperation with local partners can optimize value chains, from production to marketing.

