



**Bundeszentrum
für Ernährung**

**AT YOUR
SERVICE!**



We are at your service!

A new contact point for food and nutrition issues is available to consumers in Germany: The Federal Centre for Nutrition (BZfE), established by the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL), provides competent information on matters revolving around food and drink. Unbiased, scientifically sound and, most importantly, close to consumers' everyday lives.



*„Who helps
me choosing?“*

A new institution. Why?



Food is a vital issue of our times, widely discussed and highly emotional. People increasingly request clear and unbiased information. That exactly is the reason why a new, centrally located institution for nutrition communication was created in Germany. We intend to consolidate and structure the considerable amounts of information on nutrition and food that the public is being flooded with. We want to be the institution consumers can turn to when it comes to the variety of matters regarding food and nutrition.

From Knowledge to Action – Our Aims and Tasks!

We aim to implement solid expertise on the issues of food and nutrition in people's everyday lives. And we tackle concrete and practical challenges such as the improvement of canteen food, nutrition education or the prevention of food waste.

„Most of all, we want to give answers and provide support.“



At the same time, we advocate exchange and communication. Because a simple transfer of knowledge is not enough. We want to listen to people, find out about their wishes and questions, give answers and provide help. As practically as possible and suitable for daily use, of course.

This is what we actually do:

We provide reliable information on a safe and sustainable selection of foodstuffs.

We provide multipliers with sound information, which they may use for qualified consultation and educational purposes.

We create transparency regarding the quality of food products and related processes.

We offer ad-free, well-evaluated and educationally sound teaching materials for schools to enhance nutrition education.

We help make people more competent in handling food by providing offers that are suitable for all kinds of everyday situations and for all target groups. Our offers range from the certificate for primary school pupils who demonstrate their nutritional knowledge, the app for food additives, to the learners kit which helps immigrants acquire skills in both food literacy and the German language.

We strive to put healthy food within everyone's easy reach – at home, when shopping, in preschools and schools, at work or in institutions for the elderly.

We provide support when it comes to preventing food waste and we intend to increase people's awareness of the importance of healthy and sustainable diets.

Aiming for dialogue and innovation, we manage projects initiated by the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) on food, health and sustainable nutrition.

The actors in brief:



The Federal Centre for Nutrition (BZfE) at the Federal Office for Agriculture and Food (BLE)

The BZfE is part of the BLE. The core of the BZfE are the nutrition and food-related units, including a network for a healthy start in life (Healthy Start – Young Family Network) of the former *aid infodienst e. V.* as well as other fields of activity which the BZfE took over to support the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL). They include managing the national action plan IN FORM, the information office of the campaign Too Good for the Bin!, as well as the Office of the German Food Code Commission Secretariat. Further areas of activity include the National Quality Centre for Nutrition in Preschools and Schools (NQZ).

www.bzfe.de



Federal Office for Agriculture and Food (BLE)

The Federal Office for Agriculture and Food (BLE) is a federal authority. With a total of about 1,200 staff members across Germany, it fulfils a variety of tasks in the areas of agriculture, fisheries and food. As a central implementing authority, the BLE is located within the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture's scope of activities.

www.ble.de

Initiatives and Fields of Work in Brief:



IN FORM

IN FORM – Germany's national initiative to promote healthy diets and physical activity – is a federal national action plan initiated by the federal government and carried out under the overall responsibility of the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) and the Federal Ministry of Health (BMG). It aims at encouraging people to sustainably improve their habits regarding their daily diets and physical fitness. The German government thus intends to make adults adopt healthier lifestyles, have children grow up in healthier environments and, as a consequence, benefit from an increased quality of life and physical fitness in their educational, professional, and private lives.

Tasks formerly fulfilled by the BLE in support of the BMEL, and relating to the implementation of IN FORM, are taken over by the BZfE. They range from managing the variety of IN FORM activities to handling general IN FORM office matters.

www.in-form.de



Too Good for the Bin!

Too Good for the Bin! is an initiative by the BMEL that aims at reducing food waste. It raises public awareness of the issue and encourages people to respect food more. The initiative is a key element of the national strategy for the reduction of food waste and food losses (currently under preparation).

Tasks which the BLE used to fulfil within the framework of the initiative in support of the BMEL are taken over by the BZfE. They range from management tasks to activities in connection with the implementation of a variety of projects.

www.zugut fuer dietonne.de



The National Quality Centre for Nutrition in Preschools and Schools (NQZ)

Following an initiative by the BMEL, the National Quality Centre for Nutrition in Preschools and Schools (NQZ) was founded in autumn 2016. The NQZ aims to improve the quality of food offered at preschools and schools across Germany. At federal state level, it supports the activities of the Network Units for Meals in Preschools and Schools which were established within IN FORM. The NQZ coordinates measures and initiatives already in place and it fosters the dialogue at federal state level and with practitioners in industry and science. As parents, children and youth in preschools and schools should be able to rely on good meals, the NQZ strives to further develop quality standards set by the German Nutrition Society (DGE) and promotes quality development and assurance where food suppliers and caterers are concerned.

www.nqz.de



Healthy Start – Young Family Network

The Healthy Start – Young Family Network was founded in 2009. It is supported by the BMEL within the frame of IN FORM. With the foundation, the Ministry took a significant step towards supporting young families during vital periods of life, namely pregnancy and early childhood. Within the network and based on current scientific knowledge, gynecologists, pediatricians, midwives and other experts adopted joint uniform recommendations regarding nutrition and physical activity from pregnancy to early childhood.

The sooner the better: Healthy Start – Young Family Network provides practical and easy-to-understand information, which are close to the everyday life of pregnant women and young families. In this way, the network contributes to halting the rise in overweight and obesity by promoting a healthy lifestyle during these decisive phases of life.

www.gesund-ins-leben.de



Office of the German Food Code Commission Secretariat

The independent German Food Code Commission (DLMBK) is part of the BMEL. Along guidelines laid down in the German Food Code, it defines the composition of over 2000 food items. For producers, trade, importers, consumers, inspection services, and courts, the guidelines provide essential orientation. To support the DLMBK, the BMEL operates both a secretariat and an office. The office is part of the BZfE. Its tasks include the organisational preparation and follow-up work related to conferences and meetings and publication of the guidelines. The office also supports the secretariat where the implementation of the DLMBK reform, initiated in 2016, is concerned. The reform aims at making DLMBK operations more efficient, more transparent, and more consumer-friendly.

www.dlmbk.de



www.bzfe.de

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