

# Environmental Civil Society in Germany and the UK

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# TOWARDS THE 'BIG ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIETY' ?

What does that mean for the relationship between the state and civil society?

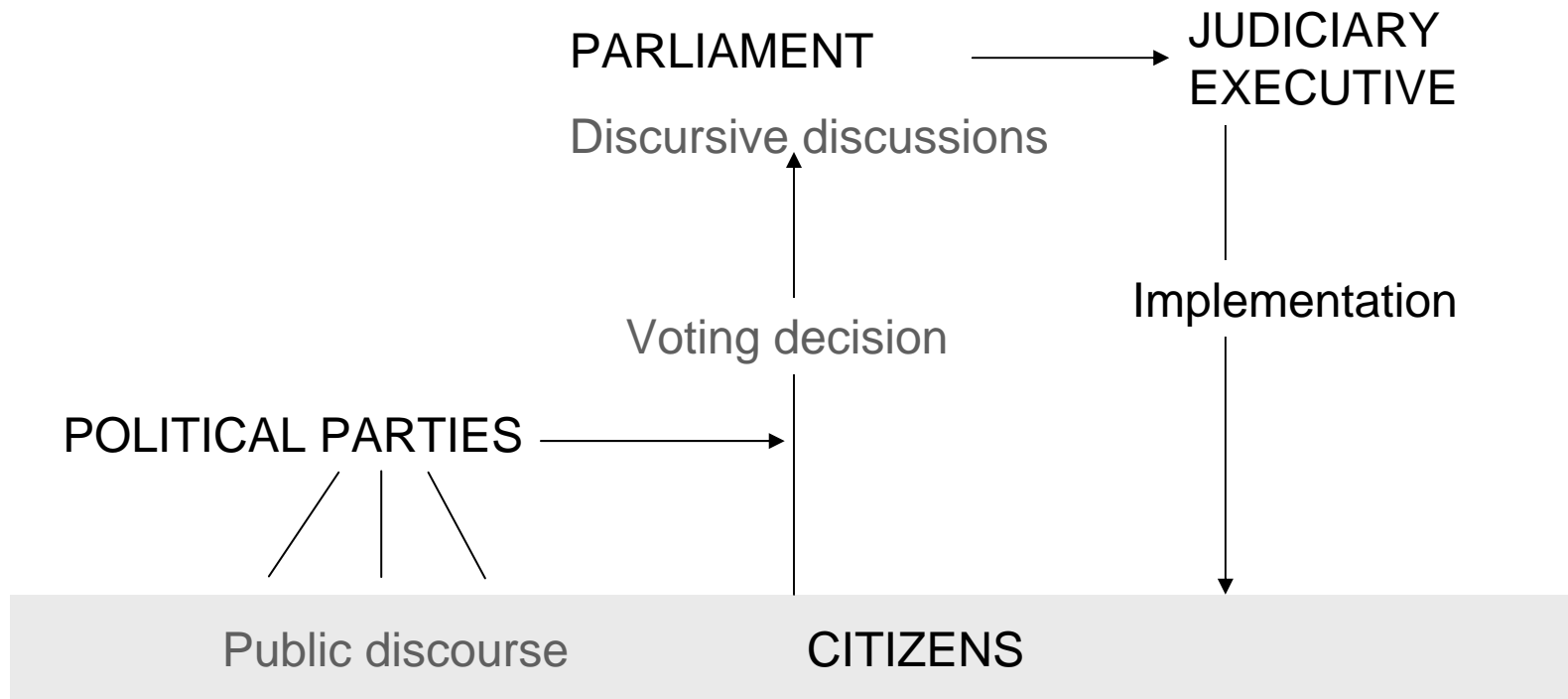
How does governance take place? How does decision-making take place?

## 1. INPUT:

- Model of decision-making in democracies introduced by Bernhard Peters
- Governmental styles in Germany and Great Britain

## 2. Environmental Foundations in Germany and the UK

# What is the ideal conception of decision-making in democracies?

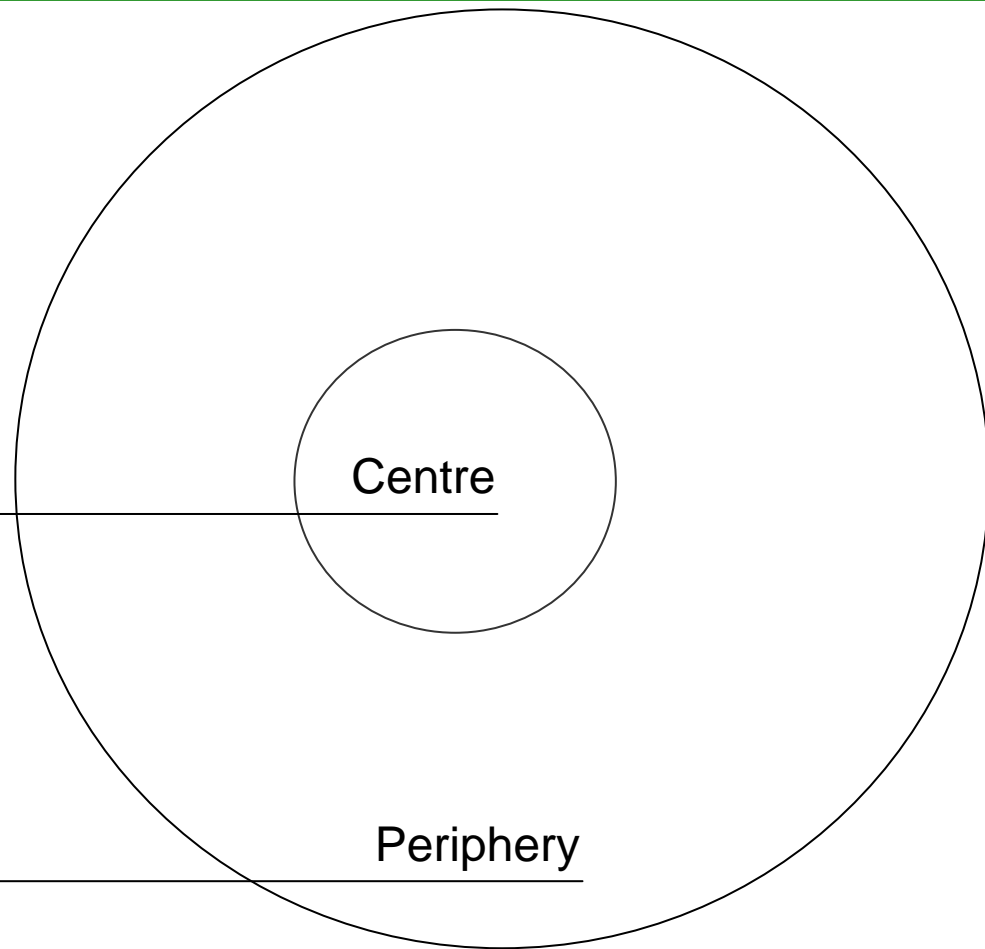


- In reality the system is far more complex (government system, processes of public debate, lobbying and regulation of conflicts)
- Bernhard Peters describes the political system rather as a pattern consisting of a centre and a periphery
- decision-making processes are largely influenced by the opportunities which are determined by the centre

The Government System

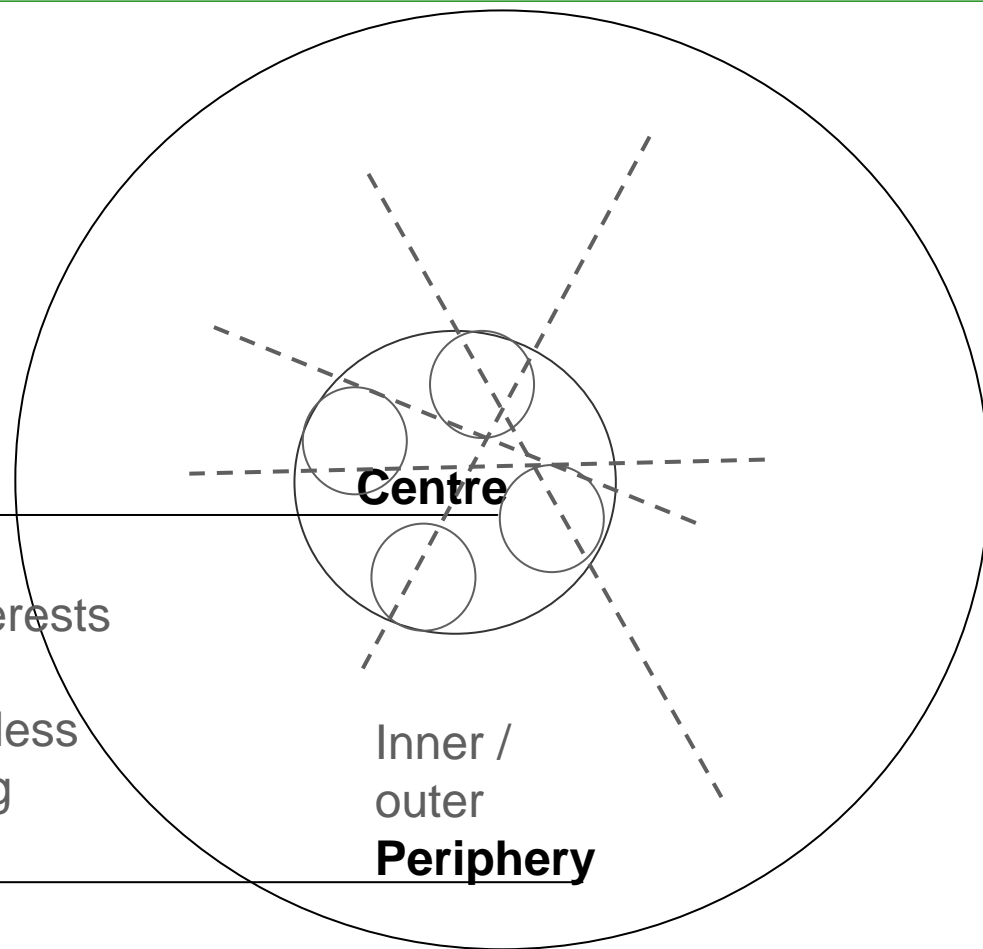
Parliament  
Legal System  
Government  
Administration

Political Parties  
Media  
Organisations  
Associations



The Centre itself is polycentric.

1. decision-making processes, definition and articulation of interests or claims
2. organisations that act more or less self-determined in implementing public tasks



- But the decision-making processes doesn't always take the "required" path.

→ It is rather the possibility for influence ("channels for influence") that can be used to gain consensus



- Interests bound to a few big associational organisations (Verbände)
- Strong relationships between them and the state
- Before a decision is made (introducing a new law ) the state has pre-discussions with those associations
- transformation of power
- all non-organised, spontaneous interest have barely any chance (apart from the voting right) to take part in decision-making processes (at national level)

- Interest are relatively fragmented in different societal groups
- At national level there is less cooperation between the state and the associations
- The power and influence of the state is limited
- Regulation is taking place through informal relations in small networks (non-public and therefore the represented interests do not have to address general public interests)
  - Private interests stay maintained but no transformation of power
- Environmental policy therefore can come to a standstill in between the government and the associations

What does that mean for discussing a concept like the 'Big Society' concept?

- Concerning Peters' model topics can only anchor in our societies if they have passed the institutions at the centre
- The centre still would have the most legitimacy for binding decisions
- But (if it is not only about cutting down funding) civil society can have a larger impact on the direction and dynamic of debates and can make changes

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What else should be addressed to answers the question: “Towards the Big Environmental Society?”

- different origins and traditions of understanding of civil society and the definition of civil society
- Influence from the EU
- cultural conditions
- single mechanisms to solve certain environmental problems

*“It’s a fact that states and governments are faced with (their) limitations due to the plurality of problems of today. These problems can neither be solved solely through increasing their own (financial) means nor by delegating tasks to the market system. [...]. State and society have diverse functions; but they work closely together within many tasks and complement one another with capacities and recourses. That sounds rational, but it is more a programme than reality.”*

(Rucht, D. 2001: 2)

Dieter Rucht (2001): Zivilgesellschaft als regulative Idee und Wirklichkeit, Talk given at a Social Democrats parliamentary group – congress in October 2001; congress title: „Auf dem Weg zur Europäischen Zivilgesellschaft – Was kann bürgerschaftliches Engagement bewirken, online available at: [http://www.wzb.eu/zkd/zcm/pdf/rucht01\\_zivilgesellschaft.pdf](http://www.wzb.eu/zkd/zcm/pdf/rucht01_zivilgesellschaft.pdf), 28th of March 2011



# Environmental Foundations in Germany and the UK

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Where do environmental foundations come from?

What types of environmental foundations exist?

What kind of environmental issues do they support?



## Survey and respond rate

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Survey in 2010 (October – December)

Germany:

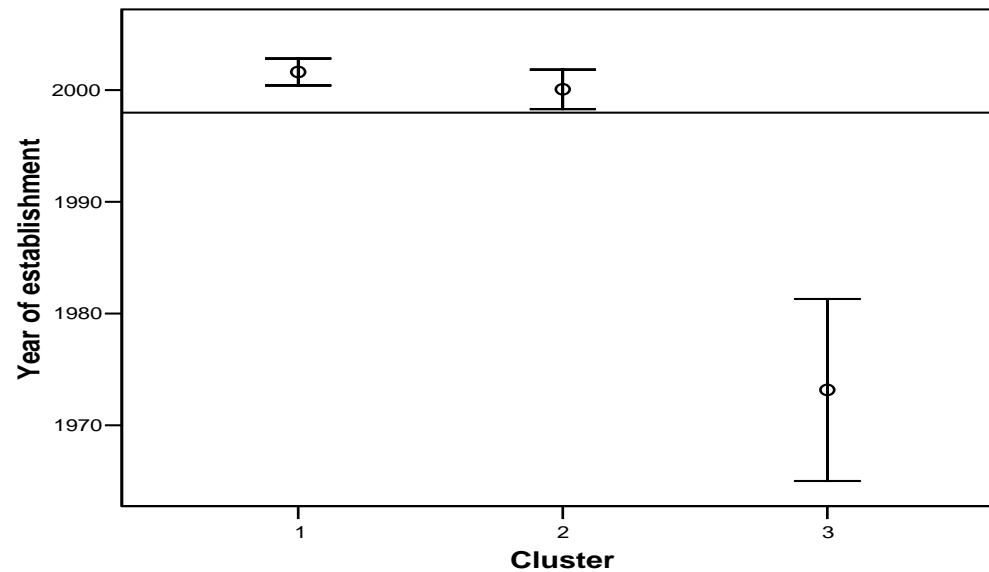
~1600 foundation invited

201 foundations answered the survey

277 replied that they are not environmental foundations

Respond rate: about 16% (excl. 277 non-ev.)

# Where do they come from?



		Year of establishment		Loca_Perc	
Cluster	N	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
1	87 (52.1%)	2001.62	4.606	95.7088	10.01270
2	62 (37.1%)	2000.06	5.648	25.8294	19.66213
3	18 (10.8%)	1973.17	13.017	74.1395	35.70239
Combined	167	1997.98	10.742	67.4407	37.34847





## External effects

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1970<sup>th</sup>

Raising awareness

Political Regulations

1980<sup>th</sup>

Green Party movement

Establishment in society

1990<sup>th</sup>

Reunification

Climate change

2000<sup>th</sup>

Sustainable development

Local Agenda 21



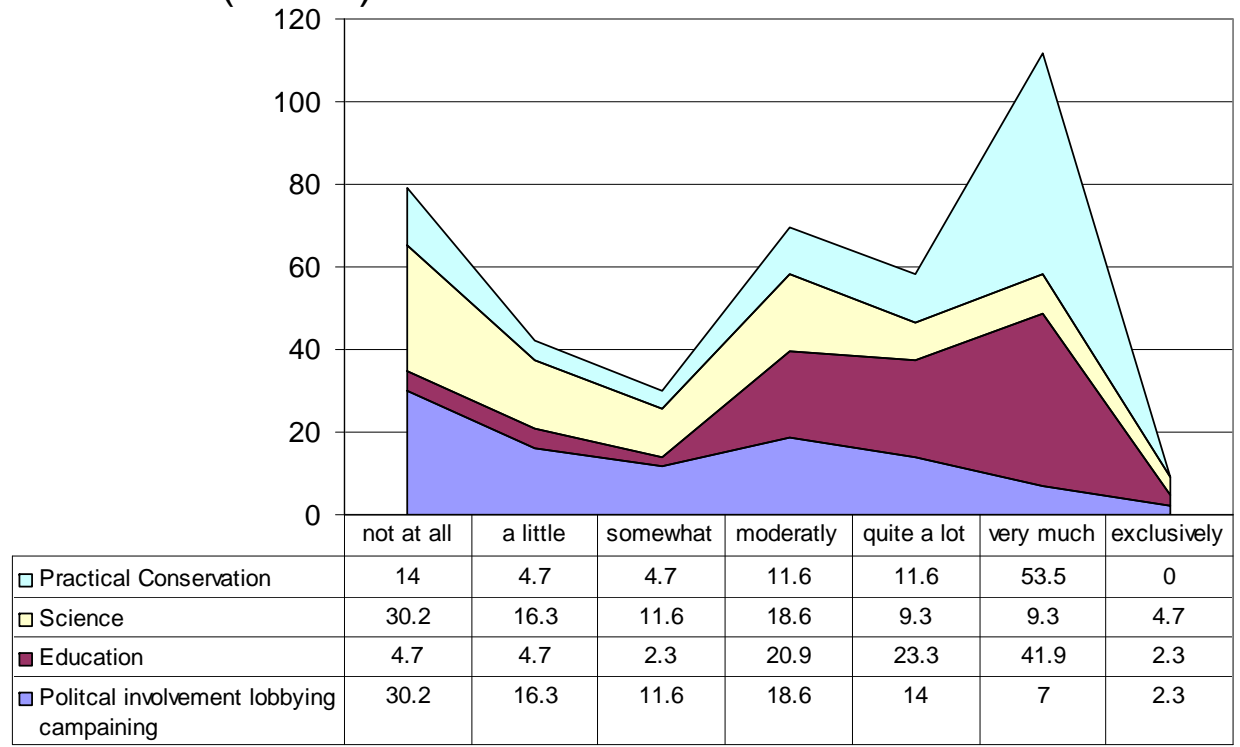
## What types exist?

Fields of interest	Cluster 1 (n=60)		Cluster 2 (n=46)		Cluster 3 (n=86)	
	Mean (%)	SD	Mean (%)	SD	Mean (%)	SD
Environment and animals	<b>35.62</b>	17.09	<b>99.46</b>	3.69	<b>22.69</b>	13.44
Human Services (incl. health)	5.33	9.67	0	0	<b>25.77</b>	13.79
Education	<b>29.66</b>	18.73	0	0	<b>21.95</b>	12.43
Science	<b>27.79</b>	20.59	0	0	8.74	9.69
Arts and culture	1.6	4.19	0.54	3.69	<b>20.84</b>	13.81



# Environmental Education

12.5 Mio € (~65%) for environmental issues





## Example: Naturschutz Stiftung Senne (Foundation for env. Protection, Senne)

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Established: 2000;

Finances 15.000€ p.a. + donations

Projects:

Integrative nature Kindergarten

32 children (Age 2-6); bilingual.

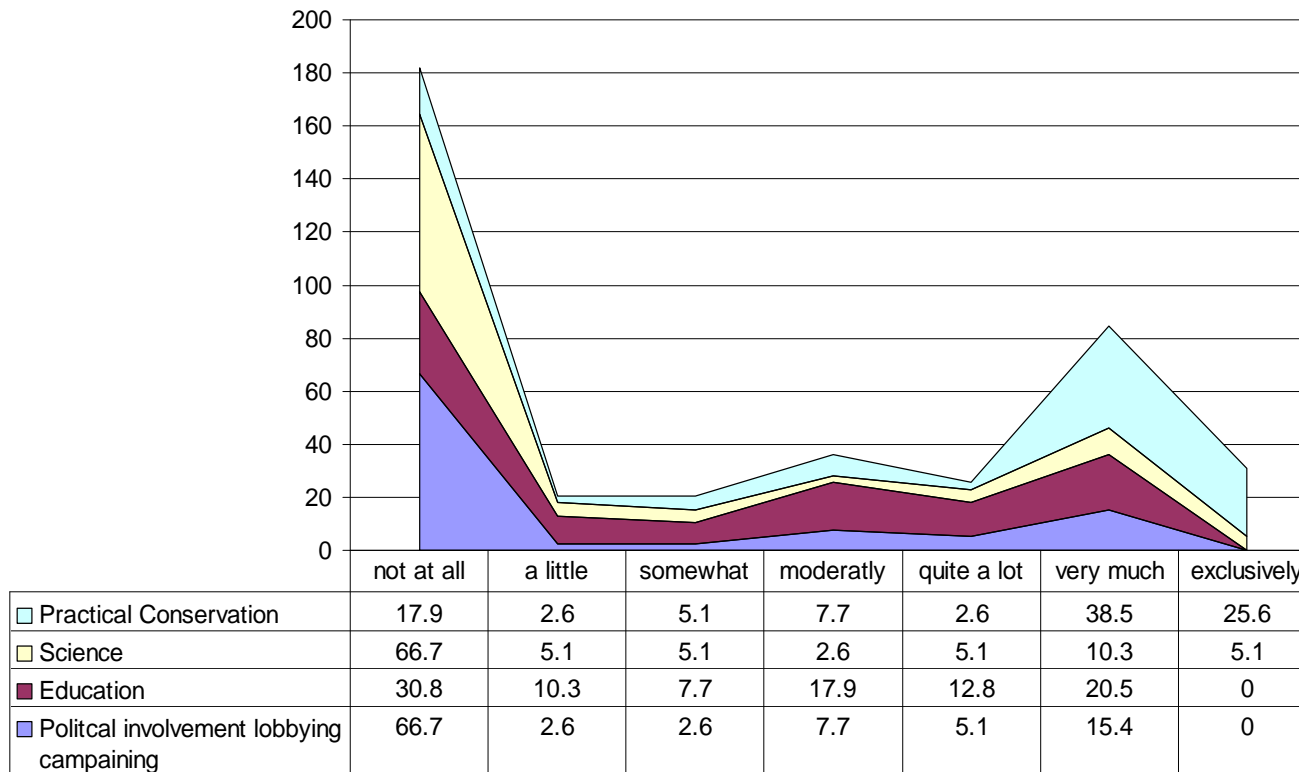
Database for environmental education in Paderborn

Resettlement of white storks



# Environment

53.8 Mio € (~100%) for environmental issues





## Example: Stiftung Hessischer Naturschutz (Hessian Foundation for env. Protection)

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Established: 1978 by the state of hessian  
Finances: 100.000 + public grants

Projects:

Support of more than 1000 regional projects:

Focus on biodiversity:

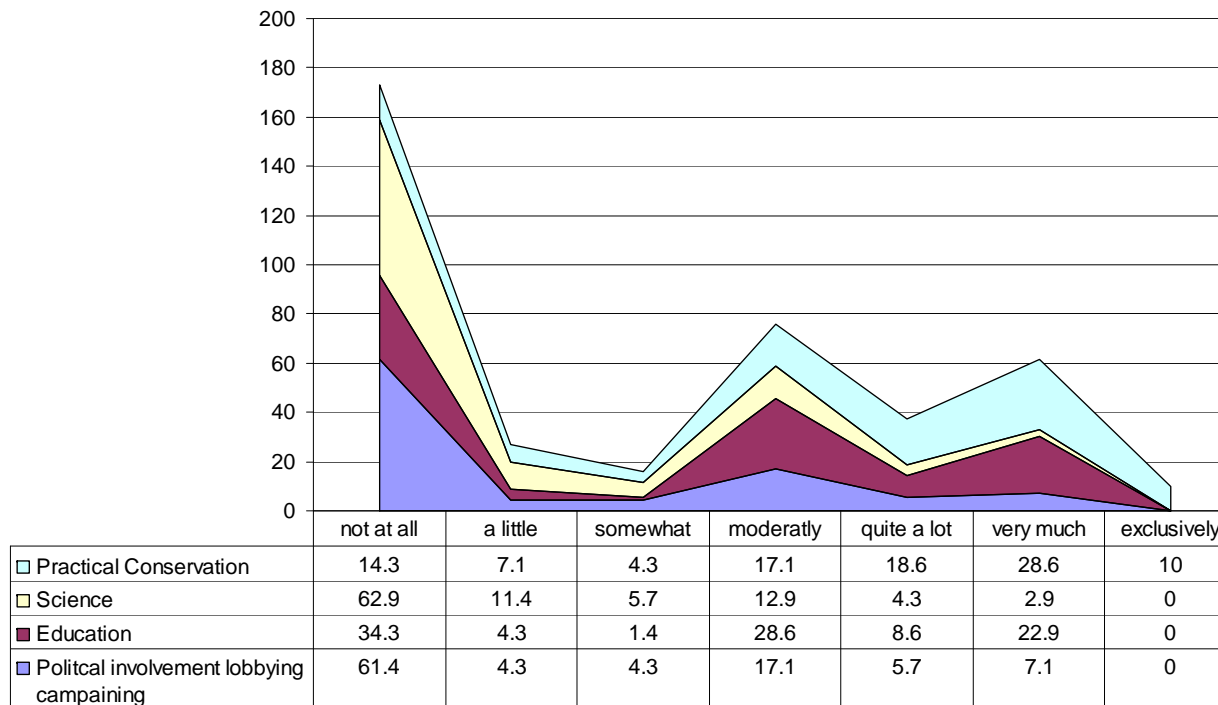
Endangered Species Programms

Purchase of land



# Sustainable Development

4.9 Mio € (~22%) for environmental issues





## Example: Bürger für Leipzig (Community foundation Leipzig)

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Established: 2003

Finances: 25.000 (3.000 env.)

Projects:

General:

Education and integration

Environment

Lectures on environmental protection

Training for voluntary park rangers





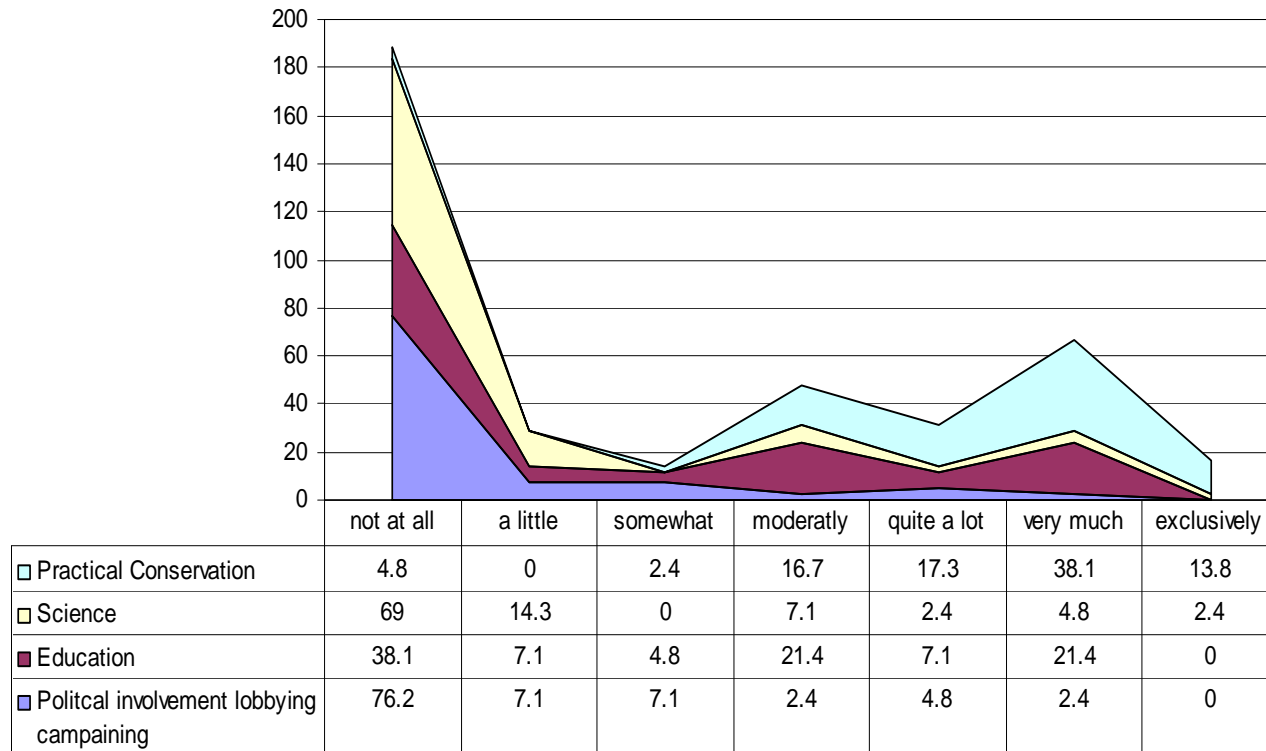
## What kinds of environmental issues do they support?

Issue	Cluster 1 (n=43)		Cluster 2 (n=86)		Cluster 3 (n=9)	
	Mean (%)	SD	Mean (%)	SD	Mean (%)	SD
Waste, harmful substances, toxins	0	0	1.85	3.96	<b>26.19</b>	43.45
Species and habitat protection / biodiversity	<b>41.62</b>	33.31	<b>19.3</b>	13.29	0	0
Inland waters (lakes, rivers, groundwater)	<b>14.59</b>	25.89	8.64	8.5	0	0
Energy and transport	0	0	5.58	7.94	<b>19.84</b>	34.95
Forestry / forest	0.68	2.66	<b>14.37</b>	10.91	0	0
Coasts and seas	0.58	2.93	3.45	6.31	<b>22.22</b>	44.1
Landscape protection	<b>42.03</b>	36.5	<b>16.98</b>	12.33	0	0
Agriculture	0.19	1.27	8.89	10.43	<b>11.11</b>	22.04
Air / atmosphere / climate	0.16	1.02	8.37	10.04	<b>16.67</b>	35.36
Sustainable economics / consumption	0.16	1.02	<b>12.46</b>	13.45	3.97	11.9



# Cluster: Biodiversity and Landscape

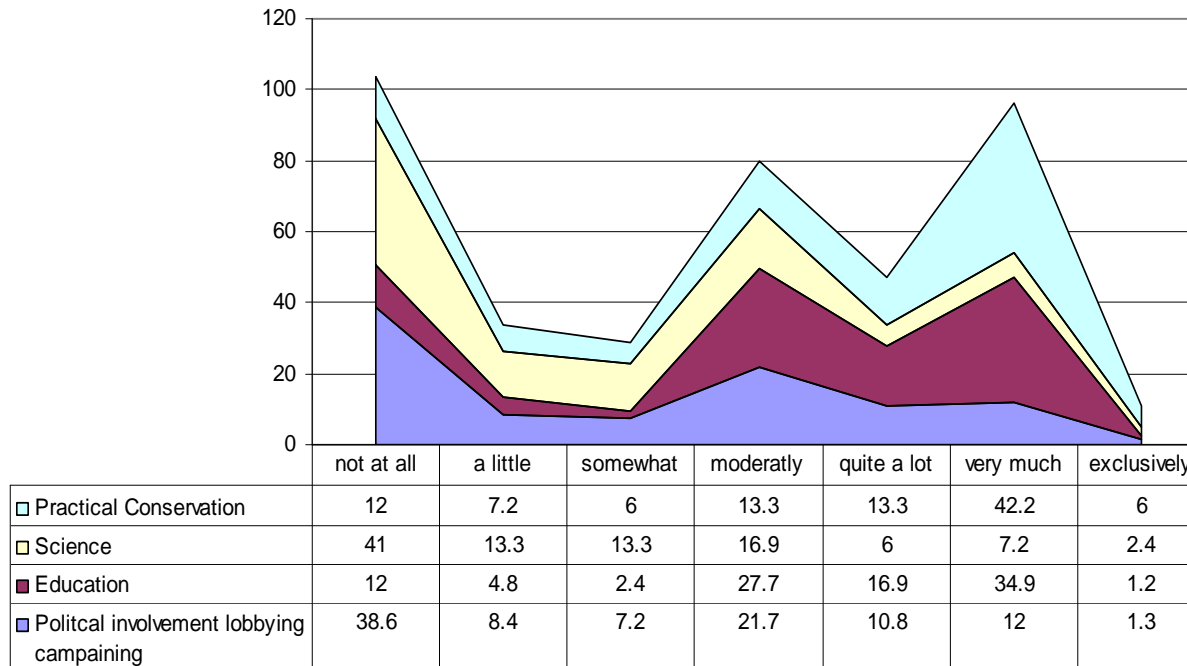
## Local focus



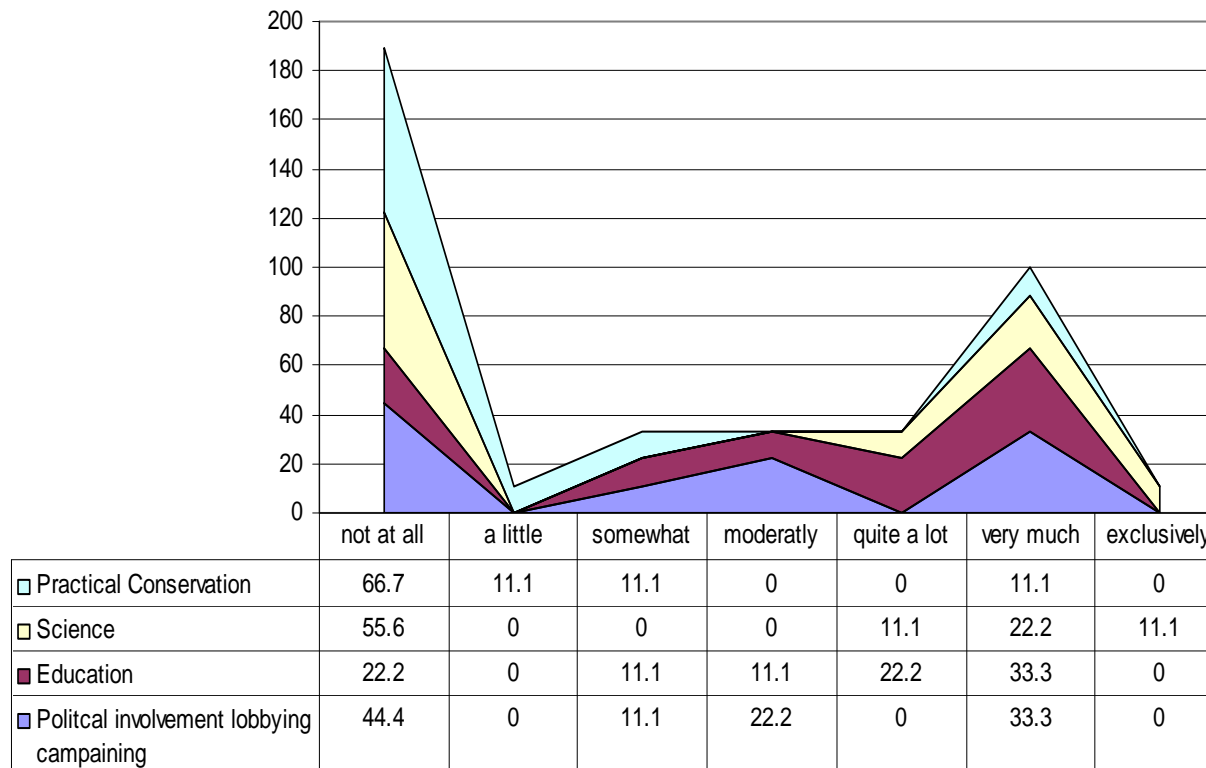


## Cluster: “Sustainability movement”

Local focus plus some national activities



## National focus



UK (Cracknell et al. 2009) [n=97]			GER (CIVILand-Survey 2010) [n=97]		
Issue	£	%	Issue	£	%
Agriculture & food	9,849,947	18.3	Agriculture	4,916,777	9.1
Biodiversity & species pres.	18,975,097	35.2	Species and habitat protection / biodiversity	7,998,933	14.8
Climate & atmosphere	1,251,491	2.3	Air / atmosphere / climate	4,520,926	8.4
Coastal & marine	2,007,750	3.7	Coasts and seas	4,142,068	7.7
Consumption & waste	470,512	0.9	Waste, harmful substances, toxins	2,104,745	3.9
Toxics & pollution	1,350,982	2.5			
Energy	1,523,453	2.8	Energy and transport	5,581,611	10.3
Transport	835,654	1.6			
Fresh water	1,475,389	2.7	Inland waters	5,018,882	9.3
Sustainable communities	2,378,394	4.4	Sustainable economics / consumption	4,498,917	8.3
Terrestrial ecosystems	4,480,053	8.3	Forestry / forest	7,051,818	13
			Landscape protection	7,775,472	14.4
Trade & finance	1,656,027	3.1			
Multi-issue work	7,643,255	14.2			
			Others	465,775	0.9
<b>Totals</b>	<b>53,897,986</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>54,075,924</b>	<b>100</b>