scopes of action 2020

Austrian Spatial Development Concept

ÖREK 2011

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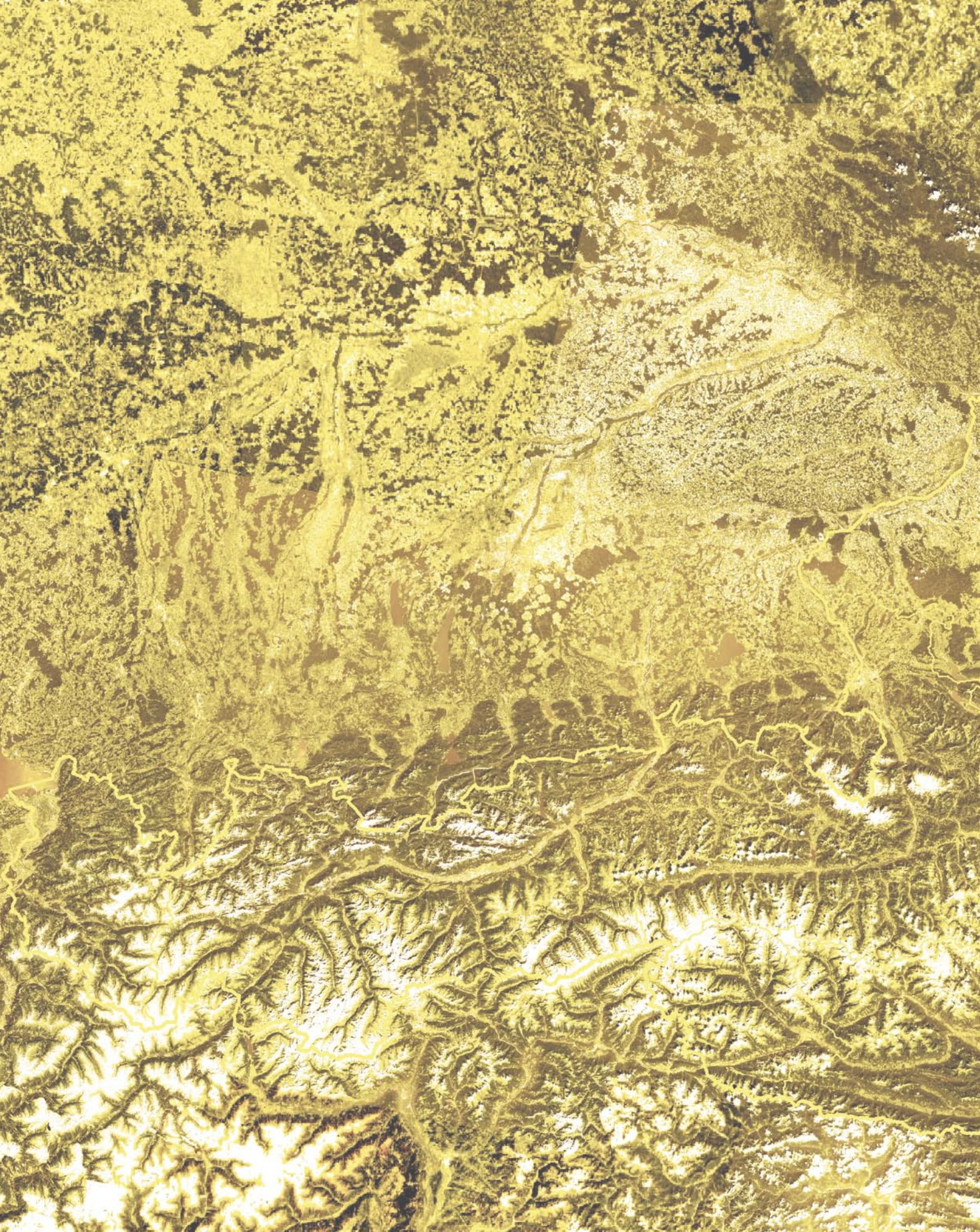
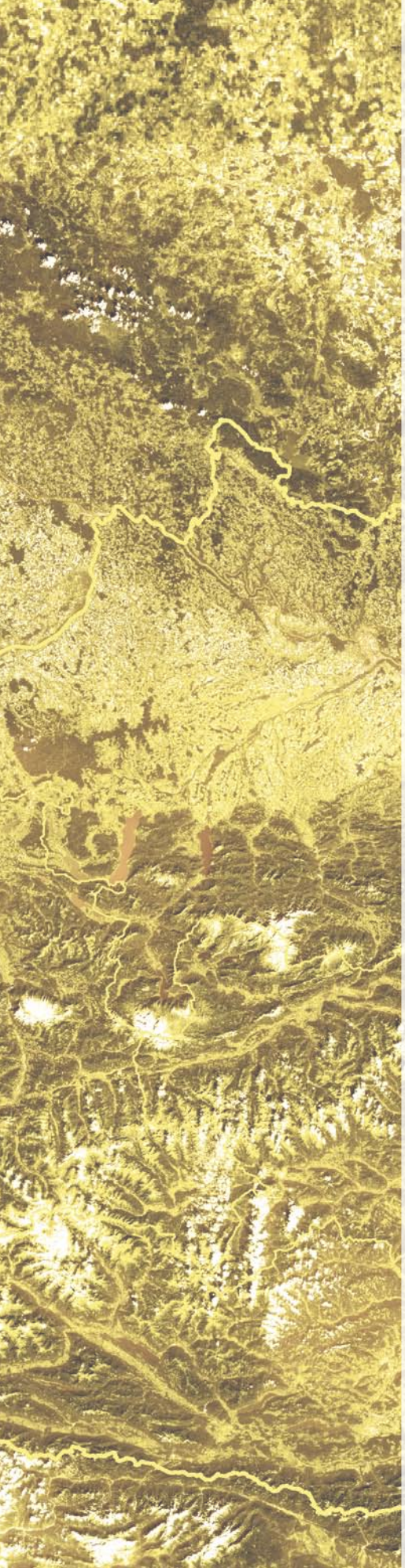




Austrian Spatial Development Concept

ÖREK **2011**

Preface

Austrian Spatial Development Concept „ÖREK 2011“

Spatial planning brings together the diverse aspirations and interests of society in a common living space. In Austria, these tasks are the responsibility of the federal government, Länder and municipalities in accordance with the respective areas of competence as defined in the Constitution.

To better coordinate these tasks, the Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning (ÖROK) was set up already in 1971 as a political body. The ÖROK is made up of members of the federal government, heads of governments of the Länder, of the presidents of the Association of Cities and Towns, and of the Association of Municipalities as well as of the economic and social partners (in an advisory function).

One of its primary tasks is to create and further develop the Austrian Spatial Development Concept (ÖREK). The ÖREK is reviewed roughly every ten years and is the joint steering instrument of all Austrian levels of government for spatial development in our country. The themes of Spatial planning as well as spatial development are therefore defined as joint tasks of the federal government, Länder, cities and municipalities. The Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning (ÖROK) and the Austrian Spatial Development Concept are an expression of this understanding.

Fundamental issues 2011

A solid analytical foundation is formed by the “ÖROK scenarios of spatial development in Austria 2030”, which were developed in advance within the scope of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011. In this context, the spatial effects of economic globalisation, climate change, demographic change, the pluralisation of society and further decisive development trends on Austria were evaluated. An analysis of practice in spatial planning up to now with respect to these trends was also conducted.

The members of the Conference on Spatial Planning agreed on three basic principles for the ÖREK 2011:

- Implementation: The effectiveness of the ÖREK 2011 is to be increased in com parison to its predecessor. Therefore, even in the preparatory phase, the foundation for the further implementation process was laid by setting up "ÖREK partnerships".
- Concentration: A stronger focus on implementation requires an improved strategic orientation. The ÖREK 2011 therefore concentrates on the challenges and proposals for actions for the coming ten years.
- Cooperation: A particularly important aspect for spatial development in Austria is cooperation in the diverse areas of expertise and legal competence. Therefore, the ÖREK 2011 concentrates on proposals for action in this context that are of significance for the country in general.

"Space for all": Collaboration as a success factor

It is a joint objective to make the ÖREK 2011 an effective instrument of overall spatial development. Already during the development of the ÖREK 2011, a strong focus was placed on the active and broad involvement of as many competent institutions as possible under the title "Space for All".

"Cooperation" was therefore not only a key criterion for the selection of proposals for action, but also a fundamental philosophy that guided the entire design process. Thematic working groups of experts described the challenges in a first step, which were then discussed throughout Austria at numerous events with representatives of public bodies, the economic and social partners as well as with civil society organisations.

In order to guarantee the required strategic concentration, the results were subsequently compiled and assigned to the competent expert bodies of ÖROK and the regular support of the political steering groups was assured. The outcome is a balanced concept which is viable and has the backing of all parties.

A joint strategy for spatial development in Austria from 2011 to 2021

The ÖREK 2011 has three sections:

- The introductory section defines the main fundamental tenets and goals of spatial development policy for the next ten years.

- The "Action Plan ÖREK 2011" includes selected action proposals assessed as very important, and presents a summary of their backgrounds and objectives. These summaries describe the work packages that will be further implemented within the scope of "ÖREK partnerships".

- Implementation is described in the third section "Outlook and Implementation". The bodies that work together within task-specific "ÖROK partnerships" include the partners needed to deal with the concrete tasks with expertise in the legal aspects and content. A core task of ÖROK and its Secretariat is to accompany and supervise the entire process. This ensures the long-term, concrete and outcome-oriented collaboration of the institutions involved.

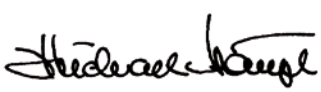
Just like in the past, the ÖREK 2011 is primarily a voluntary agreement reached by ÖROK members. However, the concept was prepared and adopted with the consensus of all of the parties involved. This is a solid foundation for implementation.
The ÖREK 2011 will ultimately be assessed on the extent to which it has been put into practice. Let us therefore make a joint effort to ensure that the "Austrian Spatial Development Concept" is a success.

Werner Faymann

Federal Chancellor Republic of Austria
Chairman

Mag. Gabriele Burgstaller

Governor Province of Salzburg
Vice Chairwoman



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President Austrian Association of Communities
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I. Introduction

Why an Austrian Spatial Development Concept

Mission Statement

Mission Statement

The Austrian Spatial Development Concept (ÖREK) is a strategic steering instrument for overall spatial planning and development at the national and Länder level as well as for cities and municipalities. It is not a concept that precisely defines and maps uses and their locations, but rather a jointly drafted "scheme" with a programme for action. It has a timeframe of ten years. Its purpose is to serve as guidance or as a guideline for the actions of the federal government, Länder, cities and municipalities as well as of interest group representatives; it furthermore aims to strengthen cooperation between these levels - also within the scope of the Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning (ÖROK).

The mission statement has been prepared in a broad drafting process, which involved all relevant actors from the public sector. Therefore, the Austrian Spatial Development Concept creates a common "worldview" and is the guarantee for achieving a clear value-added over isolated actions taken by individual actors. It promotes cooperation and prevents the actors from working at cross-purposes. "Space for all" is the motto of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011, which should also be understood as an invitation to the population, interest groups representatives and stakeholders to actively discuss and become involved in spatial planning.

The Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011 is a response to the challenges of our time: internationalisation of the economy, greater competition among business venues, aging population and immigration, climate change, space use and resource consumption as well as Austria's changed geopolitical positioning in an expanding European Union. As a response to these challenges, the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011 identifies key policy tasks with a spatial impact and allocates these to selected policy and planning tasks. The Austrian Spatial Development Concept does not displace sectoral schemes, but rather combines these to provide solutions for recognizable deficits.

Austria should encourage spatial development that is sustainable and efficient. Uncoordinated planning and uncoordinated actions cost money, lower competitiveness, hinder solidarity, are not sustainable. Locating enterprises or commercial businesses in the wrong places causes additional costs for infrastructure and mobility. The functional separation

of housing, work and leisure-time activities across large areas gives more free space to individuals, but generates larger traffic volumes, and therefore, higher energy consumption. The quality of locations is important and spatial development policy is a guarantee for competitiveness, spatial solidarity, sustainability and efficiency.

The Austrian Spatial Development Concept considers currently binding framework documents (e.g. Alpine Convention) and development schemes (e.g. Austrian Strategy for Sustainable Development, Energy Strategy Austria, Austrian National Climate Change Strategy,) and combines their strategies with the principles and measures of an integrated spatial development.

What does the Austrian Spatial Development Concept need to consider?

Factors of influence and political framework

Factors of influence on spatial development

To which predictable developments does the Austrian Spatial Development Concept respond? The ex-post analysis of the factors of influence that change spatial structures and the ex-ante evaluation of future developments permit the following statements:

- The accelerated integration of regions in a setting of global competition and growing mutual dependence, and the fiercer locational competition clearly reveal their functional specialisations and regional disparities, which is certainly contrary to territorial cohesion (see Glossary);

- Population growth in the agglomerations and central places as well as the increasing use of space for basic services (housing, transport, supplies, waste removal, recreational and leisure time activities) is resulting in a scarcity of available and easily accessible areas. A regulated development of settlements is needed now more than ever.

- Demographic change (ethnic diversity, aging society) is posing a great challenge to cities and rural areas with respect to the function of supplying them with

public and private goods (public transport, local services, social infrastructure).

- Increasing energy consumption and rising volumes of traffic as well as unequal opportunities for the new forms of energy generation and their use are threatening sustainability goals and raising dependence on imported energy;

- Climate change influences the long-term use of space and the spatial development potentials in many different ways (e.g. water supply, natural hazards, energy demand, agriculture, and forestry production, suitability for tourism).

- The rising consumption of space for transport and settlement and the overuse of natural and cultural resources rooted in the economy is resulting in a loss of biodiversity in some regions and fomenting the uniformity of diversity of cultural landscapes.

European Union – Political Framework

The European Union (EU) does not have any direct competence for spatial planning (in the narrower sense), but it influences spatial planning indirectly through legislation (e.g. EIA, SUP-, FFH-, SEVESO II Directive, Environmental Noise Directive, European Water Framework Directive, etc. For explanations, see Glossary), planning and financial assistance schemes (EU cohesion policy, Common Agricultural Policy, Trans-European Networks, environment and nature protection), and has a fundamental and heavy impact on spatial planning through the creation of a common internal market with its four freedoms. In addition, there are the jointly developed strategies, perspectives and schemes such as the "Territorial Agenda of the European Union" (see Glossary) or the "European Spatial Development Perspective"(ESDP). The following themes are particularly important within the framework of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept:

- The new long-term strategy "Europe 2020" [1] replaces the Lisbon Agenda for Growth and Employment. "Europe 2020" (see Glossary) views the further enlargement of the single European market as key objective. Research and innovation are considered the sources of economic growth. Additionally, "green" priorities are defined to enable a transition to sustainable, low-emission and resource-saving economic activity. The aim is to achieve an economy that is "smart, inclusive, sustainable" and to make it possible to reduce unemployment and poverty.

1 "EUROPE 2020 - A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth" COM(2010) 2020 final of 3 March 2010

The Treaty of Lisbon introduced the concept of "territorial cohesion" (see Glossary) thereby enlarging the scope of one of the principal aims of the Europe an Union, namely the promotion of economic and social cohesion. The objective is to give the population equal access to key services and basic infrastructure regardless of where they live or work in the Union. Territorial cohesion is to be supported by a competitive economy, innovation and the inclusion of the regions within a large-scale system of spatial division of labour.

The "macroregional strategies" of the EU are to serve as a contribution to the concretisation of the concept of "territorial cohesion" such as in the – for Austria important – "EU Strategy for the Danube Space" and the Alpine Space Strategy currently being prepared. The "EU Strategy for the Danube Space" is an collabo rative instrument of the countries, cities and regions which are in varying stages of the European integration process. The Danube Space is to move closer to the EU economically, politically and administratively (governance structures) as well as culturally and emotionally, and collaboration in the various policy areas is to be channelled in a "safe corridor".

The "Territorial Agenda of the European Union 2020" [2] published in 2007 and revised under the Hungarian presidency in the first half of 2011 has a similar orientation. The Agenda recommends an integrated spatial development policy and aims to mobilise the potentials of the regions and cities of Europe for sustainable growth and higher employment. It defines six priorities that specify the direction to be taken in more detail: (1) promotion of polycentric and balanced spatial development; (2) promotion of the integrated development in cities, rural areas and special regions; (3) territorial integration in cross-border and transnational functional regions; (4) guarantee of global competitiveness of regions by strong local economy; (5) improvement of the territorial linkage for individuals, municipalities and companies; (6) administration and linking of environmental, landscape and cultural goods of regions.

[2] Territorial Agenda of the European Union 2010. Towards an integrated, intelligent and sustainable Europe of regional diversity.

What are the objectives?

Basic tenets and objectives of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011

Basic tenets – Competitiveness, solidarity and sustainability

The Austrian Spatial Development Concept bases its assumptions on three basic tenets:

competitiveness

Austria is a small, open and successful economy. Strengthening the competitiveness of Austrian regions at the national and European level will also be necessary in the future to maintain the economic success. The competitiveness of the country is based on a qualified labour force with high productivity, innovative work organisation, production of goods and the provision of services. Additionally, Austria has easily accessible, secure and attractive locations; a research, technology and innovation infrastructure embedded in the national and European context; a cultural and natural landscape, which is the product of agricultural and forestry and also the capital for tourism as well as a well-functioning public administration. The major cities are the mainstays for international business and just as important for competitiveness as rural areas and the regions specialised in tourism or industry whose reach has spread beyond the regional and national borders.

solidarity

Austria is also a social welfare state. A certain share of its quality as a location is based on social peace, security and social cohesion, which requires access to the institutions of education and further education, to healthcare and to care institutions, to cultural venues and political participation. The issues of preserving infrastructures with capacity utilisation below critical levels, the adjustment of institutions to ethnic diversity and a demographically older population are just as important as the volume of social transfers and finding a balance between the financing capability of the public sector and retaining the motivation of those that pay major contributions into public budgets.

sustainability

The Austrian Spatial Development Concept declares its commitment to the principle of sustainability and encourages the development of settlements and free space that protects natural resources. The aim is to minimise additional energy and resource consumption (including the consumption of free space) on the one hand, and on the other, to reduce any additional resultant materials cycles (also due to growing traffic volumes in motorized traffic by individual means of transportation). As many options for action as possible are to be kept open for future generations. Moreover, what should be taken into account, are the cumulative effects (also long-term) – though in isolation possibly harmless – of use, system cycles and cumulative damage effects.

Conflicts of interest may arise between economic, social and ecological objectives. These often "uncomfortable" conflict of objectives must be addressed in political and planning decision-making processes, the consequences and the social and political significance objectively evaluated, and finally, solved by decision.

Territorial objectives - Compact cities, high-capacity axes, diversity in regions

The aims of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept include:

compact settlement structures

… compact settlement structures and a system of settlement development in which the large cities and urban regions serve as nodes with major axes connecting these. The significance of major cities and urban regions as "drivers of development" with an impact beyond their immediate catchment areas is recognised and highlighted. Therefore, their positive features are to be strengthened (connection to high-capacity transport means, central public administration institutions and centres of scientific and cultural institutions).

polycentric structures

… polycentric structures, because these offer an opportunity to secure the supply of goods and services to people close to where they live, to better distribute traffic flows with respect to space and time, and to reduce "dependence on automobiles". It is now more important than ever to coordinate modes of procedure across borders and individual municipalities to achieve a common added value through harmonisation with local offerings.

high capacity axes

… bundling the high capacity axes along the high priority and linear infrastructures (roads and railways, high voltage power, water, gas and oil pipelines), increase cost efficiency and create linear location quality. Space is to be made available along the axes and corridors in a timely manner, because the ex post planning and construction in already settled land is not only high-cost, but also full of potential conflicts. A forward-looking supraregional and comprehensive infrastructure planning is therefore necessary.

functional interrelations

… functional interrelations between the spatial units that require closer cooperation. Functional interrelations are to be viewed as an expression of mutual complementarity and should help to overcome the mentality of city versus countryside, core city versus catchment area or also national versus foreign.

to supply the network of small and medium-sized central places

… the network of historic, economically advanced and demographically stable small and medium-sized central places as suppliers of basic services for rural areas, because they distribute urban qualities to the hinterlands and help to ensure the population's participation in the many offerings of social life. The equal coverage of as many people as possible with the services, facilities and goods of basic services especially in thinly populated areas can be supported by bundling these in nearby central places that are easily accessible by public transport (decentralised concentration).

to promote the development of non-urban areas

… promote the development of non-urban areas with more dispersed settled areas (rural areas). All strategies on the development of these rural areas should serve the advancement of diversity, autonomy and performance capacity, and take advantage of opportunities in tourism, agriculture and forestry, commodities, industry and commerce. Important is an overarching and strategic orientation and communal strategies embedded in a regional context. Measures to raise regional location quality include the improvement of the hard factors (accessibility, available space, financial assistance, qualified labour supply) and the soft factors (image, subjective appeal). Proactive strategies for regions with declining populations are to be developed.

to strenghten the development of the region's specific potentials

… to strengthen the development of the region's specific potentials, and therefore local and regional diversity to reduce the disparities in interest between rural and urban areas.

to cope with population growth

… to cope with population growth and the increasing usage of space for basic social functions and to use land and property prudentially, in space-saving forms and sustainably in order to ensure development perspectives for later generations. The growing risk from natural hazards for existing and future settlement areas must be taken into account.

to examine spatial development measures

… to examine spatial development measures in general as to their impact on the climate and adjust them if necessary. Energy-saving settlement development should be promoted that contributes to the avoidance of motorized individual passenger traffic and the adaptation to climate change (compact and functional mixed settlements, energy-saving construction, areas for flood protection, flood retention and outflows, but also green areas and biotopes close to residential areas to improve the local climate).

8 Principles for action for cooperative spatial development

ÖROK partners declare their commitment to:

Sustainable spatial development

The Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011 has the objective of promoting spatial structures and spatial development that is compatible with the social, economic and ecological requirements of space and takes into consideration the living conditions of future generations.

Orientation on the common good

The Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011 has the objective of promoting an overall development of space in the interest of the common good. Bearing in mind individual property interests and rights of liberty, it should be made clear that an orientation on the common good of a cooperative spatial development ultimately also serves the individual.

Coherent planning

Coherent planning: The federal government, Länder, cities and municipalities develop the plans necessary to fulfil their spatial development tasks and will specifically include the spatial effects of their policies in their policy instruments in the future. Strategies and planning with a spatial impact will be harmonised by the territorial bodies with the sector policies.

Participative planning	Participative planning for a pluralistic society: The federal government, Länder, cities, municipalities and interest group representatives have an interest in open non-excluding processes. The planning takes into consideration the diverse needs of women and men, children and youths, persons with a migration history, older persons and persons with disabilities and in general persons with different lifestyles and life situations, and attempts to include these in their planning (learning planning).
Collaboration in Austria	The federal government, Länder, cities and municipalities and interest group representatives jointly develop spatial strategies and implement these in their respective areas of competence. Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning (ÖROK) is to serve largely as a platform for information, harmonisation and cooperation.
Collaboration with neighbours	As soon as spatial measures develop impacts that cross borders, the federal government, Länder, cities and municipalities work together with the authorities of the neighbouring and partner states as early as possible.
Collaboration in Europe and with EU institutions	The Austrian Spatial Development Concept integrates the priorities and implementation principles of the "Territorial Agenda of the European Union 2020: Towards an integrative, intelligent and sustainable Europe of diverse regions".
Effect and implementation	The federal government, Länder, cities and municipalities and interest group representatives carry out their tasks of spatial relevance taking into consideration the objectives and principles of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept. They make an effort to ensure that the objectives and the principles of this Concept are observed by private actors (companies, private households).

II. Action programme

/ 4 Strands
/ 14 Actions
/ 36 Tasks

/ 4 Strands / 14 Actions / 36 Tasks

Four thematic inter-related strands serve as the basis and outline for the measures proposed in the Austrian Spatial Development Concept: Regional and national competitiveness; social diversity and solidarity; climate change and resource efficiency; a cooperative and efficient framework for actions. The Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011 defines 14 selected actions within these four pillars and assigns 36 relevant tasks to be executed in the coming years. The Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011 addresses, on the one hand, those actions and tasks considered relevant, and on the other, that involve a special need for cooperation. The Austrian Spatial Development Concept is the outcome of a broad participation process with the members of ÖROK, academia and the institutions of civil society. "Space for all" was the motto and the programme.

The Austrian Spatial Development Concept is strategic, forward-looking and programmatic and outlines those areas that will have priority in the coming decades within the framework of "Austrian Spatial Development Concept Partnerships".

1 Regional and national competitiveness

1.1 Accessibility creates competitive sites: Integrated further development of linear infrastructure (transport, energy, ICT)

1.1.1 Development of a national mobility concept

1.1.2 Efficient further development o local transportation to secure regional accesibility

1.1.3 Implementation of the "Digital Agenda for Europe" – modernise, upgrade and regionally expand telecommunication systems

1.1.4 Secure corridors for high priority infrastructure

1.2 Growth driver: Research, technology and innovation

1.2.1 Improving the steering of research policy and coordinating research, technology and innovation content

1.2.2 Expanding "innovation leadership" and promoting a spatial orientation

1.3 Regional innovation policy, employment growth and qualification

1.3.1 Implementing regional education management

1.3.2 Establish and further develop regional innovation management

1.3.3 Strengthen regional competitiveness in the context of tourism, agriculture and forestry

2 Social Diversity and Solidarity

2.1 Immigration country on the way to becoming an immigrant society

2.1.1 "Diversity and cohesion" – Develop principles and integration strategies at the local and regional level

2.2 Securing basic services locally and regionally

2.2.1 Spatially-sensitive education policy – Defining standards for supplying basic services

2.2.2 Defining minimum standards for the development of public transport

2.2.3 Use of central places as locations for social infrastructure

2.2.4 Reorganising basic services – Prepare models as examples and check their transferability

2.2.5 Strengthen a regionally differentiated, active labour market policy

2.3 Quality-based approach to coping with growth

2.3.1 Communicate the true costs of development

2.3.2 Comprehensive assessment of new zoning

2.3.3 Tie subsidies for residential construction to spatial planning criteria

Action programme

/ 4 Strands / 14 Actions / 36 Tasks

3 Climate Change, Adaptation and Resource Efficiency

3.1 Aim for energy self-sufficiency – Spatial impact of the energy system

3.1.1 Securing spaces for energy production and energy distribution

3.2 Priority spaces for protection against natural disasters

3.2.1 Flood retaining dams and preservation of flood plains

3.2.2 Enlarge and update the Hazard Zone Plan

3.3 Sustainable development of settlements and free space

3.3.1 Implementing space-saving and space management

3.3.2 Create and secure free spaces

3.3.3 Increase energy efficiency through spatial planning measures ("spatial planning for energy")

3.3.4 Securing commodities

3.4 Sustainable mobility

3.4.1 Intensify the enlargement of inter-modal interfaces

3.4.2 Further development of transport and ICT, technically and organisationally

4 Cooperative and efficient handling structures

4.1 Strengthen regional planning

4.1.1 Create regional governance models

4.1.2 Check and further develop models and incentive systems for cooperation among municipalities

4.2 Development of an agglomeration policy for all of Austria

4.2.1 Position urban regions for the future

4.2.2 Set up a cooperation platform "urban region"

4.2.3 „smart cities" Promote research and development in cities and city networks

4.3 New partnerships between rural and urban regions

4.3.1 Further development of strategic measures for the development of economically competitive rural regions

4.4 Strengthen the national and European perspectives

4.4.1 Set up adequate management and support structures for spatial and regional development

4.4.2 Give sectoral policy a "spatial dimension" - Improve interaction

4.4.3 Cooperation with neighbouring states - Strengthen cross-border perspectives

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/ 1

/ 1st Strand

Regional and national competitiveness

Starting situation

Austria is one of the most economically successful countries within the EU and globally (economic output per inhabitant). Austria has developed from one of the economically "poorer" countries at the borders of the Western world into one of the most successful, open economies of Central Europe that has also successfully mastered a number of structural changes. Foreign trade relations have grown swiftly over the past few years and the traditional foreign trade deficit has been nearly completely reduced; the balance of services is positive and Austria's balance of payments has been reporting a surplus for many years.

Industry managed the structural changeover from an economy based on heavy and basic industries, which was largely reliant on commodities, to one based on light industry and manufacturing that generates high value added. The banking and insurance sectors as well as the IT, information and communications sector expanded mainly in Southeast and Eastern Europe and profited enormously from EU enlargement. Direct investments by Austrian companies, above all, in Central and Eastern Europe, have helped establish Austria's economic position in Europe. Tourism was also a successful sector that took measures to improve quality, establish specialisation (winter, health, congresses) and internationalisation. The regional economic structures, dynamics and potentials of Austria's regions reveal

a broad range that makes it necessary to develop a differentiated development strategy.

General objective

An economic spatial development strategy should pursue the following general objectives:

… substantially support structural change and promote the competitiveness of the country and its regions;

… contribute to the specific and spatially harmonised expansion of regional location qualities (especially accessibility) and secure this sustainably;

… reduce the effects of national borders and strengthen cross-border economic relations;

… promote research and development, strengthen the innovation capacity of the regions and improve the qualifications of inhabitants.

/ 1.1 Accessibility creates competitive sites: Integrated further development of linear infrastructure (transport, energy, ICT)

The further development and strengthening of Austria's economy in a global context with a focus on its high-quality production and services requires long-term and integrated location development and corridor planning. This includes high priority networks (railway, aviation, roads, waterways), supply and disposal systems (electricity, gas, water) as well as the further development of telecommunications networks.

/ 1.1.1 Relevant Tasks: Development of a national mobility concept

In Austria, there are numerous concepts, strategies and laws that define the objectives, framework conditions and the cornerstones for mobility development and include measures for enlargement strategies for roadways and railways, waterways as well as an aviation strategy, which is currently work in progress. Furthermore, the European Union is increasingly influencing Austria's mobility policy through Community laws, strategy recommendations and Directives, and in some cases, non-binding guidelines.

The measures implemented within the scope of mobility-related concepts have already achieved enormous success in some cases. In this manner, the negative effects of motorised traffic have been reduced substantially over the past few years (road accident deaths, some hazardous materials groups, noise protection, etc.). Moreover, specific energy consumption has also been reduced – in part by fiscal measures. In the area of railways, the share of public transport in the modal split was maintained or even favourably influenced and is above the European average.

Nonetheless, it is necessary to constantly further develop actions to influence mobility. The increasing number of strategies and concepts at the diverse levels, ranging from municipalities to the federal state and the European Union, today require more than ever, the harmonisation of existing concepts and plans of action. This is a particularly important task in a mobility concept.

Space for international Connectivity

Output objectives with spatial planning relevance

Coordination and harmonisation of transport and spatial policy for a forward-looking and efficient development of mobility

Possible actions of Spatial development policy

Introduction of location analysis and location development, securing space through regional programmes, local development concepts and zoning plans

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners

Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology in cooperation with the relevant actors (ministries, Länder,..) depending on the topic

/ 1.1.2 Relevant Tasks: Efficient further development of local transportation to secure regional accessibility

Austria's competitiveness depends not only on the large-scale accessibility of its centres, but also on connections to regions using high capacity and environmentally friendly transport systems. Therefore, special attention is to be given to local transport to secure regional accessibility. The goal is not only to give due attention to the improvement of connections between long-distance and local transport, inter-modality and environmental protection, but also to assure the long-term financing of local transportation systems with the involvement of the federal government, Länder, cities and municipalities as well as transportation service providers.

Output objectives with spatial planning relevance

Securing and improving regional accessibility

Possible actions of Spatial development policy

Location analysis and development, securing space as necessary

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners

ÖROK members: Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Länder, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, Austrian Association of Municipalities
Further important partners, e.g. transportation operators and providers, Planungsgemeinschaft Ost (PGO)

/ 1.1.3 Relevant Tasks: Implementation of the "Digital Agenda for Europe" [3] – modernise, upgrade and regionally expand telecommunication systems

Telecommunication is playing an increasing important role for economic and social development both in the context of infrastructure and industrial policy. The wide availability of high capacity telecom infrastructure and ICT services in the relevant quality and at affordable prices is a critical location factor for Austria's economy, social policy and society and its regions. (e-learning, e-government, e-health….). A high capacity ICT infrastructure is also an important contribution to the design of sustainable future mobility and of intelligent transport systems and opens ups opportunities for Austrian industries and service companies.

Output objectives ▪ – — ▶ The development of ICT infrastructure with broad coverage and its extensive use; to supply all citizens, enterprises and public bodies with broadband services

Possible actions of Spatial development policy ▪ – — ▶ Land use and network planning for a high capacity telecom infrastructure.

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners ▪ – — ▶ Federal government (Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management), Länder, ÖROK, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, Austrian Association of Municipalities, telecom enterprises

/ 1.1.4 Relevant Tasks: Secure corridors for high priority infrastructure

Securing corridors for high priority infrastructures is a key measure to improve the competitiveness of Austria. High priority infrastructure comprises roadways, railways and energy and communication networks. Long-term corridor security requires the further development of institutional, organisational and political decision-making and implementation structures. The aim is, above all, to define a framework for action in spatial planning policy to safeguard the public interest and achieve an effective coordination of spatial planning of the Länder with the sectoral infrastructure planning of the federal government.

3 "Digital Agenda for Europe", see COM (2010) 245 final 19.5.2010; see Glossary

Output objectives

Increase efficiency in the area of infrastructure planning with a spatial impact

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners

ÖROK members: Federal Chancellery, Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology, Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Länder, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, Austrian Association of Municipalities (cooperation platform)
Further important partners such as infrastrucutre operators and providers (ÖBB Infrastructure AG, Asfinag, Verbund...)

/ 1.2 Growth driver: Research, technology and innovation

Research, technology, innovation and qualified labour are the critical factors for an export-based economy with a relatively high wage level, but also high productivity. Additionally, research, techno-logy and innovation do not only strengthen economic performance, but are also a critical contribution to solve major social, ecological and regional challenges. The state defines the framework for the development of science in a country when it takes decisions on research and higher education policies, also oriented on the objectives of the Austrian university plan; it thereby defines the short-term and long-term development of a knowledge society and its future prospects. From 2014 to 2020, European, national and regional research, technology and innovation policy is to be guided by the aim of attaining an "innovation union" with the concept of "innovation" encompassing a very broad scope. It refers to the entire innovation cycle from education and continuing education to science, research and technology development and innovation policy in the narrower sense. The "innovation union" [4] will take an integrative approach with the aim of consolidating the fragmented policy prevailing up to now. The success of these strategy processes will depend largely on how the relevant research, technology and innovation actors, especially universities, colleges and non-university research institutions collaborate.

4 "Innovation Union", see COM(2010) 546 final, SEK(2010) 1161 of 6 Oct. 2010; see Glossary

/ 1.2.1 Relevant Tasks: Improving the steering of research policy and coordinating research, technology and innovation content

The institutional framework and decision-making structures for a concise and coherent research, technology and innovation policy are to be improved. To this end, it is necessary to achieve a broader awareness and a recognizable willingness of stakeholders in the Länder and at the federal level regarding the use of an integrated and systemic approach. The most urgent themes for improved political control by the federal government, Länder and the European Union cover various policy fields. This main issues of this task include the efficient design of governance structures and the distribution of areas of competence and tasks, and consequently, also the creation of clear mechanisms for defining the focus of efforts, the transparent design of financial assistance schemes to reflect prioritisation, a coherent mode of action in a political multi-level system, from the internationalisation to regional coordination, the design of an adequate environment for dialogue between science and society, and ultimately, the long-term location planning for the institutions of the tertiary educational sector.

Output objectives ▪ – — ▶ Integrated, nationally and regionally accorded research, technology and innovation policy to promote national and regional competitiveness

Possible actions of Spatial development policy ▪ – — ▶ Zoning and location development for a coordinated research, technology and innovation policy

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners ▪ – — ▶ ÖROK members: Ministry of Science and Research; Ministry of Economy, Family, Innovation and Technology, Länder
Further important partners such as educational and research institutions

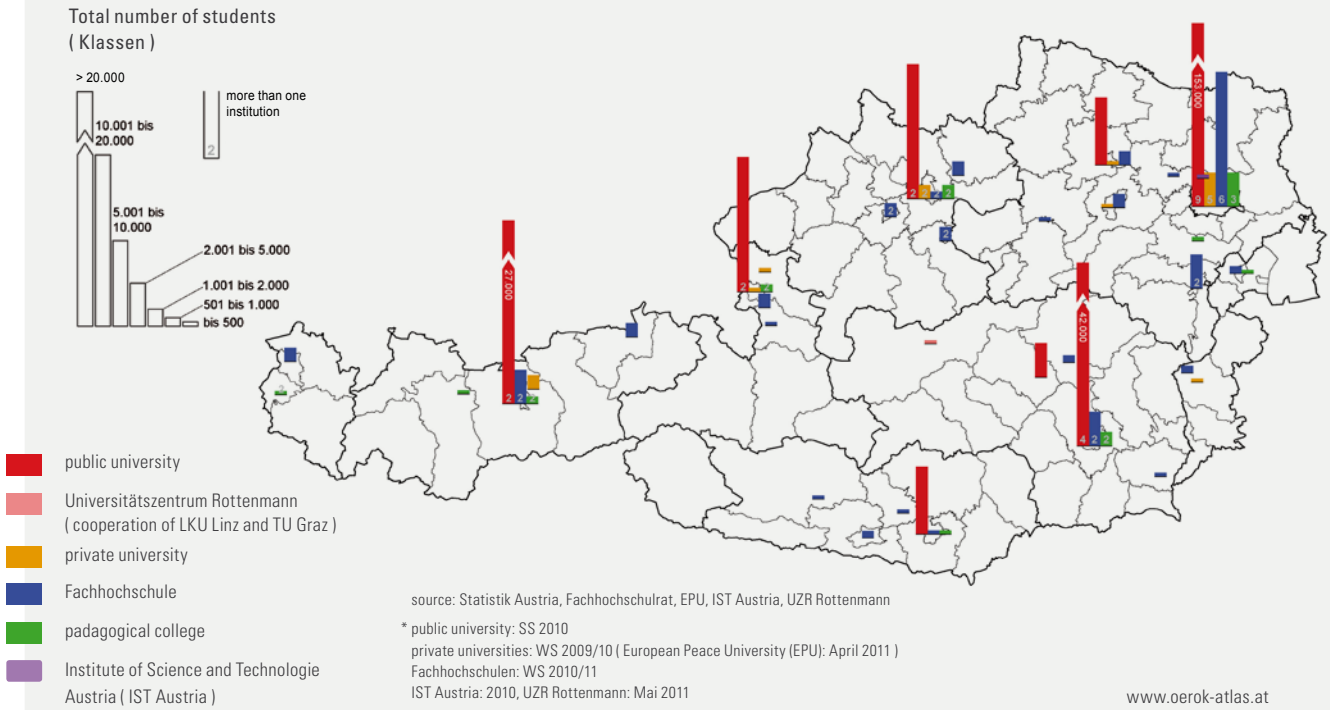
/ 1.2.2 Relevant Tasks: Expanding "innovation leadership" and promoting a spatial orientation

According to the research, technology and innovation strategy, the aim is to make Austria an "innovation leader" in the coming decades. To achieve this goal, excellent framework conditions for universities, colleges and non-university institutions are necessary as the basis of the innovation system as well as higher research intensity at companies. Attention must be paid to improving efficiency in spending on research with a view to social and regional incidence, anticipative support for the tasks of the public sector, output orientation and the effective use of funds. The (regional) clusters need special support as well as the further development of relevant infrastructures

(e.g. technology clusters, technology centres, research facilities,…). It is pointed out that product and process-specific innovations not only open up new market opportunities, but promote sustainable spatial development and a greater orientation on user needs.

Output objectives	Strengthen and promote national and regional competitiveness by developing "innovation leadership".
Possible actions of Spatial development policy	Zoning and location development for a coordinated research, technology and innovation policy
Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners	ÖROK members: Ministry of Science and Research; Ministry of Economy, Family, Innovation and Technology, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns Further important partners: Education and research instituitons, universities, business promotion companies

Infrastructure and students figures* in the tertiary education sector



source: Statistik Austria, Fachhochschulrat, EPU, IST Austria, UZR Rottenmann

* public university: SS 2010
private universities: WS 2009/10 (European Peace University (EPU): April 2011)
Fachhochschulen: WS 2010/11
IST Austria: 2010, UZR Rottenmann: Mai 2011

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/ 1.3 Regional innovation policy, employment growth and qualification

In an Austrian context, the requirements of small and medium-sized enterprises, the firm establishment of the innovation approach in all types of regions and sectors of the economy and the capability to survive in growing, increasingly competitive international economic regions are the critical actions in this context. In addition to the task of linking these actions to the national research, technology and innovation strategy, priority must be given to the adaptation of the current national and regional landscape to the needs and specific regional framework conditions for SMEs and the creation of regional (sector-specific) clusters, networks, and innovation and technology-based infrastructures.

This strategy will enable regional employment growth only if the quality of education and the qualification measures for workers and enterprises can be guaranteed considering the rapidly changing requirements (knowledge and innovation-based economy, structural transformation from trade-based and industrial economic activity to the service sector). The improvement of the qualification of workers is understood in this context in the wider sense based on the broad concept of (individual) life-long learning – but it is very closely related to structural changes in the economic focus in the regions.

/ 1.3.1 Relevant Tasks: Implementing regional education management

The often very diverse local further education options (WIFI, BFI, LFI, VHS, etc.) are to be brought into line with the regional structures and development schemes; the needs of the different target groups need to be taken into account as far as possible. The educational measures are to be coordinated with the regional economic structures. Adult education is to be viewed as part of the cultural and regional identity and to be actively promoted within the scope of the "learning regions" promoted by the European Union. This indicates the need to set up regional education contact points that have the task of coordinating regional adult education programmes and are the clearly identifiable contact partners for the population in the regions.

Output objectives	Coordination of continuing education in the regions and adaptation to regional development schemes
Possible actions of Spatial development policy	Create impulses and afford support for the development of regional structures and cooperation
Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners	Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Länder, Further important partners: Educational institutions, AMS, regional management bodies, Leader regions

/ 1.3.2 Relevant Tasks: Establish and further develop regional innovation management

A key task is the further development and strengthening of regional innovation management as well as the establishment of cooperation with the diverse institutions of region development (division of tasks, relations with administration and enterprises). A further task is to provide support for relations with impulse centres and institutions of school education, cooperation between enterprises, university and non-university research and for SMEs in networking and information acquisition.

Output objectives	Improvement of access to centres and networks as well as promoting the networking intensity of SMEs
Possible actions of Spatial development policy	regional analysis of existing structures
Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners	Organisers of federal assistance programmes, Länder as organisers of relevant entities and funding agencies, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns

/ 1.3.3 Relevant Tasks: Strengthen regional competitiveness in the context of tourism, agriculture and forestry

Agriculture and forestry as well as tourism are based on spatial resources more than any other economic sector and significantly influence spatial structures. It is above all tourism that is dependent on natural space and cultural attractiveness, and therefore, on the long-term preservation of these resources. At the same time, tourism is of major significance for national and regional economies, and enables dynamic economic development in areas in which there are no other options. The close relations with other sectors of the economy and high pressure from international competition necessitate high levels of qualification and professionalism in tourism with respect to the development of offerings and marketing.

Construction activity for tourism and developments for tourism (e.g. Alpine region) heavily influence settlement and free spaces; tourism activities also have a strong impact on society and culture. Tourism is a factor that triggers traffic. Leisure time and recreational activities of guests nearly always have an effect on spatial structures.

Not least in the interest of tourism itself, spatial development and tourism development require permanent and intense mutual coordination and collaboration, and also to mitigate or even fully prevent the possible negative effects of growing tourism.

Even though agriculture and forestry may no longer appear significant with respect to their theoretical contribution of value added to GDP, but their direct and indirect employment effects especially for rural areas are important. Moreover, they influence the appearance of the cultural landscape and settlement structures in rural areas. Rational forms of farming are changing traditional cultural landscape, and agricultural structures in free spaces are often the starting point for further settlement activity.

The forest is – just like in spatial planning for forestry – not only an economic factor, but also has a protective function – especially in the mountains – for the human habitat. The preservation and development of agriculture and forestry are therefore integral elements of any rural development and require both regulatory policy measures and monetary incentives.

Output objectives

The further development of a tourism sector, which contributes added value and is competitive and regionally well-established, while at the same time consistently protecting our natural, social and cultural foundation. Securing the continued existence of agriculture and forestry, and maintaining the function of agriculture for the protection of the landscape by promoting measures compatible with the market (more income-earning combinations, development of high value products and marketing, cooperation with trade sector and tourism)

Possible actions of Spatial development policy

Special consideration of these two areas of the economy in strategy programmes for spatial development; defining binding frameworks; reservations regarding zoning; collaboration with entities responsible for spatial development in the case of relevant sectoral planning.

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners

ÖROK members: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management; Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth, Federal; Ministry of Science and Research; Länder; Association of Cities and Towns; Chamber of Agriculture
Further important partners: Interest group representatives, tourism associations, Alpine clubs, Agrarmarkt Austria (AMA), Federal Forestry Management

/ 2

/ 2nd Strand

Social Diversity and Solidarity

Starting situation

The population in Austria will grow, age and at the same time become ethnically more heterogeneous. After the year 2030, Austria will have some 9 million inhabitants; more than one-third will be over 60 years old and in some regions of Austria even more than half. Up until the year 2030, according to the principal variant of the population forecast of Statistik Austria, there will be additional 600,000 migrants that will remain permanently in the county and the share of persons with a migration history will rise to 20%. Growth and declines in population will diverge widely in urban and peripheral regions and will require significant adjustments.

Moreover, there will be further trends in societal development that will have spatial effects. Higher flexibility in gainful employment as regards workplace and hours as well as the increasing social and cultural heterogeneity of living forms and lifestyles are resulting in a more complex organisation of everyday mobility that is more easily satisfied by individualised and flexible transport systems. The development of a knowledge-based economy is increasing requiring the gainfully employed population to acquire higher formal and informal skills,

which need to be permanently adapted and furthered. The participation in education of young people will increase and they will be required to show a greater willingness, permanently or temporarily, to overcome spatial distances to reach central institutions of education.

General objective

Spatially differentiated and harmonized social policy measures should

… overcome the consequences of the growing population and households while preserving solidarity in society and sustainability;

… solidarily ameliorate the effects of decreasing populations in individual regions and an aging society, demand adjustments from policymakers and society, initiate adjustment processes (secure regional basic services) and develop countermeasures;

… understand integration policy measures as part of location policy and controlled immigration as an opportunity for sustainable development;

/ 2.1 Immigration country on the way to becoming an immigrant society

In-migration is one the key factors of demographic change and population growth in Austria. It no longer affects only the large urban areas. Along with in-migration, integration policy as a central instrument of economic, social and spatially relevant strategies is shifting into the focus of attention. Therefore it is important to pursue a forward-looking and active integration policy in order to prevent potential conflicts, on the one hand, and also to take advantage of the potentials of in-migration, on the other. It would be possible to leave integration and inclusion of the immigrant population to the diverse, random but also long-term learning and adaptation processes in society, or, much more reasonable, steer, promote and shorten the process by implementing policies. As an important step, the "National Action Plan for Integration" (Nationaler Aktionsplan für Integration) was elaborated and enacted.

/ 2.1.1 Relevant Tasks: "Diversity and cohesion" – Develop principles and integration strategies at the local and regional level

Integration processes always have a spatial dimension. This happens locally and is significantly influenced by communal and regional policy measures. Some municipalities are very active, while others take a wait-and-see stance. In the relevant area of "diversity and cohesion", priorities and strategies are developed for the local and regional level and communicated to help the municipalities and avoid them having to "reinvent the wheel". Likewise, best practice examples for municipal and regional integration policy are being gathered and disseminated that need to be supported by measures at the regional level. The tasks include:

- ► Development of municipal integration schemes and integration policy development strategies;
- ► Models and implementation of diversity management (adaptation of administration to changed demand structures)

Space for Diversity and Solidarity

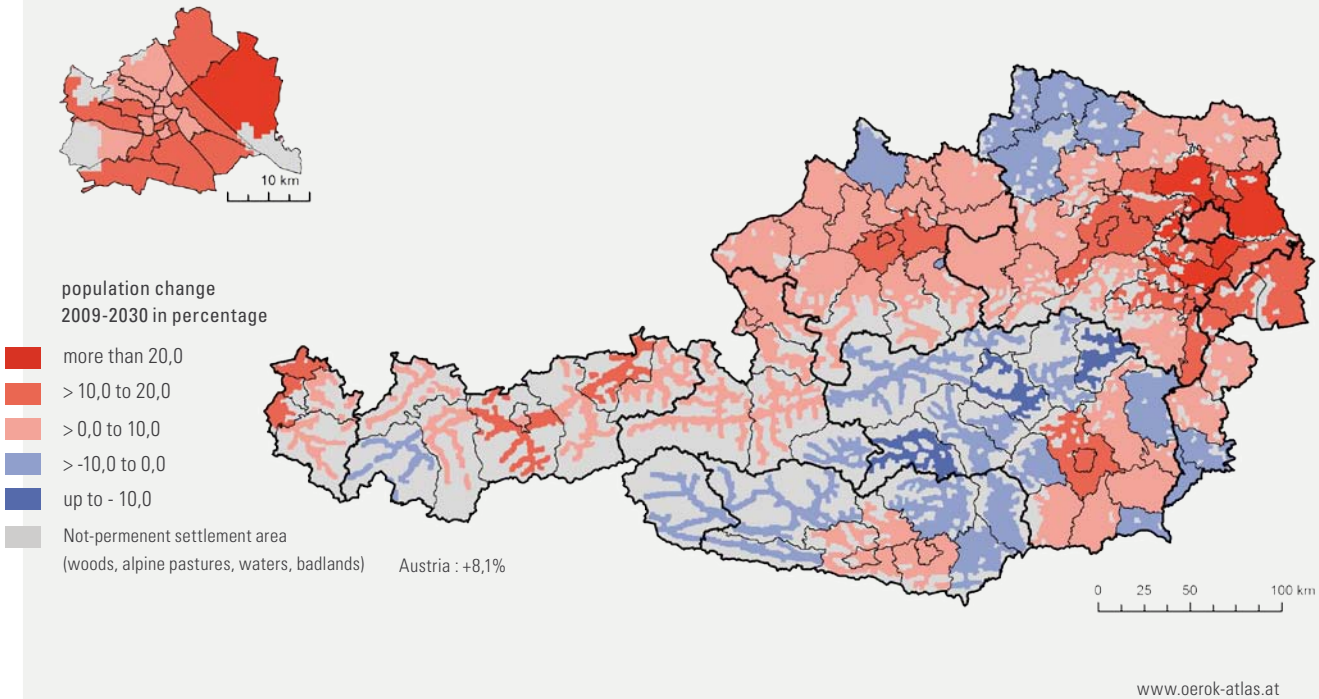
- Proposals for measures for ex post or concurrent integration (including financial assistance for language skills) for kindergarten, compulsory schooling, adult education, labour market, housing market and local urban development;
- Proposals for measures to strengthen the endogenous potential by activating local and regional governance structures as well as by creating facilities for certain parts of the city
- Development of high quality free public spaces and recreation areas as meeting places for people (youths, elderly, with and without migration history)
- Active management of settlement development and city districts to avoid ethnic concentration processes
- Harmonisation of structural integration policy with all levels of public administration

Output objectives → Development of integration policy measures at the municipal and regional level, harmonisation of integration policy among the territorial authorities

Possible actions of Spatial development policy → Analysis of existing structures; zoning; design of public space

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners → Federal Ministry of the Interior, Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture, Länder, Association of Cities and Towns, Association of Municipalities (and municipalities) Further important partners such as Austrian Integration Fund (ÖIF), integration bodies, model municipalities

Small scale population forecast Austria 2010-2030 with forecast up to 2050 ("ÖROK- Regional Forecast")



/2.2 Securing basic services locally and regionally

The institutions that provide public basic services are faced with enormous challenges due to changed demographic conditions (out-migration and aging), extensive privatisation and liberalisation and a lack of funds in government budgets. The institutions that supply basic services comprise infrastructure for education, health, culture and social affairs, transport infrastructure and public transport, infrastructure for water, waste water and energy supply and the creation of affordable housing. Frequently, there is a conflict between the aim of securing and maintaining basic services in certain areas that economically are no longer able to cover their costs and the competitive orientation of public enterprises and the budget targets of public bodies. The questions that arise in this context are of utmost importance, because the contract between the generations needs to be reviewed due to

changed living forms and demographic structures. The key issues of future basic services include the matters of which institutions are to be run or supported by public bodies, which locations would be appropriate for these and what are the minimum standards that need to be observed in a spatial context.

The task "Securing basic services locally and regionally" covers the search for strategies and instruments for the cost-conscious and user-based adaptation to changed demand structures and mobility options. A socially-compatible reform will become inevitable in some cases, but still the goal must be to ensure that all groups of the population have equal access, as far as possible, to basic services, to education, to cultural events and to social and technical infrastructure in all parts of Austria.

/ 2.2.1 Relevant Tasks: Spatially-sensitive education policy – Defining standards for supplying basic services

Austrian educational policy is now facing challenges resulting from demographic and financial change. In urban regions, the number of children and youths will increase or at least remain the same; in the peripheral, rural regions though, the figure will decrease steeply. This means, on the one hand, the enlargement of educational infrastructure, and on the other, its preservation also in cases in which it would be more economical to reform it.

The federal government must work together with the Länder, cities and municipalities to find special organisational solutions for regions with decreasing numbers of school-children. The aim is to ensure a long-term basic supply of pre-school and compulsory schooling facilities for children in the immediate vicinity where they live (this usually means the municipal area). The introduction of regionally differentiated parameters in education planning (regionally differentiated limits for pupils in class rooms, division thresholds, value units) is necessary as well as the definition of a progressive scale for the maximum number of children in a classroom for small and smallest schools. Additional costs of such measures are inevitable, but are a crucial investment in assuring equal living conditions in the regions.

Output objectives ▪ – — ▶ Mastering demographic change

Possible actions of Spatial development policy ▪ – — ▶ Analysis of future demographic structures; locational analysis and zoning

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners ▪ – — ▶ ÖROK members: Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture, Federal Ministry of Science and Research, Länder, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns
Further important partners: School Department Councillors, educational institutions

/ 2.2.2 Relevant Tasks: Defining minimum standards for the development of public transport

For the development of public transport, rules that specify the minimum standards – differentiated by type of space – need to be defined for the entire territory of Austria. In this context, based on the existing legal framework, a discussion of the competence for certain types of accessibility needs to be conducted. This may be based on size and significance of the towns linked by interrelations. The minimum standards to be derived concern the frequency of public transport service and specifications regarding travel times. As regards the service quality defined in this manner, the need for additional services, financing or alternative financing models is to be investigated (e.g. charges on transport that creates traffic).

In areas in which no connection to public transport can be offered, alternative and compensatory measures should be considered for non-motorised households without encouraging further urban sprawl. Furthermore, the areas need to be investigated in which the desired standards cannot be met at present and which additional expenses would be incurred in order to meet these standards. Financial assistance granted to individuals should be compared to alternative offers (e.g. on-call collective taxis, on-call buses, etc.).

On the other hand, in the future, main settlements should develop in those areas where it is feasible to comply macro-economically with minimum standards and there are sufficient connections to public transport. The minimum standards serve the purpose of improving public transport as a whole.

Output objectives

Definition of standards for the development of public transport creates clarity and planning security for the sustainable development of settlements, priority zoning as building land in the vicinity of public transport stops

Possible actions of Spatial development policy

Zoning and re-zoning taking public transport connections into account

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners

ÖROK members: Federal Ministry of Science and Research, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Länder, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, Association of Municipalities, ÖROK (cooperation platform)
Further important partners: infrastructure operators and providers, transport associations

/ 2.2.3 Relevant Tasks: Use of central places as locations for social infrastructure

The central places concept may serve as a backbone for the efficient bundling of facilities that provide public basic services especially in the areas of healthcare, care of the elderly, and continuing and life-long learning. However, it should be carefully developed, taking into consideration a differentiated view of acceptable distances for the individual population groups. The possibilities of collaboration among municipalities should be exploited in polycentric settlement systems in order to cut costs and provide inhabitants with a higher quality in the supply of services.

Output objectives

Establish the existent centrality of municipalities and the centrality requirement of public institutions for social infrastructure

Possible actions of Spatial development policy

Accorded definitions of central places as providers of social infrastructure, further development of the polycentric approach

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners

ÖROK members: Ministries (Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture, Ministry of Health, Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, Länder, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, ÖROK (cooperation platform)
Further important partners: social organisations, NGOs

/ 2.2.4 Relevant Tasks: Reorganising basic services – Prepare models as examples and check their transferability

Basic services tied to locations and based on central places as well as combined offers, which are multifunctional, and mobile (mobile enterprises with a combined offering of goods and services) may and should be mutually supplemental. Travelling enterprises that offer a combination of goods and services for daily life or location-bound basic service facilities with a combined range of offerings (e.g. pub that also sells food, banking, postal and telecommunication centres) should be organised. In this context, the establishment and expansion of flexible public transport should also be organised: on-call bus, on-call collective taxi service, semi-professional and honorary mobility services. This task area is of great significance for senior citizens, because individualised care and support services that enable older people to remain living at home as long as possible is to be promoted.

The possibilities of modern information and communication technologies need to be taken, because they can compensate the disadvantages of any larger gaps in the network of basic services. Information and data networks imply faster, more efficient and inexpensive basic services in the public service sector and in the private service sector, the connection to larger basic service enterprises with a broader range of products and services.

Output objectives	High quality of basic services also in regions that are harder to reach, reorganise basic services systems as model systems
Possible actions of Spatial development policy	Selection of model regions and proposals for the demarcation of regions
Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners	ÖROK members: Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth, Ministry of Health, Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology, Länder, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, Chamber of Agriculture, ÖROK (cooperation platform) Further important partners: telecom companies, regional management, infrastructure operators and providers

/ 2.2.5 Relevant Tasks: Strengthen a regionally differentiated, active labour market policy

Jobs and employment secure the material existence of the resident population and prevents out-migration. A regionally differentiated, active labour market policy embedded in a region's economic structures is therefore crucial. The qualification of job-seekers, support for start-ups (attracting new businesses) and the promotion of entrepreneurial activities (e.g.: research and development, advertising, marketing) need to take the special features of the region into account and secure long-term success. The higher mobility propensity of enterprises and the transferability of entrepreneurial activities give the regional location profile a special significance. This needs to be considered when preparing and implementing labour market policy instruments and programmes. Above all, measures for qualifications appropriate for a location are called for in the area of youth and labour market policy and for the re-integration of youths into the labour market.

Output objectives ▪ – — ▶ Model examples are to be prepared and their effects and transferability investigated

Possible actions of Spatial development policy ▪ – — ▶ Analysis of regional economic developments and identification of regionally-compatible growth potentials; establish an improved horizontal coordination of integrated regional development at the regional level of the labour market regions (coordination of labour market policy, social policy, economic and infrastructure policy)

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners ▪ – — ▶ ÖROK members: Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth, Länder
Further important partners: educational institutions, AMS, business promotion companies

/ 2.3 Quality-based approach to coping with growth

Austria has significant demographic growth ahead of it. According to the results of the latest forecast of Statistik Austria, the population in Austria will grow to 9 million by 2030 and afterwards to 9.5 million by 2050. The number of households will increase even more steeply due to the growing diversity of life styles: Single households (also senior households), new and flexible forms of living ("patchwork" families), combined work and living spaces and "multi-local" living. Finally, the significant rise in residential space per capita, the rising number of second residences for work purposes or leisure time need to be taken into consideration and this will entail higher demand for building land in some form or other.

Apart from a demographic and a socio-economically-triggered rise in building land use, the growing demands for retail, tourism and transport purposes must be considered. In these areas as well, the use of land is on the rise for shopping centres, skiing slopes, roadways, golf courses, car parks and many others things. To satisfy the basic services functions of society, the land use is growing and competition for easily accessible and attractive space is increasing. What is needed in this situation is the development of mechanisms and instruments to cope with growth and at the same time secure sustainability in those regions with limited settlement space.

/ 2.3.1 Relevant Tasks: Communicate the true costs of development

A cost-benefit calculation is to be introduced for the development of new building land with consulting for municipalities and building permit applicants regarding the total costs including energy and mobility costs. The municipalities are often not sufficiently aware of the costs involved in the new development of building land. Frequently, the focus is on potential additional revenues based on the population ratio in the revenue sharing formulas. The costs for the erection, operation and maintenance of infrastructure are neglected. Financing from planning added value should also be discussed (sharing gains/losses in value due to (re)zoning)). Applicants for building permits and buyers of land often underestimate the additional mobility costs. Cost-benefit calculations for individuals and municipalities should raise awareness of future burdens, with the actual development costs in rural scattered settlements being four to five times higher than in the compact central places of rural municipalities. The contributions to development costs should be progressive and in accordance with the principle of true costs and the producer-pays principle.

Output objectives

Output objectives: Raising awareness for traffic generation and the costs of new developments, strengthening the preference for compact settlement structures, reducing automobile traffic, reduction of land use for settlement purposes

Possible actions of Spatial development policy

Calculation of actual development costs and follow-on costs (cf. Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology project "mobility certificate for real estate" or the example "energy certificate for settlements")

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners

ÖROK members: Ministry of Science and Research, Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology, Länder, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns and cities, Chamber of Agriculture

/ 2.3.2 Relevant Tasks: Comprehensive assessment of new zoning

The assessment of new zoning plans for the long term should be made contingent on the criteria below apart from having to prove that there is a lack of building land: (1) The quality of the development and service with respect to public transport (access times to nearest stops, service schedules). A complete ban on new zoning in expanding municipalities should be considered if no proof of accessibility to public transport is furnished. (2) Accessibility of central place facilities by non-motorised transport within a certain travel time. (3) The effects of traffic volumes expected from motorised individual transport and alternative transport means (public transport, bicycle, effects of parking space management) are to be taken into account in traffic expert opinions. In any case, the strategic steering options of local spatial planning through local spatial planning concepts (imposed by decree) should be used and included in deliberations.

Output objectives ▪ – — ▶ Reduction of surplus building land, automobile traffic growth and related burdens, greater efficiency in climate and resource use

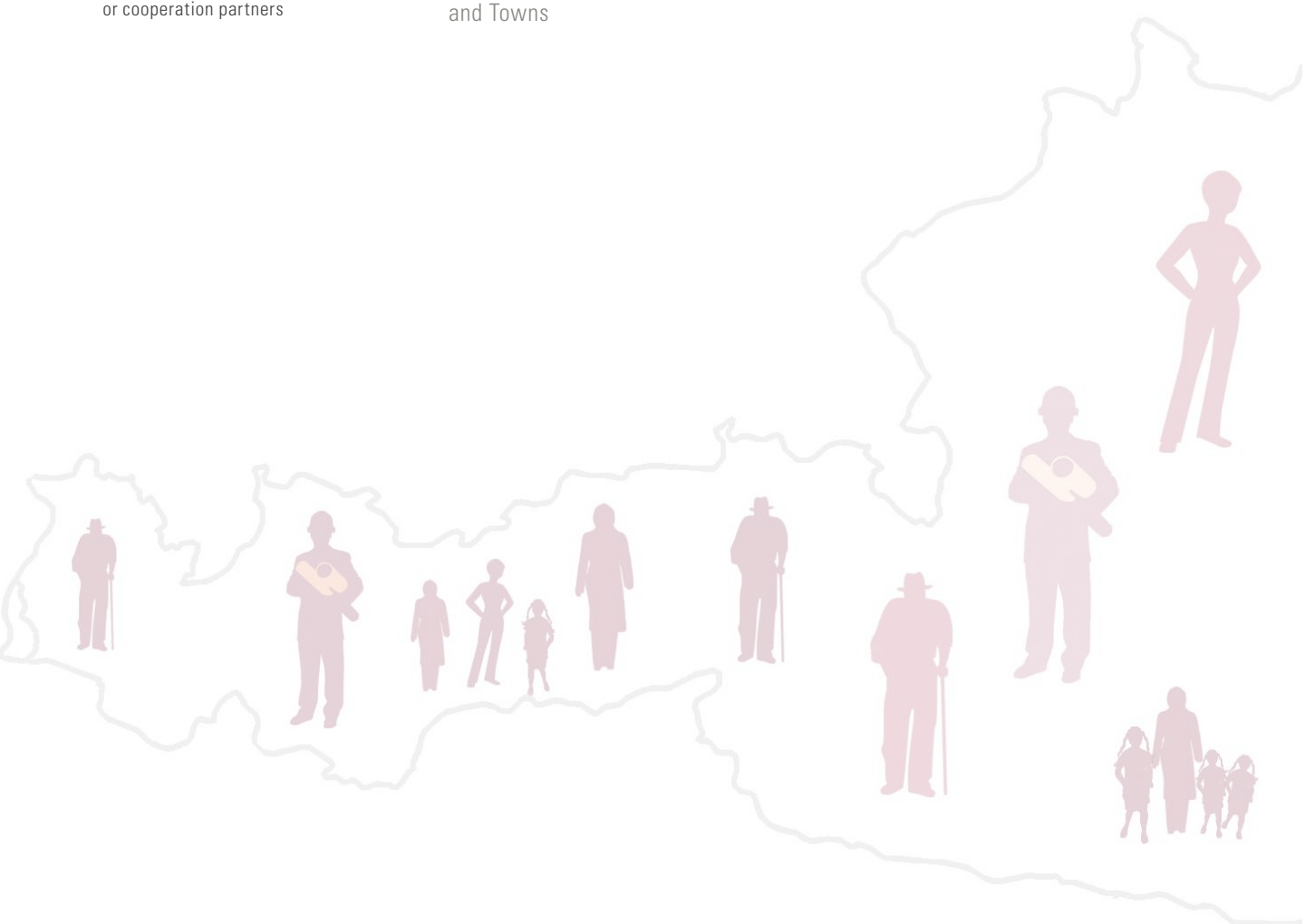
Possible actions of Spatial development policy ▪ – — ▶ Accordingly define standards and new zoning

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners ▪ – — ▶ ÖROK members: Länder, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, ÖROK (cooperation platform)

/ 2.3.3 Relevant Tasks: Tie subsidies for residential construction to spatial planning criteria

Criteria may and should be developed for tightening the requirements that make subsidies for residential construction contingent on spatial planning. For example, introduction of a bonus for locations within associated settlement structures, accessibility by public transport and bicycle. Likewise, internal development, connections to non-motorised individual transport and the observance of minimum densities (differentiated by type of space) and energy policy objectives should be honoured. Examples exist in several Länder in Austria (Lower Austria, Salzburg, Tyrol and Vorarlberg). These models should be improved and further developed.

Output objectives	Compact settlements, reduction of automobile traffic growth and related burdens, contribution to climate protection and higher resource efficiency, financial assistance for space-saving settlement forms
Possible actions of Spatial development policy	Cooperation in the definition of spatially-sensitive standards, zoning
Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners	ÖROK members: Federal Ministry of Finance, Länder, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns



/3

/3rd Strand

Climate Change, Adaptation and Resource Efficiency

Starting situation

Climate change in Austria influences the long-term uses of space and spatial development potentials in many different ways. The effects are higher average temperatures, hotter and drier summers with more days with temperatures of above 30 degrees Celsius and mild and low-snow winters. Additionally, in all probability the intensity and frequency of precipitation will increase just like periods of drought. Other natural events such as floods, extreme ground water levels, mudslides, melting glaciers, rockslides and falling rocks may be further consequences of climate change, but also changes to suitability for tourism, loss of stability of forested spaces, and the reduction of earnings from farming. The spatial expansion of settlement areas and spaces for leisure time uses will in any case increase the vulnerability of these uses to natural hazards and one may expect greater damages to be caused by disasters. The expenses for protective measures and for damage payments by the public sector as well as by the population will certainly increase.

Climate protection requires a decrease in greenhouse emissions from industrial and agricultural production, automobile traffic and private households. Climate protection also means the conservation and extension of the large forested areas that absorb significant volumes of the greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide (CO2). Reducing greenhouse gas emissions can be supported by lowering energy consumption (e.g. by raising energy efficiency), by substituting fossil fuels with renewable energy sources and by environmentally friendly consumption and transport behaviour. A planned and harmonised spatial distribution of industrial and commercial locations can significantly support climate protection. Compact settlement structures (especially multi-storey residential buildings) are more energy efficient and therefore benign to the climate. However, there is a conflict of goals with the targets of achieving low-density settlements and expanding green areas.

General objective

In order to be able to ensure sustainability in energy consumption and climate protection policy, the following should be done:

… realise sustainable settlement and traffic development in order to limit the further sealing of surfaces and ensure resource efficiency;

… reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to fight the cause of climate change (mitigation), lower energy consumption and work to achieve a shift from non-renewable energy sources to renewable resources in the spatial context;

… deploy spatial planning measures to help deal with the consequences of climate change (adaptation) and limit the threat to settlements and society (climate change adaptation; cf. also Policy Paper "Auf dem Weg zu einer nationalen Anpassungsstrategie", 2010 (On the Way to a National Adaptation Strategy);

… balance the possible negative effects of resource scarcity or higher costs on economic growth and socioeconomic prosperity by greater resource efficiency;

… implement the corresponding research and development activities.

/ 3.1 Aim for energy self-sufficiency – Spatial impact of the energy system

A low-emission and sustainable supply of energy requires a greater regionalization in the energy supply. Spatial planning should contribute to secure the key regional resources for renewable energy and the early avoidance of conflicts due to contradictory uses. Additionally, disperse settlements make it difficult to provide efficient energy such as from distance heating/cooling, because the costs of energy transport by pipelines rise swiftly, the lower the consumption and the greater the distance.

With respect to the renewable energy resources used in Austria at present such as biomass, geothermal heat, solar energy, wind and hydropower, there are extensive spatial potentials but also consequences: Currently, a rise in biomass plants close to centres is being observed although the regional biomass potential is limited in the case of agglomerations. Energy from biomass power plants is generated mainly from agricultural crops, hay, organic substitutes and wood including the by-products of sawmills, with this possibly entailing an intensification and specialization of the use of space (energy forests) and wind farms often conflict with the quality of the landscape scenery and recreational function. Hydropower and ecology also have a conflict potential in cases in which, for example, small hydropower plants cause ecological problems at very low energy outputs. Hydropower also encounters resistance sometimes even if built in efficient sizes due to ecological considerations or demand for nature tourism (untouched landscapes). Still, in Austria hydropower is justifiably important over the long term due to its orographic and climate requirements. In any case, the advantages and disadvantages of a hydropower project must be evaluated in each case and the specifications of the EU Water Framework Directive and of the Natura 2000 rules taken into consideration.

/ 3.1.1 Relevant tasks: Securing spaces for energy production and energy distribution

A greater availability of renewable energy can be achieved in biogenic energy sources by optimising supply and removal plans (e.g. regional utilization of liquid manure, use of biomass, etc.) with a clear regional context (low distance) or in the case of photovoltaic and thermal solar energy plants by promoting the wider use of already sealed surfaces. The aspect of energy efficiency should be given priority here as well. Spatial planning regulation can ensure the optimal location conditions for coupling heat and power generation and wind farms.

The generation of electric power from hydropower plants and wind farms as well as the use of solar power (solar thermal and photovoltaic) requires provisions in spatial planning. Taking ecological criteria into account, suitable locations for wind farms and hydropower plants and solar collectors or photovoltaic plants are to be defined in order to achieve the enlargement of renewable energy generation.

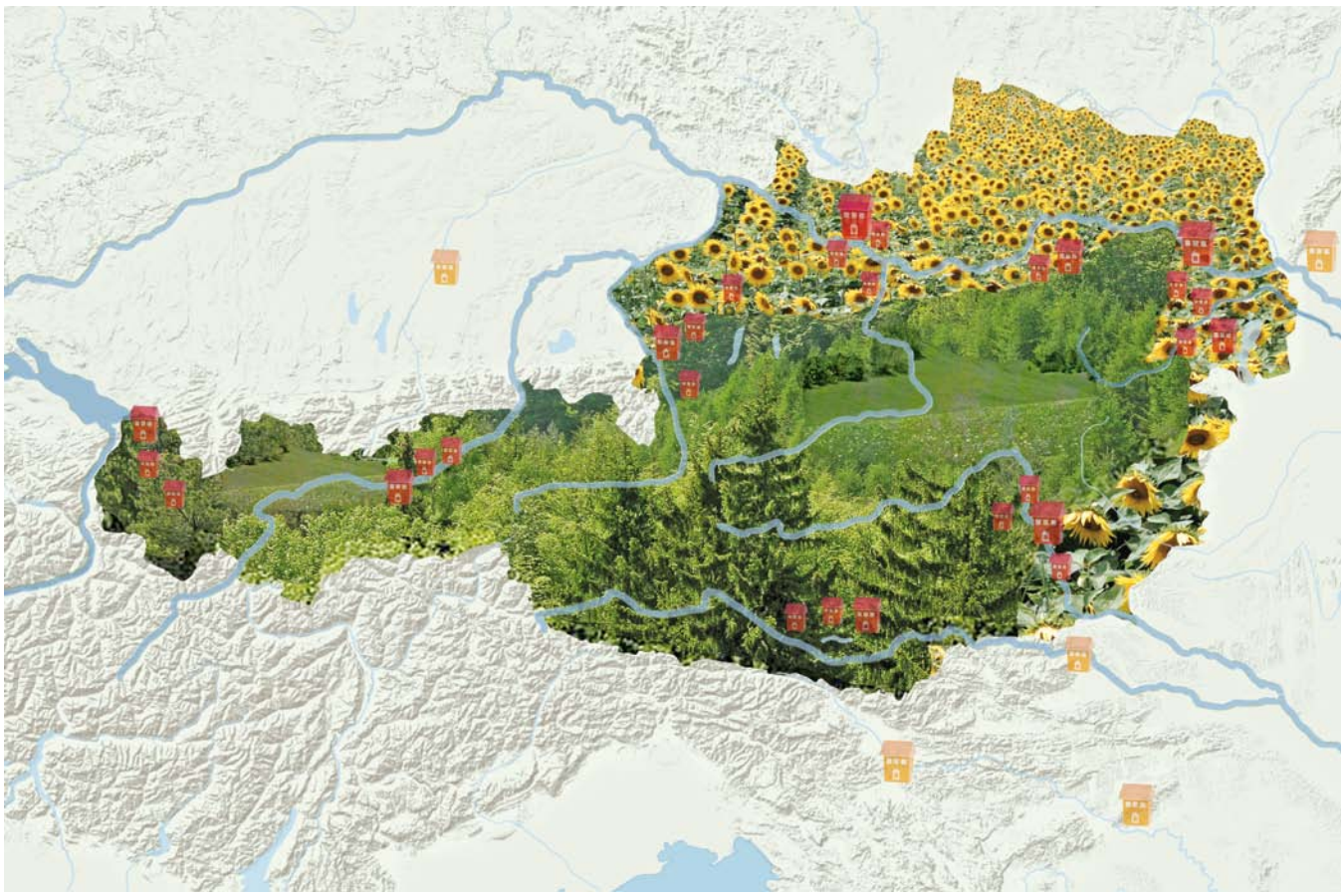
As regards spatially dispersed and higher consumption, this issue can be solved by planning electricity grids strategically with decentralized feeds (smart grids). The shortest distance between electricity generators and electricity consumers is to be aimed for in order to keep transport costs low and enable regional cycles. Spatial planning therefore must make a major contribution to securing routes.

Output objectives ▪ – — ▶ Address the fact that energy systems exist in a spatial context and use spatial planning to improve energy efficiency

Possible actions of Spatial development policy ▪ – — ▶ Zone areas for renewable energy sources; keep routes free and ensure their availability; energy master plans; integrated spatial and energy concepts

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners ▪ – — ▶ ÖROK members: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth, Länder, Association of Municipalities (and municipalities), Chamber of Agriculture
Further important partners: energy utilities, reginal energy agencies

Space for Sustainability and Resources



/ 3.2 Priority spaces for protection against natural disasters

In the area of protection against flooding, increasingly larger catchment areas of rivers are being included in considerations regarding risk containment and the reduction of damage potentials, and these considerations are also increasingly taking the costs and benefits of measures into account. Therefore, the evaluation of the interests in the different uses of space is gaining significance. Coordination between higher altitude and lower altitude municipalities pose a challenge to spatial planning policy. At present, there is no concrete regulation for disputes; rather the "unawareness" of mutual dependence is the norm. The development of flexible mechanisms to compensate mutual claims for space use between the higher and lower altitude municipalities is becoming more and more important (e.g. contracts on the compensation of advantages and disadvantages).

In this context, the "EU Flood Directive" (see Glossary) is pointed out which stipulates that by 2015 flood risk management plans must be drafted not only by bodies dealing with water engineering management and protection against torrents and avalanches but that these are also important for spatial planning and disaster control. These plans should include the aspects of risk containment and the reduction of damage potential in larger river catchment areas, with a general evaluation of the costs and benefits. Additonally, the flood risk management plans must include as far as possible goals with a focus on non-structural flood protection measures.

/ 3.2.1 Relevant Tasks: Flood retaining dams and preservation of flood plains

It is necessary to zone spaces that are important as flood plains or flood retention areas and to preserve these spaces in these functions for the long term (keeping spaces free). The preservation of these free spaces within the HQ100 inundation levels are to be safe-guarded by water and spatial planning instruments ("HQ 100": statistical indicator for the flows of moving waters, which on average reach or exceed this level once in a hundred years. (See Glossary) Procedures are to be developed to achieve the required reduction of risk potentials for areas zoned as building land but still free and located in flood retention and flood runoff areas for which there was no information on inundation levels at the time of zoning (prevention through object protection). In cases of rezoning, it is necessary to observe the constitutional right of private property and the principle of proportionality.

Areas at risk of falling rocks, rockslides, and mudslides are to be kept free of buildings. Settlement development in these areas should only be permitted in exceptional cases.

The use of areas for flood retention and flood plains should be ensured by preparing model contracts for flood protection. A concrete development of these contract models is yet to be done.

Output objectives ▪ – — ▶ Keeping retention areas free ("common retention areas") and rules for restrictions to use

Possible actions of Spatial development policy ▪ – — ▶ Closer cooperation and improved harmonisation between higher and lower altitude municipalities; inclusion of flood retention structures and flood outflow areas in the zoning plans and of protective forested areas in the forest development plans

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners ▪ – — ▶ ÖROK members: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (including protection against torrents and avalanches), Länder, Association of Municipalities (and municipalities), Chamber of Agriculture

/ 3.2.2 Relevant Tasks: Enlarge and update the Hazard Zone Plan

The preparation and updating of the Hazard Zone Plan including the demarcation of flood runoff and flood retainment areas should be harmonised with water engineering management, protection against torrents and avalanches, and forest management, with the zoning also including and identifying not only areas exposed to risk of flooding, torrents and avalanches but also other natural hazards such as rockslides and landslides as well as forested areas with a protective function. This should be given higher priority – just like the data collection on runoff flow changes in Alpine regions. Furthermore, the updating of the Hazard Zone Plans and the preparation of integrated risk management plans should take the data on disaster events (e.g. higher runoff volumes) into account. An improved early warning system in the case of floods is also very important.

In this context, legally binding definitions of hazard zones including flood retention areas and flood runoff areas should be included in spatial planning legislation and in building codes. In this context it would also be necessary to enforce stricter zoning practice, which rules out any zoning as building land of areas at risk of flooding (up to HQ 100 or zones marked red and red-yellow).

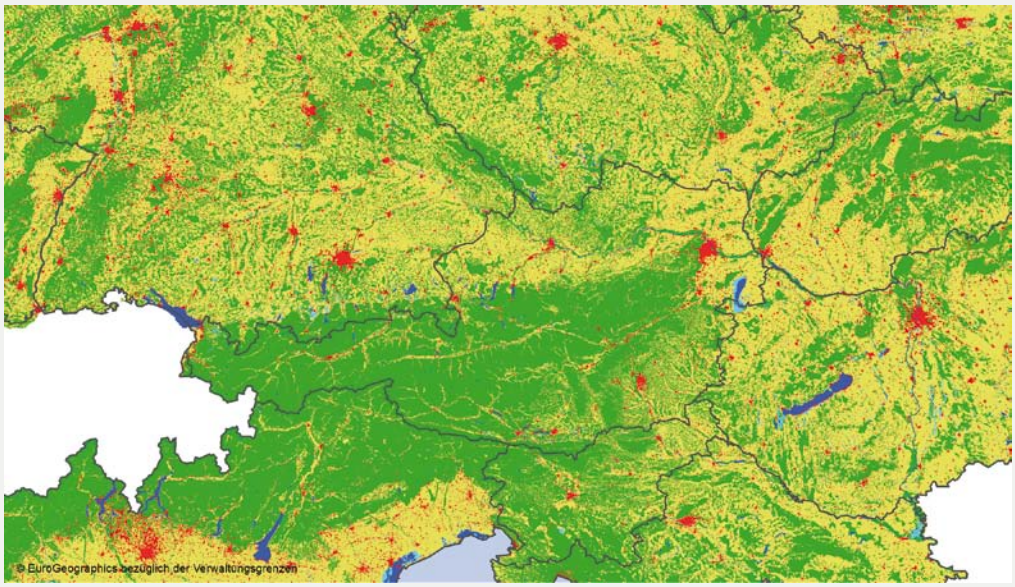
Finally, the proposal is put forth to require the mandatory inclusion of the obligation to prepare ground water maximum level plans by the hydrographical services in spatial planning laws and building codes. These plans permit one to derive the possible depths and construction methods for basements, underground car parks, etc., which is of crucial importance in connection with the goal of space-saving construction methods.

Output objectives ▪ – — ▶ Enlargement of the contents of the Hazard Zone Plans (inclusion of hazards like falling rocks, geological landslides) and inclusion in applicable laws

Possible actions of Spatial development policy ▪ – — ▶ Closer relation of zoning to Hazard Zone Plans

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners ▪ – — ▶ ÖROK members: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (including protection against torrents and avalanches), Länder, Austrian Association of Municipalities (and municipalities), Chamber of Agriculture

CORINE Landcover 2000



CORINE Landcover 2000
Nomenklatur Level 1

- constructed area
- agriculture
- woods and near-natural areas
- humid areas
- water areas
- no data
- state boundary

source: CORINE Landcover 2000 © EEA Copenhagen 2005

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/3.3 Sustainable development of settlements and free space

A growing population, increasing prosperity and economic dynamic are causing an expansion of the space used for settlement and business purposes. Even if there is a tendency to apply space-saving measures, the areas being zoned for building are increasing and the potentials of compact internal development of settlements are still not being used. What also needs to be taken into account is the role played by the rising use of space for transport (includes high priority roadways and railways and the creation of broad access to rural areas). No specific space-saving strategies are being pursued, but the quality of

the inclusion of transport routes to settlements and landscapes has improved significantly in the past years.

The sealing of ground for settlements, commercial areas and transport routes happens at the expense free space. Nonetheless, within the free space massive structural changes have taken place and are still under way. This refers, for example, to the changed forms of farming in agricultural, to the many leisure-time and recreational uses of space, to the technical development of Alpine areas, etc.

Therefore, a spatial development strategy also has to give the use of free spaces higher priority, considering that apart from the increasing pressure to seal more ground, there are a number of overlapping and partly conflicting interests regarding use and protection of free space.

In the interest of the diminishing areas of natural and man-made nature landscapes, closer collaboration between spatial development policy, nature protection and water protection is necessary.

/ 3.3.1 Relevant Tasks: Implementing space-saving and space management

The sustainability of settlement development and the aim of mastering growth (see Actions "Mastering Growth") start with the careful use of land. The efficiently use of space and the mobilisation of building land can help to check the expanding use of space for building ("active land policy"), and measures taken in this area are a key issue for local spatial developments. The goal in this context is to demand compliance with contractual obligations to use space in accordance with zoning (contract-based spatial planning), to create greater incentives for space-saving construction forms (energy efficient town homes instead of space-consuming detached homes, space-saving multi-level /under-ground car parks instead of widely spread out parking spaces for cars in commercial areas, etc.) and revitalisation and recycling measures for spaces and building structures. Municipalities should furthermore understand zoning as part of comprehensive space management and active land policy, and the relevant instruments need to be developed further (including financial instruments; land funds, added value gains). Due to the fact that this is linked to property rights, all measures must comply with the principle of appropriateness.

Output objectives → Active land policy and space-saving zoning to reduce demand for new zoning; strengthen sustainable settlement development and create free space and options for taking actions

Possible actions of Spatial development policy → Closer coupling of zoning, building regulation plans and active land policy

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners → ÖROK members: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management Länder, Austrian Association of Municipalities (and municipalities), Chamber of Agriculture

/ 3.3.2 Relevant Tasks: Create and secure free spaces

To harmonise and ensure high quality functions of free space, it is necessary for supra-regional spatial planning to assure collaboration between the relevant expert departments with the spatial planning departments, for example, to secure production areas for agriculture, small-scale climate balancing areas (cooling areas), flooding runoff areas and flood retention areas, spring water protection areas or nature protection and recreational areas. To this end, the function of space for leisure-time and recreational activities needs to be secured by defining nature protection as an independent category of use in zoning.

Collaboration among experts from different fields at the supra-regional level and the capture of the entailing synergies can help to secure and promote free space through agriculture, nature protection and spatial planning. In this manner, supra-regional planning secures integration in the planning of the areas surrounding rivers, for example, as flood retention areas, recreational areas, agricultural areas, important nature protection spaces, etc. jointly with the relevant sectoral planning.

Output objectives → Establishment and long-term securing of the high quality functions of free space

Possible actions of Spatial development policy → Free spaces must be taken into account in zoning

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners → ÖROK members: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Länder, Austrian Association of Municipalities (and municipalities), Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, Chamber of Agriculture
Further important partners such as nature protection associations, Alpine clubs

/ 3.3.3 Relevant tasks: Increase energy efficiency through spatial planning measures ("spatial planning for energy")

Spatial studies and spatial planning, and therefore, settlement structures, issues of mobility demand and the respective offerings play a key role for the attainment of energy and climate goals. Modern, integrated energy schemes in spatial planning support decision-making in the areas of zoning, investments in infrastructure and granting of financial assistance.

Experience has shown that buildings can be constructed particularly energy efficient and cost efficient when settlement structures are taken into consideration in the planning process from the beginning in addition to the construction technology and connections to environmentally-friendly transport. It is possible to steer and reduce energy consumption by defining requirements with a higher priority than building regulations. At the same time, infrastructure costs can be reduced, because infrastructure facilities (esp. energy) can be defined in sizes that fit the overall structure – and not only individual properties.

Output objectives ▪ – — ▶ Reduction of overall energy consumption in settlements

Possible actions of Spatial development policy ▪ – — ▶ Definition of energy efficiency criteria in zoning plans (e.g. "energy certificate for settlements"), creation of integrated space and energy concepts taking mobility management into account; criteria-driven zoning of high priority areas for certain types of energy supply

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners ▪ – — ▶ ÖROK members: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth, Federal Ministry of Science and Research (research), Länder, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, Austrian Association of Municipalities (and municipalities)
Further important partners: Energy institutes, competent energy party

/ 3.3.4 Relevant tasks: Securing commodities

Securing areas for the extraction of mineral (construction) raw materials must be secured to guarantee a sustainable supply of raw materials and keep transport distances short for cost reasons and to lower emissions caused by traffic. The tasks of the long-term securing of domestic raw material sources in spatial planning is the goal of Austria's raw materials policy and the subject of the Austrian Raw Materials Plan which was created under the leadership of the Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth with the collaboration of the Länder. To this end, areas suitable for the extraction of raw materials, which have been defined objectively by systematic analytical methods, are compared with zoned or regulated areas that conflict spatially with the extraction of raw materials (especially building land, nature protection areas and national parks and Natura 2000 areas, water protection zones), and these conflicts are eliminated and the areas zoned for the extraction of raw materials. This mode of procedure is designed to guarantee the long-term access to the sources of minerals through the implementation in spatial planning to secure long term the domestic supply of raw materials.

Output objectives	Long-term securing of the supply of raw materials for settlements
Possible actions of Spatial development policy	Securing raw materials in the public interest is to be taken into account in spatial planning (e.g. creation of raw materials coordinators); the binding definition of areas for the extraction of raw materials in zoning plans.
Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners	ÖROK members: Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth, Länder, Association of Municipalities (and municipalities)

/ 3.4 Sustainable mobility

The objective of sustainable mobility is to satisfy the mobility needs of the population and the economy with the least disruption to the environment and people, and ensuring the sustainable use of resources.

A key element of this policy is shifting motorized traffic by individual means of transportation towards environmentally benign forms (public transport, bicycle and by foot). Apart from the shift in motorized traffic by individual means of transportation, the aim is also to reduce the horsepower of vehicles and to make the remaining vehicle traffic as environmentally-friendly as possible. This requires the corresponding settlement structures and densities that counteract the separation of functional areas (work, housing, education, recreation) (cf. the actions "Sustainable settlement development" and "Mastering growth").

Also of enormous importance are the efforts to reduce the horsepower of transport means to levels that use as little resources as possible. To this end, relevant innovations and technological methods are to be further developed.

/ 3.4.1 Relevant tasks: Intensify the enlargement of inter-modal interfaces

For the development of an integrated multi-modal transport system with the involvement of all transport means to improve the attractiveness of environmentally-friendly transport means (public transport, bicycle, rail, navigation,…) requires the enlargement of inter-modal hubs for passenger and freight traffic. Such inter-modal hubs may be: car-sharing, bike-and-ride and park-and-ride facilities, an inter-modal public transport hub, roll-on, roll-off carriers (ship, rail), automated container ports, etc. Apart from these measures, the fiscal and legal framework needs to be adapted to become more supportive of traffic-steering measures ("soft" factors such organisation, information, raising awareness); furthermore, better mobility management and optimisation of the offers of environmentally-friendly modes of transport are needed.

Output objectives

Development and implementation of energy and climate-sensitive integrated transport and mobility systems

Possible actions of Spatial development policy

Collaboration in the definition of locations for inter-modal hubs; availability of space

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners:
ÖROK members: Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Länder, Austrian Association of Municipalities (and municipalities), Austrian Association of Cities and Towns (and cities);
Further important partners: Operators of infrastructure and transhipment facilities, transport companies

/ 3.4.2 Relevant tasks: Further development of transport and ICT, technically and organisationally

Supplying the population with broadband access and the further development of mobile applications and services will not only be very important for ensuring the population's access to services and to basic services, but will also change people's mobility structures and mobility patterns. As a consequence of the diverse range of applications such as in the area of traffic control, traffic organisation, mobility management, organisation of working and social life as well as in social policy, spatial development processes can trigger mobility trends (compare also to "Implementation of the Digital Agenda for Europe – Modernisation, Upgrading and Spread of Regional Coverage of Telecommunications Systems"). The following aspects will play an important role: technological advances in transport means such as electromobility (bicycle, automobile), car-sharing and the related infrastructure (transfer hubs, stops, digital booking and reservation systems…). Electromobility may serve – especially in agglomerations – as a supplement to public transport and non-motorised transport, with the supportive infrastructure (loading stations, transfer points and parking options, etc.) to be taken into consideration in spatial planning. In this case, and generally, the following applies: Essential in mobility planning is an inter-modal and integrative stance with a wider scope.

Output objectives	Shifting traffic and environmentally-friendly transport means
Possible actions of Spatial development policy	Collaboration in the definition and location of network and hub planning especially with respect to infrastructure for electro-mobility
Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners	ÖROK members: Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, ÖROK (coordination platform) Further important partners: Infrastructure operators and providers, transport associations, telecommunications companies, research instituitons

/ 4

/ 4th Strand

Cooperative and efficient handling structures

Starting situation

In Austria, spatial development and spatial planning are considered a joint task of the federal level, Länder and municipalities. In this context, a specific form of distribution of spending and competences has evolved historically and has become established within the multi-level system of the territorial authorities and taking into account the diverse interests to be satisfied. The further improvement of these basic cooperative structures is one of the most important ideas of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept which advocates a "space for all". The hubs need to be optimised and the mutual consideration of the actors guaranteed within the current system of spatial planning and spatial development. Today, more can be achieved in collaboration; "space for all" also stands for a participative planning process that includes the political-administrative system as well as companies, associations and civil society.

General objective

A cooperative and efficient structure for action in spatial development policy has the following aims:

… to strengthen the overall Austrian perspective in the area of planning with a spatial impact and the three-times higher need for coordination and cooperation: vertically between the political-administrative levels, horizontally between sectoral policies and sectoral departments, and finally the policy/administrative side, on the one hand, and between the public/civil society side, on the other;

… take existing functional interrelations in the regional context into consideration and adopt a view that reaches beyond the planning autonomy of the municipalities (strengthen inter-communal collaboration);

… … to collaborate with Austria's neighbouring countries;

… to decide in a fair, transparent and ruled-based process on conflicts of goals in the different policy areas that are inherent and part of every decision with a multi-sectoral and multi-interest impact.

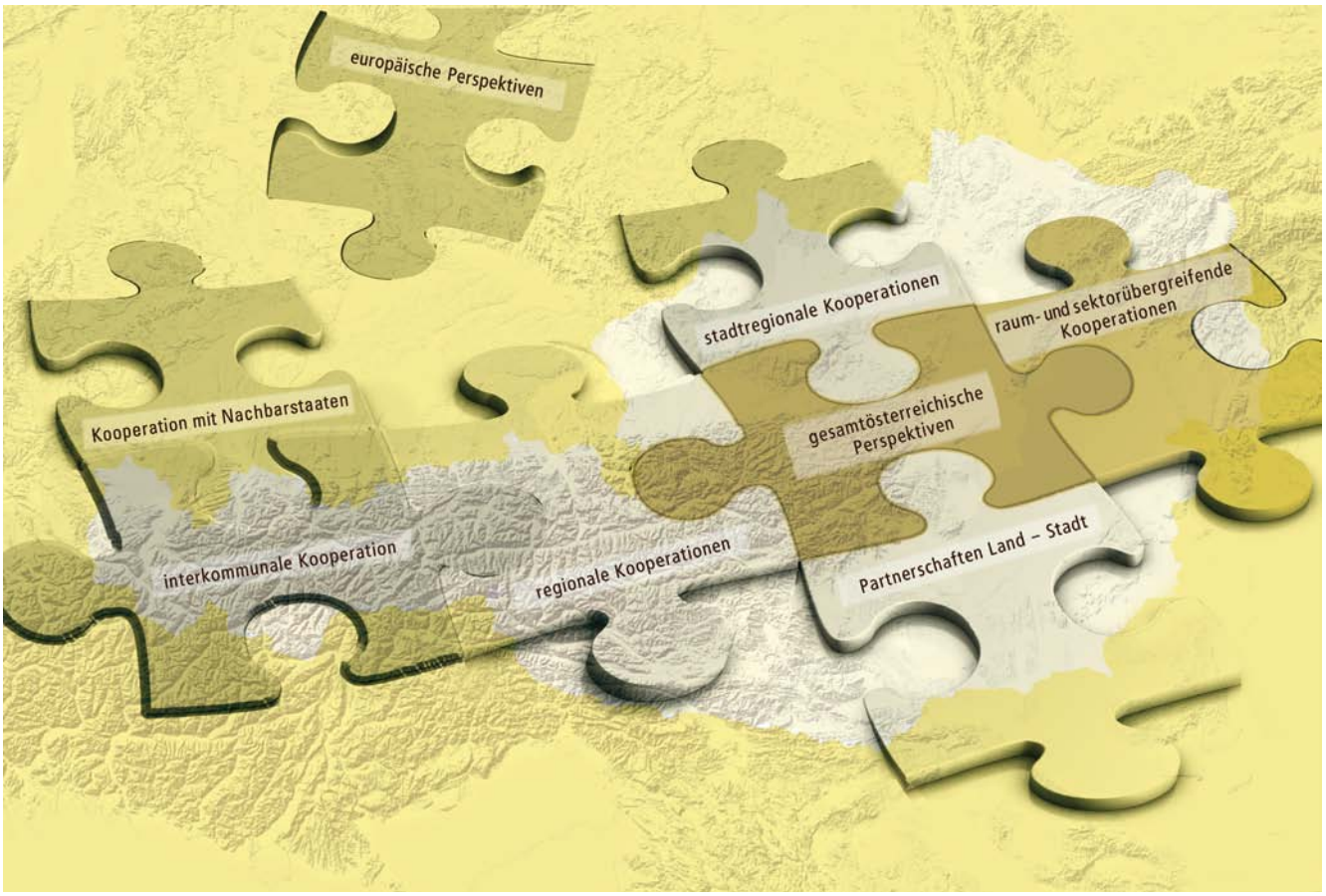
/ 4.1 Strengthen regional planning

The borders of the functional areas and the formal borders of the administrative units (especially of the municipalities) are becoming increasingly divergent. The way the population and companies act creates many diverse interrelations across the respective borders. Polycentric spaces develop through interrelations that spread grid-like and are increasingly overlapping the traditional division of labour between the municipalities.

Regional location development needs new approaches and measures guided by the principle of functionality. The solution of problems such as in the area of traffic development, settlement development, infrastructure expansion, but also the ideal development of potentials can only be achieved effectively and efficiently through a new culture of regional cooperation. This calls for the creation of supportive framework conditions and structures by the federal government and the Länder.

Collaboration between the municipal and federal level gives urban regions an opportunity to respond better to future global demands and also to bundle and optimise the potentials of non-urban and peripheral spaces – especially before a backdrop of rising costs. Regional development concepts, regional utilities' and waste disposal associations, regional zoning, regional energy master plans, collaboration at business locations, controlling large-scale retail (e.g. cooperative concepts), creation of regional transport concepts and much more are some of the possibilities.

Space for Cooperation and new Perspectives



/ 4.1.1 Relevant tasks: Create regional governance models

Concepts for regional governance models are to be developed that enable, promote and improve cooperation among municipalities. In this context, the possible effects of a change to the legal framework are to be considered in the Revenue-Sharing Act as well as in new financial assistance provisions. The aim is also to develop models of regional governance that do not refer only to a defined territoriality, but are based on flexible borders depending on functional tasks. The models may be based on loose and informal cooperative structures, but may also include legally binding organisational models. The federal level is to develop the models with the support of the respective Land.

Output objectives ▪ – — ▶ Development and testing of (urban) regional governance models

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners ▪ – — ▶ ÖROK members: Federal chancellery, Ministry of Finance, Länder, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, Association of Municipalities, ÖROK (cooperation platform)
Further important partners: Regional management organisations, regional associations

/ 4.1.2 Relevant tasks: Check and further develop models and incentive systems for cooperation among municipalities

The preparation of models and incentive systems for collaboration among municipalities is a key task for support in coping with the future tasks. Inter-communal cooperation can be an option for all municipalities for coping with growing tasks at simultaneously stagnating financial means, and may also lead to a fair regional distribution of burdens and benefits. In practice, knowledge of the existing options of inter-communal cooperation (e.g. communal tax splitting, risk governance models) is to be disseminated and new models for sharing burdens and benefits as well as incentive systems of inter-communal collaboration (e.g. fiscal incentives for cooperation contracts) are to be developed.

Output objectives ▪ – — ▶ Develop and disseminate models and incentive systems for inter-communal cooperation and design a model contract for cooperation among municipalities.

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners ▪ – — ▶ ÖROK members: Federal Chancellery, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Länder. Further important partners, e.g. regional initiatives und institutions (e.g. Plannungsgemeinschaft Ost …), research institutions

/ 4.2 Development of an agglomeration policy for all of Austria

Urban regions and agglomeration areas are the focus of economic policy and form the basis for expectations with respect to innovation, integration and prosperity. They have become the central places of a knowledge economy, and therefore, the anchors of an internationally networked economy that fulfil specific functions in the creation of global value added.

Austrian agglomeration regions play a special role for Austria's location in Europe - especially the metropolitan region of Vienna with its cross-border extension and special functional relations to Bratislava. Therefore, it seems an obvious step to devote more attention to cities and urban regions within the scope of Austrian Spatial Development Policy with a view to the competitive position of Austria.

/ 4.2.1 Relevant tasks: Position urban regions for the future

Urban regions are growing regions and will become significant settlement elements, but they do not exist as political or legal entities. Therefore, now it is more important than ever to hold consultations on how to demarcate urban regions, how to enable them adopt joint stances and gain legal status, which urban development concepts should be applied for sustainability reasons, and on the functional distribution of tasks within an urban region. The new positioning of urban regions embedded in new models of regional governance and of revenue sharing has the goal of achieving a fair balance of interests between core city and catchment areas and includes: rule-based and cooperative developments in traffic and settlements; securing and strengthening the functionality of core cities; complementary upgrading and functional enrichment of catchment areas.

Output objectives ▪ – — ▶ Concept for the future positioning of urban regions

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners ▪ – — ▶ ÖROK members (cooperation platform), Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, Association of Municipalities
Further important partners, e.g. planning associations, cities and urban catchment area management organisations, Plannungsgemeinschaft Ost (PGO)

/ 4.2.2 Relevant tasks: Set up a cooperation platform "urban region"

The aim is to create a cooperation platform "urban region" within existing structures (e.g.: Austrian Association of Cities and Towns) to give urban regions (and not only the core cities) the possibility to balance interests and clarify contextual issues (cooperation of city and catchment area; future positioning of urban regions). The objective of this cooperation platform is to establish the concept of an urban region in politics and administration, and give due consideration to the special interests of cities and agglomerations in the implementation of sectoral policies of the federal level and of the Länder (e.g.: enlargement of high priority transport infrastructures with a focus on environmentally friendly transport means). The cooperation platform should also enable networking among Austrian agglomeration areas within the scope of European measures (structural policy, EU strategy for the Danube region).

Output objectives ▪ – — ▶ Develop networking and joint sectoral concepts for cities and urban regions

Implementation or cooperation partners ▪ – — ▶ ÖROK members: ÖROK (cooperation platform), Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, Austrian Association of Municipalities,
Further important partners: Planning associations, city and city catchment area management organisations, Plannungsgemeinschaft Ost (PGO)

/ 4.2.3 Relevant tasks: "smart cities" – Promote research and development in cities and city networks

A "smart city" is a city in which research and development, process and product innovation, and entrepreneurial applications with a high degree of networking and co-determination are applied and implemented. The overlap areas from knowledge production to investment should function free of friction. "Smart cities" attempt to close local embedded innovation cycles, to link the actors and ensure smooth flows. "Smart cities" is also a concept in which planners, city administrators and companies are related by the common expectation of harmonizing growth, social cohesion, resource consumption and mobility, and at the same time, improve location-based competitiveness. Innovations in the area of transport, energy, economy or e-government are therefore the focal points of a "smart city".

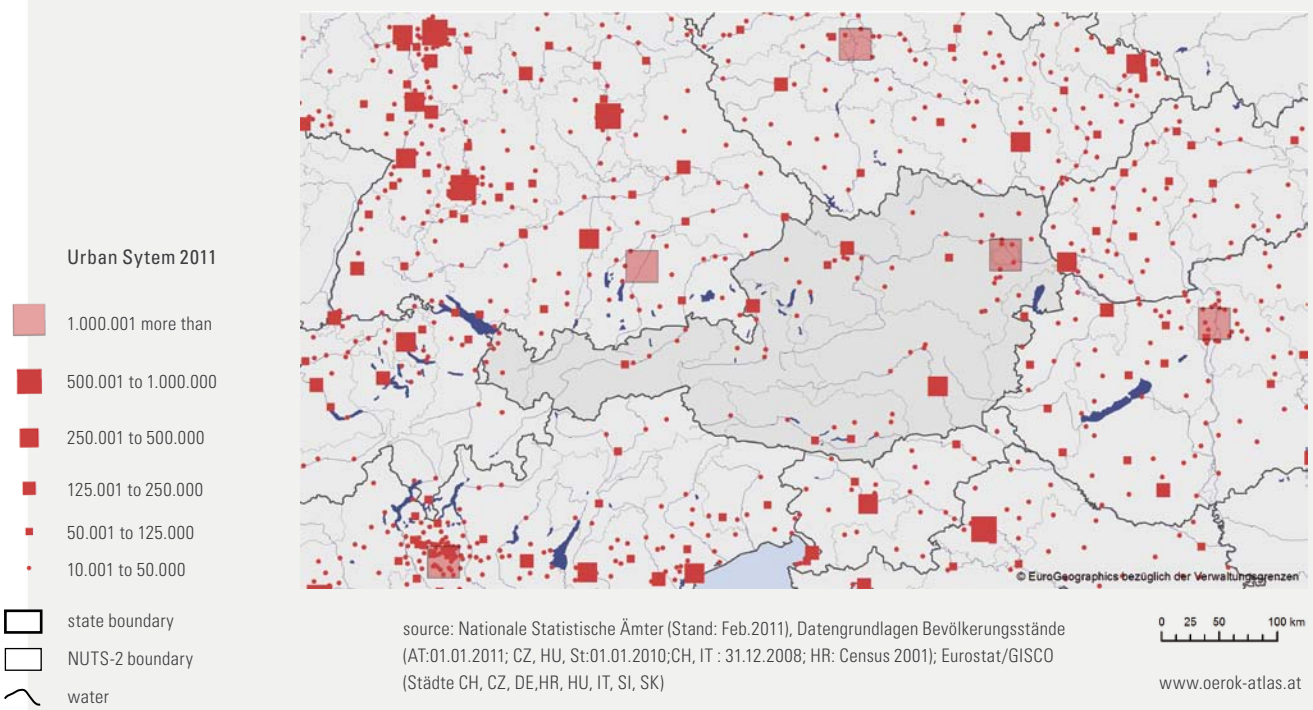
Output objectives

The application of the concept of "smart city" as a model and example with an analysis of the local strengths ("smart specialisation strategy") and the "mediation levels" and a well established institutional regional innovation system.

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners

ÖROK members: ÖROK (cooperation platform), Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology
Further important partners: Financial assistance bodies, research institutions

Urban System 2011 (cities with more than 10.000 inhabitants)



source: Nationale Statistische Ämter (Stand: Feb.2011), Datengrundlagen Bevölkerungsstände (AT:01.01.2011; CZ, HU, St:01.01.2010;CH, IT : 31.12.2008; HR: Census 2001); Eurostat/GISCO (Städte CH, CZ, DE,HR, HU, IT, SI, SK)

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/ 4.3 New partnerships between rural and urban regions

Urban and rural regions have many potentials and characteristics that can make specific contributions to an overall spatial development. The opinion according to which the rural region "serves the city" (or vice versa) is not part of this spatial planning concept. Rather, the aim is to involve cities and regions in new forms of collaboration through integrated spatial development and to achieve sustainable economic growth, and social and ecological development. The respective regional specialties as well as the specific material and immaterial resources of cities and regions are not eliminated nor denied, but rather included in the design and implementation of policies at all levels.

/ 4.3.1 Relevant tasks: Further development of strategic measures for the development of economically competitive rural regions

Rural regions in Austria have many different structures and it has been long since they could be equated with agricultural areas. Rural regions in the catchment areas of major cities differ enormously from those in peripheral areas or in rural areas with intensive tourism. Rural areas as a whole are not the issue to worry about, but rather only those rural areas affected by the out-migration of young people, limited range of possibilities for gainful employment, large distances to the facilities of basic services and the situation that only senior citizens remain living there. Additionally, they are characterised by low incomes and the lack of qualified activities in the secondary and tertiary sectors. Strategic measures to fight the causes of this development are needed and are viewed as relevant tasks.

Strategic measures to develop economically competitive rural regions should be designed to promote diversity, autonomy and performance. A new partnership of rural and urban regions is needed in which neither one denies the other its autonomy. The economy should develop in such a manner so as to give the population a chance to find employment that can be reached without having to commute long distances. Rural regions are not to become the "extended workbenches" or urbanised and functional extensions of agglomerations. A better accessibility of rural regions is needed and endogenous employment opportunities in tourism, agriculture and forestry, manufacturing, and also in the service sector are to be improved. A modern ICT structure and new work forms could help to significantly improve employment opportunities.

Output objectives

Design strategic measures to develop economically competitive rural regions; implementation based on pilot projects

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners

ÖROK Members: ÖROK (cooperation platform), Federal Chancellery, Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth, Länder, Association of Municipalities, Chamber of Commerce, Chamber of Labour, Chamber of Agriculture
Further important partners: Regional management organisations, regional associations

/ 4.4 Strengthen the national and European perspectives

The aim is to ensure that policies with a spatial impact of the federal government and the sector policies and spatial planning of the Länder deal with "space and spatial development" as an integrative issue and are adequately – as regards themes and personnel – represented. Creating a common perspective (including a common terminology) clearly has a valued added for spatial planning and is absolutely necessary for supra-regional planning (e.g. corridor and location planning, raw materials planning, transport route planning). The obligation of mutual information and cooperation for planning and measures with a spatial context should help to avoid friction between the federal level and the Länder and accelerate the approval and planning processes. Furthermore, instruments need to be developed to enable the sharing of experiences (Land-Land, Länder-federal level) and to systematically institutionalise networking. Due to the spatial and functional relations of Austria with its neighbouring countries, local and regional cooperation deserves greater attention.

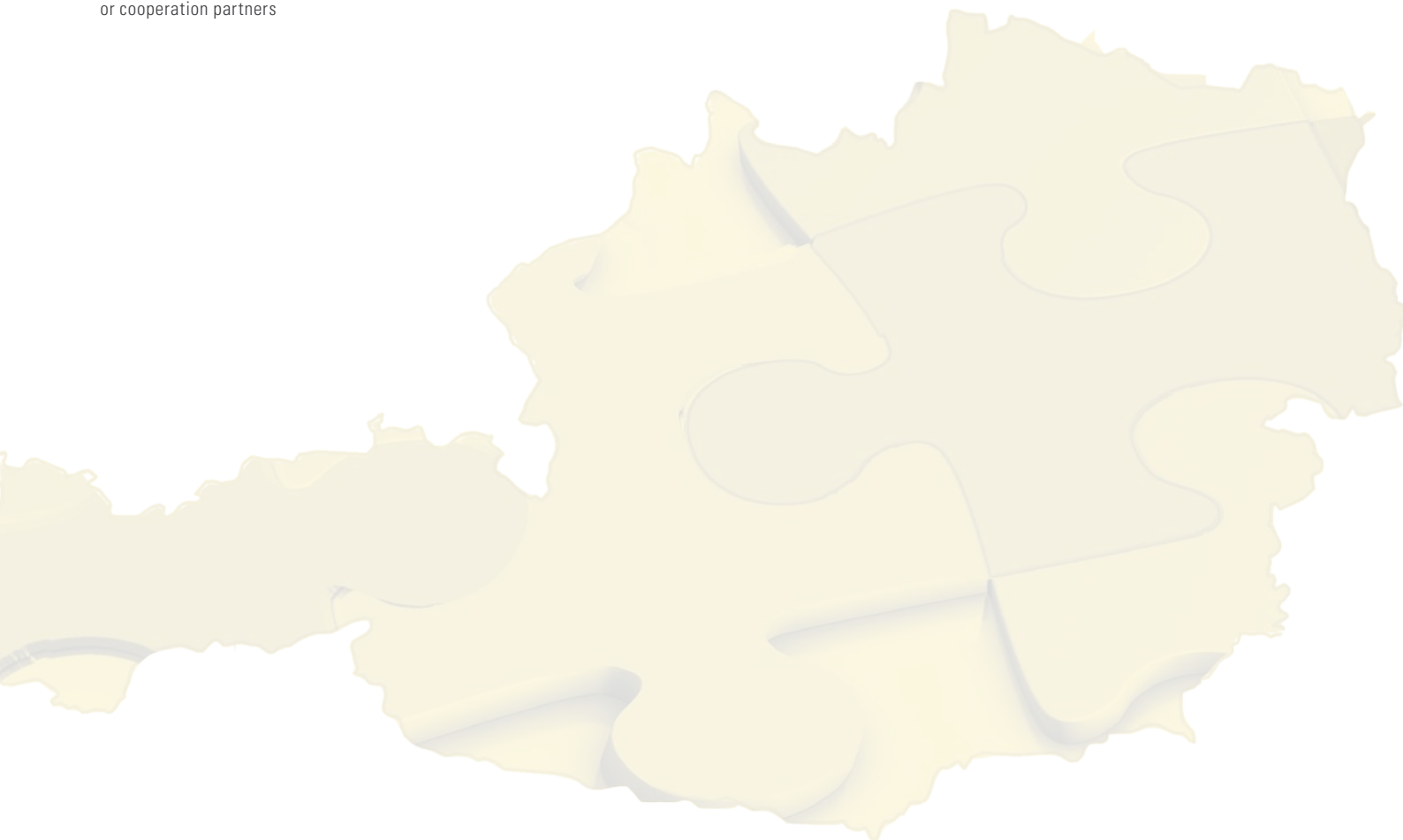
/ 4.4.1 Relevant tasks: Set up adequate management and support structures for spatial and regional development

Cooperative and efficient structures for taking action do not emerge of their own, but need to be set up and supported institutionally. The new form of an overarching spatial development policy needs to be supported by adequate management and support structures. This includes an improved harmonisation of spatial planning and regional policy

and of the points of interaction between the territorial authorities and the ministries, but also between the Ländern. ÖROK holds a special institutional position in this context, because it comprises the federal level, the Länder, the interest groups, the associations of cities and of municipalities, and the secretariat has long years of experience in coordinating the process.

Output objectives ▪ – — ▶ Preparation and setup of a management and support structure for the implementation of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners ▪ – — ▶ ÖROK members and ÖROK Secretariat



/ 4.4.2 Relevant tasks: Give sectoral policy a “spatial dimension” - Improve interaction

The goal is to improve collaboration and clearly define the points of interaction among the sectoral policies themselves, and also between sectoral policies and spatial development policy. Spatial development is strongly influenced, as is well known, by sectoral planning (especially transport infrastructure but also others such as high voltage lines, infrastructure corridors,…) and sectoral financial assistance (especially subsidies for residential housing construction and business promotion). The joint orientation of the sector policies of the EU, federal government and of the Länder, and the overall spatial planning of the Länder and the municipalities should - and has to be - improved. This can be achieved in sector policies having more spatially relevant arguments and coordinating their needs with those of spatial development. To this end, “round table” talks of sector and spatial policy are proposed on topics such as “traffic starts in space: priority for mobility and spatial goals”, “residential housing subsidies for the right building in the right place”, “broad water instead of flooding” or “spatial planning as active climate protection”. Additional measures may be the introduction of the legal obligation for planning bodies of individual sectors to take into consideration the planning activities of others not directly involved bodies and of the spatial planning of the Länder or that the financial assistance schemes of the federal government and of the Länder are checked mandatorily for their spatial impacts. These are examples of relevant tasks that should be examined and, if necessary, supplemented by others or replaced.

However, the EU legislation time and again results in conflicts of goals in regulations relating to the environment and climate, on the one hand, and the objectives of compact settlement development, on the other, which in some concrete cases may lead to unreasonable situations with respect to spatial planning (EU air and noise directives in the example of the EIA in urban environments). In such cases, ÖROK should and may - in agreement with its partners – develop proposals for a common Austrian position and strategy.

Output objectives ▪ – — ▶ Preparation of a concept for the improved harmonisation of sectoral planning with spatial planning and regional policy

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners ▪ – — ▶ ÖROK Secretariat and ÖROK members (Federal Chancellery, ministries and expert departments of the Länder depending on the topic)

/ 4.4.3 Relevant tasks: Cooperation with neighbouring states - Strengthen cross-border perspectives

The geography of the country almost makes it mandatory to cooperate with the neighbouring countries and to develop a cross-border perspective. All major cities are located close to or directly next to a foreign country, and also at the level of the regions, there are many cross-border relations. For Salzburg, Bregenz, Innsbruck and Vienna, the relations to the neighbouring countries are just as important as to domestic partners. Additionally, for Austria as a small country in area and population, relations with the neighbouring countries are more important than for large states such as Germany, France and Great Britain.

Within this important task group, it will be necessary to develop models, concepts and content within cross-border and large-scale cooperation relations, with possible topics covering common tourism development, transport infrastructure and inter-modal hubs, common location policy and local job market issues as well as flood protection and other environmental matters. As an example, we would like to mention the "Agglomeration Scheme Rheintal" that covers the St. Galler Rhine Valley on the Swiss side, and on the Austrian side, the Vorarlberger Rhine Valley Plains and "CENTROPE" (Central Europe region), which is an initiative started in 2003 for the creation of a cross-border Europe region (parties: Vienna, Lower Austria, Burgenland and cities and region in Southern Moravia, Western Slovakia and Western Hungary). The creation of "macro-regional strategies" such as the "EU Strategy for the Danube Region" or a possible Alpine space strategy must also be mentioned in this context.

Output objectives ▪ –— ▶ Stronger orientation of local and regional cooperation relations on neighbouring countries of Austria

Exemplary implementation or cooperation partners ▪ –— ▶ ÖROK members: Federal Chancellery, other ministries , Länder, ÖROK (cooperation platform), ÖROK Secretariat
Further important partners such as administrations and institutions in the neighbouring countries

III. Outlook and Implementation

Outlook and Implementation

The Austrian Spatial Development Concept (ÖREK) defines the four strategic strands for policy actions. Within these strands, the actions are described and the relevant tasks are explained. Neither the actions nor the tasks should be seen as exhaustive or irrevocable. Rather, they outline the rough direction for spatial policy actions in the coming decade.

The Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011: A document, but much more a process

The Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011 should be understood not only as a document, but rather as a process, which makes it very different from past concepts.

This document reflects the status of spatial policy discussion. It can be changed and modified - not the strands, but rather the areas of action and even more so the relevant tasks. An overarching process has been has been assigned the task of accompanying this process. So-called ÖREK partnerships are planned to help implement the relevant tasks. A monitoring system is to be set up which covers the general structures of spatial development in Austria, but even more to monitor the realisation of the tasks. What was implemented, when and how successfully will represent the criteria for measurement.

By organising the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011 into strategic strands (instead of sectors), the focus is shifted to the aspects of how to appropriately communicate concerns relating to spatial policies, the possibility of public discussions of themes, and to the inter-sectoral nature of the subjects dealt with. However, this structure should not result in a situation in which there is no accountability for sectoral policies in the implementation of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011.

Concretisation of the implementation

The implementation of the tasks requires the collaboration of the different public institutions. This need to cooperate was ultimately a key criterion for inclusion in the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011.

In this sense, implementation is the responsibility of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept partnerships, which will become active within the framework of an overarching process and may involve actors with different areas of specialisation. In the end, it will be the commitment of the ÖROK members – and in their interest – or of the respective Austrian Spatial Development Concept partners to determine the success of the tasks specified in the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011.

Many of the actions of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011 require a discursive process with the involvement of groups of actors. Generally, civil society stakeholder groups are to be addressed more proactively than up to now. To achieve progress in the implementation of these tasks and to establish cooperation and networking, it will be necessary to invest a lot of time, coordination and (human) capital.

The implementation process for the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011 has the aim

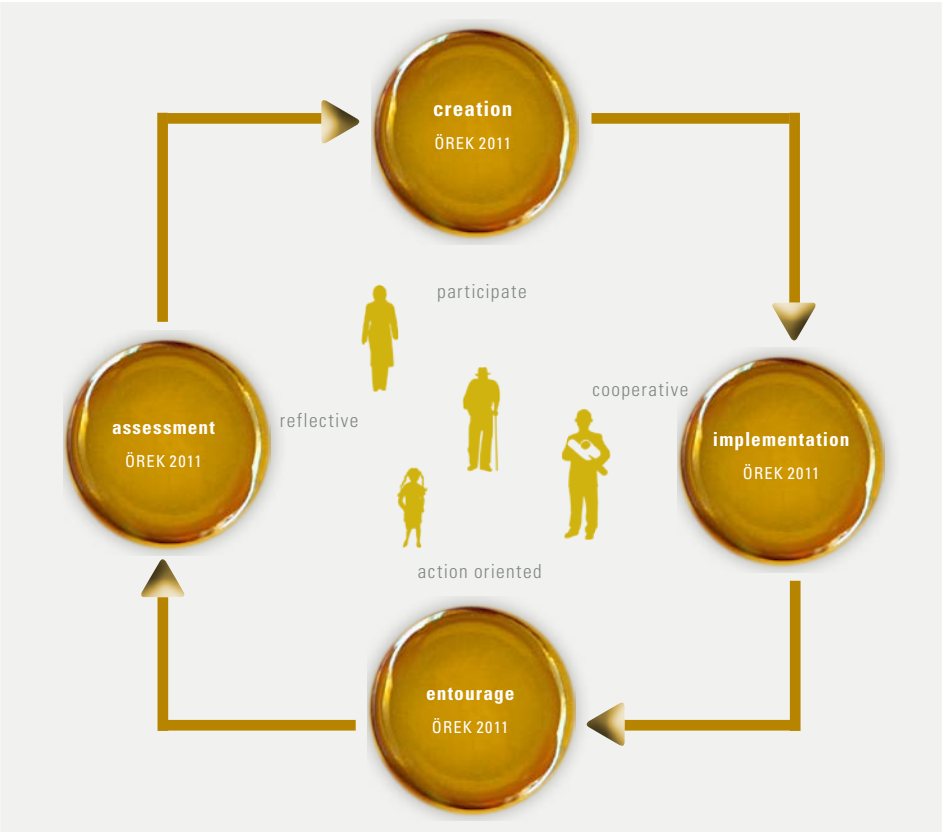
- to advance solutions on the key issues of spatial planning in Austria that integrate the different expert – and sector –levels,
- to improve cooperation among ÖROK members, especially of spatial planning and expert institutions, and among further relevant stakeholders, and ultimately
- to work towards the political acceptance of the outputs of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept partnerships.

Overarching implementation process

Coordination of the overarching implementation process is the responsibility of the ÖROK Secretariat and a core task for the coming years. The Secretariat will plan, coordinate and manage the overarching process within ÖROK's structures and promote, support and accompany networking among the partners of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept.

The Standing Subcommittee, and if necessary, the Subcommittee for Regional Economy will provide the expertise and serve as expert advisory bodies.

The "political Spatial Planning Conference" and the Commission of Deputies will give the working programme for the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011 political acceptance and provide political support for the realisation of the outputs in the relevant policy areas.



Austrian Spatial Development Concept partnerships

The Austrian Spatial Development Concept partnerships are to serve as the driving force behind the realisation of the actions and tasks of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011.

For each of the task areas, this document presents a few exemplary implementation and cooperation partners.

The publication "Guidelines for ÖREK Partnerships", which explains the idea and organisation of such partnerships and clearly illustrates the required working methods and inclusion in an overarching implementation process, is available to interested actors (in German language only).

Every Austrian Spatial Development Concept partnership is required to prepare an outline of the project and an extensive analysis of the actors before starting. The Guidelines for the Austrian Spatial Development Concept partnerships define the structure of the analysis, and the materials prepared for ÖREK 2011 include preparatory work that is useful for gathering information on the relevant actors for the task areas.

An Austrian Spatial Development Concept partnership may start work when it has been approved by the experts in the Standing Subcommittee (or if applicable, Subcommittee Regional Economy) and politically by the respective political representatives of the specific partners.

"Good Practice Examples" as understood by the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011

Another form of cooperation and implementation consists of the inclusion of initiatives and projects that already exist. These examples serve as models and will be highlighted as "Good Practice Examples in accordance with the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011". They should have a real but, above all, symbolic value and confirm the feasibility of cooperative and efficient spatial development policy in Austria - also without any major changes to the existing legal framework.

Criteria for inclusion as a "Good Practice Example"

- cooperative development and preparation process,
- cooperation of the involved actors across different expert and sectoral levels,
- reference to the defined tasks of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept 2011, and
- relevance for all of Austria.

For further information see www.oerok.gv.at

Glossary

AG	Aktiengesellschaft (stock corporation)
Alpenkonvention	see: www.alpconv.org/home/index.en
AMA	Agrarmarkt Austria Marketing GmbH
AK	Arbeiterkammer (Chamber of Labour)
AMS	Arbeitsmarktservice Österreich
ASFINAG	Autobahnen- und Schnellstraßen-Finanzierungs-Aktiengesellschaft
BFI	Berufsförderungsinstitut
BIP	Bruttoinlandsprodukt (gross domestic product)
BMASK	Bundesministerium für Arbeit, Soziales und Konsumentenschutz(Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection)
BMF	Bundesministerium für Finanzen (Ministry of Finance)
BMG	Bundesministerium für Gesundheit (Ministry of Health)
BMI	Bundesministerium für Inneres (Ministry of the Interior)
BKA	Bundeskanzleramt (Federal Chancellery)
BMLFUW	Bundesministerium für Landwirtschaft, Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft (Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management)
BMUKK	Bundesministerium für Unterricht, Kunst und Kultur (Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture)
BMWF	Bundesministerium für Wissenschaft und Forschung (Ministry of Science and Research)
BMWFJ	Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft, Familie und Jugend (of Economy, Family and Youth)
BMVIT	Bundesministerium für Verkehr, Infrastruktur und Technologie (Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology)
CENTROPE	Central European Region - Europaregion Mitte -Central European region
Digitale Agenda für. Europa	The Digital Agenda for Europe is one of the seven flagship initiatives of the Europe 2020 Strategy. See: Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee of the Regions, "A Digital Agenda for Europe", Brussels, 19 May 2010, COM(2010)245 final
EU	European Union
EU Floods Directive	Directive 2007/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2007 on the assessment and management of flood risks
ESDP	European Spatial Development Concept, which were passed into Austrian law with the amendment of the Water Act of 30 March 2011 (FLG. I No. 14/2011).
Europa 2020	See: Communication of the Commission "Europe 2020. A Strategy for Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth" Brussels, 3 March 2010 COM (2010) 2020 final and Conclusions of the European Council, EUCO 13/10 of 17 June 2010
FFG	Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft (Austrian Research Promotion Agency)
FFH	Habitats Directive also Council Directive on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora
Habitats Directive	Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora
FTI	Research, technology, innovation
GVP	Generalverkehrsplan (Master Transportation Plan)

GFZ	Geschossflächenzahl (FSR, floor space ratio)
HQxx	Statistical indicators for the runoff in moving waters, which is reached or exceeded on average once a year (e.g. "HQ100" a once-in-a-hundred years flood). This value does not indicate the time when the event occurs.
IKT	Informations- und Kommunikationstechnologie(n) (ICT, information and communications technology)
Innovationsunion	Like the Digital Agenda, the Innovation Union is one of the seven flagship initiatives of "Europe 2020". See: Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, Flagship Initiative of the Strategy Europe 2020. Innovation Union,Brussels, 6 October 2010, COM(2010) 546 final , SEK(2010) 1161
KFZ	Kraftfahrzeug (automobile)
KMU	Kleine und mittlere Unternehmen (SME, small and medium-sized enterprises)
LFI	Ländliches Fortbildungsinstitut Österreich (Rural Further Education institution Austria)
LK	Landwirtschaftskammer (Chamber of Agriculture)
Natura 2000 Gebiete	see: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/index_en.htm
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization (engl.) bzw. Nichtregierungsorganisation (NRO) (dt.)
ÖBB	Österreichische Bundesbahnen (Austrian Railways); in this concrete case (Tasks 1.1.4): ÖBB Infrastruktur AG, as mention is made here of the infrastructure operator
ÖIF	Österreichisches Institut für Familienforschung (Austrian Institute for Family Studies)
ÖPNV	Öffentlicher Personennahverkehr (local public passenger transport)
Austrian Spatial Development Concept	Austrian Spatial Development Concept
ÖROK	Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning
ÖStB	Österreichischer Städtebund (Austrian Association of Cities and Towns)
Österreichischer Rohstoffplan.	see: http://www.en.bmwfj.gv.at/Energy/Seiten/TheAustrianMineralResourcesPlan.aspx
ÖV	Öffentlicher Verkehr (public transport)
PGO	Planning Association Eastern Region
Regional Governance	Sammelbegriff zur Diskussion sich verändernder Steuerungsformen der Regionalentwicklung. Regional Governance steht für netzwerkartige, schwach institutionalisierte Steuerungsformen, in denen staatliche, wirtschaftliche und zivilgesellschaftliche Akteure zusammenwirken.
SEVESO II Directive	Council Directive 96/82/EG of 9 December 1996 on the control of major accident hazards involving dangerous substances (extended: Directive 2003/105/EC)
Stakeholder	Akteur, Anspruchsgruppe; natürliche oder juristische Person, die ein Interesse am Verlauf oder Ergebnis eines Prozesses hat

SUP	Strategische Umweltprüfung (SEA strategic environmental assessment)
(SUP Directive)	Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans nad programmes on the environment, as amended; European SEA Directive
Territorial Agenda of the European Union	The "Territorial Agenda of the EU" was adopted in May 2007 by the Ministers responsible for spatial planning and territorial development. It is a political reference document with the core message to mobilise the potentials of the regions and cities to achieve sustainable economic growth and higher employment. After an evaluation, the result was an agreement "Territorial Agenda of EU 2020" (TA 2020) in May 2011 under the Hungarian presidency
Territorial Cohesion	One of the principal objectives of the European Union according to the Treaty of Lisbon (Principles, Article 2) is " … to promote economic and social progress and a high level of employment and to achieve balanced and sustainable development, in particular through the creation of an area without internal
(TEN)	Transeuropean Networks are infrastructure networks in the transport, energy and telecommunications sectors that contribute to the objectives of the European Union in the areas of development and integration. The Transeuropean transport, energy and telecommunications networks cover the entire European Union . The legal basis is the Chapter "Transeuropean Networks" (Art. 170 to Art. 172) in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union
Umgebungslärm-Richtlinie	Directive 2002/49/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 25 June 2002 on the assessment and management of environmental noise
UVP	Umweltverträglichkeitsprüfung (EIA, environmental impact assessment)
UVP-Richtlinie	Richtlinie 85/337/EWG über die Umweltverträglichkeitsprüfung bei bestimmten öffentlichen und privaten Projekten, ABl. Nr. L 175 vom 05. 06. 1985 idgF
Treaty of Lisbon	The Treaty of Lisbon amends the treaties on the European Union and on the establishment of the European Community; it was signed in Lisbon on 13 December 2007; 2007/C 306/01
VHS	Volkshochschule (community college)
European Water Framework Directive	Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament of of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for the Community action in the field of water policy.
WIFI	Wirtschaftsförderungsinstitut (institution of adult education run by the Wirtschaftskammer Oesterreich (Austrian Chamber of Commerce))
WKO	Austrian Chamber of Commerce))

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Altlmayer Ulrike, Matzinger Sabine, Mayer Georg, Mayer Martin, Mayr Thomas, Merkl Anke, Meyer Doris, Michalitsch Martin, Miltner Alexandra, Mittendorfer Cornelia, Mitterdorfer Christian, Mitterstöger Thomas, Modera Wolfgang, Mohr Erwin, Moosbrugger Harald, Moschitz Sascha, Moser Leopold, Most Ulrike, Muchl Robert, Müller Karl, Müller Robert, Musil Robert, Nagelschmied Alfred, Nagl Christian, Neufang Ulrike, Neumann Christian, Novosel Brigitte, Nowacek Erwin, Nowotny Ingrid, Obkircher Stefan, Obricht Peter, Ohrenberger Carla, Opl Rainer, Ortner Simon, Ortner Robert, Österreicher Ulrike, Ozimic Martin, Palkovits Franz, Patri Wilhelm, Paukner Anton, Pelzl Julia, Pendl Georg, Penker Marianne, Perlaky Thomas, Perner Eva-Maria, Pfeifenberger Elfriede, Pfisterer Stefan, Pichler Karin, Pichler Christian, Pistotnig Liliane, Plattner Gerald, Platzer Peter, Plesser Bernhard, Pointl Brigitte, Pollinger Richard, Popp Christian, Poppeller Alois, Postl Peter, Pozarek Walter, Pree Ambros, Prenner Peter, Prettenthaler Franz, Priedl Irma, Primosch Stefan, Priplata Marianne, Prochazka Eva, Prüller Stefan, Pucher Anna, Puchinger Kurt, Pucsko Renate, Puhl Bibiane, Pühringer Hermann, Putzi-Schmid Barbara, Rafalzik Susanna, Rakobitsch Kurt, Rauch Friedrich,

Rauter Franz, Rauter Andreas, Rebhandl Ulrike, Redik Michael, Reichelt Wolfgang, Reindl Christian, Reis Martin, Reischauer Ernst, Reithner Petra, Reitschuler Gerhard, Ressler Stefan, Rettenbacher Maria, Reuter Iris, Riedl Manfred, Riegler Johannes, Riha Andreas, Röck Harwig, Rockenschaub Thomas, Rohrer Günther, Rose Enrico, Rosenberger Michael, Rosenfeld Andrea, Rosenstingl Herbert, Roßbacher Johannes, Roth Michael, Sachse Charlotte, Salletmaier Christian, Sapper Anton, Sax Gabriele, Schachinger Georg, Schachl Roland, Schadt Georg, Schaffer Hannes, Schalko Martina, Schamann Martin, Schärmer Georg, Schatovich Rupert, Scherhaufer Klaus, Schermann-Richter Ulrike, Schicker Rudi, Schiffner Werner, Schigutt Katharina, Schimak Kurt, Schindegger Friedrich, Schindelegger Arthur, Schinner Reinhard, Schmeissner-Schmid Erika, Schmid Jochen, Schmidbaur Andreas, Schmidt Franz, Schmitzer Eva-Maria, Schmollmüller Peter, Schmutzhard Ludwig, Schneitter Elmar, Schnitzer Doris, Schönegger Hans, Schönherr Martin, Schremmer Christof, Schroll Wolfgang, Schrötter Robert, Schuh Monika, Schuster Daniela, Schützeneder Franz, Schwarz-Herda Friedrich, Schwer Stephanie, Schwerzler Franz, Seeliger Roman, Seidenberger Christian, Seidl Markus, Seyrlehner Franz, Siegel Hubert, Siegele Stefan, Simon Reinhold, Slawik Wolfgang, Sperka Gunter, Spiegel Thomas, Sprenger Daria, Stacher Magdalena, Stadlbauer Peter, Steibl Maria, Steiner Thomas, Steiner Klemens, Steiner Christian, Stern Michael, Stix Elisabeth, Stöger Matthias, Stolzlechner Beate, Strauss Reinhilde, Streimelweger Arthur, Strohmeier Marcus, Stütz Andrea, Szlezak Erwin, Tamme Oliver, Tarmann Udo, Tauer Brigitte, Teschinegg Andrea, Thaler Robert, Thaler Ferdinand, Thalhammer Werner, Thurner Daniela, Titlbach-Supper Martina, Trammer Gerhard, Trauner Anna, Traxl Martin, Tröger-Weiss Gabi, Troper Reinhard, Tschon Walter, Tschurlovitsch Gerhard, Vana Sylvia, Verhounig Elfriede, Vevera Wolfgang, Vitovec Marianne, Vogl Alexandra, Volgger Sabine, Völker Tamara, Vorauer-Mischer Karin, Wagner Klaus-Dieter, Wagner Simone, Wallergraber Monika, Wallmer Silvia, Wasner Walter, Wasserburger Dieter, Wastl Anton, Weber Heinrich, Weber Leopold, Weber Gerlind, Weber Andreas, Webhofer Erwin, Wegelin Fritz, Weichner Anne, Weissenböck Peter, Weratschnig Reinhold, Weyringer Gerfried, Wiederkehr Peter, Wiener Andrea, Wieser Martin, Winkler Angelika, Wirth Klaus, Wittrich Judith, Wixforth Susanne, Wöginger Herbert, Wojtarowicz Natalie, Wollansky Ilse, Woschitz-Merkac Maria, Wöss Walter, Wunderl Robert, Zach Otto, Zaussinger Christoph, Zech Sibylla, Zechmeister Beate, Zechner Reinhart, Zibuschka Friedrich, Zimmermann Gabriele, Zsigo Eva;

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