

# **AUSTRIAN PROGRAMME ON TECHNOLOGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**Birgit Baumann, Roland Sommer<sup>1</sup>**

Technologie Impulse Gesellschaft, TIG, Grillparzerstr. 7, 1010 Wien

Our present wealth and quality of life can only be ensured in the long run, when we follow the principles of sustainability. This implies a fundamental reduction of the use of resources and a shift towards a new way of living and housekeeping. In this respect the economy plays a crucial role.

The Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology (bmvit) initiated a five years programme, the „Austrian Programme on Technologies for Sustainable Development“, where the structural change towards an eco-efficient economy is supported through research, technological development and dissemination activities.

Seven guiding principles were formulated as a basis for the programme:

- Service-orientation
- Resource-efficiency
- Utilisation of renewable resources
- Multiple use
- Flexibility and ability for adaptation
- Failure-tolerance, learning ability and risk anticipation and –prevention
- Ensuring work, income and quality of life

The Austrian Programme on Technologies for Sustainable Development has a budget of 45 – 50 Mio ATS per year (3,27 – 3.63 Mio EUR). Public calls are carried out regularly. The selection of the projects that will be funded is carried by national and international experts in a transparent and well structured evaluation process. In this very competitive process only the best projects will be funded.

Two programme lines exist so far, the „Building of Tomorrow“ and the „Factory of Tomorrow“.

## **The Building of Tomorrow**

The aim of this programme line is to conceive, plan and realise advanced buildings for living and working that fulfil the following criteria:

- increased energy efficiency over the whole life cycle
- enhanced utilisation of renewable energies (in particular solar energy)
- increased use of renewable materials and efficient use of materials
- services and user aspects
- comparable costs in relation to conventional buildings

---

<sup>1</sup> The TIG was responsible for the implementation of the bmvit-programme in 2000.

Within the programme, five different funding categories cover the whole range of projects:

- Studies (up to 100% funding for basic research)
- Applied research (up to 90% funding)
- Technological development of a specific product (around 25%)
- Innovative building concepts (funding of the additional costs of planning for innovative aspects)
- „Oscars“ for already existing innovative buildings („pioneers“)

The topics of the first call included the analysis of user behaviour and experiences of inhabitants of innovative buildings, the adaptation of criteria for the assessment of buildings, efficient solar technologies, innovative components (e.g. storage, windows, PV, solar cooling, ...) as well as innovative methods, components and elements on the basis of renewable materials.

For the first call, 242 proposals were submitted. Out of these were 102 studies and technology projects, 90 innovative building concepts and 50 „pioneers“.

The total project sum amounted to 231 Mio ATS (16.79 Mio EUR) requesting 169 Mio ATS (12.28 Mio EUR) of public money.

As a whole, 35 proposals were funded (29 RTD projects and 6 innovative building concepts). The total project amount is 58 Mio ATS (4.21 Mio EUR) with a public funding part of 32 Mio ATS (2.33 Mio EUR). Moreover, 14 „pioneers“ received an award.

### **The Factory of Tomorrow**

The goal of the Factory of Tomorrow is the „Production of Functional Products and Services“ for the „Need of Tomorrow“ with the „Resources of Tomorrow“. The incoming projects should fulfil as far as possible the following criteria:

- Tendency towards zero-waste and zero-emission production technologies and –methods
- Enhanced use of renewable raw resources
- Increased utilisation of renewable energies in production processes
- Establishing new partnerships, co-operations and networks
- Improved staff qualification and better quality of work
- Use of information technologies

To cover the whole range of projects the funding categories studies, applied research and technological development are used.

The topics of the first call include firstly sustainable technologies for production processes with innovative zero-waste and zero-emission processes, innovative processes using renewable sources of energy and/or resulting in a considerable increase of energy efficiency and integrated management models and strategies aiming at sustainability and innovation. Secondly the use of renewable raw materials and semi-finished products, novel process technologies and technologies for the processing of renewable raw materials and thirdly products and services, as the transition from product to service, the design of durable consumer goods and the design of articles of consumption.

For more information on the Building of Tomorrow please refer to [www.hausderzukunft.at](http://www.hausderzukunft.at) and on the Factory of Tomorrow please refer to [www.fabrikderzukunft.at](http://www.fabrikderzukunft.at) .

For general information on the overall programme please visit [www.nachhaltigwirtschaften.at](http://www.nachhaltigwirtschaften.at)