proVISION.Provision for Nature and Society (BMBWK)

The research program proVision, provision for nature and society focuses on the topics of climate change, regional development, and sustainable life style models, analyses society’s handling of ecosystems and the performance of these ecosystems. From the very beginning, researchers participating in the program have been communicating with society in order to find applicable solutions. In the long term, the proVision program is set up to establish a stable cooperation between the research community and practitioners and to initiate and promote models for future-oriented partnerships between the research and the educational systems. Equal opportunities and equity for men and women will be realized in this program. proVision, together with complementary national research initiatives, develops the scientific foundation for the Austrian Sustainability Strategy.

FORNE - Research for Sustainable Development

Sustainability is a central task for society and policy makers. Therefore, the Austrian Federal government has initiated an “Austrian Strategy for Sustainable Development” in 2002; various actors have since been working towards the implementation of the program. Research and development play a decisive role in supporting sustainability.

In order to strengthen the field of “Research for Sustainable Development”, to position it at an international level and at the same time to ensure optimum coordination between Austrian research programs and the Austrian Sustainability Strategy, the Austrian Council for Research and Technology Development has recommended to launch a joint research initiative called FORNE.

In accordance with this recommendation, the Austrian Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology (BMVIT), the Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture (BMBWK) and the Federal Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (BMLFUW), in cooperation with the Austrian Council for Research and Technology Development, have developed a strategy framework comprising several programs and established a steering committee.

The fundamental goals, methodological and strategic aspects as well as the approach to be used in the FORNE Initiative have been laid down in the FORNE Strategy Framework. This framework will ensure targeted and consistent research for sustainable development in Austria. Implementation of this strategy is vested in organizations of the federal and regional governments as well as third parties that are conducting and financing research programs for sustainable development.

The present fact sheet gives an overview of current research programs supporting sustainable development in Austria.

Further information can be found on the FORNE-website: www.forne.at
The subprogram “Building of Tomorrow” is based on important developments in the fields of solar and energy efficient building construction; research and development projects shall contribute to realizing the construction of demonstration buildings that meet the demanding requirements concerning energy efficiency, use of renewable energy sources and environmentally sound building materials and at the same time ensure high standards concerning quality of life at reasonable costs. The subprogram comprises projects in the fields of residential as well as commercial buildings.

Topics include energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, renewable raw materials, service and user-related aspects, and settlement structures.

The subprogram “Building of Tomorrow” is scheduled for a duration of 5 to 8 years (until 2007). Within the scope of a series of calls for tenders concrete pilot and demonstration projects will be realized on the basis of fundamental studies, concepts, and advanced technology.

Further information: www.HAUSderZukunft.at

www.FABRIKderZukunft.at

www.ENERGIESYSTEMEderZukunft.at

PFEIL 05 (BMLFUW)

The Austrian Federal Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (BMLFUW) has organized research conducted in state owned institutions as well as commissioned research in four strategy fields:

• Rural areas
• Farming and Food,
• Water,
• Environment and waste management

PFEIL 05 aims at bundling and focusing research activity in defined thematic fields, at making research more efficient through interdisciplinary work, cooperation, and controlling and at applying the results in order to ensure the quality of life in Austria.

PFEIL 05 has been scheduled for the period from 2002 to 2005. It is implemented by research institutions affiliated to the ministry, by commissioned research and research subsidies.

Possible procedures include top-down and bottom-up approaches, calls for tenders, search for interested actors as well as stand-alone projects, which are used depending on the respective objectives. Horizontal and vertical cooperation projects, participation of stakeholders in administration and the private economy will be used in the implementation of the program. Targeted establishment of networks and promotion through commissioned research at the national and international levels are in the foreground.

Further information: www.lebensministerium.at/Landwirtschaft/Forschung