

Research for Sustainable Development FORNE

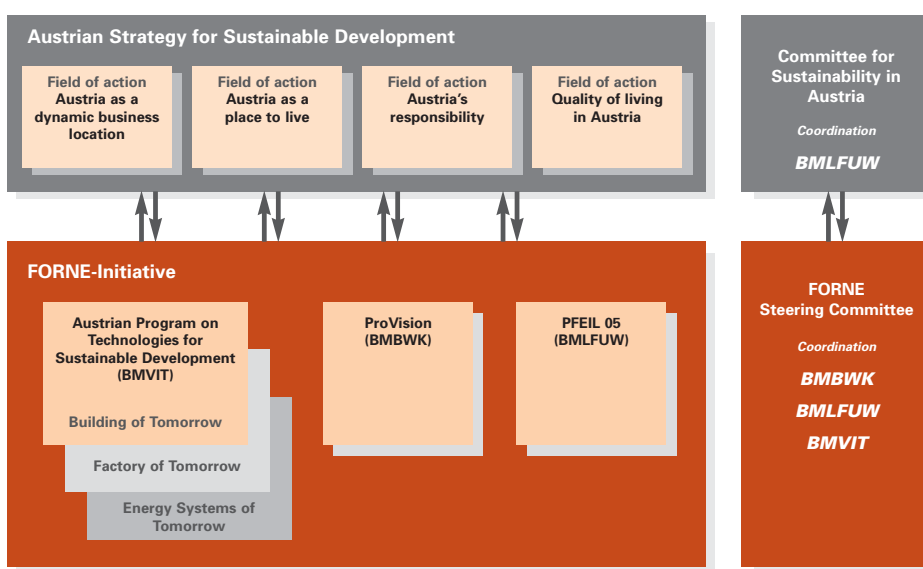
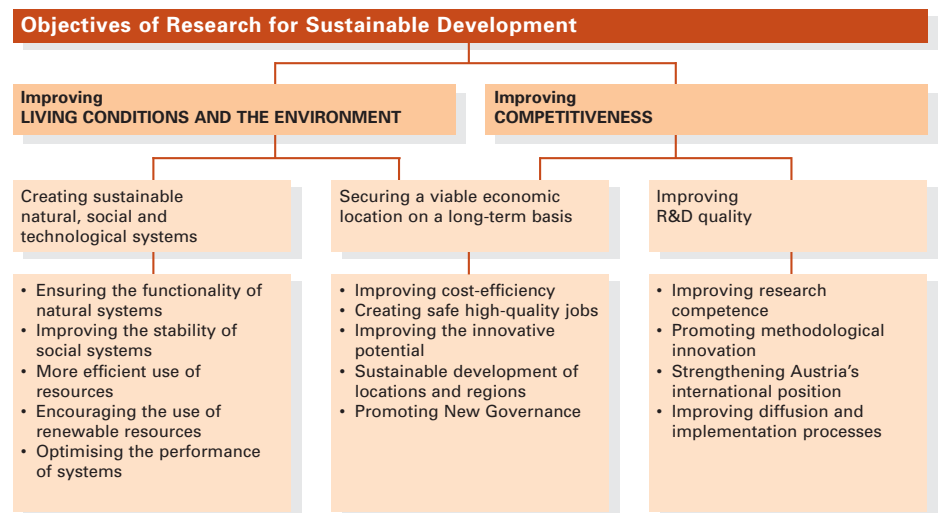
R&D Programs in Austria



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.



Intersections between the FORNE-Initiative and the Austrian Sustainability Strategy

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

Cultural Landscape Research (BMBWK)

Cultural landscape research (CLR) establishes the scientific foundation for the sustainable development of landscapes and regions in Austria (and adjacent areas in neighbouring countries): 500 researchers representing more than 40 disciplines and coming from some 170 different institutions participated in about 70 interdisciplinary projects and were concerned with issues such as biodiversity and quality of life, human perception of landscapes, origin and the changes they undergo in the course of time, multiple use of landscapes and land use conflicts, control and implementation, social infrastructure, water bodies and wetland, urban areas – surroundings, rural development.

The program was set up for the time period 1995 – 2004. Specific emphasis was given to internationalisation, which was realised in some 140 international cooperation projects with 380 partners from 42 countries.

The guiding principle of cultural landscape research is sustainability. Sustainability raises questions relating to the buffering capacity of ecosystems, the quality of life, equitable distribution of benefits and burdens. These questions have to be negotiated and need to be tackled by a transdisciplinary approach. Some 1,000 persons coming from non-scientific institutions have participated in cultural land-

scape research projects. CLR is also concerned with the implementation of research results. But how can research results actually be put into practice? Projects focusing on participation, public relations, and research marketing were undertaken in order to find answers to these questions and to support the implementation process.



Further information: www.klf.at

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.

The **proVision** program is scheduled for a duration of 10 years; the first phase (2004 to 2006) and second phase (2007 to 2009), will be completed by a synthesis phase from 2010 to 2013. Several calls for tenders will invite fundamental studies, theoretical and methodological work (e.g. about inter- and trans-disciplinarity) as well as application-oriented R&D projects. The practical orientation of the program calls for the ethical dimension and for participative concepts to be taken into account. Emphasis is given to intense cooperation between research and practice in order to develop concrete solutions to problems in the fields of politics, economy, and society.



Further information: www.umweltbundesamt.at/provision

- Sustainable life style models
- Sustainable regional development
- Sustainable approach to climate change

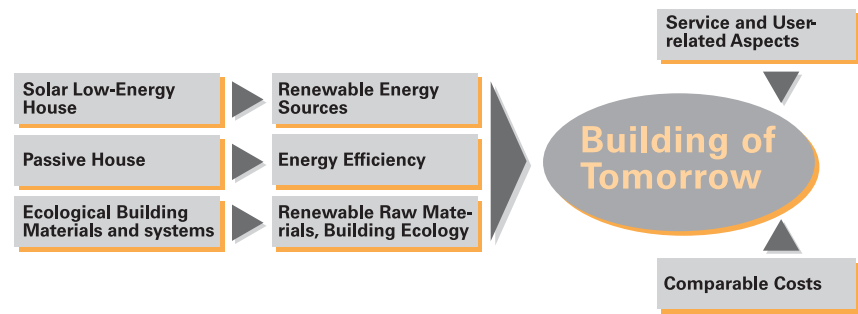
Building of Tomorrow
Subprogram of the Austrian Program on Technologies for Sustainable Development (BMVIT)

SUSTAINABLEeconomy

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

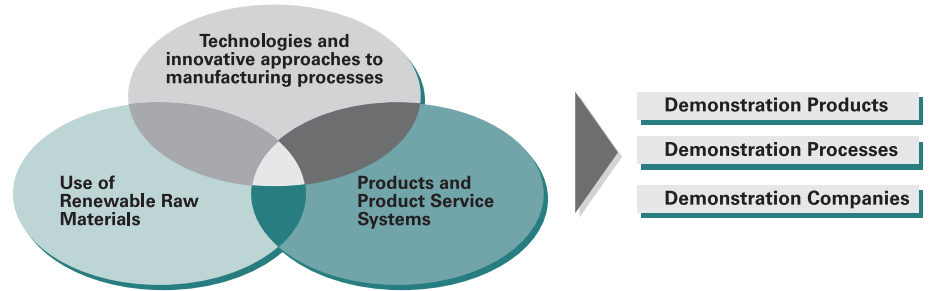
Factory of Tomorrow
Subprogram of the Austrian Program on Technologies for Sustainable Development (BMVIT)

SUSTAINABLEeconomy

A "Factory of Tomorrow" aims at generating maximum benefit using a minimum of resources and causing as little environmental impact as possible. The goal of the subprogram "Factory of Tomorrow" is to encourage the development and implementation of trend-setting technology in enterprises. Establishing new partnerships and cooperation projects as well as qualification programs in enterprises are often important prerequisites for a break-through in innovative technological development.

Topics treated within the program include innovative production processes, renewable raw materials, and new concepts for products as well as for the use of products.

The subprogram "Factory of Tomorrow" is planned for a duration of 5 to 8 years (until 2008). Within the scope of several calls for tenders concrete pilot and demonstration projects will be realized on the basis of fundamental studies, concepts, and advanced technology.



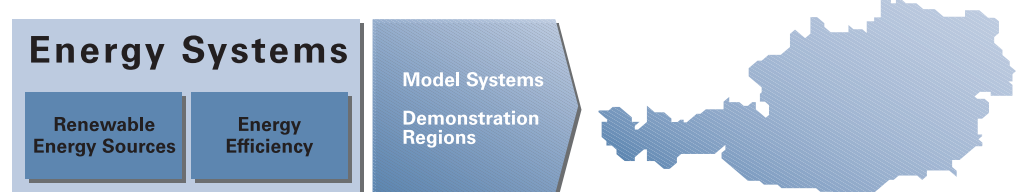
Further information: www.FABRIKderZukunft.at

Energy Systems of Tomorrow
Subprogram of the Austrian Program on Technologies for Sustainable Development (BMVIT)

SUSTAINABLEeconomy

"Energy Systems of Tomorrow" are service-oriented and cover energy demand for various applications by means of flexible, reliable and cost-efficient technologies and using different, predominantly renewable sources of energy. They minimize direct and indirect environmental impacts and consider regional peculiarities as far as possible. One major concern of the subprogram is the development of technologies and concepts for efficient energy systems that rely on the use of renewable energy sources and the implementation of demonstration projects in order to show their viability in practical applications. The topics of this subprogram focus on energy efficiency, the use of renewable energy sources, questions concerning system design, and suitable implementation strategies.

The subprogram "Energy Systems of Tomorrow" is scheduled for a duration of 5 to 8 years (until 2009). Within the scope of several calls for tenders concrete model systems will be developed on the basis of fundamental studies, concepts, and advanced technology and, if possible, realized in demonstration regions.



Further information: 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