

Annex 2: Reporting table on national Europe 2020 targets and key commitments for the next 12 months

Progress on implementation	List of measures and their state of play that were implemented in response to the commitment	The estimated impacts of the measures (qualitative and/or quantitative) (1)
<i>National 2020 headline targets</i>		
National 2020 employment target [77-78%]	<p>For older workers <u>Comprehensive package of preventive measures</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “fit2work” programme (nation-wide roll-out by 2013) • Health road (“Gesundheitsstraße”; implemented nation-wide since July 2010) • “Rehabilitation rather than pension” principle (embodied in law in 2011) • Reform of old age part time scheme (from 2013) • Implementation of IP NEW (from 2014) <p><u>Projects (examples)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Healthy and employable from the beginning” (starting February 2012) • “Touring map for healthy career paths” (on-going) • Age-appropriate labour organisation laid down in employment protection legislation 	<p>Increase of employment rate of older workers, rise in effective retirement age.</p> <p>Investments in preventive measures: 1€ invested yields at least 3 € return. (Delay of invalidity pension by 1 year results in € 300 million savings).</p>
	<p>For women <u>Special programmes (examples)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Women in technology” (“Frauen in Handwerk und Technik”, prolonged until 2014) • “Return to a working life with a future” (following parental leave) (on-going) • Vocational centres for women are being implemented nation-wide (pilot projects in three regions) • “Systematic skills” (“Kompetenz mit System”, nation-wide roll-out in 2012) • Implementation of the National Action Plan for Gender Equality in the Labour Market (on-going) • Obligation imposed on companies to draw up staff income reports. 2012 obligatory for companies with more than 500 employees; 2013 obligatory for companies with more than 250 employees. 	<p>Increase of participation rate and full-time employment, reduction of gender pay gap.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further extension of child care facilities. 	
	<p>For persons with a migration background Special programmes (in addition to mainstream measures)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation services, mother-tongue basic information, multi-language folders, etc. • Basic qualifications, German language courses (incl. professional language) • Project “Mentoring for Migrants” (on-going) • Specialised counselling offers for highly-skilled migrants • Project for recognition of foreign qualifications (implementation from 2013)) <p>Study on discrimination of migrants on the labour market Criteria-based immigration system “Red-White-Red Card” (in force since July 2011)</p>	Improved labour market situation of migrants.
	<p>For young people</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training guarantee for young people aged 15-18 (since 2008) and supra-company apprenticeship training • “Future for Youth” action programme for young people aged 19-24 (on-going) • New emplacement foundation for youth (“Just NEU”), production schools (on-going) • Youth coaching (starting in 2012, to be rolled out by 2014) • Apprentice coaching (laid down in VET law in 2011) • Special focus on youth with a migrant background 	Successful transition from school to work, prevention of drop-outs, sustainable labour market integration.
	<p>Law to fight wage and social dumping (LSDBG) Educational leave (temporary regulation prolonged indefinitely). Skilled workers package (Scholarship and part-time leave grant, from mid-2013)</p>	Not only more but also better jobs.
National 2020 R&D target [3,76%]	The objective is to reach an R&D intensity of 3.76% of GDP until 2020, of which at least two thirds, preferably 70% come from the private sector.	
	Strengthening Vienna Biocenter – Vision 2020 (2011 – 2015) and Campus Support Facility (CSF): Strengthening Research Infrastructure – Increase post gradual life science.	Enhancement and improvement of research infrastructure and its use - addressing big social challenges and continuing the successful cluster

		policy in the area of life sciences in Austria
	Development of a Competence Centre for Disease Modeling within the IMBA – in the Austrian academy of sciences (ÖAW)	Strengthen the already existing know-how of the institute and broaden the functional genome research in Austria- addressing big social challenges and continuing the successful cluster policy in the area of life sciences
	Enhancement of the Institute of Science and Technology Austria (2007 – 2016): Fostering Basic Research - Increasing Excellence. NEW §15a Commitment established between Lower Austria and Federal Government till 2026	Institutional augmentation and the enhancement of research excellence in the field of interdisciplinary research activities at the interface of computer sciences, neurology, as well as molecular biology and cell biology
	<p><i>Expansion of the Young Science – Network- and Service Centre (2011 – 2014): Network secondary and tertiary education</i></p> <p>Program <i>Sparkling Science</i> 2007 – 2017 Research program integrating pre-university students in state-of-the-art research</p>	<p><i>Young Science - Center</i> The Service Centre will continuously expand the successfully established network of schools and research institutions, Through intense information policy it will furthermore increase the accessibility of science for young people thus raising the number of pupils who engage in scientific careers.</p> <p><i>Program Sparkling Science</i> In 150 research projects 1.200 researchers will reach 45.000 pupils and pre-university students (6.500 with migration background and 1.000 with special needs) in Science, Technology- Development, ICT, Medicine, Humanities, and The Arts</p>
	Establishment of DK profil: FWF PhD Program Fostering the Education of Young Researchers Doctoral Program for centres of education for highly qualified young scientists/scholars from the Austrian and international scientific community.	The programme should support Universities and help to ensure and foster the Education of Young Researchers. Doctoral Program that offers a structured educational programme and up to 100 new contracts of employment for PhD students.
	National contact point (NCP) for IP matters and IPAG Intellectual Property Agreement Guide of the Austrian universities Strengthening academic transfer and recovery structures as laid down in the IP recommendation of the European Commission	Co-ordination of national knowledge transfer activities, and harmonisation with institutions of other member states as well as standardise intellectual property management
	Award of the prize „Phönix 2013” The annual Phönix Award is given to young spin-offs that have successfully developed a good and innovative idea into a well-	Reward young spin-offs and innovative entrepreneurs, highlighting successful knowledge and technology transfer from universities and public

	oiled commercial company. The prize is open to young spin-offs from universities and public research organizations.	research organizations.
	Funding programme: Building research capacity in industry (“Forschungskompetenz für die Wirtschaft”) is designed to support companies in the systematic development and qualification of their R&D staff. The focus is on SMEs. The three main program lines are: qualification seminars, qualification networks and tertiary level courses.	Development of high-skilled human capital, in addition the program aims at supporting cooperation between firms and tertiary research institutions and thereby contributing to a stronger emphasis of business-related research.
	The new RTD-Initiative “Production of the future” of the BMVIT has launched in 2012 a very successful second call addressing new materials, resource efficient manufacturing, zero fault production and raw materials. Within the third call in 2013 – along with topics like flexible production, high-tech- materials, raw materials and nanotechnology- flagship-projects will be announced.	The main objective of “Production of the future” is to increase the competitiveness and energy efficiency of the manufacturing sector in Austria, fostering its capability to innovate thus establish a long term and sustainable basis for the manufacturing sector in Austria.
	The national research-, development- and demonstration programme “lighthouse projects e-mobility” also contributes to this ambitious target, by proving € 6 million in 2011.	
	<p>Austria’s share of R&D in GDP has risen substantially over the past 10-15 years, faster than any other EU Member State in terms of percentage points. Austria is now among the so-called innovation leaders of Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Germany. This development comes as a result of pronounced efforts to increase public promotion of R&D expenditure by firms. Austria intends to repeat its impressive R&D growth performance in the current decade to reach the Europe 2020 target, judging from its target of 3.76% which is another percentage point higher than the current level.</p> <p>The national RTI-Strategy 2020 (adopted in 2011) envisages a comprehensive list of activities to address the R&D target (which have been reported in the last national report on R&D).</p> <p>The key commitments for the next 12 months are:</p> <p><u>Innovative public procurement:</u></p> <p>In September 2012 the Council of Ministers adopted the principal guide (“Leitkonzept”) for public procurement stimulating</p>	<p>However, Austria is currently not on track to meet this target, as the actual R&D ratio is 0.16 percentage points below the target value for 2012; R&D expenditure is approx. € 0.5bn behind the target.</p> <p>An estimation of quantitative impacts at this state is not possible. However, in the mid-term-perspective</p>

	<p>innovation (IÖB). This measure will contribute to improve competitiveness, modernize the infrastructures and encourage companies including small and medium enterprises to develop innovative products and services. The public sector should act as an intelligent customer, thus creating reference markets (especially in early stages). Furthermore, the public sector contributes to tackle grand societal challenges and improves its services (“services for citizens”). The implementation of the Guide is in progress.</p> <p>The main action fields are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of an IÖB service point (preferably at the Federal Procurement Agency - BBG) • Implementation of pilot projects (PCP, PPI) • Amendment of the Austrian Procurement Law (addressing innovation as a secondary objective). <p><u>Creation of knowledge intensive and innovative companies:</u></p> <p>Complementary to the improved and slightly extended Pre-Seed - and Seedfinancing Programme (now 12 Mio. Euro per year) and to the former VC initiatives (incl. Cleantech) Austria has established 2 new funds, the Jungunternehmerfonds and the Business Angel Fund. The first will provide public venture capital for young company founders for the next 5 years totaling 65 Mio. Euro. The Business Angel Fund will act as a co-financier doubling the investment of Business Angels. Both activities are accompanied by the support portfolio of the Austria Wirtschaftsservice (aws).</p> <p><u>Creative industries (Kreativwirtschaftsscheck):</u></p> <p>Creative industries have become highly relevant to innovation policies as it is reflected in the value added by the creative industries as such, but also in their contribution to other industrial sectors. The creative industries provide important impulses to the entire economy, on account of their pioneering role for products, services and processes, new organisational structures, new working models, as well as the early anticipation of new consumer</p>	<p>Austria intends to spend a certain amount of public funds (the target might be 1%) for PCP and PPI.</p> <p>The new initiative is intended to provide more risk capital for young companies in order to strengthen their capital basis, in particular, in a phase of the company banks are reluctant to offer loans or similar financial means.</p> <p>In the run-up to the programme a pilot action within an EU project was carried out in Salzburg that brought 70 projects although only 20 could have been supported.</p>
--	---	--

	<p>needs and societal changes.</p> <p>Based on a EU pilot project Austria has recently (February 2013) launched a new voucher programme (Kreativwirtschaftsscheck) supporting SMEs using services of the creative industries (e.g. design, multimedia, fashion etc.) when carrying out concrete innovation projects. The maximum amount of funding is EUR 5,000 depending on the accepted eligible costs (up to 5000 eligible costs the intensity is 100%).</p> <p><u>Technology Transfer in Austria: COMET</u> COMET is a program to foster collaboration between academia and industry and consists of three program lines, the K1-Centers, K2-Centers, and K-Projects, and is thematically open. The main strategic objectives of COMET are an orientation towards excellence, involvement of international research expertise, and development of technological leadership in order to strengthen Austria as a R&D location. COMET has turned out to be one of the most successful technology policy initiatives in Austria and is internationally recognized as a best practice model. It demonstrates how university-industry collaborations can contribute to speeding up the process of commercialization of ideas by directly addressing both public and private sectors.</p> <p><u>Research Studios Austria</u> The “Research Studios Austria” is a research funding programme for the promotion of application research and a strong interaction between academia and business. The aim of the program is strengthening and further development of application research following basic research and in the run-up of entrepreneurial research in Austria in the R&D-institutions hosting the “research studios”. Further aim is the transfer of knowledge and know-how prepared in an application-oriented manner by the “research studios”- and their (funded and/or non-funded) cooperation partners - to business enterprises via the execution of contract research or marketing projects.</p>	<p>Due to the over-subscription within few weeks the budget has been doubled (up to 3 Mio. Euro) and the call were closed in the meantime. In 2014 an evaluation will be carried out. In case of positive results the programme will be continued.</p> <p>In 2012 5 K1-Centers, 16 K2-Centers and 35 different K-Projects were supported. In 2013 the two Ministries who jointly developed the program will set up two additional calls with a budget of EUR 98,5m (K1-Centers EUR 75m, K-Projects EUR 13,5m).</p> <p>In 2013 the Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth will launch the 4th call addressing energy efficiency and the sector of life-sciences and biotech respectively. The budget planned amounts up to EUR 16,8m.</p>
--	--	--

Service initiative

Knowledge-intensive business services play a prominent role in business-related research, technology and innovation policy. These have a share of approximately 42% of total services and 25% in total value added. Moreover they achieve the strongest growth in exports within the service sector with +13% annually. It is fact that the service sector lies behind the production of real assets concerning R&D spendings. In the year 2010 the service sector has spent €1,4 bn, while the manufacturing sector has raised €3,9 bn. The service section-innovations are therefore not proportional to the value and need to catch up. It is important to raise the potential of innovation of enterprises.

Funding program: Building Research Capacity in industry

The programme, which is explicitly mentioned in the Government Programme and RTI Strategy 2020 of the Austrian Federal Government, is designed to provide targeted structural funding measures to support companies in the systematic development and qualification of their research and innovation staff. The focus is placed on small and medium-sized enterprises (SME). The programme also aims to promote cooperation between companies and tertiary education and research institutions and to enhance the integration of industrially relevant research fields.

Three programme lines:

Expertise increase (*qualification seminars*): training of employees of Austrian companies; focus on SME; 5-15 working days.

Expertise development (*qualification networks*): medium- to long-term build-up of R&D expertise in Austrian companies together with universities, universities of applied sciences and other educational and research institutions located in Austria; six months to two years.

Expertise enhancement in applied research (*tertiary level courses*): courses of universities or universities of applied sciences together with companies; industry driven topics; four years.

Laura Bassi Centers of Expertise

The “Laura Bassi Centres of Expertise” are close to industry and practice a new research culture. In answer to current requirements

The service initiative was established in 2009 since then 109 different projects were supported with a budget of EUR 18,6m. In 2013 there will be a budget available of EUR 5m for newly filed projects.

In 2013 the second call for qualification networks with a budget of EUR 5,1m and the second call for qualification seminars with a budget of EUR 1,45m will be started. The call for tertiary level courses is open until March 2013 with an overall budget of EUR 3,45m.

in science, they operate on the basis of transdisciplinary and interdisciplinary research, team orientation, targeted personnel development and an efficient management culture. Because a modern job profile in research these days includes project management and communication skills. These modern foci make the eight Laura Bassi Centres of Expertise unique in Europe. Headed by highly qualified female experts, it is their task to do innovative research in the natural sciences and technology.

Energy Research Initiative

In the field of energy research, an Energy Research Initiative (ERI) was launched by the Federal Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth (BMWFJ) in cooperation with the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) and the Austria Investment Agency and Promotional Bank (AWS):

This new Energy Research Initiative, based on the Austrian Energy Strategy, shall support the creation of prototypes (ready to implement for production) within the following domains:

- hydrogen production from electricity out of renewable energy sources
- production of renewable energy sources (EE-methane, EE-fuels, etc.) from hydrogen, CO₂ emissions and water

In the context of the fluctuating production of renewable electricity and the industrial use of CO₂ a well-to-integrate storage shall be created.

Intensifying the cooperation between academia and business:

The Christian Doppler Society is planning to extend its programme of Christian Doppler Labors - which are located on universities and conducting applied research at excellence level in close cooperation with industry - to a number of 82 labs until 2016. The recently installed Josef Ressel Centers - which at a slightly smaller scale are located at Universities of Applied Science - are intended to reach a number of 15 by 2016.

A planned interim evaluation will be performed in April 2013 and serves as a basis for continuing the eight different centres or not. The overall budget is EUR 15m.

The overall budget for the Energy Research program amounts up to EUR 12m - the funds are allocated by "Basisprogramme", Research Studios Austria, and uAMF (unternehmensbezogene Arbeitsmarktförderung – “grants in accordance with the labour market promotion act”). The current call is open to May 2013.

Three thematic key aspects of the ERI:

- Green Hydrogen: Excess electricity from fluctuating wind energy or solar energy could be used for hydrogen production. Furthermore a non fossil and CO₂-free production of hydrogen fuels shall be achieved.
- Energy sources from hydrogen and carbon dioxide (EE-methane, EE-fuels): Hydrogen together with CO₂ shall be methanized to CH₄ via biogenic or chemical engineering methods. Furthermore possibilities shall be explored to generate liquid fuels out of renewable energy sources and CO₂.
- Possibilities of using CO₂ in end products: Studies of chemical reactions of CO₂ and other materials

		The intended expansion of roughly 25% in 4 years will generate closer cooperation of industry - with a special emphasis on SME in the case of the Josef Ressel Centers - and academia and foster the development of innovative products and ideas.
GHG emission reduction target [-16%]	Continuation of the Subsidies programme for thermal renovation of buildings (residential and business) started in 2009; € 123 million funding for the year 2013; programme started in January 2013. This programme pushes at the same time investments, jobs and saving energy. Continuation until 2016 is intended. (Contributes also to energy efficiency target).	-4,4 million t CO ₂ ;
	Action Programme klima:aktiv	<p>Objective: Extension, awareness-raising, training offers and quality assurance in the priority areas energy (saving), construction and renovation, renewable energy and mobility, one priority is at the local level (municipalities and regions).</p> <p>The annual business report presents the progress made in the research on and the establishment and launching on the market of climate friendly technologies and measures and informs which important priorities are just being implemented.</p> <p>In the year 2012 the years 2004 to 2012 has been evaluated by the Wuppertal Institute in Germany: The innovative character has been attested and klima:aktiv was complimented for its exemplary comprehensive approach and unique design.</p> <p>Apart from the proved extension, information and educational offers the “klima:aktiv pakt 2020” where large companies commit themselves voluntarily to the compliance with the Austrian climate and energy goals until 2020 has been introduced as a new instrument. By the end of 2012 9 companies have joined the “klima:aktiv pakt 2020”.</p>

		The running time of klima:aktiv has been extended until 2020.
	Action Programme klima:aktiv mobil – start 2nd stage klima:aktiv mobil 2013-2020 to promote mobility management, alternative fuels and vehicles, e-mobility, eco-driving and cycling.	<p>klima:aktiv mobil provides a national supportive framework to motivate and support companies, cities, municipalities and regions, leisure and tourism operators, schools and youth groups to develop and implement measures to reduce CO₂ emissions from transport related activities. klima:aktiv mobil offers five pillars of support: consulting, financial support, education & certification, information & motivation and awareness raising as well as awarding of partners committed to CO₂ reduction projects.</p> <p>klima:aktiv mobil contributes to EU and Austrian environmental objectives, particularly to the national “climate protection law”.</p> <p><u>objective 2020:</u> continuation k:a mobil: -0,5 million t CO₂ in 2020 extension k:a mobil: -0,7 million t CO₂ in 2020</p>
	Climate and Energy Fund (Klima- und Energiefonds KLIEN)	<p>The tasks of the fund are the support of research and development in the field of sustainable energy technologies and climate research, the promotion of projects in the fields of public short distance and regional transport, environmentally-friendly freight transport, as well as mobility management projects, and the promotion of projects supporting the market penetration of climate-relevant and sustainable energy technologies.</p> <p>In the period 2007 -2012 the climate and energy fund awarded research contracts and made subsidy commitments to the amount of almost € 725 million (approx. Mio. € 125 of which in the year 2012). The success of these measures is to be presented and published annually in the annual business report. The annual business reports presents the progress made in the research on and the establishment and launching on the market of climate friendly technologies and</p>

		measures and informs, which important priorities are just being implemented.
	Federal Environment Fund (Umweltförderung im Inland)	The Federal Environment Fund supports energy efficiency measures and the promotion of renewables in both the industrial sector and for residential buildings with a total annual budget of more than EUR 190 million in the 2011-2016 period, resulting in annual climate and energy-related investments in the private sector of approximately 1.4 Billion EUR, and in corresponding CO ₂ -emission reductions totalling at about 12 million tonnes, resp.
	<p>Electromobility</p> <p>Implementation of the first set of measures in order to foster the introduction of e-mobility in Austria, as set-out in the national “Implementation plan for E-Mobility in and from Austria” adopted by the federal government in July 2012, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consolidation and further development of the eight pilot region for e-mobility and correlation with demonstration and lighthouse projects • catalogue specifying the requirements for the charging infrastructure • continuation of national support program klima:aktiv mobil for companies, municipalities and trade associations that replace conventional vehicle by electric vehicles and set-up charging stations with green electricity. • enhanced provision of information and data and development of awareness raising campaigns on e-mobility, its efficient use and advantages for consumers by further developing existing information systems and platform (e.g. www.autoverbrauch.at) • compilation of data for assessing the environmental, climate and energy impacts from e-mobility and development of eco-balances that compare different alternative propulsion systems 	<p>Contribution to the EU 2020 target of 10% renewable energy in transport by increasing the number of electric vehicles that are operated with renewable energy.</p> <p>The number of e-vehicles (including e-bikes, e-scooters, light-weight e-vehicles, e-cars and light-duty e-vehicles, using electricity from renewable energy sources will increase further; the number of e-cars and LDV will rise due to the support programs in companies and municipalities fleets and in pilot regions.</p>
	Masterplan Cycling	Contribution to the EU 2020 target of greenhouse

	Ongoing implementation of the national cycling strategy (Masterplan Cycling)	gas emission reduction in transport by increasing of every-day cycling. The national cycling goal is a modal share of 10% until 2015.
	CO2 emission target in the Austrian Fuel Act 2012 (Kraftstoffverordnung 2012)	According to the Austrian fuel act (Kraftstoffverordnung 2012) as the national transposition of the Fuel Quality Directive 2009/30/EC suppliers have to reduce life cycle greenhouse gas emissions per unit of energy from fuel and energy supplied 2020 by 6 %.
Renewable energy target [34%]	Green Electricity Act 2012: Notification by the EC on 8 February 2012; in force since 1 July 2012	<p>Increasing the amount of renewables in electricity production by 10,5 TWh till 2020, with quantitative targets for each technology.</p> <p>A new renewable energy law (Green Electricity Act) came into power in July 2012.</p> <p>The main changes were: a) how the money to support the technologies is raised and b) how much money is spent each year and how this is distributed over various technologies.</p> <p>The overall additional yearly support payments for Feed in Tariffs in the year 2012 were € 50 Mio. This money will be distributed over Wind, Hydro and Photovoltaics and will reduce itself over the following 10 years € 1 Mio. per year. Under the prior renewable energy law € 21 Mio were distributed each year.</p> <p>The law set the following targets for additional electricity production from supported renewables for the year 2020 (compared to 2010):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hydropower: 1.000 MW Windpower: 2.000 MW Biomass and Biogas: 200 MW Photovoltaics: 1.200 MW
	Biofuel target in Austrian Fuel Act 2012 (Kraftstoffverordnung 2012)	The use of biofuels counts towards the 10% renewable energy target in transport of the Renewable Energy Directive 2009/28/EC. According to the Austrian Fuel Act (Kraftstoffverordnung 2012)

		in the year 2020 8.45% of all diesel and petrol fuels have to be Substituted by using biofuels. Due to the different calculation base these 8.45% count towards the 10% target as about 7.3%.
National energy efficiency target [...]	<p>A bundle of measures which can be divided into the categories industrial buildings, production and services as well as trade and small-scale consumption, mobility, energy provision, security of energy supply and general measures have already started (for further details see also <i>Second National Energy Efficiency Action Plan of the Republic of Austria 2011</i>).</p> <p>A new energy efficiency law to implement the Energy Efficiency Directive is under creation. A draft has been submitted to stakeholders for the expert review. The deadline for it was 31. January.</p>	According to the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) Austria will set an indicative national energy efficiency target by April 2013 and notify it to the EC. Works for the implementation of the EED are ongoing.
	Intelligente Messgeräte-Einführungsverordnung – IME-VO (24.4.2012: based on § 83 (1) EIWOG, FLG I No. 110/2010): Introduction of Smart Metering for end consumers (households) in the electricity market	Installed Smart Meters in households about 95% by the end of 2019 (if technically feasible). Expected reduction of electricity consumption in average per household between 3% and 5% due to better information by smart meters and energy saving advice.
National early school leaving target [9,5%]	<p><u>New secondary school (Neue Mittelschule - NMS) and elimination of early tracking at the age of 10</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nationwide introduction of the NMS started in September 2012. • 2012-13 (start of the 5th generation); 613 new classes • The training of Learning Designers has started at five university colleges of teacher education. • The ZLS (Centre for Learning Schools) has been established to network the work of developing the NMS across the country. 	Improvement of educational outcomes, reduction of early school leaving and enhancement of equal opportunities – especially for disadvantaged young people.
	<p><u>Further expansion of all-day school places</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 4 December 2012 the government agreed on a further expansion of all-day school places. • Currently, 119,000 students make use of the offers of school-based (afternoon) care, or attend a combined all-day school – this represents a doubling of the number of places compared to the school year 2007-08. In the school year 	Improving equality of opportunities and compensating for socio-economic disadvantages. Positive effect on pupils with migrant backgrounds, on the atmosphere in the school and on social interaction. Effectiveness with regard to social and labour market policy issues.

	<p>2012-13, 17.55% of pupils in Austria are taking advantage of school-based (afternoon) care. This figure is 14.46% at compulsory schools and 33.14% at federal schools (lower stages of academic secondary schools).</p>	
	<p><u>Introduction of educational standards</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot phase from 2001. • Legislation on the educational standards: 2008 • Regulation on the educational standards: 2009 (amendments in 2011 and 2012). • Baseline testing in the 8th grade: spring 2009; 4th grade: spring 2010. • Nationwide testing of mathematics in the 8th grade (86,868 students in 4,074 classes at 1,416 schools): May 2012. • Results received in December 2012. • Development and deployment of the ICM (instrument for informal measurement of competence): ongoing. 36,665 registered users as at January 2013. • Educational standards as an obligatory theme in the SQA measures (School Quality in General Education): from school year 2012-13 (pilot phase) 	<p>Improve educational outcomes, reduce early school leaving and increase the share of citizens who have completed tertiary or equivalent education.</p>
	<p><u>Implementation of the National Strategy for Lifelong Learning (LLL:2020)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of the National Platform LLL:2020; • First monitoring report on the implementation has been presented. • The first report on implementation will be presented to the Federal Government 	<p>Promotion of the efficiency and effectiveness of lifelong learning via cross-cutting approaches and by taking into account all areas and forms of education.</p>
	<p><u>Free second-chance education for the provision of basic education qualifications for adults; age-appropriate examinations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of measures within the framework of the Initiative for Adult Education since 1.1.2012. • The new School Leaving Examination Act (Compulsory Schooling) has been in force since 1.9.2012. 	<p>Increasing equal opportunities and enhancing the education levels of educationally disadvantaged persons.</p>
	<p><u>Youth and apprentices coaching against dropping out</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot projects in 2012 in two provinces (Vienna, Styria) • Improvement of the counselling system with a strong focus on disadvantaged students, especially those with migrant backgrounds 	<p>Reduction of the rate of early school leavers and dropouts</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of German as the language of instruction and support and learning guidance for students in commercial schools. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since Oct. 2012 Austria has implemented a coaching program to support apprentices within the Austrian dual VET-System in case of difficulties in the training companies or in case of private troubles. The aim is to help young people to manage their vocational training and to pass the final apprenticeship examination. This new assistance offer started as a pilot-program first in four Bundesländern (Wien, OÖ, Stmk, Tirol) and will be evaluated until the end of 2013. The evaluation will be the basis for the decision to expand the program or not resp. how it could be further developed. 	
	<p><u>Improve reading and language competences, in particular support for children for pupils with a first language other than German</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further development of comprehensive models of language support. Establishing language levels and German language support in nursery schools (since 2008). Language support courses for students with the status of ‘special pupils’ for whom German is the second language. Extension of first-language teaching (native language teaching). Mentoring projects (e.g. the Nightingale initiative) The promotion of multilingualism (e.g. the magazine ‘TRIO - reading and learning in three languages’; VoXmi); the websites www.sprachensteckbriefe.at and www.buch-mehrsprachig.at 	<p>Improve educational outcomes, reduce early school leaving and enhance equal opportunities – especially for disadvantaged young people</p>
	<p><u>Standardisation of the school-leaving and diploma examination (Matura).</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The regulation on final examinations at academic secondary schools, vocational secondary schools and educational institutions which came into effect on 30 May 2012 provides for three independent sub-areas (the so-called three pillar model). University institutes, specialist working groups and independent experts were commissioned to formulate 	<p>The creation of standardised basic competences and the same framework conditions for all students, increased aptitude for higher education.</p>

	standardised tasks and questions for the exam by the Federal Institute for Educational Research on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Education, the Arts and Culture .	
	<u>Development of an early school leaving strategy</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the strategy under the overall control of the Federal Ministry of Education, the Arts and Culture and with the involvement of the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection and the Ministry of the Economy, Families and Youth, as well as the social partners. 	Further reduction of the ESL rate of currently 8.3 %; Combination of the current measures and activities in the field of ESL and bringing the three strategic pillars of prevention, intervention and compensation under a common roof.
	<u>SQA - School Quality in General Education</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SQA pilot year has been ongoing since 1.9.2012; interim assessment: July 2013; • Staged nationwide implementation from 1.9.2013 	The further development of individualisation and competence orientation, improving learning outcomes.
	<u>QIBB – Quality Initiative for Vocational Education and Training (VET)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since 2009: implementation of "Peer Review in QIBB" – an evaluation procedure to promote quality at individual VET schools and colleges. • 2011-2013: development of competence profiles and a framework curriculum for the training of quality process managers and senior managers within the framework of QIBB. 	Introducing quality management into the Austrian vocational school system lastingly; maintaining and further developing the quality of VET schools and colleges; this is also a contribution towards improving educational outcomes.
National target for tertiary education [38%]	<u>Reform of teacher education (PaedagogInnenbildung NEU): basic principles also include training at tertiary level for all teachers.</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The experts' final report has been presented. • The recommendations of the preparatory group have been presented. • The involvement of and consultation with stakeholders has been ensured. • The draft for an amendment of the 2005 Higher Education Act and Universities Act 2002 has been elaborated. 	The measure has systemic effects on the entire education system in Austria
The government aspires to raise the proportion of the 30 to 34 year-old university graduates or graduates from equivalent post-secondary institutions (ISCED 4a) to 38%	Increasing the global budget of the Universities.	€ 300 million budgeted for the period up to 2015.
	Austrian Higher Education Plan – structural fund for the Austrian higher education area (“Hochschulraum-Strukturmittel”.)	€ 450 million budgeted for the period up to 2015.

	Improvement of teaching and studying situation through continuation of “Offensivmittel” (e.g. a fund for MST and to avoid massification of certain degree programmes at universities, expansion of universities of applied sciences, overheads for Austrian Science Fund).	€ 240 million budget for the period up to 2015.
National poverty target [-235.000 persons]	Improved employment possibilities for recipients of the means-tested minimum income benefit (BMS); nationwide implementation in October 2011; evaluation presented in 2012	Sustainable inclusion in the labour market of long-term unemployed people through activating initiatives and their integration into active labour market programmes of the PES.
	National Action Plan on Disability 2012-2020: 250 measures to be implemented in the fields of disability policies, anti-discrimination, accessibility, health and rehabilitation, education, employment, independent living and awareness raising.	Better integration of people with disabilities in all areas of society.
	Unemployment assistance: Investment of 75 Mio. € in 2011 and 85 Mio. € in 2012 to increase the unemployment assistance.	
	New long-term care fund established in 2011	Needs-based development and expansion of social services.
	Accompanying Assistance (“Begleitende Hilfen”) (Clearing, vocational training assistance, work assistance, job coaching, personal work place assistance)	Integration of disadvantaged people / people with disabilities into working life; participation of people with disabilities in the open labour market; assistance of young people in the transition from school to job, inclusive vocational training.
	Expansion /improvement of child care facilities; before entry into school obligatory free of charge year in the “kindergarten”; early linguistic assistance of children with migrational background, measures to reduce school drop-out rates;	Improved access to education for children from families labelled “remote from education and culture”. Breaking the cycle of intergenerational transmission of poverty.
	Focus on labour market initiatives in the consolidation programme	See employment target.
	Measures for health preservation (work-and-health law in force since 1.1.2011; case management, low-threshold information, counselling and support offers etc.); Counselling/prevention/rehabilitation (e.g. “fit2work”, “Gesundheitsstraße”)	See employment target.
	Youth coaching (individual counselling and assistance of young people); measures in education and training (e.g. vocational training and employment guarantee)	See employment target.
	Measures to reduce the gender-pay gap; enhanced income transparency; awareness raising campaigns for young girls’ job decisions, promotion of paternity leave; on-going improvement of	Reducing gender-specific disadvantages in the fields of income and labour market participation.

	care facilities for children and other dependants	See also employment target.
<i>Euro-plus pact commitments (if relevant)</i>		
Euro Plus Pact commitment on Fostering competition...	<p>The following below-mentioned measures relate to Euro-plus-pact commitments in last year's NRP (Annex II):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National R&D-Strategy the guiding principle; continuous implementation • Extension of full-day schooling • Austrian Higher Education Plan • Increasing range and quality of the senior technical colleges • Improving the teaching and studying situation • 	
Euro Plus Pact commitment on Fostering Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth and apprentices coaching against drop-outs • Continued focus on combating youth unemployment, incl training guarantee and "Future for Youth" action programme 	
Euro Plus Pact commitment on Sustainability of public finances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures to raise the effective retirement age • Increasing tax compliance and strengthening tax collection 	
Financial stability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the reform of the Austrian Internal Stability Pact (see public gazette 30/2013) • Speculation prohibition: Controlling financial risks at the subnational level • Long-term expenditure dampening path for Health expenditure 	
<i>Other</i>		
Main measures related to implementation of the Flagship Initiatives ¹		
Main /new or updated) commitments in the NRP for the next 12 months	Foreseen main measures	The estimated impacts of the measures (qualitative and/or quantitative)²
(Related to AGS priorities, Euro Plus Pact commitments, commitments in relation to 2020 targets, to National Job Plans, to other key bottlenecks identified in the NRPs, commitments in relation to flagship initiatives)		

¹ Digital agenda, Innovation union, Youth on the move, Industrial policy, Resource efficiency, New skills and jobs, Platform against poverty

² Cross references with column 9 of the standard reporting table (Annex)

<p>National early school leaving target [9.5%] & National target for tertiary or equivalent education [38%]</p>	<p><u>New secondary school (Neue Mittelschule -NMS) and elimination of early tracking at the age of 10</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to the plan, in the school year 2012/13, 691 schools will be transformed into new secondary schools overall. This means that until April 2013, 60% of all lower secondary schools will be new middle schools. Until the school year 2013/2014, an additional 254 lower secondary schools will have been transformed into new secondary schools. That means a general achievement of 80% transformation. • Until the year 2016 all lower secondary schools will be transformed into new secondary schools. 	<p>Improvement of educational outcomes, reduction of early school leaving and enhancement of equal opportunities – especially for disadvantaged young people.</p>
	<p><u>Further expansion of all-day school places</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The federal government is investing at total of EUR 320m in school-based (afternoon) care until 2014. From 2014, in addition to the currently agreed average of EUR 80m of federal funding per year, up to a further EUR 80m per year will be invested in high-quality school care. • In this way, up to EUR 160m per year will be invested in expansion from 2014. Overall, around 200,000 places are to be offered by 2018-19. 	<p>Improving equality of opportunities and compensating for socio-economic disadvantages. Positive effect on pupils with migrant backgrounds, on the atmosphere in the school and on social interaction. Effectiveness with regard to social and labour market policy issues.</p>
	<p><u>Introduction of educational standards</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring 2013: testing of mathematics in the 4th grade and English in the 8th grade. • Spring 2014: testing of German in the 4th and 8th grades. This will conclude the first cycle. • Ongoing extension of the ICM (instrument for informal measurement of competence). • From school year 2013-14: educational standards will be dealt with within the framework of SQA. 	<p>Improve educational outcomes, reduce early school leaving and increase the share of citizens who have completed tertiary or equivalent education</p>
	<p><u>Implementation of the National Strategy for Lifelong Learning (LLL:2020)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 2013: second monitoring report on implementation • July 2013: second report on the status of implementation to be presented to the Federal Government. 	<p>Improved access to education; target groups with a special need for support will encounter better overall conditions, permeability will be improved overall and legal obstacles broken down. The recognition of non-formal and informal competences is to be noticeably improved.</p>
	<p><u>Free second-chance education for the provision of basic education qualifications for adults; age-appropriate examinations</u></p>	<p>Increase of qualification levels, the reduction of disadvantages.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the new framework for a second chance to pass the school leaving certificate (compulsory schooling) will be put into practice from autumn 2013. 	
	<p><u>Youth and apprentice coaching against early school leaving</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nationwide extension of youth coaching by the end of 2013 Promotion of German as the language of instruction and support and learning guidance for students at commercial schools (ongoing). 	Reduction of the rate of early school leavers and dropouts
	<p><u>Improve reading and language competences, in particular support for children for pupils with a first language other than German</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Until March 2013, comprehensive language support models are to be further developed under the guidance of experts in the field.. One-year pilot projects will then be initiated from the school year 2013-14 at schools in all provinces which have a large number of pupils requiring a high level of language support. Establishing language levels and German language support in nursery schools (since 2008). Language support courses for students with the status of ‘special pupils’ for whom German is the second language. First-language teaching (native language teaching). Mentoring projects Promotion of multilingualism (e.g. the magazine ‘TRIO. Reading and learning in three languages’; VoXmi); the websites www.sprachensteckbriefe.at and www.buch-mehrsprachig.at 	Improve educational outcomes, reduce early school leaving and enhance equal opportunities – especially for disadvantaged young people
	<p><u>Standardisation of the school-leaving and diploma examination (Matura).</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The adoption of the Act in July 2012 signified that all schools providing higher general education can introduce the new school leaving and diploma examination as planned in the school year 2013-14 if there is a 2/3 majority in the school committee (options model). In spring and autumn 2013, competence checks and a trial examination will be offered in the written and partly standardised examination subjects. All academic secondary schools are obliged to start the new school-leaving/diploma examination in the school year 	The creation of standardised basic competences and the same framework conditions for all students, increased aptitude for higher education.

	2014-15. Vocational secondary schools will begin a year later.	
	<u>Development of an early school leaving strategy</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of the measures and actions foreseen in the strategy. Nationwide implementation of youth coaching (see also measure 6). 	Further reduction of the ESL rate of currently 8.3 %; Combination of the current measures and activities in the field of ESL and bringing the three strategic pillars of prevention, intervention and compensation under a common roof.
	<u>SQA - School Quality in General Education</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interim assessment: July 2013 Staged nationwide implementation from 1.9.2013 (development plans at all levels, stocktaking meetings and target-setting meetings between the different levels. 	The further development of individualisation and competence orientation, improving learning outcomes.
	<u>QIBB – Quality Initiative for Vocational Education and Training (VET)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By the end of 2013: drawing up of the federal quality reports for the implementation period 2010-12; 2013: continuation of "Peer Review in QIBB"; Autumn 2013: pilot phase of the framework curriculum for quality process managers and senior managers. 	Introducing quality management into the Austrian vocational school system lastingly; maintaining and further developing the quality of VET schools and colleges; this is also a contribution towards improving educational outcomes.
Flagship Initiative Digital agenda	<u>Digital Agenda of the EU:</u> <u>Status of Implementation:</u> - Increasing the levels of supply and reducing the "digital divide" by encouraging broadband expansion (esp. NGA) in rural areas - investment promotion program "Broadband Austria Twenty Thirteen" (fund approximately EUR 30 million within the Austrian programme for rural development policy 2007-2013): 2012: calls in all Bundesländer completed, a lot of projects operative 2013: further calls with still free financial resources will follow implementation until mid of April 2015; payment of 40% of the funds - Increasing the use of the Internet by promoting intelligent Internet applications - Application development program "austrian electronic network - AT: net" (funds in 2012 and 2013: about 3 million Euros per year) 2012 and 2013: two calls per year launched by FFG.	

	<p>Broadband Strategy 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alignment of the Austrian measures to the 2020-target = 100 Mbit / s for all (e.g. through improved coordination of planning and implementation of development projects): 2012: Draft and publication of the strategy 2013: Launch of the broadband bureau (Breitbandbüro) as an information agency of the federal government for businesses, public administration and citizens. - Pooling of BMVIT-initiatives by participating in the Competence Center Internet Society (Kompetenzzentrum Internetgesellschaft- KIG), milestones: 2012: the Council of Ministers adopted the second catalogue of priorities, ICT strategy drafted 2013: Projects from priority catalogues I and II finalized, ICT strategy aligned to priorities. - Design of appropriate broadband incentives 2014ff using the EU funds: 2012: Participation in preparation of CEF implementation, participation in STRAT.AT (partnership agreement relating to ESF, ERDF, EAFRD and EFF) 2013: interim or final evaluation of the programs, development of concrete measures 	
Flagship Initiative Resource Efficiency	REAP/National Resource Efficiency Action Plan	<p>REAP contains quantitative and qualitative goals for resource-efficiency (Fields: Resource-efficient production, public procurement, circular-flow economy and awareness-raising). The long-term goal is an absolute decoupling of economic development and resource consumption and the environmental effects going hand in hand with it.</p> <p>For the purposes of the EU 2020 Resource Directive a national Resource Efficiency Action Plan (REAP) was worked out in Austria in 2011 and politically presented in January 2012. REAP defines medium- and long-term national goals to increase the efficiency in the utilisation of national resources, it identifies four important fields of action (resource-</p>

		<p>efficient production, public procurement, circular-flow economy and awareness-raising) and proposes instruments and first measures for the period 2012-2013 for a concrete increase in the resource-efficiency in Austria. The guiding principles, targets and fields of action will consequently be more intensified and supplemented. For the year 2014 a REAP progress report is planned which checks already identified measures for their efficiency and identifies new measures and new fields of action. REAP is oriented until the year 2050 according to an increase in resource-efficiency (resource productivity) by a factor 4 to 10. For this purpose it is required to raise the resource-efficiency in Austria on medium term, thus until the year 2020, by at least 50 % compared to the year 2008 and thus to considerably reduce resource consumption in total.</p> <p>The implementation of REAP is assessed by the periodical monitoring (quantitative and qualitative indicators) For the year 2014 a REAP progress report is planned.</p>
	<p>Action Plan Sustainable Public Procurement</p> <p>The Action Plan on Sustainable Public Procurement, which was adopted by the Council of Ministers in 2010, pursues the long-term goal that the public sector buys more and more sustainable products and services. Given the major purchasing power of the public sector, the Action Plan contributes to the development of a green and sustainable economy. It addresses all public authorities in Austria and is compulsory for the federal level. The Public Procurement Agency is consequently implementing the requirements of the Action Plan. Currently, there are criteria sets for 15 product groups available which are revised on a regular basis. Social criteria were developed by an expert group and are currently coordinated at political level. The process of implementation, evaluation and improvement of the Action Plan is coordinated by the Federal Ministry of the Environment and supervised by a group where all relevant stakeholders (Ministries,</p>	<p>Since 2013 a monitoring system has been implemented to get data how the implementation works on a regular basis. Quantitative and qualitative analysis will contribute to the progress report, which will be finalised by the end of 2013.</p>

	<p>provinces and municipalities, social partners and business representatives) are represented. The Procurement Service Austria (BeschaffungService Austria) is the central think tank for sustainable procurement in Austria and offers a free counselling service for sustainable public procurement (www.nachhaltigebeschaffung.at).</p>	
	<p>Master Plan Environmental Technology</p> <p>The Austrian environmental and energy technology industry makes a considerable contribution to sustainable growth and an improvement of the environmental situation in Austria and abroad. With the Master Plan Environmental Technology a tool providing orientation has been created in order to be able to use the existing opportunities for the economy and the environment even more efficiently. The vision of the Master Plan is <i>“Within the European Union Austria has the leading position in the fields of environmental technology and environmental services.”</i></p> <p>By means of strengthening the Austrian environmental and energy technology an important contribution will be made to reaching economic and environmental policy goals such as doubling the number of persons employed in the environmental and energy technology industries and reaching the climate protection goals and complying with other environmental protection goals at the same time. In the course of the next few years the enterprises in the environmental and energy technology sectors will be confronted with major challenges and opportunities. Whereas above-average growth opportunities can be expected on the environmental and technology markets, the competition on the one hand by new suppliers from low-wage countries and on the other</p>	

	<p>hand by suppliers of high-tech products is rising. The high competitiveness and the good technological position of Austrian enterprises of the environmental and energy technology sectors as well as the fact that they are excellently embedded in the European markets are the major strong points, whereas the weaknesses are the small-scaled supplier structure and the low presence on dynamic markets such as Asia. New thematic challenges, such as in particular in the fields of energy and climate protection lead in the medium-term to a further shift of the shares within this branch of industry.</p> <p>In the course of a comprehensive discussion process representatives of domestic enterprises and research institutions as well as of the administration have defined four strategic fields of action, which make a considerable contribution to the goals of the Master Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Promotion of exports</i> • <i>Research and qualification</i> • <i>Financing</i> <p><i>Making the domestic market more dynamic</i></p>	
	<p>Master Plan Green Jobs</p> <p>Green jobs are jobs in the environment sector. The EU definition describes green jobs as work in the manufacturing of products, technologies and service activities by means of which environmental damage is avoided and natural resources are preserved. Green jobs exist in different branches, for example in renewable energies, sustainable construction and renovation as well as in water and waste water management. They include jobs requiring a high level of qualification just as much as apprenticeships vocations or simple, unskilled labour.</p> <p>The main purpose of green jobs is to make a contribution to environmental protection. This is why there are green jobs in all economic and social areas and why also existing job types can become green jobs.</p> <p>In 2010, the Austrian Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management developed a „masterplan</p>	<p>The objective of the „Masterplan green jobs“ is to create additional 100.000 green jobs, especially in the sectors agriculture and forestry, environmental technology and renewable energies as well as tourism.</p> <p>There are currently about 208,000 green jobs in Austria with a strong rising tendency. This means that every 20th job is a green job; 11.8 percent of the GDP are yielded in this sector.</p>

	green jobs“ in order to establish a strategy to increase employment in the „Environmental Goods and Services Sector“ (i. e. „green jobs“).	
	Measures to reduce environmentally harmful subsidies	<p>By 2011: reimbursement of energy taxes restricted to the industry sector (no reimbursement for companies in the services sector)</p> <p>Phasing-out of the following tax exemptions by the end of 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reimbursement of the mineral oil tax on so called “Agro-Diesel” (diesel fuel used in agriculture and forestry) • Tax exemption of local public transport from the tax on liquid gas <p>Reimbursement of the mineral oil tax on diesel fuel used by trains of the Austrian Federal Railways</p>
....		
....		
....		
....		