


## Waste Prevention Programme (Vienna, Austria)

	Country	Austria
	Type of prevention measure	Basket of measures
	Geographical level of implementation	Local
	Target	Consumers and Businesses
	Date of implementation	1998
	Type of waste	All wastes

*The City of Vienna employs a number of targeted measures to minimise the generation of waste. Main areas of focus include green public procurement, eco-efficiency consulting for SMEs, the promotion of reuse and repair of goods, awareness-raising and support for cultural services.*

### Context

The Austrian Waste Management Act (2002) stipulates three areas of activity for sustainable waste prevention: the application of appropriate production and distribution processes, the eco-design of products and the behaviour of consumers.

### Objective

The waste prevention and recycling strategy detailed in the Federal Waste Management Plan (2006) aims to reduce emissions, reduce hazardous substances and their dissipation, and improve resource efficiency, although no specific targets have been set.

### Means

Vienna has used 3 distinct initiatives to help reduce consumer waste:

- **Web Flea Market:** Internet based exchange platform for consumer goods, construction tools and materials and gardening equipment
- **Repair and Service Centre (RUSZ):** 23 local small repair shops provide affordable repair services for electrical household appliances, and break down appliances for material recycling
- **Promotion of lifestyle change:** Encouraging spending on services and culture instead of material goods.

The city targets business waste through the following two measures:

- The **ÖkoBusinessPlan (EcoBusiness Plan)** targets SMEs. Launched in 1998 by Vienna metropolitan authorities, the initiative provides subsidised cleaner production and eco-efficiency consulting services to Vienna businesses.
- The City of Vienna spends around EUR 5 billion on goods annually. The **OekoKauf Wien (EcoPurchasing Vienna)** initiative has developed guidelines and purchasing catalogues for the green public procurement of some 60 product groups.

### Results

The RUSZ centres repair approximately 400 tons of appliances annually and the internet flea market sells 450 tons of used appliances. The Vienna authorities calculate that about 11,000 tons of waste is saved by the RUSZ centres, while the flea market saves around 1000 tons of waste annually. Since 1998, the **ÖkoBusinessPlan** has advised over 600 businesses and helped to save an estimated EUR 34 million, with over 100,000 tonnes of waste prevented.

### Further Information

Web market: [www.wien.gv.at/webflohmarkt](http://www.wien.gv.at/webflohmarkt)  
 ÖkoBusinessPlan: [www.wien.gv.at/english/eco](http://www.wien.gv.at/english/eco)  
 OekoKauf: [www.wien.gv.at/umweltschutz/oekokauf](http://www.wien.gv.at/umweltschutz/oekokauf)  
 RUSZ: [www.rusz.at](http://www.rusz.at)