Private Sector Interaction in the Decision Making Processes of Public Research Policies

Country Profile: Austria

1. Political, institutional and economic framework and important actors

Austria's economy is characterised by its open, internationally-oriented nature (Export revenues > 50% of GDP; foreign direct investment in Austria > 40 Billion Euro), the growing importance of its service- and technology-intensive sectors and by a large share of SMEs (only 160 enterprises have staff exceeding 1000). In the period 2001 to 2004, R&D expenditure has grown by 5.1% p.a. to a level of 2.26% of GDP in 2004, above EU-25 average. The Private Sector's share of R&D expenditure has grown to 43.9% in 2003, but is still below EU average. Notably, R&D investment from foreign sources has grown considerably. Over 20% of Austrian R&D expenditure is financed by foreign sources, mostly in the Private Sector[1].

The governance structures of the Austrian Science and Innovation System have been partially reorganised in recent years. This included the establishment of the *Austrian Council for Research and Development*, a reallocation of research- and innovation-related responsibilities between federal ministries and a restructuring of supporting agencies.

a. Political and governmental authorities

The main Public Sector actors are depicted in Figure 1.

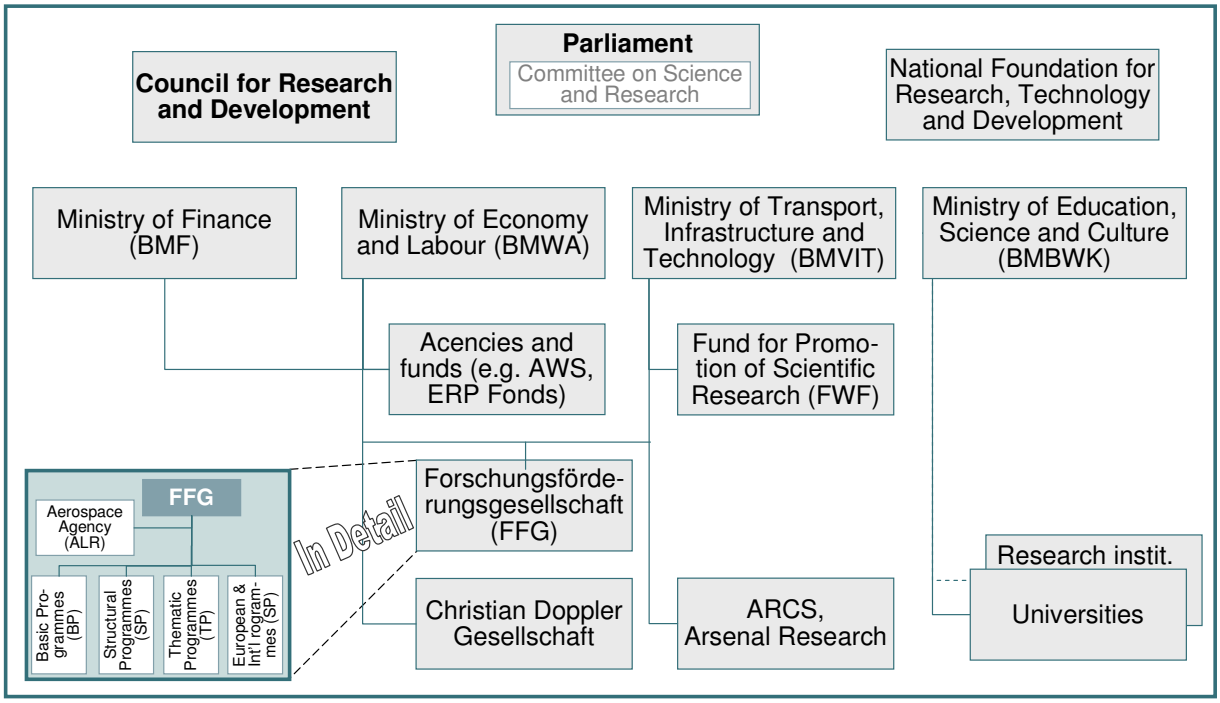

Figure 1: Public Sector actors of the Austrian Science and Innovation System

On the parliamentary level, research and innovation policy topics are discussed and parliamentary decisions are prepared in the *Committee on Science and Research*. In the past, parliamentary discussions about research and innovation policy issues reached the attention of a general public only to a limited extent. Therefore several political parties and stakeholders have asked for an 'upgrade' of the Parliament's role, for example by treating the national innovation strategy (worked out by the Council for Research and Development) in a plenary debate[2].

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1 Sources of data: *European Trend Chart on Innovation, Annual Innovation Policy Trends and Appraisal Report Austria 2004-2005*; Eurostat, *Science and Technology in Europe, Data 1990-2004*, Luxembourg, 2006; OECD MSTI database, Wirtschaftskammer Österreich, *This is Austria*, 2006

2 Source: *European Trend Chart on Innovation, Annual Innovation Policy Trends and Appraisal Report Austria 2004-2005*

The *Austrian Council for Research and Development* was established by law (§ 17 FTFG) in 2000 as the central high level advisory body for the federal government, the ministers and the states of the federation in all matters related to research, technology and innovation. This includes the definition of a long-term national RTD strategy, the monitoring of its implementation, the definition of guidelines for national research and technology programmes and for promoting RTD institutions, recommendations for national RTD programmes and for strengthening Austria's position in international programmes and co-operations, proposals for improving the co-operation between science and industry and guidelines for the evaluation of institutions. Five of eight current Council members, including its chairman, are Private Sector representatives. The ministers of Education, Science and Culture (BMBWK), Transport, Infrastructure and Technology (BMVIT), Economics and Labour (BMWA) and Finance (BMF) have a consulting members' status.

After a reallocation of responsibilities in 2000, three ministries share the responsibility for research and innovation policies at the government level:

- The *Ministry of Education, Science and Culture* (BMBWK), is responsible for the higher education sector including universities, polytechnics and the academy of science.
- The *Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure and Technology* (BMVIT) is responsible for the major non-university research organisations and for most technology programmes.
- The *Ministry of Economics and Labour* (BMWA) supports a range of organisations of the Austrian innovation support infrastructure for SMEs and has set up several programmes in support of technology transfer, innovation management and mobilisation of equity capital for high-tech start-ups.

In addition, the *Ministry of Finance* (BMF) plays an important role in financing research and innovation policy because it is responsible for the allocation of funds and it is involved in the definition of standards for the design and monitoring of new programmes. A steering committee, consisting of members of BMBWK, BMVIT and BMWA coordinates governmental activities in the area of research and innovation policy.

The *National Foundation for Research, Technology and Development* was established in 2003 by law with the objective to enable long-term-oriented research and to contribute to the excellence of Austrian research in an international comparison. Its funding decisions are taken by the foundation board on the basis of strategic inputs of the Council for Research and Technology Development, whose chairman is also a member of the foundation board.

b. Intermediate bodies[3]

In an effort to simplify funding and support structures, a number of previously existing organisations were united under two new umbrella organisations, the *Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft* (umbrella organisation for the formerly independent *Austrian Space Agency*, the *Bureau for Innovation and Technology*, the *Industrial Research Promotion Fund*, and the *Technology Impulse Society*) and the *Austrian Economic Services Ltd.* (uniting *BÜRGES Förderbank*, *Finanzierungsgarantiegesellschaft* (FGG), *Innovation Agency*, and the labour market promotion schemes for enterprises). As of 2006, the main institutions are the following:

- As Austria's central body for the promotion of basic research, the *Austrian Science Fund* (*Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung*, FWF) is responsible for the promotion of all scientific disciplines. Funding activities are accompanied by an open dialogue with all interested groups. Due to its fundamental research orientation, its governing bodies (assembly of delegates, supervisory board, executive board) consist mostly of representatives of the scientific community.
- The *Austrian Society for the Support of Research* (*Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft*, FFG) is the central organisation for the promotion of applied research and for funding of research projects in this field. In addition, FFG provides related services, e.g. on the set-

[3] Not comprehensive, focus on the most important institutions active in research policy and its implementation.

up of national and international research projects, and supports collaborations between science and industry.

- The *Austrian Economic Services Ltd.* (*Austria Wirtschaftsservice GmbH*, AWS) is the central agency for the promotion of enterprise-oriented economic growth policies. Besides other duties, this includes policy measures which support the exploitation of research results by the Private Sector and stimulate technology-based start-up and enterprise foundation activities.

Stakeholder involvement in the implementation structures of the Austrian Science and Innovation System has traditionally been strong. In the agencies, the main target groups and beneficiaries are typically well represented. For example, the chairman of the FFG supervisory board and several of its members are Private Sector representatives.

c. Research performing institutions

The University Act of 2002 institutionalises stakeholder involvement in the university sector, especially through the establishment of university councils with important supervisory functions (including the appointment of the rectors). These councils encompass external stakeholders, especially from the Private Sector. In addition, a variety of extra-university institutes are active in fundamental research. The most important institution in this area is the *Austrian Academy of Sciences*[4]. Its senate includes the chairman of the Austrian *Council for Research and Development* and two Private Sector benefactors.

In applied research, the *Austrian Research Centers* (ARC) and the *Christian Doppler Society* (CDG) play a dominating role. As the largest Public Sector research institution, the Austrian Research Centers are organised as a private limited holding with a variety of operative subsidiaries, owned by the Austrian State (50.46%) and the Private Sector (49.54%, held by a larger group of enterprises and associations[5]). ARC's mission is to strengthen the technological knowledge base and competitiveness of the Austrian economy through scientific and technological excellence and research co-operations. Private Sector representatives occupy seven positions in its main governance body, the supervisory board, including the position of the chairman. In addition, the ARC scientific advisory board has also several Private Sector members.

The CDG supports application-oriented fundamental research and enables member companies to have a direct access to new knowledge with the aim to bridge fundamental research and its application. Its research centres are set up in universities and non-university research institutions in collaboration with Private Sector members. Through this, enterprises have direct access to new scientific findings and fundamental research receives at the same time valuable new impulses from their practical experience. The funds provided by member companies for a Christian Doppler laboratory are doubled by the CDG in the scope of its matching funds. The contribution of small and medium companies can be reduced for an initial period of up to two years.

d. Private Sector

Two Private Sector associations act as the major representatives of the Private Sector vis-à-vis policy makers in research and innovation policy decision processes.

The *Austrian Federal Economic Chamber* (*Wirtschaftskammern Österreich*, WKO) is by law the representative of the entire Austrian business community[6]. In this role, the association takes also an active stake in research and innovation policy decision making. For example, WKO has contributed considerably to the introduction and development of tax incentives for research through the commissioning of a study, dedicated statements and own proposals.

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4 At the same time the high-level association of Austrian academic researchers.

5 For a list of members, see www.arcs.ac.at/about/group_facts_de.html

6 Membership is compulsory and comprises all Austrian companies. The federal chamber acts as a national umbrella organisation for the 9 regional chambers (one in each of Austria's federal regions) and 110 trade associations for different industries. Regional Chambers and associations have local offices to provide services in close proximity to members.

As the Austrian industry's main lobby group, the *Federation of Austrian Industry* (*Vereinigung der Österreichischen Industrie*[7]) represents the interests of its members in Austria and Europe. For this purpose, it maintains multiple permanent relations and a diversified network of contacts with policy makers and government institutions. Local presence and services for members are assured by nine independent regional offices. These act as local contact points for members, answering queries, representing positions or performing services. The Federation's department of education, innovation and research monitors research policy developments, maintains contacts with all institutions involved in research policy making and ensures the Federation's intensive participation through statements, events and own studies[8]. Three of the Federation's 2006 priority projects are devoted to research and innovation policy issues: The planned elite university/AIAST, European research and innovation programmes and the reorganisation of non-university research institutions (competence centres, ARC).

2. National research policy decisions and Private Sector involvement

Instigation and design stages[9]

An intensive debate between policy makers, the Private Sector, other stakeholders and a broader public on several levels is an integral part of Austrian research policy decision processes. To create awareness and to gain a broad level of acceptance in the broad public, the initiative *Innovative Austria* (*Innovatives Österreich*) disseminates information about research and innovation issues and offers a platform for discussion. In this context, a series of events with high-level speakers (*Club Research*) targets specifically the media since 2005. As was emphasised by the European Trend Chart's Annual Report 2004-2005, the Austrian media play an important role as dialogue partners in the science and innovation area. Indeed, specialised magazines were created and a variety of Austrian newspapers and magazines devote special sections to science, technology and education and related policy topics or feature them in special issues[10]. Public support is offered for such activities in some cases with the aim to convey science and innovation as an important topic of general interest. The role which such extensive media coverage can play is illustrated by the lively public debate which it has triggered during the design phase of a new higher education elite institute, the *Austrian Institute for Advanced Science and Technology.* Other important elements of this debate were dedicated statements by the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber, the Federation of Austrian Industry and by other stakeholders of the Austrian Science and Innovation System.

A more specific exchange of views on an expert and decision maker level takes place at conferences and workshops. This is illustrated by the annual *Alpbach Technology Discussions* (Alpbacher Technologiegespräche), which have emerged since their launch in 1983 as the most important forum for the high level discussion of research, technology and innovation policy in Austria. For example, the new *Strategy 2010* of the Council for Research and Technology Development was presented by its chairman and vice-chairman at the 2005 event.

The Council for Research and Technology Development has a major influence on research and innovation policy making[11]. After its establishment, a first position paper *Vision 2005 – through Innovation to the Best* highlighted the need for action, identified directions for devel-

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7 In Austria usually referred to as *Industriellenvereinigung*

8 Examples include a study *Future Strategies for Austria* (*Zukunftsstrategien für den Standort Österreich*) and the recently launched *Panel 50*, where some of the country's most prominent enterprise sector leaders evaluate regularly actual policy areas, including research, technology and innovation. In addition, the Federation organises regular events, for example recently a symposium *Alliance for Innovation and progress – positioning of Austria as innovation location in the centre of Europe,* at the occasion of the Austrian EU presidency, January 12, 2006.

9 This chapter focuses on the interaction process. For approaches to create awareness and identify important issues with Private Sector and other stakeholder involvement, see for example Delphi Austria (www.bmbwk.gv.at/forschung/materialien/delphi/Delphi_Report_Austria4227.xml)

10 For example daily news papers like *Der Standard* or *Die Presse.*

11 Even though the council's advice is not binding by law, the Ministry of Finance's strong commitment to distributing budgets according to the council's recommendations creates a considerable impact on policy makers' decisions.

opment and provided guidelines for the development of the Austrian Science and Innovation System. This vision was elaborated further, resulting in the *National Research and Innovation Plan* which was published in December 2002. Based on a review of Austria's R&D and innovation performance, this document proposed policy measures for achieving the objective to raise national R&D expenditure to 2.5% of GDP. The included recommendations for the allocation of resources and for a reorganisation of the governance system have served subsequently as the most important guideline for policy development and implementation by the government and its institutions. At the end of its first cycle, the council has issued in August 2005 a new position paper *Strategy 2010 – Perspectives for Research, Technology and Innovation in Austria*. This document develops the guidelines of the first plan further towards a new time line of 2010 and beyond.

A strong formal Private Sector influence on policy decision processes is also ensured by §10 of the *Economic Chamber Law* (*Wirtschaftskammergesetz*). It defines the obligation for policy makers to draft legal regulations and submit them to the chambers for appraisal. However in practice, interaction in the instigation and design of research policies starts earlier with prediscussions between the involved ministries, the relevant Private Sector institutions and other stakeholders. There are no binding rules for such discussions or for setting up workinggroups in preparation of new research policy measures. Ministries and research council are free to select the stakeholders which they want to involve in such discussions. But overall, the use and intensity of this type of interaction has grown continuously.

Implementation and Assessment/revision stages

The re-orientation towards a stronger separation of policy making and policy implementation has enhanced the operative role of the agencies. An evaluation of the Austrian *Science Fund* (FWF) and the *Fund for the Promotion of Industrial Research* (FFF, now FFG) launched in 2003 confirmed that both organisations work well and efficiently in the boundaries of their initial missions defined in the 1970s and 80s. But the study triggered also the recent restructuring which led to the formation of FFG with a broader agency approach, a more stringent separation of the policy making and implementation levels and an enhanced autonomy of the agencies[12].

Operative collaboration between the Public Sector and the Private Sector in the implementation of research and innovation policies aiming at the development of regional competencies, clusters and networks has continuously gained importance in Austria. Chapter 5.1 describes a successful example in detail.

The regular evaluation of research and innovation policies and policy measures is a wellestablished practice. It is based on a strong methodological foundation, the commitment of policy making and implementing institutions and the intensive use of external and international expertise (see Chapter 5.2 for details).

Observations: Possible barriers and current initiatives

There has been some recent debate about an intensification of the role of the Parliament's Committee on Science and Research in research and innovation policy making and an improved workflow between the committee, the Council for Research and Technology Development, the ministries and other actors of the Austrian Science and Innovation System, deemed necessary by some actors. In this course, the position of the Council is also discussed controversially because its formal role in the Austrian innovation system is not clearly defined. The Council issues recommendations, but there is no binding obligation for ministries to follow this advice. But despite this, the commitment of the Ministry of Finance to follow the Council's recommendations in the distribution of funds ensures a considerable influence. In any case, the Council is committed to an interactive approach. This is illustrated by

[12] See Arnold, E. (Ed.), *Evaluation of the Austrian Industrial Research Promotion Fund (FFF) and the Austrian Science Fund (FWF)*, Vienna, 2004, for details (available from http://www.fteval.at/files/evstudien/FFF_FWF_Synthesis_Report.pdf).

its recommendations for the 2005/2006 research investment plan which were characterised by an intense stakeholder involvement.

On the administrative level, the dispersion of responsibility for research and innovation policies over three ministries requires a high coordination effort and creates a certain complexity for Public-Sector-internal decision making as well as for the interaction with the Private Sector. For example, both the BMWA and the BMBWK are active in the promotion of research and innovation in the enterprise sector and operate supporting agencies for this purpose.

The described highly interactive (though not formally institutionalised) nature of policy decision processes is appreciated by all involved stakeholders because it assures that the needs of all research contributors are taken into account and resulting policies are close to their needs. However, the question when and how deep stakeholders should be involved in the decision process can become critical in such an 'open' system. The European Trend Chart's Trends and Appraisal Report Austria 2004-2005 states: "The main challenge is to stay close to the identified needs without allowing beneficiaries to capture the design process."

A limitation of Austria's policy evaluation concept is pointed out by Jörg (2004) and referred to by the Trend Chart's Annual Innovation Policy Trends and Appraisal Report Austria 2004-2005: Most evaluations serve primarily for legitimating policies, only one fifth of evaluations are used to decide whether or not to continue the activity. In addition, joint policy learning, involving the Private Sector and other stakeholders, is limited by the fact that many evaluations are not published and thus not subject to public debate.

3. Other important examples of policy decisions with Private Sector involvement

Governance of universities

The University Act of 2002 opened enhanced opportunities for stakeholder involvement through the establishment of university councils. These councils have a supervisory function, which includes for example the appointment of rectors. Members of the councils, appointed by the university senate and confirmed by the ministry include representatives of stakeholders, including the Private Sector.

Regional Science and Innovation Systems

Regional research and innovation policy has gained importance in recent years, as illustrated by the example of Upper Austria (Oberösterreich). The state government had launched in 1998 a technology initiative with the aim to become a leading research and innovation region, based on a strategy paper *Strategic Programme Oberösterreich 2000+*[13]. Special emphasis was put on the development of the research and technology transfer infrastructure through centres of competence, clusters, technology-, innovation- and founders-centres, and universities of applied science[14]. The follow-up strategy paper *Oberösterreich 2010* re-emphasises the importance of the development of regional research and development.

This strategy builds on recommendations of the *Council for Research and Technology for Upper Austria* (*Rat für Forschung und Technologie für Oberösterreich*), where Private Sector members work together with Public Sector representatives to develop the strategic guidelines for the development of research and innovation in Upper Austria. The main regional agency (*Oberösterreichische Technologie- und Marketinggesellschaft m.b.H.*, TMG) is responsible for implementing this strategy and acts as a one-stop-shop for actors who seek information and support. The state of Upper Austria holds 56% of the TMG shares. 15% are held each by the regional representations of the *Austrian Chamber of Labour* (*Arbeiterkammer Oberösterreich*) [15] and of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber (*Wirtschaftskammer Oberösterreich*). The regional organisation of the *Federation of Austrian*

[13] See http://www.tmg.at/index.php?main=/1822_DEU_HTML.php and http://www.ooe2010.at/ for details.

[14] The development of their R&D structures was financed by the programme, further funds for teaching activities were provided from different sources.

[15] Legal representation of interests for all employees of Upper Austria.

Industry (*Vereinigung der Österreichischen Industrie, Landesgruppe Oberösterreich*) holds another 5%. The remaining 9% are held by the most important cities of the region. A subsidiary of TMG, *CATT Innovation Management GmbH*, specialises in the support of research related activities, including project funding, support for technology transfer, exchange programs or innovation management in the regional technology network[16].

These regional activities are complemented by programmes like *Kplus*, *K_ind* and *K_net* through which the federal government stimulates and supports regional competence centres and networks. The combined efforts of federal and regional authorities have gained importance in recent years as the need to cope with very different regional structural and economic changes (especially in regions with eroding traditional industries or with a promising starting position in technology intensive growth sectors) became more evident. The automotive clusters in Styria and Upper Austria are often quoted as examples for successful research-, technology- and innovation-based clusters.

4. Overview: Types and extent of Private Sector involvement[17]

As described, Private Sector involvement takes place in a very specific mix of formal and informal interactions:

- *Networking, general dialogue and informal involvement* are common and have a long tradition, fostered by the proximity of actors and a generally strong culture of interaction. These traditional links are reinforced by initiatives to create awareness and a continuous flow of information and public debate.
- *Advisory role* and *formal involvement* of the Private Sector in research policy instigation and design are somewhat integrated in the described overall interaction process, but institutionalised only selectively in formal advisory bodies, etc.
- *Joint activities* between the Public and the Private Sector play a growingly important role on the operative, especially in centre-, cluster- and network-oriented initiatives.
- In the course of the described processes, Industry associations are committed to strong *proactive involvement* in the policy debate through own positions and statements and their participation in the overall interaction process.
- *Research funding* by the Private Sector plays an important role and has a considerable influence, especially on the level of research institutions dedicated to applied research with a major transfer potential.

5. Selected useful examples of transferable approaches and experiences

Several useful practices with a potential to be transferred to other Science and Innovation Systems have been mentioned already in previous chapters. Additional good practices are outlined in the following sections:

5.1 Federal support for regional research and innovation, network and cluster formation

To complement policy initiatives by regional authorities, the federal government supports also regional and cluster development, especially through two programmes. *Kplus* stimulates the formation of collaborative research centres, operated jointly by Public and Private Sector partners. *K_ind and K_net* support the bundling of scientific and industrial research competencies in Private Sector-led competency centres and networks. According to a recent

[16] In addition, CATT offers its services also to a broader range of clients, including for example evaluations for national institutions and the European Commission and services for Private Sector enterprises.

[17] See table 1 in Appendix 1 for a detailed overview over current use of identified instruments.

evaluation[18], both programmes have contributed to the development of an enhanced culture of research collaboration in Austria.

The example of *Kplus* illustrates how the desired effects are achieved. Its calls invited consortia of regional Public and Private Sector actors to develop proposals for collaborative research centres in technology areas of high importance for them. Secured long-term Private Sector commitment (illustrated by the funding of a significant portion of the overall investment and cost) and the ability to reach a critical mass for making substantial contributions within the first three years were necessary conditions for Kplus funding. In their tenders, the consortia enjoyed a high degree of freedom to design the centres' strategies, organisation and legal framework according to their specific needs and situation. Selection and funding decisions were based on a thoroughly applied set of scientific and economic criteria and on the vote of an independent expert group. To stimulate the development of the centres, public funding was provided for a duration of seven years with a mid-term and a final evaluation, accompanied by a permanent progress reporting. The centres were expected to develop individual concepts for a scientifically and economically sustainable long-term development after the end of the funding period. But the programme did not 'prescribe' a specific solution. Currently, there are 18 *Kplus* and 22 *K_ind and K_net* centres and networks which involve approximately 1500 researchers and approx. 450 enterprises.

5.2 Knowledge platforms for research and innovation policy making and evaluation

Policy makers, implementing institutions and other actors of the Austrian Science and Innovation System have taken joint initiatives to encourage better and more transparent strategic planning and evaluation of research and innovation policies in Austria and to develop a culture of evaluation.

The *Platform Research & Technology Policy Evaluation* documents and refines evaluation approaches and methods, based on current international evaluation practice. For this purpose, the platform monitors international methodological know-how and experiences in the field, organises symposia and workshops with national and international experts and makes this information available to all actors of the research and innovation community and to a broader public. The platform was launched in 1996 as a basis for informal cooperation, which became formalised in 2001 as a corporation under civil law (*GesbR*). Its members include all important Public Sector research and innovation policy decision-makers, agencies implementing research and innovation policies and Austrian expert organisations in the field of evaluation from research and consulting.

A present key concern of the platform is to make the cumulated knowledge in this field applicable. Therefore, the development of evaluation standards and a framework and code of conduct for evaluators, authorizing institutions and those evaluated and the elaboration, cultivation, application and reinforcement of minimum requirements are priority fields of action. The platform's objective is to secure a consistent quality of evaluations, efficient planning, executing and learning in evaluation processes and a higher level of obligation and security for all parties involved.

The programme *Technology – Innovation – Policy Consulting* (TIP) has been commissioned by the involved ministries BMVIT, BMBWK and BMWA as a platform for the provision of background and methodological information relevant for Austrian research, technology and innovation policy, *the* diffusion of knowledge from international studies and organisations. As a joint project, *TIP* involves Austria's leading research institutes in the field, e.g. the *Austrian Institute of Economic Research* (WIFO), *Joanneum Research* and *ARC Systems Research GmbH*.

[18] Assessment 'Future of the competency centre programmes (Kplus and Kind/net) and future of the competency-centres', Study for the *Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure and Technology* (BMVIT) and the *Ministry of Economics and Labour* (BMWA), Vienna, January 2004; executive summary available from http://www.isi.fraunhofer.de/p/Downloads/eng_ex_sum_K-Assessment.pdf

Appendix 1: Overview of identified instruments for Private Sector involvement and their use in Austria

Instrument		Intensity of use	Initiated by	Used for	Used in				Examples and remarks
					Instigation	Design	Implement.	Review	
General dialogue	Insight studies, roadmapping, foresight	Occasional	Public Sector	Awareness & identification of emerging technologies & trends	✓				Delphi Austria
	Conferences	Frequent	Public Sector	Discussion of policy issues	✓	✓			Alpbacher Technologie-gespräche
	Brainstorming / task forces	Occasional	Public Sector	Identification of priorities and possible policy actions	✓	✓			
Informal decision involvement	Evaluation studies	Occasional	Public Sector	Policy and programme review	✓	✓	✓		Assessment studies
	Advisory groups	Selective	Public Sector	High-level advisory	✓	✓			Council for Res. and Technology Development
	Informal consultations	Regular	Public Sector	Established, integrated interaction	✓	✓	✓	✓	See Chapter 2
	Formal consultations	Regular	Public Sector	Established, integrated interaction	✓	✓	✓	✓	See Chapter 2
Formal decision involvement	Task force	Regular	Public Sector	Established, integrated interaction	✓	✓	✓	✓	See Chapter 2
	Participation in decision making bodies (observer status)	Selective	Public Sector	Decision involvement, shared responsibility			✓		
	Participation in decision making bodies with (co-) decision right	Selective	Public Sector	Decision involvement, shared responsibility			✓		
	Administrative / supervisory boards	Frequent	Public Sector	Private Sector representatives involved in important institutional decisions		✓	✓		Agencies, universities, etc.
Joint activities	Initiation of networks	Growing	Public Sector	Stimulation of R&D-synergies			✓		Kplus, K_ind/K_net
	Co-financing of projects / programmes	Growing	Public Sector	Stimulation of R&D-synergies			✓		Kplus, K_ind/K_net
	Public Private Partnership	Growing	Public Sector	Stimulation of R&D-synergies			✓		Kplus, K_ind/K_net
Staff interaction	(Temporary) Staff exchange	Not common	Both sides	Enhance mutual understanding and mobility					
	Staff mobility	Not common	Public Sector	Public Sector expertise in research leadership positions					
Unsolicited contributions	Statements, studies, white papers, etc.	Frequent	Private Sector	Express views, recommend changes, influence decisions	✓	(✓)			WKO, IV
	Dialogue platforms								
	Research funding	Regular	Both sides	Improved competitiveness			✓		ARC

Table 1: Overview of instruments used for Private Sector involvement

Appendix 2: Selected relevant sources and literature

1. General and country information

Austrian Research and Technology Report 2005, issued by the Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture, the Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology and the Federal Ministry of Economics and Labour, Vienna, 2005

European Trend Chart on Innovation*, Annual Innovation Policy Trends and Appraisal Report Austria 2004-2005*

Jörg, L., Policy Profile Austria, Input Paper for the OECD NIS MONIT Network, Vienna, August 2004

OECD, MSTI database, Paris 2005

Eurostat, *Science and Technology in Europe – Data 1990-2004*, Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, 2006

2. Important actors

www.parlinkom.gv.at/portal/page?_pageid=908,131732&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL&P_NR=XXII	Parliamentary Committee on Science and Research
www.rat-fte.at/view.mc?docid=96	Austrian Council for Research and Technology Development
www.bmbwk.gv.at	Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture
www.bmvit.gv.at	Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology
www.bmwa.gv.at	Federal Ministry of Economy and Labour
www.bmf.gv.at	Federal Ministry of Finance
www.fwf.ac.at/en/index.asp	Austrian Science Fund
www.ffg.at	Austrian Society for the Support of Research
www.awsg.at/portal	Austrian Economic Services Ltd.
www.oeaw.ac.at/english/home.html	Austrian Academy of Sciences
www.arcs.ac.at	Austrian Research Centers
www.cdg.ac.at/cdg/cdgext/index.phtml	Christian Doppler Society
portal.wko.at	Austrian Federal Economic Chamber
www.iv-net.at	Federation of Austrian Industry
www.fteval.at/home.php?lang=en	Platform Research & Technology Policy Evaluation

3. Other information

www.rat-fte.at/files/NFIP_20021203.pdf	National Research and Innovation Plan
www.rftooe.at	Council for Research and Technology for Upper Austria
www.tmg.at	Oberösterreichische Technologie- und Marketinggesellschaft m.b.H., TMG
www.ffg.at/index.php?cid=95	Kplus and K_ind/K_net programme information
http://www.tip.ac.at	Programme Technology – Innovation – Policy Consulting (TIP)

4. Further information and feedback

This country profile has been prepared by Dr. Michael Braun. For further information and feedback, please contact the responsible author under Michael.Braun@proneos.com