OeBFA
Austrian Treasury

Republic of Austria
Green Investor Report 2025

June 2026

Federal Ministry
Finance
Republic of Austria

Federal Ministry
Agriculture and Forestry, Climate
and Environmental Protection,
Regions and Water Management
Republic of Austria

OeBFA
Austrian Treasury

Contents

1 Preamble

This document is the fourth Green Investor Report of the Republic of Austria, which is published in accordance with our commitments under the Green Framework (April 2022). The report also follows the principles of transparency laid out in the Green Bond Principles 2025 as published by the International Capital Market Association (ICMA), as well as the Green Loan Principles 2025, published by the Loan Market Association (LMA).

In the calendar year 2025, the Republic of Austria issued new Green Financing Instruments under the above-mentioned framework amounting to EUR 6.13 bn. This report details the allocation of these funds and identifies the environmental performance and impact of the financed expenditures. The high level of detail, sophisticated methodology, and timely publication of our annual allocation and impact reporting emphasise our commitment to transparency and sustainability.

This report was reviewed by the external verification provider ISS Corporate Solutions. Particular attention was paid to the alignment with the Green Framework, market standards and the appropriate choice of impact metrics.

The Republic of Austria strives to constantly improve its Green Investor Report in line with market and regulatory developments. This year's report includes, for the first time, a reviewed case study with an EU Taxonomy assessment of Austria's expenditures for railway infrastructure projects financed in 2024. In total, the expenditures allocated under this case study amount to EUR 1,497 mn, representing around one quarter of Green Expenditures allocated in this report (see chapter 6.1).

We believe that our approach results in the best outcome for investors and other stakeholders, while helping us to reach the environmental goals set out in our framework. In the assessment of environmental impacts, we apply a conservative approach to avoid overstating the direct and indirect benefits. Details on our impact measurement methodology are outlined in the annex to this report (see chapter 7). As sustainable debt markets continue to evolve, we will closely monitor investor expectations, best market practices, and regulatory developments.

The edelweiss is a mountain flower that prefers rocky limestone habitats at altitudes of about 1,800–3,000 metres. The edelweiss symbolises alpinism as well as the rugged beauty and purity of the Alps. It is also a national symbol of Austria. © Adobe Stock

2 Introduction

Environmental stewardship has a long history in Austria and represents an integral part of the national identity. The Austrian government intends to achieve climate neutrality by 2040, well ahead of the European Union's (EU) 2050 target. The Republic of Austria aims to protect the environment by embracing a digital and green transformation, promoting low-carbon technologies and decarbonising the economy. It considers policies that ensure a clean and safe environment as a prerequisite to provide prosperity to subsequent generations and guarantee both a future-oriented and attractive business location.

Austria's climate targets are aligned with the Paris Agreement of 2015, under which the international community committed to limiting global warming to well below two degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels, and to pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Accordingly, Austria strongly supports the EU's goal to reach climate neutrality by 2050 and to cut greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by at least 55% by 2030 and 90% (incl. flexibilities) by 2040, both compared to 1990. At the beginning of 2020, the federal government announced its commitment to making Austria climate-neutral as early as 2040, which was reiterated in the government agreement in 2025.[1]

GHG emissions in Austria have followed a clear downward trend since peaking in 2005. Between 2020 and 2024, GHG emissions fell by more than 10% (from 74.8 mn tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_2e) in 2020 to 66.6 mn tonnes of CO_2e in 2024).[2] Preliminary data show that GHG emissions increased slightly by 0.7 mn tonnes of CO_2e in 2025 for various reasons, including an expansion of industrial production, electricity generation at gas-fired power plants due to lower river water levels, and higher heating energy demand compared to 2024.[3] However, the downward trend is expected to persist in the medium term, subject to geopolitical factors and the global oil and gas prices. Under the EU's Effort Sharing Regulation, Austria is required to reduce its GHG emissions by 48% by 2030 (compared to 2005 levels) in sectors not covered by the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS).

The objectives of Austria's climate and environmental policy are, among others, to reduce its GHG emissions in order to mitigate climate change and to prepare for its adverse effects, to reduce emissions of air and water pollutants, to preserve and improve biodiversity and ecosystems, to foster the sustainable use of natural resources and to reduce waste. To govern these actions at the national level, Austria has passed several laws and developed detailed roadmaps and strategies:

- The *National Energy and Climate Plan* defines Austria's climate and energy targets for 2030 and outlines the roadmap to achieving those targets. Austria submitted its updated plan[4] to the European Commission in accordance with Article 14 of the EU Governance Regulation (2018/1999).
- The *Integrated Austrian Network Infrastructure Plan*[5] represents a strategic planning instrument that enables a comprehensive consideration of the infrastructure needs of the future energy system.
- The *Austrian Photovoltaic Strategy*[6] sets out objectives and fields of action for how photovoltaics can continue to contribute to the energy transition.
- The *Hydrogen Strategy for Austria*[7] outlines how Austria intends to use hydrogen to decarbonise the energy system. In 2024, the first implementation report[8] on the hydrogen strategy was presented.

[1] Austrian Federal Chancellery, Government Programme 2020 – 2024, January 2020, and Government Programme 2025 – 2029, March 2025
[2] Environment Agency Austria, Climate Dashboard (only available in German)
[3] Greenhouse gas emissions are expected to rise by 2025 (only available in German), May 2026; note that data for 2025 are preliminary.

[4] European Commission, Updated National Energy and Climate Plan 2021 - 2030 for Austria, December 2024
[5] Federal Ministry for Economy, Energy and Tourism, Integrated Austrian Network Infrastructure Plan (only available in German), 2024
[6] Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, Austrian Photovoltaic Strategy (only available in German), June 2024
[7] Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, Hydrogen Strategy for Austria (only available in German), June 2022, Executive Summary in English, June 2022
[8] Federal Ministry for Economy, Energy and Tourism, Implementation Report on the Hydrogen Strategy for Austria (only available in German), 2024

- The *Strategy for Electricity Supply Security*[9] defines action plans and measures to ensure the resilience of Austria's electricity network.
- The *Austrian Carbon Management Strategy (CMS)*[10] is a key milestone in the first phase of addressing carbon management and is primarily concerned with analysing the status quo and identifying the necessary reform steps and (legal) framework conditions.
- The *Austrian Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change*[11] contains a detailed catalogue of recommendations for 14 sector-specific areas of action.
- The national *Circular Economy Strategy*[12] helps to preserve the value of products, materials and resources within the economy for as long as possible to reduce waste and negative environmental impacts.
- The *Biodiversity Strategy Austria 2030+*[13] defines quantitative and qualitative targets for the preservation of biological diversity in Austria.
- The *Strategy for Research, Technology and Innovation (RTI Strategy 2030)*[14] intends to strengthen research addressing the influencing factors, effects and mitigation of the climate crisis, as well as research in the areas of climate adaptation and resource efficiency.

[9] Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, Strategy for Electricity Supply Security (only available in German), November 2024
[10] Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, Carbon Management Strategy (only available in German), July 2024
[11] Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, Austrian Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (only available in German), April 2024; Executive Summary in English, October 2024
[12] Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, Circular Economy Strategy (only available in German), June 2024
[13] Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, Biodiversity Strategy 2030+ (only available in German), November 2022
[14] Federal Government Republic of Austria, RTI Strategy 2030, 2020

Environmental and Social Risk Management

The issuance of sovereign Green Debt Instruments is one of the measures of the Austrian Green Finance Agenda. This strategy paves the way for future-proof financial market policies. It sets out the building blocks for a climate-friendly and environmentally sustainable financial system and identifies strategic measures and action areas with the potential to scale up sustainable financial instruments for climate-friendly investments.

In 2025, the Green Budgeting Methodology[15] has been applied for the initial screening of Eligible Green Expenditures under the Austrian Green Framework. Green budget items identified in the Green Budgeting Report for the Budget 2025/2026 formed the basis and were further evaluated for eligibility as Green Financing Instruments by the Green Bond Board Management (GBBM). As of 2025, Green Budgeting has also been legally anchored in the Federal Budget Law Act 2013. A recurring assessment that includes information on the EU Taxonomy will be carried out, taking into account recommendations from the spending review on this topic, which was published in March 2025[16].

Furthermore, through the 2025 Budget Accompanying Act, Austria has taken a significant step towards integrating climate considerations into public financial management. An amendment to the Federal Budget Law (BHG) 2013 formally introduces the "climate check," legally embedding the evaluation of climate-related impacts of public spending within the budgetary framework. The new impact dimension will apply to legislative proposals from 1 January 2026 onward and will be supported by a dedicated "Climate Check Service Unit" established by the Federal Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK).

All proceeds under the Austrian Green Framework were allocated to the central government or, indirectly through transfers, to local governments, public and private domestic enterprises as well as private households in Austria. The Republic of Austria has a robust governance and regulatory frame-

[15] Federal Ministry of Finance, Green Budgeting Method (only available in German), last updated November 2025
[16] Federal Ministry of Finance, Green Spending Review Module 3: Implementing the EU Taxonomy at the National Level (only available in German), March 2025

work that ensures environmental and social risks are carefully managed and minimised through strict adherence to regulatory requirements designed to limit such risks. The framework is built on comprehensive national and European legislation, reinforced by the relevant control procedures under applicable laws, as well as Austria's ratification of key international conventions.

These include, among others:

- Environmental Impact Assessment Act (UVP-G 2000)
- Air Pollution Control Act (IG-L)
- Waste Management Act (AWG 2002)
- Water Act (WRG 1959)
- Labour Constitution Act (ArbVG)
- Employee Protection Act (ASchG)
- Equal Treatment Act (GIBG)
- European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR)
- Core Labour Standards of the International Labour Organization (ILO)
- Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT)
- International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CPED)
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

Austria's efficient judicial system and strong rule of law ensure that any violations of these laws can be brought before an independent court. The Austrian regulatory impact assessment system (Wirkungsorientierte Folgenabschätzung, WFA) systematically evaluates legislative proposals and their expected effects across various impact dimensions. These include fiscal implications for the public budget, as well as wider macroeconomic, social and ecological aspects, such as labour market outcomes, gender equality, and environmental and climate-related impacts. Threshold values are defined for all impact dimensions except the financial one. If these are exceeded, a detailed (often quantitative) assessment of expected impacts is required. Otherwise, a simplified qualitative assessment is considered sufficient. It is important to note, however, that parliamentary initiatives are exempt from this process, which is particularly relevant in times of crisis, when measures often need to be adopted rapidly.

Additionally, the Republic of Austria has established clear exclusion criteria within its Green Bond Framework.

This comprehensive framework effectively mitigates potential environmental risks and ensures social safeguards are in place. Should non-compliance occur, Green Expenditures are marked ineligible and subsequently replaced.

Seebensee, Tyrol © Philipp (@picture_scape) | Unsplash

3 Republic of Austria's Green Financing

The Austrian Government is committed to a socially balanced and comprehensive climate protection policy in line with the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals. However, financing the transition and achieving the climate targets requires significant investments. Public authorities in Austria have already made considerable progress in greening their budgets. Funds provided by the public sector are crucial to catalyse private investments and to achieve the levels of investment required to decarbonise the economy and ensure environmental sustainability. In this context, the issuance of Green Financing Instruments has the potential to make a significant contribution to the Green Transition of the Republic of Austria.

Rationale for issuing Green Financing Instruments

The Green Framework forms the basis for the issuance of a broad range of financing instruments, including Green Austrian Government Bonds (RAGB) or Notes (EMTN Format), Green Austrian Treasury Bills, Green Austrian Commercial Papers, Green Bundesschatz (retail product) as well as Green Loans and Deposits (hereafter collectively referred to as "Green Financing Instruments").

The rationale for *Austria's Green Issuance Programme* includes:

- The Green Financing Instruments issued by the Austrian Treasury are allocated to government expenditures that contribute to GHG emission reductions, climate change adaptation and environmental goals, and provide investors with an opportunity to diversify their investment portfolios towards sustainable assets.
- The implementation of the Green Issuance Programme promotes and highlights Austria's environmental agenda. In addition to investment expenditures, Austria also provides subsidies and grants that help to mobilise private capital required to decarbonise the economy and ensure environmental sustainability.
- Funding for the transition to net-zero GHG emissions and for achieving the Austrian climate goals will be supported by the Green Issuance Programme. Green Financing Instruments will also contribute to the national strategies for environmental sustainability and encourage the development of the wider sustainable finance sector.
- Austria's federal budget already contains a high proportion of Eligible Green Expenditures. Green Financing Instruments have received strong demand from short-term as well as longer-term oriented investors. With the Green Issuance Programme, Austria provides an attractive Green Investment offering for domestic and international investors with tenors ranging from one week to currently just under 25 years (March 2051).
- Austria is a leader in sustainability, which is underscored by its outstanding sustainability ratings from ESG rating providers[17]. Issuing Green Financing Instruments further expands and diversifies Austria's broad investor base and helps to increase the demand for Austrian debt instruments overall.
- The Green Investor Report considerably enhances transparency and traceability of Eligible Green Expenditures by providing insights into the allocation of proceeds and the environmental and climate-related impacts. This provides an important link to national environmental strategies and initiatives and contributes to achieving Austria's climate targets.

Financing Instruments of the Republic of Austria

- Government Bonds (RAGB)
- Debt issuance programme (DIP 144A)
- EMTN Programme (Euro Medium Term Notes)
- Australian Dollar MTN Programme – "Kangaroo Programme"
- Loans (short- and long-term) and "Schuldschein" Format
- Austrian Treasury Bills (ATB Programme)
- Austrian Commercial Paper (ACP Programme)
- Retail product "Bundesschatz"

[17] Austrian Treasury, Sustainability Rankings Republic of Austria

3.1 Milestones in Austria's Green Funding

May 2022	▪ Austria published – as the first sovereign issuer worldwide – a Green Framework allowing for the issuance of short-term Green Debt Instruments ▪ Inaugural Green Bond (Green RAGB 1.85% May 2049) issued
October 2022	▪ First Green Loan issued by the Republic of Austria ▪ Inaugural Austrian Treasury Bill (ATB) in Green Format issued
March 2023	▪ Inaugural Green Austrian Commercial Paper (ACP) issued ▪ Introduction of Green Deposits as additional short-term funding instrument
April 2023	▪ Republic of Austria issued its second Green Bond (Green RAGB 2.90% May 2029)
June 2023	▪ Publication of Austria's first Green Investor Report (combined Allocation and Impact Report) including a Second Party Opinion. Thereafter, reports were published annually around mid-year
December 2023	▪ Inaugural Euro Medium Term Note (EMTN) in Green Format issued
April 2024	▪ With the launch of the online retail product "Green Bundesschatz", Austria became the first sovereign worldwide to offer a Green Financial Product for retail investors
January 2025	▪ First syndicated Green Bond issued in the CHF market. Together with seven other green CHF issues (total volume equivalent to around EUR 1.5 bn and with maturities from 7 to 20 years), Austria was the largest green issuer and the largest foreign issuer in CHF in 2025
March 2025	▪ Inaugural issuance of new 6-month line of Green Austrian Treasury Bills, complementing the 3-month line
January – December 2025	▪ Further expansion of the Green Bundesschatz retail product (volume issued in 2025: EUR 650 mn)
January 2026	▪ Successful tap of the Green RAGB May 2049 by EUR 1.25 bn with a record oversubscription of 35.9x
February 2026	▪ Longest Green Bond issued: With a maturity date in 2051, the Green CHF EMTN 2051 is not only the longest green bond issued by the Republic of Austria but also the longest outstanding SSA bond in Green Format denominated in CHF

Austria is a leader in various activities to promote sustainability, which is underlined by a high proportion of Eligible Green Expenditures in its federal budget. Starting in 2022, the Republic of Austria successfully established a second pillar in its funding strategy. Green financing has been implemented in all relevant programmes, including retail instruments and short-term Green Debt Instruments, where Austria is a pioneer sovereign issuer. This broad range of instruments further diversifies the investor base and perfectly complements the traditional funding pillar.

In 2025, the Green Funding Pillar was further expanded by new Green Issuances, for example in foreign currency (CHF), and by substantially increasing the green share among Austrian Treasury Bills by adding an additional 6-month line.

In January 2025, Austria issued its first CHF-denominated Green Bond. The Green CHF Bond 0.6825% February 2035 was issued in an amount of CHF 350 mn (ca. EUR 370 mn). This syndication marked the return of the Republic to the Swiss Franc market after a 16-year absence. Subsequent bilateral taps brought the total outstanding amount of CHF-denominated bonds to CHF 1.425 bn (ca. EUR 1.52 bn) by the end of 2025 across five different Green Bonds with various tenors (2032 – 2045). The inaugural Green CHF issuance also received the "Swiss Franc Bond of the Year 2025" award from IFR (International Financing Review).

Furthermore, in March 2025, a new 6-month Green ATB was issued with a volume of EUR 750 mn. This new longer line (which was tapped in November 2025, bringing the outstanding volume to EUR 2 bn at the end of 2025) complements the existing 3-month Green ATB (outstanding volume of EUR 1.5 bn at year-end). In 2025, the share of Green ATBs increased from 23% to 40%.

New Green Funding in 2026 will be around EUR 7 bn, with a balanced split between Green Federal Budgetary Expenditures made in 2025 and 2026. With regard to the split of Green Financing Instruments into medium/long-term and short-term categories in 2026, the objective is to allocate up to 20% to short-term instruments such as Green ATBs, Green ACPs or Green Deposits. Given the large share of long-term projects funded by Austria's Eligible Green Expenditures, short-term Green Instruments are intended to be rolled over regularly. The Republic of Austria is committed to remaining a regular and reliable issuer of Green Financing Instruments on the capital and money markets.

3.2 Republic of Austria Green Bond Framework

The Republic of Austria's Green Framework is aligned with the 2021 Green Bond Principles (GBP), as published by the International Capital Market Association (ICMA). The most important aspects can be found in the following overview.

Use of Proceeds	▪ Austria intends to allocate an amount equal to the net proceeds from the issuance of Green Financing Instruments to exclusively finance and/or to refinance, in whole or in part, central government expenditures that meet the environmental eligibility criteria ▪ Eight Eligible Green Categories have been defined: (1) Clean transportation; (2) Renewable energy; (3) Energy efficiency; (4) Pollution prevention and control; (5) Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use; (6) Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity; (7) Sustainable water and wastewater management; (8) Climate change adaptation ▪ The scope of Eligible Green Expenditures includes (but is not limited to) subsidies, tax expenditures, operational expenditures and investment expenditures
Project Evaluation and Selection	▪ The Republic of Austria has set up a Green Bond Board managing the evaluation and selection of Eligible Green Expenditures ▪ The Green Bond Board closely cooperates with further relevant federal ministries and associated entities whenever expenditures from their respective area of responsibility are discussed and additional expertise is needed ▪ Potential environmental and social risks of eligible expenditures are identified and managed through Austria's general, comprehensive laws and control procedures. ▪ Austria has defined explicit exclusion criteria that prevent certain expenditures (e.g. fossil fuels) from becoming eligible
Management of Proceeds	▪ Tracking the allocation of the proceeds from the issuance of Green Financing Instruments will be done by the Green Bond Board ▪ Eligible Green Expenditures occurred no earlier than one calendar (i.e. budget) year prior to issuance and the budget year of issuance ▪ The Austrian Treasury aims to distribute the allocation of the net proceeds in a balanced manner between "Past Expenditures" and "Current Expenditures" ▪ The total volume of Eligible Green Expenditures in Austria's Green Portfolio will always be at least as high as the volume of total net proceeds from all outstanding Green Financing Instruments
Reporting	▪ The Republic of Austria is committed to providing two levels of reporting:: – The management and allocation of bond proceeds – The assessment of environmental impacts of allocated Eligible Green Expenditures
External Review	▪ To underpin Austria's commitment to full transparency, independent external reviews will be conducted on key documents and reports

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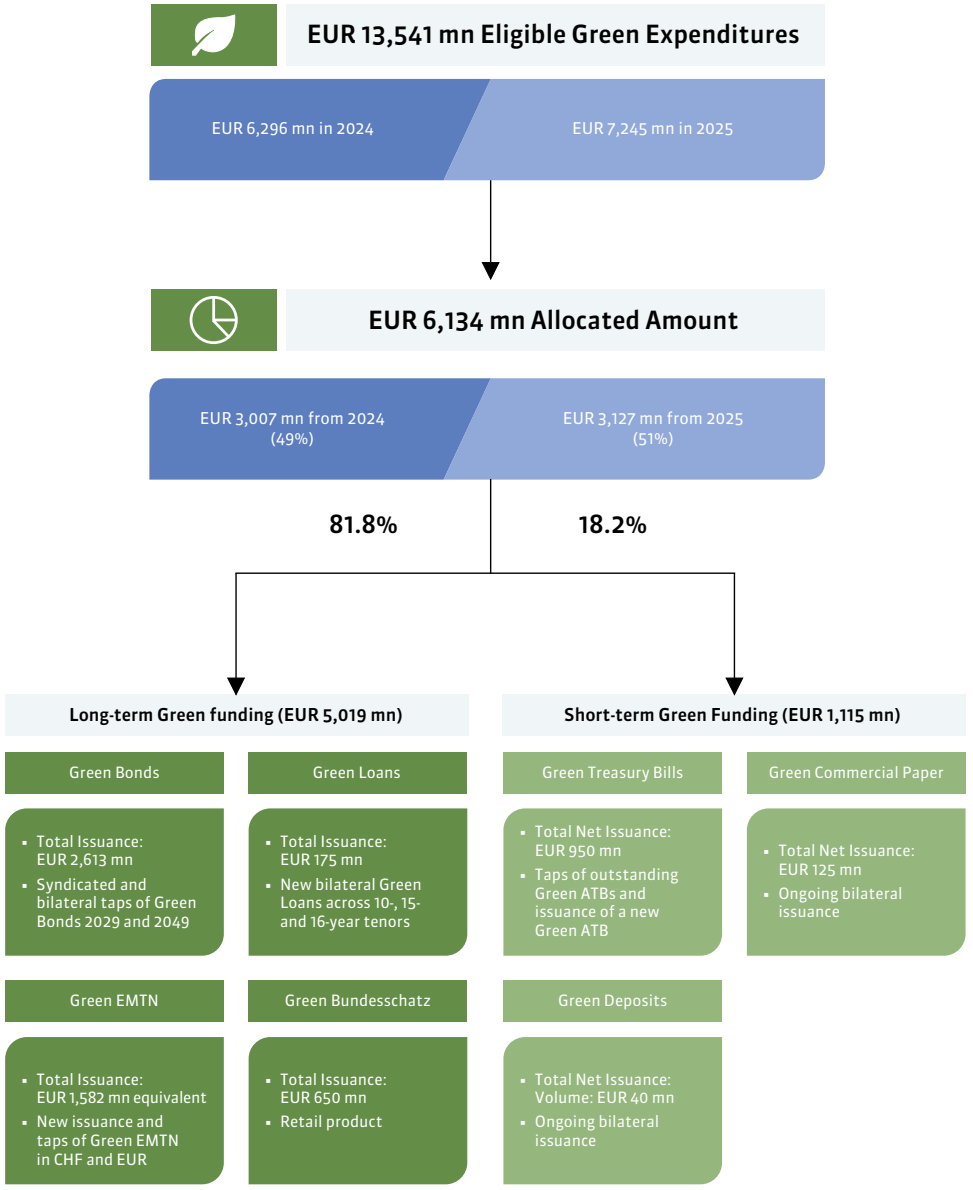
4 Allocation Report

This section of the report provides an overview of the allocation of net proceeds raised from Green Financing Instruments to Eligible Green Expenditures. The government of the Republic of Austria recognises the importance of a common definition of sustainable economic activities that enhances transparency and thereby supports the further development of the Green Debt Market.

An equivalent amount of the net proceeds from Green Financing Instruments newly issued in the financial year 2025 was allocated to the Eligible Green Expenditures of the federal budgets of 2024 and 2025 (hereinafter referred to as Eligible Green Expenditures 2024 II and Eligible Green Expenditures 2025 I). The total eligible expenditures from the federal budget years of 2024 and 2025 add up to EUR 13.54 bn, of which EUR 6.13 bn were allocated to the Green Financing Instruments issued in 2025. Of this amount, the share of allocated Eligible Green Expenditures 2025 I amounted to EUR 3.13 bn (51% financing) and the share of allocated Eligible Green Expenditures 2024 II amounted to EUR 3.01 bn (49% refinancing).

In the accounting system of the Republic of Austria, all transaction entries (transactions are always entered using a dual-control principle) are clearly marked with regard to the Green Framework and the allocation of Eligible Green Expenditures to the respective year. This ensures that all data required for the allocation report is taken directly from the accounting system. This diligent approach also prevents double counting in the allocation process.

All information on allocation and impact presented in this report only refers to Green Issuances up to December 31, 2025.



Green Funding 2025

Following the approach used in previous Green Investor Reports, an amount equivalent to the value of Green Financing newly issued in the financial year 2025 was allocated to the second part of the Eligible Green Expenditures from the federal budget of 2024 (which had not been allocated to Green Financing issued in 2024) and the first part of the Eligible Green Expenditures from 2025.

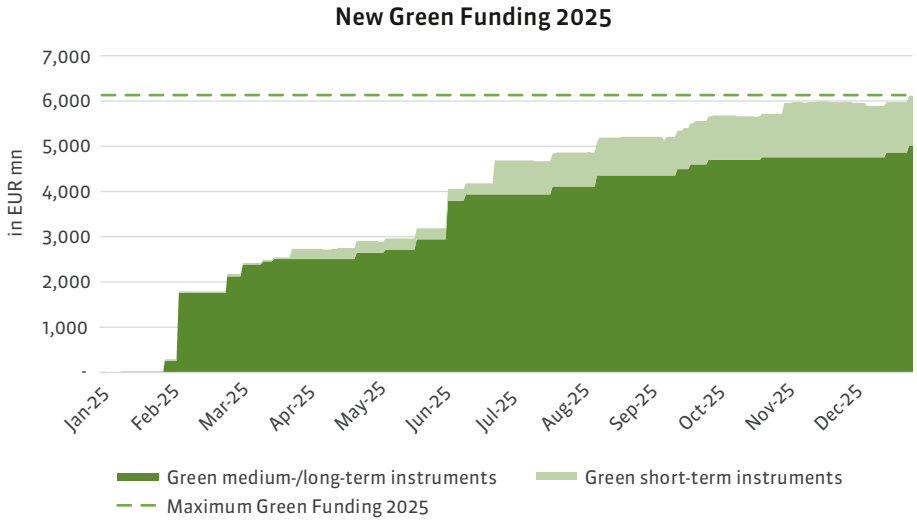
The table below shows all issuance activities related to new Green Funding in the year 2025 that were outstanding at the end of the year. Note that short-term Green Instruments that matured during the year are shown in the Annex "Overview of short-term Green Financing Instruments issued in 2025". All Green Financing Instruments have been allocated to Eligible Green Expenditures during their lifetimes.

Green Financing Instrument	Name	Value date	Maturity date	Maturity in years	Issuance volume in EUR	Issuance volume in foreign currency	Form of issue
Green Bonds	1.85%-RAGB 2022-2049/3 (G)	04-Feb-2025	23-May-2049	24.30	1,500,000,000.00		Syndication
	2.90%-RAGB 2023-2029/2 (G)	05-Mar-2025	23-May-2029	4.22	150,000,000.00		Bilateral
	2.90%-RAGB 2023-2029/2 (G)	05-Mar-2025	23-May-2029	4.22	100,000,000.00		Own Quota
	2.90%-RAGB 2023-2029/2 (G)	05-Jun-2025	23-May-2029	3.96	862,500,000.00		Auction
	Total				**2,612,500,000.00**		
Green EMTN	0.6825% CHF EMTN 2025-2035 (G)	26-Feb-2025	26-Feb-2035	10.00	370,948,019.30	350,000,000.00	Syndication
	0.8400% CHF EMTN 2025-2040 (G)	22-May-2025	22-May-2040	15.00	235,646,958.01	220,000,000.00	Syndication
	1.0075% CHF EMTN 2025-2045 (G)	13-Jun-2025	13-Jun-2045	20.00	134,013,765.89	125,000,000.00	Syndication
	0.8550% CHF EMTN 2025-2037 (G)	22-Jul-2025	22-Jul-2037	12.00	176,366,843.03	165,000,000.00	Syndication
	0.6825% CHF EMTN 2025-2035 (G)	11-Aug-2025	26-Feb-2035	9.55	241,080,038.57	225,000,000.00	Syndication
	0.8400% CHF EMTN 2025-2040 (G)	16-Sep-2025	22-May-2040	14.68	149,440,133.22	140,000,000.00	Syndication
	0.5175% CHF EMTN 2025-2032 (G)	22-Sep-2025	22-Sep-2032	7.00	106,860,440.27	100,000,000.00	Syndication
	1.0075% CHF EMTN 2025-2045 (G)	30-Sep-2025	13-Jun-2045	19.70	107,020,547.95	100,000,000.00	Syndication
	EUR Zero Coupon Note 2025-2026 (G)	08-May-2025	08-May-2026	1.00	60,127,000.00		Bilateral
	Total				**1,581,503,746.24**		
Green Loans	Loan 2025/1 (G)	14-Mar-2025	14-Mar-2040	15.00	75,000,000.00		Bilateral
	Loan 2025/3 (G)	19-Mar-2025	19-Mar-2035	10.00	50,000,000.00		Bilateral
	Loan 2025/10 (G)	24-Oct-2025	24-Oct-2041	16.00	50,000,000.00		Bilateral
	Total				**175,000,000.00**		

Green Financing Instrument	Name	Value date	Maturity date	Maturity in years	Issuance volume in EUR	Issuance volume in foreign currency	Form of issue
Green Bundesschatz	Bundesschatzscheine 2024-2054 (G)	29-Jan-2025	03-Apr-2054	29.18	250,000,000.00		Own Quota
	Bundesschatzscheine 2024-2054 (G)	25-Apr-2025	03-Apr-2054	28.94	150,000,000.00		Own Quota
	Bundesschatzscheine 2024-2054 (G)	19-Dec-2025	03-Apr-2054	28.29	100,000,000.00		Own Quota
	Bundesschatzscheine 2024-2054 (G)	29-Dec-2025	03-Apr-2054	28.26	150,000,000.00		Own Quota
	Total				**650,000,000.00**		
Long-term Green Financing Instruments					**5,019,003,746.24**		
Green ATB	Austrian Treasury Bill 2026-03-26 (G)	25-Sep-2025	26-Mar-2026	0.50	700,000,000.00		Auction
	Austrian Treasury Bill 2026-03-26 (G)	03-Nov-2025	26-Mar-2026	0.39	250,000,000.00		Own Quota
	Total				**950,000,000.00**		
Green ACP	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/275 (G)	19-Sep-2025	19-Mar-2026	0.50	50,000,000.00		Bilateral
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/281 (G)	24-Sep-2025	24-Mar-2026	0.50	40,000,000.00		Bilateral
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/312 (G)	23-Oct-2025	23-Jan-2026	0.25	10,000,000.00		Bilateral
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/343 (G)	14-Nov-2025	17-Feb-2026	0.26	5,000,000.00		Bilateral
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/345 (G)	18-Nov-2025	18-Feb-2026	0.25	20,000,000.00		Bilateral
	Total				**125,000,000.00**		
Green Deposits	Deposit (G)	10-Sep-2025	09-Jan-2026	0.33	11,000,000.00		Bilateral
	Deposit (G)	02-Oct-2025	05-Jan-2026	0.26	7,000,000.00		Bilateral
	Deposit (G)	22-Oct-2025	09-Jan-2026	0.22	7,500,000.00		Bilateral
	Deposit (G)	31-Oct-2025	02-Feb-2026	0.26	7,000,000.00		Bilateral
	Deposit (G)	07-Nov-2025	06-Feb-2026	0.25	7,000,000.00		Bilateral
	Total				**39,500,000.00**		
Short-term Green Financing Instruments					**1,114,500,000.00**		
Total new Green Net Issuance 2025					**6,133,503,746.24**		

New Green Net Issuance relevant to the 2025 allocation of proceeds amounted to EUR 6.13 bn. Total Green Gross Issuance amounted to EUR 7.20 bn as short-term Green Instruments also include rollovers and intra-year issuances of EUR 1.07 bn. Further details are provided in the section "Short-term Green Funding 2025" and Annex 8 "Overview of short-term Green Financing Instruments issued in 2025".

An overview of the issuances and outstanding amounts of New Green Net Issuance in 2025 by instrument type is provided below, grouped into medium-/long-term Green Funding and short-term Green Funding.



Medium-/long-term Green Funding 2025

In 2025, Green Bonds were issued in four transactions with a total amount of EUR 2.61 bn. On January 28, the Republic of Austria successfully priced a EUR 6.50 bn dual-tranche transaction comprising a new EUR 5.00 bn 10-year conventional benchmark due February 2035 and a EUR 1.50 bn tap of the Green RAGB 1.85% May 2049. High demand led to an average oversubscription of 8.5x; final books closed at over EUR 51 bn (of which more than EUR 15 bn was for the Green 2049 tap). This represented the largest combined order book size achieved in any Austrian government bond dual-tranche transaction in Austria's history. In February, the Green RAGB 2.9% May 2029 was tapped bilaterally by EUR 150 mn and increased further via own quota issuance by EUR 100 mn. In June, the same line was tapped by EUR 862.50 mn via auction with a bid-to-cover ratio of 2.76, which was above the combined average bid-to-cover ratio for RAGBs in 2025.

In January, the Republic of Austria also issued its first CHF-denominated Green Bond under the EMTN Framework. The Green CHF Bond 0.6825% February 2035 with an amount of CHF 350 mn (ca. EUR 370 mn) marked the return of the Austrian Treasury to the Swiss Franc market after a 16-year absence. Subsequent bilateral taps brought the total outstanding amount of CHF-denominated Green Bonds to CHF 1.425 bn (ca. EUR 1.52 bn) by the end of 2025 across five different Green Bonds with various tenors (2032 – 2045). The issuance of the first 10-year Green CHF Bond by the Republic of Austria received the "Swiss Franc Bond of the Year 2025" award from IFR (International Financing Review).

In September, the Green EUR Zero Coupon Note 2025-2026, issued under the EMTN Framework, was tapped by EUR 60.1 mn via bilateral transactions. Green Loan issuance reached a total amount of EUR 175 mn during 2025.

The total volume of Green Bundesschatz issued in 2025 amounted to EUR 650 mn. Green Bundesschatz is an Austrian government security with final maturity in April 2054 ("Bundesschatzscheine 2024-2054 (G)" in the table on pages 11-12). The retail product Bundesschatz is, in essence, a floating debt instrument as interest rates are set at each interest date according to the prevailing market yield level. Retail investors are given the option to sell back at par to the Republic of Austria on the next interest date. Green Bundesschatz is offered in tenors of 6 months and 4 years.

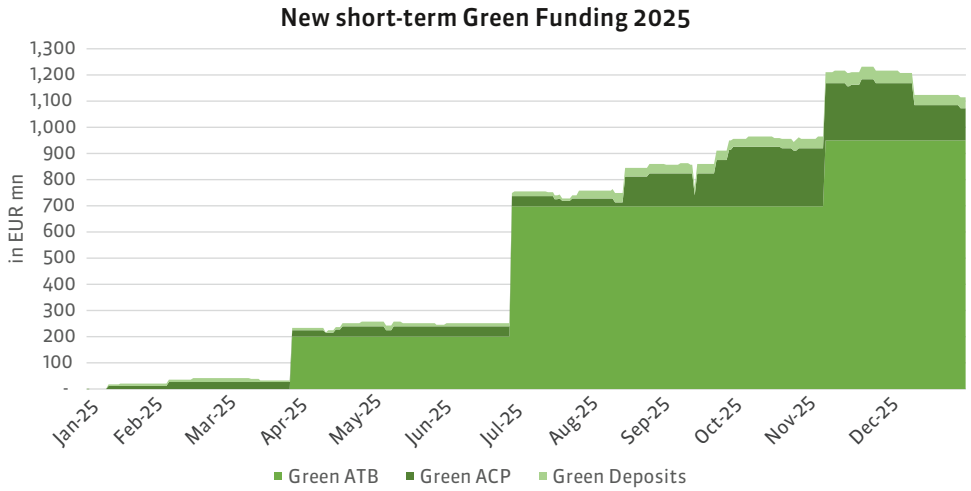
Short-term Green Funding 2025

In 2025, existing Green ATBs (ATB 2026-02-26 (G) and ATB 2026-03-26 (G)) were rolled over and increased at seven different auctions (in February, March, May, June, August, September, and November) and the combined volume was increased to EUR 3.50 bn as of December 31, 2025. In addition to increases via auctions, the outstanding amount of the Green ATBs was also increased through one bilateral tap. Green ATBs accounted for 40% of total ATBs outstanding at the end of 2025.

A number of new Green ACPs and Green Deposits were issued, and existing ones were rolled over during the course of the year 2025. As of December 31, 2025, the total outstanding volume of Green ACP issuance 2025 (with maturities of up to 12 months) amounted to EUR 125 mn and the total outstanding volume of Green Deposits (bilateral; short-term with maturities of up to 12 months) amounted to EUR 39.5 mn.

Rollovers are possible for short-term Green Financing Instruments, i.e. debt securities with a maximum term to maturity of one year. Given the nature of Green ACP and Green Deposits, which are issued bilaterally, a rollover of these Green Financing Instruments is not always possible, as issuance is driven by individual investor demand. Therefore, for the determination of the maximum issue amount of short-term Green Financing Instruments throughout the calendar year, a high-watermark principle is applied. The total amount of Eligible Green Expenditures allocated is determined by the highest outstanding amount of all Green Financing Instruments in a calendar year. Eligible Green Expenditures may be allocated to multiple instruments during a given year as long as the instruments are not outstanding at the same time. This ensures that double counting is avoided.

The following graph shows the new issuances and outstanding amounts of short-term Green Financing Instruments during 2025.



Reith, Alpbachtal © Alpbachtal Tourismus/G. Grießenböck

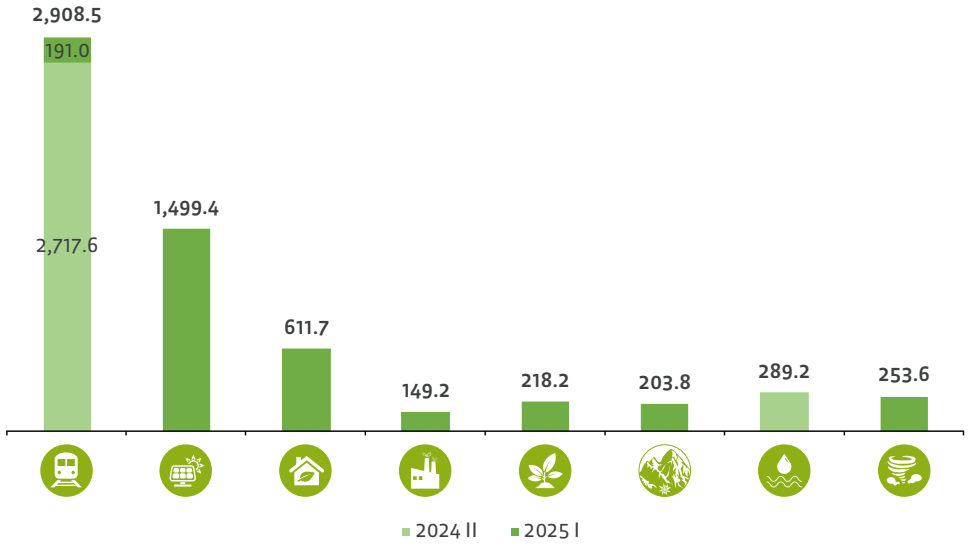
Allocation of Proceeds

The net proceeds raised in 2025 have been allocated across eight different categories of Eligible Green Expenditures, listed in the Green Framework published in April 2022. Furthermore, the Republic of Austria's Green Framework is aligned with the 2021 version of the Green Bond Principles (GBP) published by the International Capital Market Association (ICMA).

Eligible Green Expenditures are related to a large number of assets, support Austria's environmental policy and target different beneficiaries: citizens, households, companies, local authorities, public agencies and universities. An overview of the Eligible Green Categories covered by issuances of Green Financing Instruments can be found in the following table.

1. Clean transportation	5. Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use
2. Renewable energy	6. Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity
3. Energy efficiency	7. Sustainable water and wastewater management
4. Pollution prevention and control	8. Climate change adaptation

The bar chart below shows the allocated amounts (in EUR mn) per Eligible Green Category in 2024 II and 2025 I.



Of the available eligible amounts of the federal budgets of 2024 and 2025, EUR 6.134 bn was allocated to Green Financing Instruments issued in 2025:

EUR 2,908.5 mn, accounting for 47.4% of the total allocation, were assigned to the Clean transportation category, of which EUR 2,717.6 mn came from Eligible Green Expenditures of 2024 and EUR 191.0 mn from 2025. The second largest share (24.4%) was allocated to the Renewable energy category (EUR 1,499.4 mn). Energy efficiency represents the category with the third largest allocation (10.0%), with a total of EUR 611.7 mn. This is followed by the categories Sustainable water and wastewater management at EUR 289.2 mn (4.7%), Climate change adaptation at EUR 253.6 mn (4.1%), Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use at EUR 218.2 mn (3.6%), Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity at EUR 203.8 mn (3.3%) and Pollution prevention and control at EUR 149.2 mn (2.4%).

Allocation details at the level of Eligible Green Categories (in EUR mn)

				Eligible Amounts			Allocated Amounts				Remaining Eligible Amounts
Eligible Green Category		**Key EU Environmental Objectives**	**UN SDG Mapping**	**2024**	**2025**	**Total Eligible**	**2024 II**	**2025 I**	**Total Allocated**	**% Total Allocated**	**Balance 2025**
	Clean transportation	Climate change mitigation Pollution prevention and control		3,716.7	4,052.1	**7,768.7**	2,717.6	191.0	**2,908.5**	**47.4%**	**3,861.1**
	Renewable energy	Climate change mitigation		1,052.7	1,499.4	**2,552.1**		1,499.4	**1,499.4**	**24.4%**	
	Energy efficiency	Climate Change mitigation		537.7	611.7	**1,149.4**		611.7	**611.7**	**10.0%**	
	Pollution prevention and control	Pollution prevention and control		103.6	149.2	**252.8**		149.2	**149.2**	**2.4%**	
	Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use	Pollution prevention and control Transition to a circular economy		203.5	218.2	**421.7**		218.2	**218.2**	**3.6%**	
	Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity	Protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems		175.8	203.8	**379.6**		203.8	**203.8**	**3.3%**	
	Sustainable water and wastewater management	Sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources Pollution prevention and control		289.2	257.4	**546.6**	289.2		**289.2**	**4.7%**	**257.4**
	Climate change adaptation	Climate change adaptation		216.5	253.6	**470.1**		253.6	**253.6**	**4.1%**	
				6,295.7	7,245.3	**13,540.9**	3,006.7	3,126.8	**6,133.5**	**100.0%**	**4,118.5**

Allocation details at the level of Green Financing Instruments (in EUR mn)

				Medium-/long term					Short-term			
Eligible Green Category	2024 II	2025 I	Total Allocated	Bonds	Loans	EMTN	Bundeschatz	Total	ATB	ACP	Deposits	Total
Clean transportation	2,717.6	191.0	**2,908.5**	1,238.9	83.0	750.0	308.2	**2,380.0**	450.5	59.3	18.7	**528.5**
Renewable energy		1,499.4	**1,499.4**	638.6	42.8	386.6	158.9	**1,226.9**	232.2	30.6	9.7	**272.4**
Energy efficiency		611.7	**611.7**	260.5	17.5	157.7	64.8	**500.5**	94.7	12.5	3.9	**111.1**
Pollution prevention and control		149.2	**149.2**	63.5	4.3	38.5	15.8	**122.1**	23.1	3.0	1.0	**27.1**
Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use		218.2	**218.2**	92.9	6.2	56.3	23.1	**178.5**	33.8	4.4	1.4	**39.6**
Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity		203.8	**203.8**	86.8	5.8	52.5	21.6	**166.7**	31.6	4.2	1.3	**37.0**
Sustainable water and wastewater management	289.2		**289.2**	123.2	8.3	74.6	30.6	**236.6**	44.8	5.9	1.9	**52.5**
Climate change adaptation		253.6	**253.6**	108.0	7.2	65.4	26.9	**207.5**	39.3	5.2	1.6	**46.1**
	3,006.7	3,126.8	**6,133.5**	2,612.5	175.0	1,581.5	650.0	**5,019.0**	950.0	125.0	39.5	**1,114.5**

5 Impact Report

The total eligible Green Expenditures from the federal budget in 2024 and 2025 add up to EUR 13.54 bn, of which EUR 6.13 bn were allocated to Green Financing Instruments issued in 2025. For 99.5% of this allocated amount, information on environmental performance and/or impact is presented in this chapter. A detailed overview of allocated amounts per Use of Proceeds (UoP) category covered by the impact reporting is presented in the tables below. For 2024, the impact report includes information for EUR 2.99 bn (or 99.6% of allocated amounts), whereas in 2025, EUR 3.11 bn (or almost 99.4% of allocated amounts) is covered.

The indicators relate to the total volumes of supported projects and infrastructure investments and therefore represent leveraged effects[18]. The impact analysis and the methodological approach were prepared by the Environment Agency Austria[19] specifically for the purpose of the Green Investor Report and are not directly comparable to those of other publications addressing the respective funding instruments due to different scopes. Several projects and infrastructure investments are eligible for funding and grants from more than one funding body. To prevent an overstatement of impact, performance and impact metrics for these activities are presented for only one funding instrument.

Highlights

- In total, the expenditures for projects and infrastructure financed under the Green Framework and allocated to Green Financing Instruments issued in 2025 are leveraging annual GHG emissions reduction/avoidance of 3.47 mn tonnes CO_2e. Thereof, 2.38 mn tonnes were facilitated by expenditures made in 2024, which represents around 3.6% of Austria's total GHG emissions in 2024 according to a recent report by the Environment Agency Austria[20]. For the part of the 2025 expenditures allocated to Green Financing Instruments issued in 2025, an additional 1.09 mn tonnes of CO_2e reduction/avoidance is enabled. The main part of CO_2e reductions covered by this reporting (2.44 mn tonnes) is attributable to investments in the construction, modernisation and maintenance of rail infrastructure and to the funding of railway operations. In total, a broad set of 15 sub-categories[21], including funding programmes facilitating the transition towards zero-emission mobility by promoting active mobility, mobility management and zero-emission vehicles as well as renewable energy and energy efficiency contributes to this result.
- Federal government financing in the area "Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity" (Austrian Agri-environmental Programme) enabled over 89,800 farm subsidies and funding for more than 1.86 mn hectares of agricultural land in 2025. Total highly biodiversity-relevant areas on agricultural land increased to 245,593 hectares in 2025. Also, starting with the application year 2024, the premia in the agri-environmental programme were increased by 8% to further expand participation.
- Federal government financing in the area "Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use" (Austrian compensatory allowance for less-favoured areas) enabled more than 78,000 farm subsidies and funding of around 1.45 mn hectares of agricultural land in 2025.
- In 2024, more than 26,800 additional people were connected to drinking water supply and 497 km of water pipes were renovated or constructed, enabled by public funding.
- Flood protection measures of the Federal Water Engineering Administration financed under the Green Framework amounted to EUR 93.7 mn in 2025 and have enabled more than 4,900 citizens to be protected from flood events.
- In 2025, projects and infrastructure funded in the areas "Renewable energy" and "Energy efficiency" enabled annual energy savings of 895,776 MWh and an annual renewable energy generation/use of 2,753,508 MWh.

Details on the effects described above and further impact and performance indicators are presented in the following chapters. For better readability, ministries and other institutions are referred to by their abbreviations. The full names can be found in the list of abbreviations and translations (Annex 10).

[18] Allocated amounts shown in the tables in this chapter refer to the share where impact information is available (which in some cases is not equal to the total allocated amount referred to in chapter 4).
[19] For the calculation of performance and impact metrics, input from the responsible bodies outlined in the sub-chapters was used. Further sources are listed in annex 9.
[20] Environment Agency Austria, Austria's Annual Greenhouse Gas Inventory 1990-2024, January 2026.

[21] Under the UoP categories "Clean transportation", "Renewable energy" and "Energy efficiency" presented in the following chapters, a total of 15 sub-categories are listed that contribute to the reduction/avoidance of GHG emissions.

Allocated amounts covered by the impact reporting

Eligible Green Category	UN SDG Mapping	2024 II			2025 I			Total (2024 II + 2025 I)		
		Allocated amount	Allocated amount covered by impact	Impact metrics in % of allocated	Allocated amount	Allocated amount covered by impact	Impact metrics in % of allocated	Allocated amount	Allocated amount covered by impact	Impact metrics in % of allocated
Clean transportation	7, 9, 11, 13	2,717.6	2,704.4	**99.5%**	191.0	191.0	**100.0%**	2,908.5	2,895.3	**99.5%**
Renewable energy	7, 13				1,499.4	1,499.4	**100.0%**	1,499.4	1,499.4	**100.0%**
Energy efficiency	7, 13				611.7	611.7	**100.0%**	611.7	611.7	**100.0%**
Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity	14, 15				203.8	203.8	**100.0%**	203.8	203.8	**100.0%**
Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use	12, 15				218.2	200.7	**92.0%**	218.2	200.7	**92.0%**
Sustainable water and wastewater management	3, 6	289.2	289.2	**100.0%**				289.2	289.2	**100.0%**
Pollution prevention and control	3				149.2	149.2	**100.0%**	149.2	149.2	**100.0%**
Climate change adaptation	13				253.6	253.6	**100.0%**	253.6	253.6	**100.0%**
		3,006.7	2,993.5	**99.6%**	3,126.8	3,109.3	**99.4%**	6,133.5	6,102.9	**99.5%**

5.1 Clean transportation

The transport sector is one of the main sources of GHG emissions in Austria. The highest share of emissions in this sector can be attributed to road traffic, in particular to passenger car traffic. Between 2022 and 2024, total GHG emissions from the transport sector decreased by an average of 3% per year[22]. Despite this positive development, further efforts are required to reach Austria's goal of climate neutrality by 2040. These efforts are necessary, as Austria's GHG inventory has shown an increase in transport-sector GHG emissions per capita since 1990. Creating incentives and conditions that make sustainable modes of transport more attractive is therefore crucial for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Austria. In addition to changes in regulatory policy, this includes investments in infrastructure for public transport, walking and cycling, in public transport services and in support and consulting programmes.

In order to maintain and further improve the quality of the public transport network, Austria invests continuously in its maintenance, modernisation and extension. For the railway network, this is regulated in a special framework plan (further information available in sub-chapter "Federal subsidies to ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG"). To create an additional incentive to use public transport, Austria introduced the so-called Climate Ticket (KlimaTicket) in 2021, which allows the use of all means of public transport in Austria with a single annual ticket. Further information is available in sub-chapter "Climate Ticket Austria (KlimaTicket)".

During the reporting period, a total of EUR 2,704.4 mn with reported impact was allocated to projects dedicated to clean transportation in 2024 and EUR 191.0 mn in 2025.

	2024 II			2025 I		
Clean transportation	**Allocated amount with reported impact (EUR mn)**	**Annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided (tonnes CO_2e)**	**Number of users**	**Allocated amount with reported impact (EUR mn)**	**Annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided (tonnes CO_2e)**	**Number of projects (x) / trained personnel (*) / new programme partners (°)**
Clean transportation infrastructure and services	2,425.2	2,380,000[23]		59.3	43,420	
Public transport: Climate Ticket Austria	279.2		326,000			
Funding programmes for a transition to zero emission mobility				70.1	20,050	5,539 (x)
Consulting for enabling a transition to zero emission mobility				9.0		116 (*) / 15 (°)
Research, development and innovation				52.5		209 (x)
Total	**2,704.4**			**191.0**		

Table 1: Clean transportation – overview of indicators. Sums in the table may not add up due to rounding differences

[22] Environment Agency Austria, Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2024, Facts and Figures (only available in German)
[23] Thereof 75,000 t CO_2e will be avoided annually once the extension of the Vienna underground line network is fully operational.

5.1.1 Clean transportation infrastructure and services

To ensure the provision of rail passenger and freight transport, as well as public transport in general, investments in infrastructure are necessary. Depending on the type and category of investment, legal obligations or agreements regulate the federal government's share of investment.

Railways are a very popular means of transportation. Austria is regularly among the top three European countries in terms of passenger kilometres travelled per inhabitant per year. In 2024, Austria was ranked second[24]. That year, 349 million passengers travelled by rail in Austria, which was a 6% increase compared to 2023[25]. The rising popularity of rail travel is reflected in the increasing number of passengers.

For the impact assessment, investments in rail infrastructure and investments in rail passenger and freight transport services are considered together, as rail transportation infrastructure enables both. The avoided GHG emissions reported thus reflect the overall effect enabled by the investments in rail infrastructure and services. The detailed methodology for determining the avoided GHG emissions is described in chapter 7.1.

Federal subsidies to ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG

Objective
The operation and provision of rail infrastructure as well as maintenance, planning and construction of rail infrastructure to enhance the attractiveness of rail transport

Responsible Body
BMIMI

Description of Financing
According to § 31 of the Austrian Federal Railways Act (Bundesbahngesetz), ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG is obliged to make its rail infrastructure available to rail transport companies operating on the Austrian rail network. The Austrian Railway Framework Plan (ÖBB Framework Plan) provides for investments in the network of ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG. The legal basis for this is set out in § 42 of the Federal Railways Act[26].

The Austrian Railway Framework Plan includes projects and investments in the Austrian rail network over a six-year period as well as planned maintenance expenses. This forms the basis for the subsidies of the BMIMI provided to ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG, which are subsequently contractually agreed upon (subsidy contracts).

The focus of the current Austrian Railway Framework Plan is as follows:

- In rail passenger transport, the Austrian Railway Framework Plan reduces the travel time on important axes, which is enabled by large infrastructure projects (Brenner Base Tunnel, Semmering Base Tunnel, Koralm Railway) and investments in electrification, automation and digitalisation. Furthermore, renovations of railway stations, improved customer services and better connections will make travelling by rail more attractive.
- In rail freight transport, the Austrian Railway Framework Plan aims to increase the transport capacity within the railway network. The framework plan includes large infrastructure projects along important Trans-European Transport Network axes (TEN-T), such as the Brenner Base Tunnel on the Scandinavian-Mediterranean Corridor and the Semmering Base Tunnel on the Baltic-Adriatic Corridor, investments in intermodal terminals and cargo centres (Villach, Graz, Wels, Vienna), as well as electrification and ongoing investments in automation and digitalisation.

In 2024[27], 172.8 mn train kilometres were travelled on the ÖBB railway network, of which 155.5 mn were operated with electric traction[28,29].

- 124.3 mn train kilometres were attributable to public service passenger transport (89% electric)
- 40.1 mn train kilometres were attributable to freight transport (96% electric)

[24] Eurostat (online data codes: rail_pa_typepas and demo_gind)
[25] Schienen-Control, Annual Report 2024 (only available in German)
[26] Austrian Federal Railways Act (last amended version, only available in German)
[27] Data provided by ÖBB.
[28] Transport services provided by electric locomotives or electric railcars, excluding diesel vehicles.
[29] The delta between total kilometres and train kilometres in passenger and freight transport are service and locomotive trains which were not included in the impact calculation.

In 2025, 177.4 mn train kilometres were travelled on the ÖBB railway network, 160.1 mn train kilometres of which with electric traction.[28,29]

- 127.3 mn train kilometres were attributable to public service passenger transport (90% electric)
- 41.3 mn train kilometres were attributable to freight transport (96% electric)

Beneficiaries

- Direct: ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG
- Indirect: all users of the ÖBB rail network

Environmental Impact

The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 1 by the following indicator:

- Avoided GHG emissions 2024 and 2025[30]

Co-financing of rail infrastructure investments by private railway companies and contributions to the provision of rail infrastructure

Objective

The operation and provision of rail infrastructure as well as maintenance, planning and construction of rail infrastructure to enhance the attractiveness of rail transport

Responsible Body

BMIMI

Description of Financing

In accordance with § 4 of the Private Railways Act 2004, the infrastructure of private railways in Austria is financed via so-called *"Medium-term Investment Programmes"*, which are concluded between the federal government, relevant regional authorities and the respective private railway company for a period of five years. The current 9th *Medium-term Investment Programme* (9th MIP) covers the financing period 2021-2025.

Under the 9th MIP, 23 private railways in eight federal states are co-financed by the federal government in the period 2021-2025. The federal funds earmarked for this purpose amount to EUR 480.7 mn over the entire financing period. This is 277% more than the investments under the 8th MIP. Private railways are open to the public with regular year-round traffic, which is a prerequisite for funding under the Private Railways Act. The financing is divided into 50% state and 50% federal funding.

Investments are focussed on electrification, infrastructure improvements and safety. Detailed information on all funded projects can be found in the report on the 9th *Medium-term Investment Programme*[31].

In addition to maintaining the existing infrastructure, the investment programme aims to make the existing lines more attractive. The impact and effectiveness of the investments can be illustrated by the number of train kilometres and users. Private railways that are open to the public with regular year-round traffic are supported by the federal government to ensure a basic service in rail passenger transport (see also chapter "Ordering of non-commercial services in rail passenger transport").

Beneficiaries

- Direct: Private railways (Neusiedler Seebahn GmbH, Raaberbahn AG, NÖVOG, Wiener Lokalbahnen GmbH, Linzer Lokalbahn AG, Lokalbahn Gmunden-Vorchdorf AG, Lokalbahn Lambach-Vorchdorf AG, Lokalbahn Vöcklamarkt-Attersee AG, Salzburg Linien Verkehrsbetriebe GmbH, Pinzgauer Lokalbahn, Cargo Center Graz, Steiermärkische Landesbahnen, IVB, Zillertaler Verkehrsbetriebe AG, Montafonerbahn AG, Schiene OÖ)
- Indirect: all users of the rail network of private railway companies

Environmental Impact

The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 1 by the following indicator:

- Avoided GHG emissions 2024 and 2025[32]

[30] Presented cumulatively for rail infrastructure and services

[31] See project-specific information on the website of the responsible ministry (only available in German)

[32] Presented cumulatively for rail infrastructure and services

Ordering of non-commercial services in rail passenger transport

Objective
Provision of a basic service in rail passenger transport

Responsible Body
BMIMI

Description of Financing
The federal contributions ensure a basic level of rail passenger transport. The provision of these rail passenger services (or service components) is in the public interest, but ticket revenues alone cannot cover the costs (in most cases, ticket revenues cover only around one-third of the incurred costs). As such, these services would not be offered on the market; their provision requires co-financing by the public sector.

Beneficiaries

- Direct: ÖBB-Personenverkehr AG (ÖBB-PV AG) and private railway companies
- Indirect: all rail passengers

Environmental Impact
The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 1 by the following indicator:

- Avoided GHG emissions in 2024 and 2025[33]

Salzkammergut railway route © Adobe Stock

[33] Presented cumulatively for rail infrastructure and services

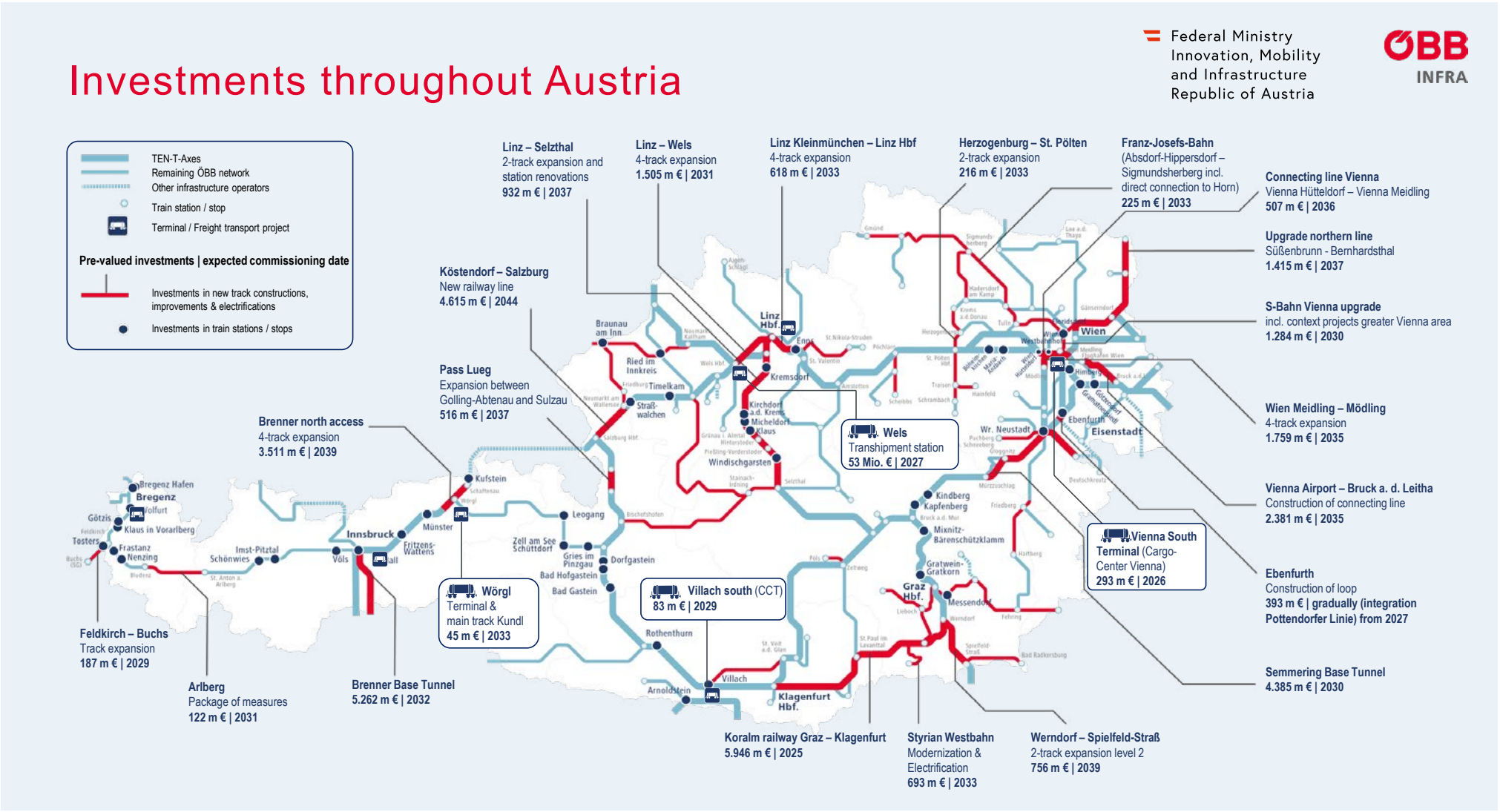


Figure 1: Austrian Railway Framework Plan 2025-2030[34]

[34] BMIMI and ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG, Rahmenplan 2025-2030 (only available in German), June 2025
The Austrian Railway Framework Plan is adopted by the federal government. The figure shows the most recent Austrian railway framework plan, including the main projects planned for the period 2025-2030.

Rail freight funding plus (Schienengüterverkehrsförderung Plus)

Objective
The provision of rail freight transport services in the form of single-wagon transport, unaccompanied intermodal transport or rolling road (piggyback transportation of road trucks by rail)

Responsible Body
BMIMI

Description of Financing
Financing is provided in the form of non-repayable grants. For this purpose, contracts are concluded between BMIMI and the railway companies providing the rail freight transport service. In 2024, 62% of tonne-kilometres transported by rail in Austria were supported by rail freight funding[35].

In addition, since 2023 it has been possible to apply for a subsidy covering track access charges, payable to the infrastructure operator. This subsidy can be combined with the rail freight transport grant.

Beneficiaries
Railway companies

Environmental Impact
The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 1 by the following indicator:

- Avoided GHG emissions 2024[36]

[35] According to the annual evaluation of the funding programme by the BMIMI; 2025 data not yet available
[36] Presented cumulatively for rail infrastructure and services

Co-financing by the federal government of the investment costs for the expansion of the Vienna subway system

Objective
The expansion of the underground network of Vienna[37]

© Wiener Linien

Responsible Bodies
BMIMI, City of Vienna

Description of Financing
The financing of the Vienna subway is governed by a federal-state agreement pursuant to § 15a B-VG (Federal Constitutional Law). Under this agreement, funding responsibilities are shared equally between the federal government and the City of Vienna, with the federal government providing an annual contribution of EUR 78 mn.

To respond to changing urban structures and relieve high-traffic lines, Wiener Linien is expanding Vienna's underground network. The new U2xU5 interchange will bring significant benefits to Vienna's public transport network, including environmentally friendly urban planning and additional green space in the city.
The project will create four new underground interchanges and two additional connections to Vienna's regional rail network. Overall, the new direct connections will provide an efficient and environmentally friendly means of transport within the city.

According to the operator (Wiener Linien), once fully operational, use of Vienna's public transport could be increased by more than 300 million passengers per year, enabling annual CO_2e savings of up to 75,000 tonnes. To put this into perspective, achieving the same annual CO_2e absorption would require storage capacity of approximately 6 million trees or around 9,400 hectares of forest[38].

[37] Further information available on the project's webpage
[38] For details on the calculation, see chapter 7.1

The construction of new sections within the Vienna underground network is considered an enabling activity, as it is a prerequisite for shifting transport from individual motorised transport to public transport and thus contributes to low-carbon mobility.

Beneficiaries

- Direct: Wiener Linien
- Indirect: all users of public transport in Vienna

Environmental Impact

The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 1 by the following indicator:

- Avoided GHG emissions (once fully operational)[39]

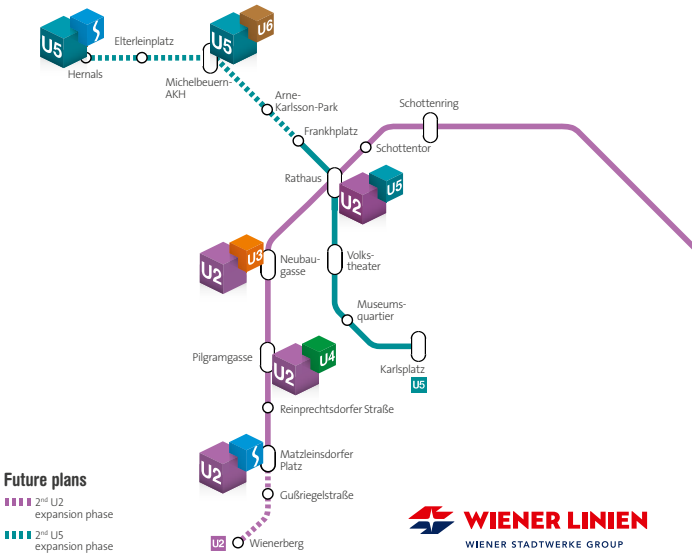


Figure 2: Plan for the expansion of lines U2 and U5 of the Vienna subway system © Wiener Linien

[39] The emissions will be avoided once the new underground line is fully operational.

5.1.2 Public Transport

Public transport in Austria is financed through a multi-layered system of mechanisms in which financial allocations from the federal government, state governments, local governments as well as revenues from single and season ticket sales all contribute to the system. Public transfers and subsidies ensure public transport services in regions where operations would otherwise not be economically viable. In 2021, the Climate Ticket Austria (KlimaTicket) was introduced, enabling, for the first time in Austria, nationwide use of all public transport services with just one card. Until 2024, the annual price was EUR 1,095. Since January 2025 the price has gradually increased and stands at EUR 1,400 annually as of January 2026.

Climate Ticket Austria (KlimaTicket)

Objective

The easy and convenient use of public transport services with an annual ticket, available as the Climate Ticket Austria (for all regions within Austria) and as a Regional Climate Ticket (for one region)

Responsible Body

BMIMI

Description of Financing

The Climate Ticket Austria is funded by financial contributions from the federal government and revenues from ticket sales.

The Climate Ticket is considered an enabling measure, as affordable and easy-to-use public transport services are crucial for shifting towards low-carbon mobility. In 2024, there were 326,000 holders of the Climate Ticket Austria and 1,300,000 holders of Regional Climate Tickets[40].

According to the KlimaTicket-Report 2023[41], 22% of Climate Ticket users stated that, without the ticket, they would have travelled by car instead. Taking survey uncertainties into account, the report

[40] Data provided by BMIMI
[41] ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG, ClimaTicket-Report 2023/24, 2025 (only available in German)

estimated 105,900 tonnes of CO_2e savings[42] in 2023. Moreover, 17% of Climate Ticket users living in households with one or more cars have disposed of one car, with a further 14% planning to do so.

Beneficiaries

- Direct: public transport providers
- Indirect: all holders of the Climate Ticket (regular users of public transport)

Environmental Impact

The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 1 by the following indicator:

- Number of users in 2024

5.1.3 Funding Programmes for a Transition to Zero-emission Mobility

The transition to zero-emission mobility is supported and facilitated by several national funding programmes focusing on promoting e-mobility (including zero-emission vehicles), active mobility (cycling and walking), mobility management and public transport. In addition, funding is provided for transport- and energy-related research projects, as well as for measures aimed at bringing climate-friendly transport and energy technologies to the market.

Objective

Promotion of a climate-friendly mobility transition

Responsible Bodies

BMIMI, BMWET

Description of Financing

In accordance with the relevant provisions, funding is provided from several sources:

- Climate and Energy Fund Act (Klima- und Energiefondsgesetz) and the ministries' thematic funding guidelines (e.g. the funding guideline klimaaktiv mobil[43])
- Special Directive for the Promotion of Emission-Free Commercial Vehicles and Infrastructure (Sonderrichtlinie zur Förderung der Umstellung auf emissionsfreie Nutzfahrzeuge und Infrastruktur[44])
- The Investment Bonus Act (Investitionsprämiengesetz)

Funding is provided as a non-repayable investment grant, depending on the type of beneficiary. The main stakeholders eligible for support for investments in the relevant areas and measures, along with the main funding opportunities, are outlined below:

Cities, municipalities and regions:

- Cycling: cycling infrastructure (e.g. cycling paths, cycling highways and cycling streets), bike&ride, related planning services
- Walking: redesign of public space for pedestrians (e.g. pedestrian zones, improvements to sidewalks), pedestrian access to public transport, schools or similar infrastructure, related planning services

Cities, municipalities and regions, administrations, businesses, tourism operators, schools, associations and youth initiatives:

- Mobility management, including passenger and goods transport, awareness-raising campaigns, sustainable event mobility
- E-mobility: sharing, on-demand orientated mobility solutions
- Cycling: bicycle parking facilities, e-bike charging facilities

Citizens:

- E-mobility (e.g. e-motorbikes, (e-)folding bikes, (e-)cargo bikes)

Businesses:

- Zero-emission heavy goods vehicles (categories N1, N2, N3, articulated lorries and special-purpose vehicles) and associated (charging) infrastructure
- (e-)bikes and respective (charging) infrastructure, information systems, (e-)bike sharing

[42] Since the introduction of the Climate Ticket, the number of rail passengers has increased significantly. In order to avoid possible double counting with the CO_2e savings from investments in rail infrastructure and services, the CO_2e savings cited are therefore not included in Table 1.
[43] BMIMI and klimaaktiv mobil, Funding guideline 2013 (last updated in 2026, only available in German)
[44] Special Directive for the Promotion of Emission-Free Commercial Vehicles and Infrastructure (only available in German)

Active mobility and mobility management are mainly supported by the klimaaktiv mobil funding programme (endowed with funds from the BMIMI and managed by the Climate and Energy Fund) and by the klimaaktiv mobil consulting services (see chapter 5.1.4).

Beneficiaries
Cities, municipalities and regions, administrations, businesses, tourism operators, schools, associations, youth initiatives and citizens

Environmental Impact
The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 1 by the following indicators:

- Avoided GHG emissions 2025
- Number of projects 2025

5.1.4 Consulting for Enabling a Transition to Zero-emission Mobility

Objective
Promotion of a climate-friendly mobility transition (klimaaktiv mobil)

Responsible Body
BMIMI

Description of Financing
BMIMI finances consulting services[45] within the klimaaktiv mobil initiative framework to ensure the targeted and economical use of funding. Additionally, it supports Austria-wide information and awareness-raising[46] to promote the funding to target groups and encourage the implementation of non-funded projects.

The enabled effects of klimaaktiv mobil can be measured in avoided GHG emissions (see chapter 5.1.3), the number of certified personnel who have been trained and the development of long-term partnerships. In 2025, the following personnel were trained and certified, among others:

- 6 youth-mobility coaches (the first certification of such coaches since 2014)
- 50 cycling coaches and 22 master cycling coaches
- 24 certified driving instructors for fuel-saving driving
- 14 graduates of the e-mobility-focused traineeship programme (“E-Mob-Train”)

Partnerships and networks are important levers of klimaaktiv mobil to enhance the reach and impact of climate-friendly mobility through joint implementation of measures. Performance and impact can be measured by the number of newly acquired long-term programme partners, defined as companies or associations entering a long-term general contractual cooperation with klimaaktiv mobil. In 2025, 15 new long-term programme partners joined the initiative. To improve children’s mobility skills and enhance traffic safety, klimaaktiv mobil funds high-quality cycling courses in schools. In 2025, 41,000 children benefited from this programme.

Beneficiaries
Cities, municipalities and regions, administrations, businesses, fleet operators, tourism operators, schools and youth initiatives and citizens

Environmental Impact
The effects are presented in Table 1 by the following indicators:

- Supporting activity, the enabled effects of the klimaaktiv mobil funding programme 2025 are included in chapter 5.1.3
- Number of trained personnel in 2025
- Number of new long-term programme partners in 2025

[45] They are listed on the website of klimaaktiv (only available in German)
[46] e.g. the programme of Austria walks or Austria cycles

5.2 Renewable energy

The transition from fossil-fuel-related energy sources to renewable energy sources has been an important element of Austria's climate protection policy for a considerable time. All major climate and energy policy strategies of the recent past reflect this effort. Austria considers the increase in the share of renewable energy sources important not only for climate change mitigation, but also for increasing security of supply and domestic value added. Several programmes contribute to the increase in the use of renewable energy[47].

	2025 I				
Renewable energy	**Allocated amount with reported impact (EUR mn)**	**Annual renewable energy generation/use (MWh)**	**Annual energy savings (MWh)**	**Annual GHG emissions reduced/ avoided (tonnes CO_2e)**	**Number of projects supported**
Biomass	602.9	1,376,806	242,825	429,474	30,286
Photovoltaic	33.2	65,191	20,401	14,655	2,399
Power storage	42.9	257,833	6,209	51,125	2,498
Heat pumps	592.0	727,677	271,060	244,828	33,480
Solar thermal	0.2	620	620	234	36
Energy communities, consulting, guidance	9.6				144
Other renewable energy systems and measures	157.5	287,693	76,140	101,372	7,417
Research, development and innovation	61.1				282
Total	**1,499.4**				

Table 2: Renewable energy – overview of indicators.

Explanatory notes:

- Some renewable energy measures result both in renewable energy generation/use and in energy savings due to higher energy efficiency of the technology. Examples are biomass used for district heating and heat pumps. The programmes are classified either under "Energy efficiency" or "Renewable energy", subject to the respective main purpose.

[47] BMLUK, Federal environmental investment 2025, 2025 (only available in German)

5.2.1 Biomass

Objective
Use of biomass as a renewable energy source to substitute fossil fuels

48% of Austria's territory is covered by forests. Since the beginning of the Austrian Forest Inventory in the 1960s, Austria's forest area has increased from approximately 3.7 mn hectares to around 4.02 mn hectares today. According to the latest Austrian Forest Inventory (2018–2023), timber harvesting accounted for around 89% of annual growth between 2016 and 2021, increasing to approximately 97% between 2018 and 2023 due to climate-related disturbances such as bark beetle infestations and storms, while structural changes towards more mixed and more resilient forest stands are observed. The importance of the Austrian forests for biomass use is shown by the fact that more than 80% of the energetic biomass consumption is based on wood fuels[48,49].

Responsible Bodies
BMLUK, BMWET

Description of Financing
Under the Environmental Support Act (Umweltförderungsgesetz) and the Investment Bonus Act (Investitionsprämiengesetz) capital expenditures are subsidised. Supported activities include:

- Individual biomass heating systems in buildings
- Utilisation of heat from biomass in district heating or micro grids: installation of biomass firing systems and connection of additional buildings to the heat grid
- Combined heat and power generation from biomass
- Energy generation from biogenic waste

Beneficiaries
Individuals, companies, municipalities, associations and confessional institutions

Environmental Impact
Reduction of fossil fuel use, especially in heating, enabling reduced/avoided CO_2e emissions (see Table 2)

5.2.2 Photovoltaic and power storage

Objective
Increased renewable power generation by photovoltaics (PV) and power storage

Responsible Body
BMLUK

Description of Financing
Under the Environmental Support Act and the Climate and Energy Fund Act (Klima- und Energiefondsgesetz), capital expenditures are subsidised. Supported activities include:

- Installation of PV systems at small and large scales
- "Lighthouse projects": projects with innovative PV applications
- Installation of power storage systems at small and large scales

Beneficiaries
Individuals, companies, municipalities, associations and confessional institutions

Environmental Impact
Renewable power generation and power storage enabling reduced/avoided CO_2e emissions (see Table 2)

[48] Bundesforschungszentrum für Wald (BFW), Austrian forest inventory
[49] BFW, Assessment of the risk of unsustainable production of forest biomass, June 2024

5.2.3 Heat pumps and solar thermal

Objective
Use of additional renewable energy sources to substitute fossil fuels by installing additional capacity

Responsible Bodies
BMLUK, BMWET

Description of Financing:
Under the Environmental Support Act and the Investment Bonus Act capital expenditures are subsidised. Supported activities include:

- Installation of heat pumps
- Large-scale and individual household solar thermal systems
- Use of solar thermal systems in climate and energy model regions

Beneficiaries
Individuals, companies, municipalities, associations and confessional institutions

Environmental Impact
Renewable heat generation, use of residual heat from companies enabling reduced/avoided CO_2e emissions (see Table 2)

5.2.4 Energy communities, consulting, guidance and other renewable energy systems and measures

Objective
Usage and development of further renewable energy sources to substitute fossil fuels by installing additional capacity or capacity sharing, the facilitation of renewable power and heat use by providing power and heat grid infrastructure, as well as consulting and guidance services

Responsible Bodies
BMLUK, BMWET

Description of Financing
This category contains individual subsidies that include renewable energy measures, which contribute to more than one renewable energy sub-category.

In addition, this category includes expenditures for the implementation of renewable energy measures to achieve targets as set out in the EU Renewable Energy Directive. Furthermore, private associations and research institutes that support the achievement of national climate and energy targets are supported with funding.

Under the Environmental Support Act, the Investment Bonus Act and the Climate and Energy Fund Act, capital expenditures are subsidised. Supported activities include:

- Hydrogen from renewable sources, and other renewable gases, e.g. bio¬methane
- Innovative heat network design
- Heat grids for transport and distribution of residual heat from companies
- Process energy generation from renewable sources
- Energy communities, consulting and guidance
- Climate and energy model regions to promote the cooperation between municipalities concerning the use of natural resources, energy-saving potential and sustainable economy also contributing to energy efficiency etc.
- Mixed renewables programmes, which cannot be attributed to a single sub-category

Beneficiaries
Individuals, companies, associations and confessional institutions, research institutes, municipalities

Environmental Impact
Renewable heat generation, switch to renewable energy supply in energy-intensive industry, use of industrial waste heat enabling reduced/avoided CO_2e emissions (see Table 2), renewable generation/use through energy communities, consulting and guidance

5.3 Energy efficiency

The focus areas are programmes for energy-saving measures in production processes, other energy efficiency measures in businesses, reuse of residual heat generated by companies and industrial processes, building renovation, energy-efficient heating/cooling systems and lighting. The target groups are companies, municipalities, residential building owners and, for some programmes, associations and confessional institutions.

	2025 I				
Energy efficiency	**Allocated amount with reported impact (EUR mn)**	**Annual renewable energy generation/use (MWh)**	**Annual energy savings (MWh)**	**Annual GHG emissions reduced/ avoided (tonnes CO_2e)**	**Number of projects supported**
Processes	17.6		200,986	48,496	157
Heat reuse	15.1	27,140	2,851	5,761	519
Lighting	6.6	567	27,647	6,325	759
Building renovation	465.5	795		68,342	24,594
Cooling	6.5			4,190	251
Heating systems and control	18.6	5,587	41,307	53,513	2,194
Energy and resource management, consulting and guidance	3.7				
Other energy efficiency measures	15.6	3,597	5,730	2,298	3,419
Research, development and innovation	62.4				253
Total	**611.7**				

Table 3: Energy efficiency – overview of indicators. Sums in the table may not add up due to rounding differences.

Explanatory notes:

- Some energy efficiency measures result in both energy savings and renewable energy generation/use. This is the case when a new, more energy-efficient system is based on renewables instead of fossil fuels. Examples include new heating systems in buildings and the reuse of heat generated from renewable sources. The programmes are classified either under “Energy efficiency” or “Renewable energy”, depending on their primary purpose.

5.3.1 Processes

Objective
The implementation of energy efficiency measures and the utilisation of existing heat flows in industrial processes and facilities

Responsible Bodies
BMLUK, BMWET

Description of Financing
Under the Environmental Support Act (Umweltförderungsgesetz) (including the Energy Efficiency Fund, § 6 (2f)) and the Climate and Energy Fund Act (Klima- und Energiefondsgesetz) capital expenditures are subsidised. Supported activities include:

- Improving the efficiency of industrial facilities through technological and environmental upgrades, including necessary measures for system retrofitting
- Heat recovery in refrigeration and ventilation systems (> 100 kW heat exchanger capacity) as well as recirculating air systems (> 50,000 m^3/h) and the utilisation of existing heat streams using appropriate technologies
- Heating optimisation in existing buildings with at least 10% energy savings
- Free cooling systems (e.g. based on groundwater, river water, or well water)
- Transition to climate-neutral industrial process heating and cooling through renewable energy, heat pumps, waste heat recovery, thermal storage, and efficiency upgrades

Beneficiaries
Companies, municipalities, associations and confessional institutions

Environmental Impact
Reduction of energy consumption in production, enabling reduced/avoided CO_2e emissions (see Table 3)

5.3.2 Heat reuse

Objective
The utilisation of waste heat that would otherwise remain unused, whether externally (e.g. district heating) or internally (e.g. within the company)

Responsible Bodies
BMLUK, BMWET

Description of Financing
Under the Environmental Support Act, the Climate and Energy Fund Act and the Investment Bonus Act (Investitionsprämiengesetz), capital expenditures are subsidised. Supported activities include:

- Waste heat from industry, commerce and wastewater
- Supply to local and district heating networks, including network infrastructure
- Heat pumps for temperature elevation (centralised/decentralised)
- Low-temperature heating networks

Beneficiaries
Companies, municipalities, associations and confessional institutions

Environmental Impact
Reduction of energy consumption, enabling reduced/avoided CO_2e emissions (see Table 3)

5.3.3 Lighting

Objective
The switch to energy efficient lighting systems indoors and outdoors

Responsible Bodies
BMLUK, BMWET

Description of Financing
Under the Environmental Support Act (incl. the Energy Efficiency Fund, § 6 (2f)) and the Climate and Energy Fund Act, subsidies for capital expenditures are provided for lighting optimisation, in particular by switching to LED systems, including:

- street and outdoor lighting installations (incl. lighting control systems)
- outdoor sports facilities (floodlighting systems)
- indoor lighting

Beneficiaries
Companies, municipalities, associations and confessional institutions

Environmental Impact
Reduction of energy consumption, enabling reduced/avoided CO_2e emissions (see Table 3)

5.3.4 Building renovation

Objective
The reduction of energy consumption, especially for heating, through building renovation

Responsible Bodies
BMLUK, BMWET

Description of Financing
Under the Environmental Support Act (incl. the Energy Efficiency Fund § 6 (2f)) and the Climate and Energy Fund Act, capital expenditures are subsidised. Supported activities include:

- Building renovation to improve energy performance[50]
- Exemplary renovation projects demonstrating best practice
- External shading systems to reduce the building's cooling needs
- Green facades and roofs

[50] Depending on the funding programme, there are requirements of e.g. achieved building standards, minimum savings of energy consumption, etc., see e.g. KPC, Information sheet on thermal building renovation for businesses and municipalities (only available in German), Version 04/2026

Beneficiaries
Individuals, companies, municipalities, associations and confessional institutions

Environmental Impact
Reduction of energy consumption in buildings, including housing, enabling reduced/avoided CO_2e emissions (see Table 3)

5.3.5 Cooling

Objective
The usage of energy-efficient systems for air-conditioning and process cooling

Responsible Body
BMLUK, BMWET

Description of Financing
Under the Environmental Support Act (incl. the Energy Efficiency Fund § 6 (2f)) and the Investment Bonus Act, capital expenditures are subsidised. Supported activities include:

- Air-conditioning of buildings used for business purposes and systems for the provision of process cooling:
  - Adsorption and absorption chillers with drive energy from renewable energy sources (e.g. biomass, solar thermal energy) or from industrial waste heat
  - Free cooling systems (e.g. based on groundwater, river water or well water)
- Process cooling depending on the refrigerant used:
  - Use of alternative/natural refrigerants (e.g. CO_2, ammonia, propane) as well as refrigerants with a Global Warming Potential (GWP)[51] of less than 150 for system replacement and optimisation

[51] The global warming potential (GWP) is an index measuring the radiative forcing following an emission of a unit mass of a given substance, accumulated over a chosen time horizon, relative to that of the reference substance, carbon dioxide (CO_2). The GWP thus represents the combined effect of the differing times these substances remain in the atmosphere and their effectiveness in causing radiative forcing.

Beneficiaries
Companies, associations and confessional institutions

Environmental Impact
Reduction of energy consumption for cooling, enabling reduced/avoided CO_2e emissions (see Table 3)

5.3.6 Heating systems and control

Objective
Usage of energy-efficient systems for heating, including their control

Responsible Bodies
BMLUK, BMWET

Description of Financing
Under the Environmental Support Act (incl. the Energy Efficiency Fund § 6 (2f)), capital expenditures are subsidised. Supported activities include:

- Replacing existing heating systems (and their control) with heating systems using renewable energy, as well as the replacement of inefficient existing systems and expansion of heat distribution networks
- Optimisation of heating and district heating systems in primary (generation to substation) and secondary (substation to consumer) circuits
- Increased efficiency through improved operational management and system integration of climate-friendly technologies
- Consulting services as well as investment measures for the preparation of hydronic balancing (heating optimisation) incl. digitalisation measures

Beneficiaries
Individuals, municipalities, companies, associations and confessional institutions

Environmental Impact
Reduction of energy consumption for heating, enabling reduced/avoided CO_2e emissions (see Table 3)

5.3.7 Energy and resource management, consulting and guidance

Objective
The launch and promotion of high-quality climate-friendly technologies and services by klimaaktiv – the Austrian climate protection initiative

Responsible Body
BMLUK, BMWET

Description of Financing
Under the Environmental Support Act, the following activities, supporting the transformation to a climate-neutral Austria, are funded via contract:

- Energy efficiency in companies: development of guidelines and analytical tools for efficiency technologies in companies, training of energy consultants, voluntary agreements with companies. In 2025, klimaaktiv Pakt companies (voluntary agreement) ensured a reduction of around 300,000 tonnes of CO_2e per year compared to 2005.
- Retrofitting buildings: more than 2,190 buildings in Austria fulfilling the klimaaktiv quality criteria are listed on the klimaaktiv website so far. In 2025, 364 buildings with a gross floor area of 1,041,491 m^2 were certified to comply with the klimaaktiv quality criteria, and plausibility checked.
- Further education: training of energy professionals and social workers in cooperation with training organisations. In 2025, around 19,600 people participated in training and further education courses initiated or improved by klimaaktiv in the areas of construction and renovation, energy and building, building technologies, energy saving, energy management and consulting or climate communication.

Beneficiaries
Companies, municipalities, associations and confessional institutions, individuals

Environmental Impact
Enabling a reduction of energy consumption through consulting, guidance, visibility programmes, e.g. for heating/cooling or lighting, indirectly resulting in reduced/avoided CO_2e emissions (see Table 3)

5.3.8 Other energy efficiency measures

Objective
Cross-category energy efficiency measures

Responsible Bodies
BMLUK, BMWET

Description of Financing
This category contains individual subsidies that include energy efficiency measures, which contribute to more than one energy efficiency sub-category. Supported activities include:

- Combined interventions such as building automation
- Improvements in end-use energy efficiency in cultural institutions and emergency response organisations
- Energy-saving measures in households, including energy consulting and the replacement of inefficient appliances
- Initiatives aimed at strengthening energy security in rural areas, which bundle a range of individual measures

Beneficiaries
Individuals, companies, associations, research institutes, operators of sports facilities and rescue organisations

Environmental Impact
Reduction of energy consumption through energy efficiency measures and additional energy consulting, enabling reduced/avoided CO_2e emissions (see Table 3)

5.4 Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity

Biodiversity is a vital component of functioning ecosystems, and is therefore essential for the services these ecosystems provide, such as clean water, clean air and the pollination of many of our food crops. In Austria, as in many parts of the world, the status of biodiversity is not of sufficient quality. Thus, it is of high importance to target funding towards measures that conserve species and landscapes and contribute to sustainable land use. With the *Austrian Agri-environmental programme (ÖPUL)*, the funding of the Austrian National Parks and targeted research projects, public spending is directed towards these activities.

	2025 I					
Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity	**Allocated amount with reported impact (EUR mn)**	**Number of farms that received funding**	**% of total farms in Austria**	**Area funded (ha)**	**% of total agricultural land**	**Number of projects supported / beneficiaries**
Austrian Agri-environmental Programme	170.0	89,835	84.3	1,860,719	83.5	
Environmentally sound and Biodiversity-promoting management	36.6	46,516	43.7	1,003,706	39.2	
Nature protection and result-based nature protection	26.7	23,834	22.4	108,916	4.3	
Organic/biological farming	51.5	22,572	21.2	511,452	20.0	
Overall highly biodiversity-relevant area on agricultural land[52]				245,593	10.9	
Austrian National Parks	13.8			239,255		
Other (incl. Austrian Biodiversity Strategy, Austrian Biodiversity Fund, Biodiversity measures in the economy, Biodiversity measures in the Austrian Forest Fund)	8.4					158
Research, development and innovation	11.6					52
Total	**203.8**					

Table 4: Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity – overview of indicators[53].

[52] The overall biodiversity-relevant area on agricultural land is part of the funded areas of the three sub-categories of the *ÖPUL programme* shown in the table. It is presented separately to clarify the contribution of the programme to the conservation of biodiversity. Only areas with payments for these measures are shown, while nature protection areas on alpine pastures are not included.
[53] The number of farms and the size of the area shown represent 100% of the beneficiaries of the programmes, whereas federal funding accounts for approximately 30% of total funding.
Only selected measures of the *ÖPUL programme* are shown in the table. Allocated amounts, beneficiaries and therefore number of farms overlap between these measures. Summing up the number of farms is therefore not possible.

Explanatory notes:

- The *Austrian Agri-environmental Programme (ÖPUL)* was assigned to the project category "Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity" as it contains measures that have a quantifiable positive impact on species diversity. The programme also contributes positively to water protection, soil health, climate change mitigation and animal welfare.
- Starting with the application year 2024, support rates in the ÖPUL programme were increased by 8% in order to secure or further expand participation in the measures and to increase the environmental impact.
- In 2025, substantive changes were introduced to enhance biodiversity, strengthen alpine farming and organic management. The most important changes linked to biodiversity include:
  - Introduction of a bonus for circular economy practices for organic farms, as well as compensation for farm-specific transaction costs per organic holding
  - Introduction of a new eco-scheme to support set-aside areas and agroforestry strips
  - Increase in premia for eco-schemes, as well as other measures to increase participation (e.g. bonus for biodiversity strips on highly productive arable and grassland areas)
  - New optional bonus for alpine pasture management plans and the possibility of adapted grazing on alpine pastures.
  - Strengthened approaches to increase the climate impact of nature conservation measures
- A farm can participate in the ÖPUL programme as well as receive *Austrian compensatory allowance for less-favoured areas* at the same time. However, the impact outlined in chapters 5.4 and 5.5 refers to the ÖPUL programme and the compensatory allowance programme respectively. The Austrian compensatory allowance for less-favoured areas was assigned to the project category "Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use" as it is foremost a measure to support ongoing cultivation of challenging terrains across Austria. The programme also contributes positively to the preservation of biodiversity.

Nationalpark Neusiedler See - Seewinkel © Österreich Werbung/Julius Silver

5.4.1 Austrian Agri-environmental programme

Objective

The Austrian Agri-environmental Programme (ÖPUL)[54] is one of the main funding sources at the federal level to support environmentally sound agricultural practices.

Responsible Body

BMLUK

Description of Financing

The current ÖPUL programme 2023-2027 includes 26 measures, 22 of which are co-funded by the national budget, while four are funded exclusively by the EU budget. Federal funding accounts for about 30% of the total budget of these co-funded measures[55]. The following chapter focuses on three measures that have a significant positive impact on agrobiodiversity:

1. Environmentally sound and biodiversity-promoting management
2. Nature protection
3. Ongoing organic/biological farming

Beneficiaries

Austrian agricultural sector

Environmental Impact[56]

The impact shows the number of farms and the area funded under the different biodiversity-promoting measures (see Table 4). The number of participating farms can overlap between the different measures, adding up the total numbers is therefore not meaningful.

The broad range of measures generates an additional positive impact with respect to water protection, soil health, climate change mitigation and animal welfare.

Environmentally sound and biodiversity-promoting management

To be eligible for funding under this measure, applicants must fulfil the following criteria:

- Maintaining the extent of grassland
- Crop diversification (max. 55% of one crop, max. 75% cereals/maize)
- Creating at least 7% biodiversity areas on arable land and mowed grassland
- Taking part in further education on environmental topics
- Additional payments for additional environmental services, such as maintaining landscape elements (e.g. trees, bushes), enhancing agrobiodiversity through additional biodiversity areas, increasing carbon storage in the soil by growing field-fodder or mowing of steep slopes

Biodiversity areas and fallows on cultivated land have a positive impact on the farmland bird index[57]. Monitoring of the Great Gray Shrike (Lanius excubitor), a top indicator species for diverse cultural landscapes threatened with local extinction, shows a higher degree of breeding on cultivated land with a larger extent of biodiversity areas.

With regard to monitoring grasshoppers and butterflies, especially fallows have a significant positive impact on diversity, and three to four times more species are observed there than on agricultural land reference plots. The conservation of landscape elements also has a significant positive impact on species diversity in these two taxa.

[54] Link to the website of the ÖPUL programme (only available in German)
[55] Only co-financing provided by the Austrian central government is eligible under the Green Framework, co-financing provided by other parties such as the federal provinces and the EU is not eligible for allocation to Green Financing Instruments.
[56] The following descriptions of the impact for the different measures are based on the results of the overall evaluation of the ÖPUL programme from the year 2019 (with the exemption of number of farms and total area funded), as it contains the most recent available data. An updated evaluation of the programme and the accompanying measures can be expected in 2026/27.

[57] Birdlife Austria, Monitoring of breeding birds in Austria (only available in German), July 2025

Nature protection

To be eligible for funding under this measure, applicants must fulfil the following criteria:

- Project confirmation from the competent nature protection authority at the level of the federal province, including a conservation plan and management measures to maintain or reach the nature-conservation target for the area. There is also a "result-based approach", which does not define strict management requirements but rather sets management targets and indicators that must be met.

"Nature protection" has a significant positive impact on biodiversity. Typical nature conservation farmland areas include extensively used grassland, such as dry meadows, wetland meadows, mountain meadows, orchard meadows with fruit trees as valuable landscape elements, or fallow arable land. As part of the "Nature protection" measure, farmers receive financial compensation for the additional work, costs and/or reduced yields resulting from project obligations relating to extensive management. Especially the higher degree of connectivity between plots under the measure, as well as the higher share of area under extensive use, lead to much higher shares of plots being classified as "high nature value farmland"[58] (around 60% compared to 10% in areas not participating in the measure).

In terms of animal diversity (birds, grasshoppers and butterflies), the picture is more diversified. Effects are present in regions with a high share of areas under the measure "Nature protection". In grasslands, the measure can mitigate the loss of bird species. Farmland areas that have breeding grounds of the above-mentioned Great Gray Shrike fall under the measure "Nature protection" with a mean coverage of 31.1% of area, compared to 9.1% in regions where the bird was not breeding.

Due to the geographical specificity of the measure "Nature protection", it shows the highest degree of diversity of grasshopper and butterfly species that are important for conservation compared to all other measures of the *ÖPUL programme*.

The same results can be expected for the measure "Result-oriented management", which is also included in the number of farms and the area funded (see Table 4).

[58] European Environment Agency, High nature value (HNV) farmland, February 2023

Organic/biological farming

To be eligible for funding under this measure, applicants must fulfil the following criteria:

- Fulfilment of EU and national regulations on organic production
- Certification as an organic farm from the competent local authority
- Fulfilment of all requirements for farms under the "Environmentally sound and biodiversity-promoting management" measure

The impact of this measure is comparable to that of the measure "Environmentally sound and biodiversity-promoting management". Additionally, a higher usage-diversity of cultivated areas (i.e. for the cultivation of different plant species, rare plant species or threatened livestock breeds) and the renouncement of chemical-synthetic fertilisers and plant protection products are required to obtain funding. These measures lead to greater biodiversity, especially on arable land. In grasslands, a higher share of extensively used grasslands and lower nitrogen inputs support the diversity of cultivated plant species. A positive impact on the diversity of soil species is also expected.

Additional positive impacts of this measure are predominantly found in the categories water protection, soil health, mitigation of climate change and animal welfare. The prohibition of chemical/synthetic pesticides and mineral fertilisers has positive impacts on groundwater and avoids GHG emissions in the value chain.

Overall highly biodiversity-relevant area on agricultural land

The highly biodiversity-promoting areas established within the specific sub-measures of the *ÖPUL programme* (biodiversity-areas and nature conservation areas) present a complete picture of the actual biodiversity-relevant area on agricultural land across Austria. Highly biodiversity-relevant areas consist of several measures within the agri-environmental programme. These include nature conservation areas with specific environmental requirements and dedicated biodiversity-areas (fallow land or extensive used arable land and grassland). The *ÖPUL programme* supports farmers by covering the additional costs or income foregone for establishing these areas.

The total area of highly biodiversity-relevant areas on agricultural land significantly increased in recent years. Changes in the programme over the last 3 years led to a higher rate of biodiversity-promoting areas. As of 2025, around 10.9% of all agricultural areas (excluding alpine pastures) are dedicated to biodiversity. The continuous development and expansion of biodiversity-enhancing measures under *ÖPUL* already show positive effects, which are continuously assessed through comprehensive evaluation studies. Among other findings, the Farmland Bird Index (FBI), which reflects population trends of typical bird species in agricultural landscapes, has stabilised after years of decline[59].

5.4.2 Austrian National Parks

Objective
The six Austrian National Parks, as areas of outstanding biological diversity, are natural jewels and thus part of the Austrian identity. Combined, they cover a total area of 239,255 hectares, which corresponds to approximately 2.9% of Austria's total area. A National Park strategy was adopted in 2017[60] to ensure further coordinated development.

In 2023 and 2024, two of the six National Parks were extended by a total of 260 hectares. The area of 146.7 hectares for the National Park Neusiedler See - Seewinkel means better protection for Europe's westernmost steppe lake. An additional 113 hectares for the National Park Gesäuse ensure better connectivity of the ecosystems within the National Park.
Currently, a further expansion of the National Park Neusiedler See - Seewinkel of at least 123 hectares is in implementation.

Responsible Body
BMLUK

Description of Financing
The Austrian National Parks are financed 50% each by the respective federal provinces and the federal government. This participation system forms a solid basis for the positive development of Austria's National Parks.

Beneficiaries
Austrian National Parks

Environmental Impact
The impact shows the total area under protection in the six national parks.
The central goals are to increase options for development with no influence from humans in accordance with the IUCN specifications[61], the conservation of biodiversity, research and monitoring, education, the use of synergies between the National Parks and the public presentation under the umbrella brand "National Parks Austria" (see Table 4).

5.4.3 Other measures and initiatives beneficial to biodiversity and ecosystems

Biodiversity Strategy Austria 2030+
The Biodiversity Strategy Austria 2030+ defines "biodiversity" as a common task across all institutional levels and sets out over 300 concrete measures. It incorporates objectives and measures for the conservation of biodiversity formulated by the European Union and at the international level. A ten-point programme provides quantitative and qualitative national targets and the necessary preconditions for the conservation of biodiversity in all habitats in Austria. Industry sectors relevant to biodiversity as well as necessary framework conditions are addressed. These targets and the corresponding measures aim at protecting biodiversity in Austria, actively addressing threats and thus preventing further losses by creating the appropriate framework conditions to achieve the formulated goals. The implementation of the Biodiversity Strategy Austria 2030+ is also intended to contribute to a comprehensive transformative change in society.

[59] BirdLife Austria, Monitoring of breeding birds in Austria, 2024
[60] National Parks Austria, National Park Strategy Austria, 2018

[61] The International Union for Conservation of Nature provides various resources such as guidelines and tools on the management of protected areas.

The Austrian Biodiversity Fund

The Biodiversity Fund[62], established by the Austrian federal government, supports the implementation of the Biodiversity Strategy Austria, complementing measures under the framework of the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union and the Austrian Forest Fund, as well as co-funding to improve the ecological status of water bodies. Its overarching goals relate to the restoration, protection and monitoring of biodiversity.

The Biodiversity Fund has been in place since mid-2021. In 2025, a total of 47 funded or co-funded projects were launched. These include, for example, the restoration of streams and wetlands, the enhancement of biodiversity in urban areas, the creation of breeding grounds for amphibians and the expansion of protected areas.

Biodiversity measures in the Austrian Forest Fund

In addition to the sustainable use and management of forests and their products, the Austrian Forest Fund also contributes to the protection and restoration of forest biodiversity throughout Austria. One of the funded measures explicitly pursues this goal. See chapter 5.5.2 for more information.

Corporate biodiversity measures

Under the Investment Bonus Act, corporate measures aimed at protecting biodiversity are subsidised. Supported activities include:

- New biodiversity or insect-promoting structures or the redesign of existing green areas on company premises with an area of at least 10% of the company premises or at least 100 m²
- Biodiversity-promoting green facades and roofs
- Renaturation and restoration of abandoned industrial and commercial areas as green spaces, including unsealing of premises

[62] Website of the Biodiversity Fund (only available in German)

5.5 Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use

Public funding for cultural landscapes that preserve farming in Austria's mountainous regions is important not only for upholding centuries-old cultural practices and ways of life, but also for maintaining diverse habitats for plants and animals. Austria is also active in other areas to ensure the best possible management of living natural resources. For example, a comprehensive circular economy strategy[63] was passed by the government at the end of 2022.

	2025 I					
Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use	**Allocated amount with reported impact (EUR mn)**	**Number of farms that received funding**	**% of total farms in Austria**	**Area funded (ha)**	**% of total agricultural land**	**Number of projects supported / beneficiaries**
Austrian compensatory allowance for less-favoured areas	44.9	78,919	74.1	1,446,566	56.5	
Austrian Forest Fund	26.2					4,209
Repair Bonus & Circular Economy Funding[64]	48.0					452,474
Research, development and innovation	81.6					260
Total	**200.7**					

Table 5: Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use – overview of indicators[65].

Explanatory notes:

- A single farm can participate in the *ÖPUL programme* and, at the same time, receive the *Austrian compensatory allowance for less-favoured areas*. However, the impact outlined in the chapters 5.4 and 5.5 refers to the ÖPUL programme and the compensatory allowance programme respectively.
- The *Austrian compensatory allowance for less-favoured areas* was assigned to the project category "Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use" as it is foremost a measure to support ongoing cultivation of challenging terrains across Austria. The programme also contributes positively to the preservation of biodiversity. Starting in 2024, the premia in the *Austrian compensatory allowance for less-favoured areas* were increased by 8% (14% for farms with very high constraints) to better secure the cultivation of areas that are difficult to use (e.g. steep-slope grassland).
- Due to the diversity of projects, the funds of the Austrian Forest Fund are split between the categories "Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use", "Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity" and "Climate change adaptation".

[63] BMK, The Austrian Circular Economy Strategy, 2022
[64] In 2025 around 97% of the allocated amount was spent on the repair bonus, which consists of a high number of funding cases with low funding volumes per case, representing more than 99% of the reported number of projects/beneficiaries. It can be expected that the share of Circular Economy Funding will rise over the coming years as the funding programme has started in mid-2024.
[65] The number of farms and the size of the area shown represent 100% of the beneficiaries of the programmes, whereas federal funding accounts for approximately 26% of total funding.

5.5.1 Austrian compensatory allowance for less-favoured areas

Objective

The *Austrian compensatory allowance for less-favoured areas* supports the continued management of agricultural land in areas with natural or other area-specific constraints, mostly situated in mountainous regions. As the intervention aims at maintaining the management of less productive or difficult-to-manage agricultural areas, it forms an important basis for a diverse, species-rich cultural landscape in the mountainous regions with its high proportion of "high nature value farmland".

Responsible Body

BMLUK

Description of Financing

The *Austrian compensatory allowance for less-favoured areas* is funded via EU, federal and federal province budgets, with the federal government's share accounting for approximately 26% of total funding.[66]

Beneficiaries

Austrian farms located in less-favoured areas

Environmental Impact

The impact is shown by the number of farms and the area funded under the programme. Around 75% of the farms that receive funding are located in mountainous regions where extensive use of cultivated land and grassland is becoming more important in response to challenging geographical conditions. Funding to secure the continuous management of those areas is especially relevant given that they show the highest degrees of "high nature value farmland"[67].

Cultivated grassland in mountainous regions is comprised of unique ecosystems that contain various ecological niches for plant and animal species, which depend on agricultural management of these areas. At the same time, these cultural landscapes frequently fall out of use due to their lower productive capacities. The discontinuation of these grasslands can lead to a loss of plant diversity, and the cultural landscape would soon be overgrown by forest. Also, in terms of grasshopper and butterfly diversity, cultivated grasslands in mountainous regions show higher species diversity than uncultivated ones.

5.5.2 Austrian Forest Fund

Objective

The Forest Fund Act (Waldfondsgesetz) was adopted by the Austrian National Council on July 7, 2020. It aims at developing climate-fit forests, promoting biodiversity in forests and increasing the use of wood as an active contribution to climate change mitigation. The funded measures include [68]:

- Re-afforestation and tending measures after damage events
- Development of climate-fit forests - forest tending
- Establishment of deposits for damaged wood
- Mechanical debarking as a forest protection measure
- Measures to prevent forest fires
- Research priority and research facility for the production of wood gas and biofuels
- Research priority "Climate-fit forests"
- Measures to increase the use of wood as a raw material
- Strengthening, preserving and promoting biodiversity in forests

Responsible Body

BMLUK

[66] Only co-financing provided by the Austrian federal government is eligible under the Green Framework, co-financing provided by other parties such as the federal provinces and the EU is not eligible for allocation to Green Financing Instruments.
[67] European Environment Agency, High nature value (HNV) farmland, February 2023

[68] Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management, 10 measures for Austria's forests, July 2020

Description of Financing
Due to the diversity of projects, the Austrian Forest Fund is split between the categories "Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use", "Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity" and "Climate change adaptation".

Beneficiaries
Austrian forest owners, research institutions

Environmental Impact
For a summary of the impact indicators, see Table 5.

Selected projects funded via the programme

Project "FORSEE"
Climate change has a serious impact on Austria's forests. The frequency and intensity of disturbances are increasing and the demand for forest seeds is rising. This increase in seed demand is accompanied by a decline in germination rates among key tree species. To improve the supply of high-quality forest seeds in Austria and ensure it for the future, the FORSEE project investigated the biological foundations of seed production, aspects of regeneration in forest trees and the forest seed supply system.

Project "DNA of the forest"
Monitoring forest biodiversity is mostly limited to vegetation types, woody plants and selected indicator species. However, there is no comprehensive and standardised survey of biodiversity. A new approach to solving this problem is the use of environmental DNA (eDNA). In this project eDNA samples were taken from forest streams and analysed. With this novel method, a wide variety of terrestrial species diversity, including invasive species, was captured. This marks the first step towards establishing a nationwide forest biodiversity monitoring programme using eDNA from stream water samples, with the aim of further improving the management and protection of forest biodiversity in the future.

5.5.3 Other measures and initiatives contributing to the sustainable management of natural resources and land use

Austrian Circular Economy Strategy
The vision of Austria's national circular economy strategy[63], which was adopted in December 2022, is the transformation of Austria's economy and society into a climate-neutral, sustainable circular economy by 2050. The quantitative targets of the strategy are:

- Reduction of resource consumption
  - Domestic material consumption (DMC): reduced to 14 tonnes per capita/year (2030)
  - Material footprint (MF): reduced to 7 tonnes per capita/year (2050)
- Increase resource productivity by 50% (2030) from the reference year 2015
- Increase circularity rate to 18% (2030)
- Reduce private households' material consumption by 10% (2030) from the reference year 2020

The following funding programmes are implemented to support the goals of the circular economy strategy.

The Circular Economy Funding Programme is intended to contribute to the implementation of Austria's circular economy strategy. Funding is available for investments and services within the following areas of activity:

- Circular design of products
- Sustainable business models
- Sorting of waste
- Reuse, refurbishment and preparation for reuse
- Recycling

Further areas of funding include:

- Optimisation of production processes to reduce resource usage or waste generation
- Investments in facilities for waste incineration of municipal sewage sludge as a first step and for recovery of phosphorus from incineration ash as a second step
- Material recycling of residues from waste incineration plants

Two additional examples that support the circular economy in Austria are the deposit system for disposable plastic bottles and cans, which was introduced in Austria in 2025[69] , and the repair bonus ("Reparaturbonus").

The former is intended to significantly increase the separate collection and the recycling rate of plastic packaging.

The latter gives individuals residing in Austria the chance to apply for a repair voucher and have their electrical or electronic device repaired at a repair shop (around 5,800 participating shops). Since September 2024, the vouchers can also be used for the maintenance and service of bicycles. Up to EUR 200 in funding per person is available for repairs, service, or maintenance; up to EUR 30 is available for obtaining a cost estimate. The repair bonus was EU-funded in the period of 2022-2024. From 2025 onwards, it is funded through the national budget.

[69] The purchase of reverse vending machines was subsidised by the European Commission funding programme NextGenerationEU.

5.6 Sustainable water and wastewater management

The sustainable safeguarding of the valuable resource of water is one of the core tasks of the Austrian government. Austria has sufficient drinking water of excellent quality. The daily per capita consumption of drinking water by Austrian households is around 130 litres[70]. The total demand for drinking water is covered from ground water and spring water. For decades, Austria has taken enormous efforts to encourage citizens and industry to use this precious resource carefully and has invested considerably, with an amount of EUR 16.8 bn, in drinking water supply[71]. In the reporting period, about 93% of the population profited from one of the more than 5,500 central drinking water suppliers[70]. Moreover, more than 96% of the population is connected to a public sewer network and municipal sewage treatment plants, operated by approximately 2,300 municipal wastewater disposal service providers[70,72]. Overall, Austria has invested more than EUR 53.2 bn[73] in the area of municipal wastewater management, thus making a significant contribution to the sustainable use of water resources. Furthermore, the objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive are supported through investments of EUR 602.1 mn in water ecology projects[74].

	2024 II								
Sustainable water and wastewater management	**Allocated amount with reported impact (mn EUR)**	**Number of inhabitants additionally connected to water supply***	**Constructed and renovated water pipelines (kilometres)**	**New volume of water reservoirs (cubic metres)**	**Number of inhabitants additionally connected to wastewater treatment plants***	**Constructed and renovated wastewater sewers (kilometres)**	**Number of transverse structures made passable for fish**	**River courses morphologically improved and renaturalised (kilometres)**	**Number of projects supported**
Drinking water supply	46.6	26,809	497	6,795					474
Wastewater treatment and sewerage	214.0				109,100	1,447			2,895
Water ecology	10.9						18	16	105
Research, development and innovation	17.6								26
Total	**289.2**								

* including individual installations

Table 6: Sustainable water and wastewater management – overview of indicators. Sums in the table may not add up due to rounding differences.

[70] BMLUK, Facts and Figures 2025
[71] Investments in drinking water supply infrastructure 1959-2024, valorised on the basis of the construction price index for civil engineering, other civil engineering in 1986, as of 31 December 2024; BMLUK, Facts and Figures 2025
[72] BMF, Spending Review "Funding for urban water management" (only available in German), 2019
[73] Investments in municipal wastewater management 1959-2024, valorised on the basis of the construction price index for civil engineering, other civil engineering in 1986, as of 31 December 2024; BMLUK, Facts and Figures 2025
[74] Investments in water ecology 2009-2025

Mountain stream (Debantbach) © Adobe Stock

5.6.1 Drinking water supply

Objective

The funding for water protection and water supply aims at the sustainable use of surface and underground water and supplying the population with safe drinking water. The responsible use of water as a valuable resource has to be ensured, and the wastewater volumes must be limited to an unavoidable extent. Moreover, interference with the natural water balance must be minimised and water supply facilities have to be operated in an energy-saving and resource-efficient manner.

Responsible Bodies

BMLUK, BMF

Description of Financing

According to the Environmental Support Act (Umweltförderungsgesetz) and the Municipal Investment Act 2023 (Kommunalinvestitionsgesetz 2023), capital expenditures are subsidised. Supported activities include, among others,

- construction/renovation of water supply facilities or emergency water supply facilities,
- inter-municipal cooperation on water supply measures that lead to efficiency improvements,
- the creation of a digital pipe information system for water supply or wastewater discharge facilities with leakage control
- and measures to reduce GHG emissions from water supply facilities.

Beneficiaries

Municipalities, water cooperatives, municipal companies, associations and cooperation between municipalities, private households and legal entities

Environmental Impact

The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 6 by the following indicators:

- Number of inhabitants additionally connected to water supply (including individual installations)
- Length of constructed and renovated public water pipelines (kilometres)
- New volume of water reservoirs (cubic metres)
- Number of projects supported

5.6.2 Wastewater treatment and sewerage

Objective

The measures for wastewater disposal, sludge treatment and sewerage aim at protecting surface and ground water from contamination as well as minimising environmental impacts on air or soil. The pollution of wastewater with substances that are not biologically degradable or only degradable with difficulty shall be minimised. Production wastewater has to be avoided as far as possible, recycled internally or pre-treated. An energy-saving and resource-efficient operation of wastewater disposal or sludge treatment facilities must be ensured.

Responsible Bodies
BMLUK, BMF

Description of Financing
According to the Environmental Support Act and the Municipal Investment Act 2023, capital expenditures are subsidised. Supported activities include, among others,

- the construction or renovation of wastewater disposal facilities,
- the construction or renovation of specific sludge treatment equipment,
- environmental investments in local stormwater management measures,
- inter-municipal cooperation on wastewater disposal or sludge treatment that leads to efficiency improvements,
- measures to implement circular wastewater systems,
- construction of operational buildings for wastewater treatment plants,
- the creation of a digital pipe information system for wastewater discharge facilities with leakage
- and condition control and measures to reduce GHG emissions from wastewater disposal or sludge treatment facilities.

Funding is aimed at achieving the greatest possible effect on water protection and the conservation of water resources.

Beneficiaries
Municipalities, wastewater cooperatives, municipal companies and cooperation between municipalities, private households and legal entities

Environmental Impact
The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 6 by the following indicators:

- Number of inhabitants additionally connected to wastewater treatment plants including individual plants
- Length of constructed and renovated wastewater sewers (kilometres)
- Number of projects supported

5.6.3 Water ecology

Objective
The objective of funding measures to improve the ecological status of waters pursuant to § 17a of the Environmental Support Act is to reduce hydromorphological pressures in order to achieve the environmental objectives for water bodies stipulated in the Austrian Water Act 1959 (as amended) and in the EU Water Framework Directive.

Responsible Bodies
BMLUK, BMWET

Description of Financing
According to the Environmental Support Act and the Investment Bonus Act, capital expenditures for measures contributing to the improvement of the ecological status of water bodies are subsidised. The supported activities include, among others, measures

- to improve river continuity and fish passability,
- to restructure morphologically modified river stretches,
- to mitigate the impacts of backwater, discharges and hydropeaking,
- to save water and treat polluted water
- and basic concepts, investigations, studies, general planning, awareness raising and expert opinions, in connection with the physical measures.

Beneficiaries
Municipalities, associations of municipalities and enterprises

Environmental Impact
The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 6 by the following indicators:

- Number of transverse structures made passable for fish
- River courses morphologically improved and renaturalised (kilometres)
- Number of projects supported

5.7 Pollution prevention and control

While public expenses assigned to Pollution prevention and control generally cover a wide range of activities, including remediation and sustainable waste management as well as measures supporting the reduction of GHG and air emissions, the impact reporting focuses on the remediation of historically contaminated sites (before July 1, 1989). Since January 2025, legislative provisions defining new procedures and a revised legal terminology are effective. As of January 1, 2026, 3,111 sites are under investigation, 360 severely contaminated sites are known, 200 of which have been remediated, and remediation measures are ongoing for another 62 contaminated sites[75]. In general, at least 85% of the available funds are used for remediating and revitalising historically contaminated sites, and up to 15% of the available funds can be used for site investigation.

	2025 I									
Pollution prevention and control	**Allocated amount with reported impact (mn EUR)**	**Contaminated soil or landfill bodies remediated (cubic metres)**	**Contaminated area remediated (square metres)**	**Heavily contaminated soil or landfill body excavated and subsequently treated (cubic metres)**	**Contaminated groundwater or landfill leachate pumped out and purified (cubic metres / yr)**	**Landfill gas or contaminated soil air extracted and treated (cubic metres / yr)**	**Number of preliminary assessments (according to § 14 (1) ALSAG)**	**Number of risk assessments (according to § 14 (3) ALSAG)**	**Hazardous** waste from contaminated sites cleared & treated (tonnes)**	**Number of projects* supported**
Remediation of contaminated sites: Funding according to the Environmental Support Act	24.4	3,467,237	570,826	164,905	4,016,920	2,790,703				9
Remediation of contaminated sites: Initial & supplementary investigations, analysis, risk assessment, enforcement and processing	9.7						1,884	77		
Remediation of contaminated sites processing according to § 29 ALSAG	33.0				667,710				116,701	13
Project finance for emission reduction	31.4									2,857
Research, Development and Innovation	50.7									233
Total	**149.2**									

* Remediation of contaminated sites projects usually run for several years, thus there is an intersection of the indicated number of projects per year
** All waste from contaminated sites is hazardous waste by definition

Table 7: Pollution prevention and control – overview of indicators.

[75] Environment Agency Austria, Contaminated sites in Austria (only available in German, summary available in English), January 2026

5.7.1 Remediation of contaminated sites

Objective

The management of contaminated sites aims at reducing the risks and impacts of historical contamination for the environment and human health. The objective of the funding is to achieve the greatest possible ecological benefit at economically justifiable costs. Technical methods may involve decontamination, confinement and monitoring.

Responsible Body

BMLUK

Description of Financing

According to the Act on the Remediation of Contaminated Sites (Altlastensanierungsgesetz, ALSAG) and the Environmental Support Act (Umweltförderungsgesetz), financing is available for all measures directly related to the remediation of contaminated sites, e.g. for

- Preparatory work (exploration, planning)
- Risk assessment and evaluation of investigation results
- Construction and implementation measures
- Ongoing remediation measures (operating costs) for a maximum of five years
- Compensation and fees for restrictions of existing uses
- Restoration measures
- Measures for the preservation of evidence, e.g. groundwater investigation
- Construction, expansion and improvement of waste treatment facilities to the extent required for remediation of contaminated sites
- Required intangible services ("ancillary services") such as construction supervision and chemical analyses
- Immediate measures that are urgently required to prevent hazards to human life or health arising from contaminated sites, insofar as these measures are not ordered in a timely manner from the party causing these hazards, or cannot be carried out in a timely manner, in particular for economic reasons
- Evaluation of remediation results

Beneficiaries

Owners or persons authorised to dispose of a contaminated site and persons or companies obliged to clean up under the Austrian Water Act, the Austrian Waste Management Act or the Industrial Code (Gewerbeordnung); in addition, regardless of their legal relations to the contaminated site, municipalities, associations of municipalities, waste associations and federal provinces

Environmental Impact

The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 7 by the following indicators:

- Contaminated soil or landfill bodies remediated (cubic metres)
- Contaminated area remediated (square metres)
- Heavily contaminated soil or landfill body excavated and subsequently treated (cubic metres)
- Contaminated groundwater or landfill leachate pumped out and purified (cubic metres per year)
- Landfill gas or contaminated soil air extracted and treated (cubic metres per year)
- Number of preliminary assessments
- Number of risk assessments
- Hazardous waste[76] from contaminated sites cleared and treated (tonnes)
- Number of projects supported

[76] All waste from contaminated sites is hazardous waste by definition.

5.7.2 Project finance for emission reduction

Objective

Measures aim at preventing or reducing pollutants and thus protecting citizens as well as the environment. Project financing focuses on the source of emissions and aims at the reduction and sustainable management of (hazardous) waste and the emission of pollutants.

Responsible Body

BMWET

Description of Financing

Under the Investment Bonus Act (Investitionsprämiengesetz) capital expenditures are subsidised. Supported activities include, among others, investments in:

- Air pollution control: Measures to prevent or reduce (by at least 10%) particulate matter, NO_x, NH_3, CO, SO_2 or C_xH_y emissions in existing installations or emission sources or in commercially used buildings that go beyond regulatory requirements
- Sustainable management of raw materials and hazardous and non-hazardous waste: Measures to reduce raw material consumption, to improve the quality of recycled materials by at least 10% by removal of contaminants, plants for the recovery of critical raw materials and recycling plants etc.

Furthermore, funding is provided to bodies that implement international conventions and to national research institutes that support the implementation of pollution prevention and control targets.

Beneficiaries

Companies, research institutes and (inter)national bodies

Environmental Impact

The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 7 by the following indicators:

- Number of projects supported: As the projects in this category are very heterogeneous and include numerous small measures, and the impact cannot be systematically assessed at present, only the number of funded projects is presented.

Contaminated site Rudolf-Zeller-Gasse, Vienna © WGM/Christian Houdek

5.8 Climate change adaptation

Austria has been a pioneer in climate change adaptation, adopting one of the first adaptation strategies in the EU in 2012 and updating it in 2017 and 2024. The revised Austrian Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change[77] provides the overarching framework, combining a strategic part (Context) and an Action Plan covering 14 fields of activity, from agriculture and forestry, through infrastructure and urban blue and green spaces.

	2025 I									
Climate change adaptation	**Allocated amount with reported impact (EUR mn)**	**Number of Climate Change Adaptation Model Regions***	**Number of municipalities covered**	**Number of inhabitants (mn citizens)**	**Area covered (square km)**	**Number of protected citizens**	**Number of protected objects**	**Area treated protective forest (ha)**	**Number of enterprises supported (approved 2025)**	**Number of projects supported**
Climate Change Adaptation Model Regions (KLAR!)*	5.1	93	743	2.2	35,236					55
Torrent and Avalanche Control (WLV)	55.4		681				4,504	35,017		830
Flood protection: Federal Water Engineering Administration (BWV)	93.7					4,973	1,617			572
Flood protection: Federal Waterways (viadonau)	2.7									2
Austrian Forest Fund	2.2								19	
Research, Development & Innovation	94.7									272
Total	**253.6**									

* In the case of KLAR!, the allocated sum only corresponds to around half of the total budget, with further support provided in kind by participating municipalities..

Table 8: Climate change adaptation – overview of indicators. Sums in the table may not add up due to rounding differences.

[77] BMLUK, Austrian Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (only available in German), April 2024; Information in English, April 2024

5.8.1 Climate Change Adaptation Model Regions

Objective

The Austrian Adaptation Strategy emphasises the growing significance of addressing climate change at regional and local levels, aiming to provide tailored support to communities. In 2016, Austria launched the *Climate Change Adaptation Model Regions Programme*[78] *(KLAR! Programme)*.

Responsible Body

BMLUK

Description of Financing

The funding disbursed through the KLAR! Programme is designed to support Austrian regions and municipalities in their efforts to adapt to climate change. Each participating region appoints a climate adaptation manager responsible for creating a comprehensive regional adaptation concept. The concept should outline at least 10 specific adaptation measures, targeting both local and regional levels. The programme, managed by the Austrian Climate and Energy Fund, provides financial support for personnel, awareness-raising initiatives and regional coordination efforts, with municipalities required to contribute 25% of co-financing of the associated costs.

Beneficiaries

Regions, municipalities and private households (indirectly)

Environmental Impact

The funding supports the implementation of the Austrian Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change[79], increases adaptive capacity and strengthens resilience to climate-related risks.

The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 8 by the following indicators:

- Number of Climate Change Adaptation Model Regions
- Number of municipalities covered
- Number of inhabitants (million citizens)
- Area covered (square kilometres)

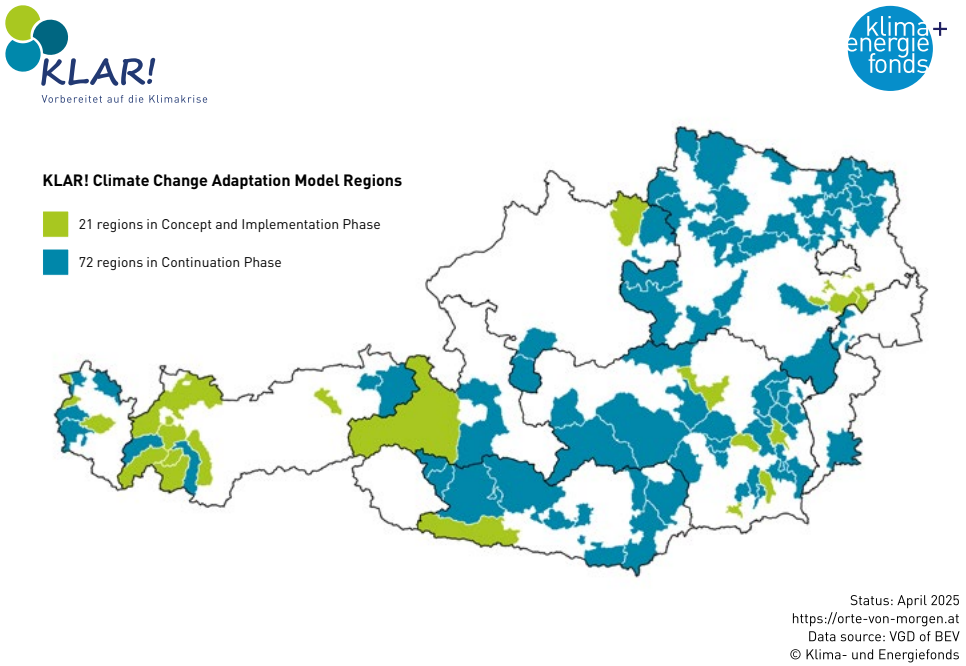


Figure 3: Climate Change Adaptation Model Regions in 2025 © Klima- und Energiefonds

[78] KLAR – Orte von Morgen (only available in German)
[79] BMLUK, Austrian Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change

5.8.2 Flood protection, torrent and avalanche control

Objective

Austria is committed to enhancing resilience against natural hazards, which are intensifying due to climate change and are also increasingly affecting previously less exposed regions. To reduce these risks in the Alpine regions, the Austrian Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control (WLV) implements targeted protective measures against torrents, avalanches, rockfalls, landslides, and mudflows. In addition, flood protection on waterways and other bodies of water is a key priority, with viadonau (via donau - Österreichische Wasserstraßen-Gesellschaft mbH) overseeing the planning, construction, and maintenance of flood protection infrastructure along major rivers, including the Danube and the Morava. Additionally, the Federal Water Engineering Administration (BWV), in collaboration with the federal provinces, focuses on reducing flood risks across all other bodies of water in Austria.

Responsible Bodies

BMLUK, BMIMI

Description of Financing

Protection against natural hazards in Austria's alpine regions involves a broad mix of measures, ranging from technical protective infrastructure to awareness raising and preparedness initiatives for floods, debris flows, avalanches, rockfalls, land- and rockslides, implemented by the WLV under BMLUK. Flood protection along the Danube, Morava and sections of the Thaya is operatively implemented by viadonau and coordinated by the Federal Waterways (coordinated within BMIMI), and for other bodies of water in Austria it is coordinated by the BWV within BMLUK, relying on a combination of strategies. These include the planning, construction and maintenance of flood risk measures such as retention basins, discharge channels (such as Vienna's "New Danube"), and other protective structures designed to safely manage floodwaters and minimise damage.

Beneficiaries

Regions, municipalities and private households (indirectly)

Environmental Impact

The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 8 by the following indicators:

- Number of projects supported
- Number of municipalities covered
- Area of treated protective forest in ha
- Number of protected citizens
- Number of protected objects

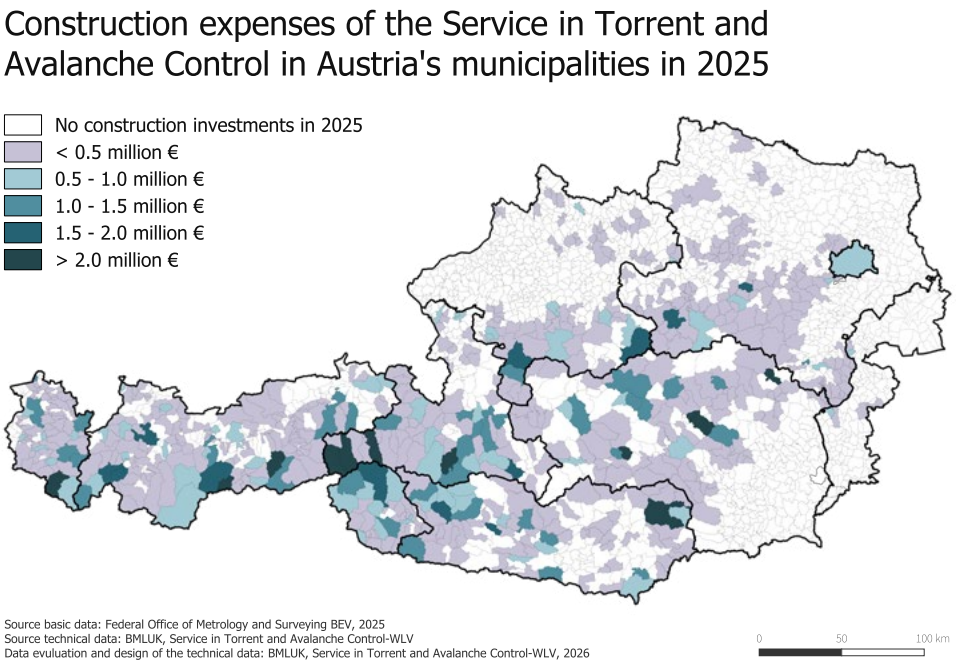


Figure 4: WLV Investments across Austrian municipalities in 2025 © BMLUK

5.9 Research, development and innovation

Strengthening research addressing the climate crisis, including mitigation and adaptation, resource efficiency, circular economy and the development of key technologies for the transition of energy systems, industrial processes and mobility are among the priority areas of the Strategy for Research, Technology and Innovation 2030[80] of the Austrian federal government. According to the most recent figures published by Statistics Austria[81], in 2025, Austria's total research and development expenditures accounted for 3.34% of GDP. Europe-wide figures for 2024 show that Austria ranks third in the EU.

Figures published by the Austrian Patent Office show that Green Tech Patent Applications have tripled in Austria over the last 20 years[82] and Austria is one of the six European countries with the highest specialisation advantage in clean and sustainable technologies[83]. In the field of sustainable water and wastewater management, Austria ranks third, while in the field of buildings Austria ranks first in Europe and also worldwide[61,62].

As research, development and innovation (RDI) is a cross-cutting issue, but no separate UoP category according to the Austrian Green Bond Framework, this chapter presents an aggregated overview of the allocated RDI expenditures as well as supplementary information. The figures for the allocated amounts shown in Table 9 are also included under the respective UoP categories in the previous chapters in the last line of the corresponding tables.

Year of Green Expenditures	Research, development and innovation	Allocated amount with reported impact (EUR mn)	Total number of projects funded	RDI project funding		Global budget for research infrastructure & fundamental research (EUR mn)	Austrian research institutions	
				Split amount (EUR mn)	Number of projects funded		Split amount (EUR mn)	Number of projects funded
2025 I	Clean transportation	52.5	209	43.2	92	1.4	7.9	117
2025 I	Renewable Energy	61.1	282	47.6	101	1.5	12.0	181
2025 I	Energy Efficiency	62.4	253	48.9	95	1.8	11.6	158
2025 I	Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity	11.6	52	0.4	3	8.8	2.4	49
2025 I	Environmentally sustainable man-agement of living natural resources and land use	81.6	260	42.1	164	33.7	5.7	96
2024 II	Sustainable water and wastewater management	17.6	26	8.4	26	9.2		
2025 I	Pollution prevention and control	50.7	233	33.6	102	6.2	10.9	131
2025 I	Climate change adaptation	94.7	272	71.9	186	8.8	13.9	86
	Total	**432.2**	**1,587**	**296.3**	**769**	**71.4**	**64.4**	**818**

Table 9: Overview of research, development and innovation expenditures allocated to Green Financing Instruments in 2025. Sums in the table may not add up due to rounding differences.

[80] Federal Chancellery of Austria, RTI Strategy 2030
[81] Statistics Austria, R&D global estimate (only available in German), April 2026
[82] Austrian Patent Office, New analysis on green technologies (only available in German), November 2024
[83] Austrian Patent Office, Green patents: Austria in first place for buildings (only available in German), April 2024

5.9.1 RDI project funding

Objective

The objective of RDI project funding is to promote the development of key technologies to facilitate the transition to an environmentally sustainable and resilient economy and society, as well as to intensify cross-sectoral and international collaboration and implement integrated solutions.

Responsible Bodies

BMWET, BMIMI

Description of Financing

Based on the Austrian Research Financing Act (Forschungsfinanzierungsgesetz), the RTI Pact 2024–2026, the Climate and Economic Stimulus Package (Klima- und Konjunkturpaket), the Austrian Forest Fund (Waldfonds) and the Environmental Support Act (Umweltförderungsgesetz), subsidies are provided for research, development and innovation activities, among others, in the fields of:

- Climate and energy transition as well as climate change adaptation and resilience for cities, regions and companies
- Mobility transition, including alternative fuels for air transport, batteries, hydrogen etc.
- Resource efficiency, renewable raw materials, circular economy and clean production
- Digitalised services and solutions for the sustainable transition of the industry
- Forest- and wood-related RDI activities, including on wood gas and biofuels, climate-resilient forests and the increased usage of the resource wood

The thematic funding call "Ressourcenwende 2025", launched by the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG), aimed at accelerating the transition toward a circular and resource-efficient economy. It supported application-oriented research and development (R&D) projects that contribute to sustainable materials, products and production technologies. The programme targets cooperative R&D projects, "Leitprojekte" (large-scale projects across value chains) for system-level transformation, and R&D services addressing key areas such as decarbonisation, improved materials, surface technologies, substitution of critical raw materials, additive manufacturing, sorting and recycling technologies, and data-driven innovations including AI for green industrial transformation and lifecycle data utilisation.

Beneficiaries

Companies, universities, research and technology organisations (RTO), research consortia consisting of industrial companies and research institutions, other RDI-conducting actors

Environmental Impact

The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 9 above by the following indicators:

- Number of projects supported: As research projects have a key enabling function but do not themselves have a direct environmental impact, the number of funded projects is used as a performance indicator in this category.

To give an impression of the scientific impact, additional indicators for companies receiving public funding from FFG are provided below. These figures represent all funded companies (including, but not limited to, companies in the field of environmental science) and are derived from projects completed by 2020 (most recent data), as part of the impact monitoring of FFG funding[84]. The project impacts of funded companies and research institutes are surveyed four years after project completion.

- Patent activities: On average 16% of small, 17% of medium and 29% of large FFG-funded companies register intellectual property rights (patents, designs, trademarks).
- Scientific production: On average 3.2 scientific publications per FFG-funded project (public-private cooperation).

5.9.2 Global budget for research infrastructure and fundamental research

Objective

Successfully implementing RDI projects requires adequate instruments covering all innovation phases that can be combined with each other. Fundamental research as well as research infrastruc-

[84] FFG, Impact monitoring of FFG funding in 2024 (only available in German)

ture are essential foundations financed by the global budget of universities. The specific objective of the global budget presented in this section is to provide the basis for climate-related and environmental research activities aimed at enabling the transition to a sustainable economy and society.

Responsible Body
BMFWF

Description of Financing
Under this position, finance for research infrastructures and fundamental research is provided for the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU), which is among the leading Life Sciences Universities in Europe, distinguished by its holistic approach to research and teaching. During the year 2025, 2,298 scientists[65], 10,420 students[85] and 1,362 graduates[86] were researching solutions for important environmental and social issues and for a sustainable future[87]. The scientific work at BOKU takes place in six areas of competence[88].

Beneficiary
BOKU University (Vienna)

Environmental Impact
The effect of the funding is reflected in figures on scientific performance, as fundamental research activities and infrastructures have a key enabling function, but do not have a direct environmental impact themselves. According to the most recent figures prepared for the "Intellectual Capital Report" of the BOKU University, the following KPIs are presented[89]:

- 782 ongoing research projects
- 130 ongoing education and capacity building projects
- 940 publications in SCI (Science Citation Index) listed journals and SSCI (Social Science Citation Index; both Web of Science Core Collection), 64% of which with international co-authors
- 17 patents pending (3 national, 10 EU, 4 in third countries)

[85] Winter semester 2025
[86] Academic year 2024/25
[87] BOKU University, BOKU "Wissensbilanz" 2025 (only available in German)
[88] BOKU University, BOKU competence areas
[89] BOKU University, BOKU Intellectual capital report 2025 (only available in German)

Example: Upcycling of pectin-rich waste streams from food and beverage industries to value-added proteins[90]
Upcycling refers to the process of transforming by-products or waste materials into new materials or products of higher quality. As part of the transition towards a circular bioeconomy, the PectiUp PhD project – funded by the Christian Doppler Research Association and by the global budget – is developing new strategies, technological innovations and microbial (yeast) strains to convert food industry waste into value-added proteins for food production.
Coordinator: Institute of Microbiology and Microbial Biotechnology

5.9.3 Austrian environment, climate, meteorology and applied research institutions

Objective
The objective of funding Austrian specialist institutes focusing on environment, climate, meteorology, technology and related applied research and services is to

- strengthen and maintain critical infrastructure for innovation and resilience,
- enable the development of scenarios, analyses and studies,
- enhance knowledge transfer to companies,
- foster collaboration between the public sector and applied research institutions and
- strengthen cross-sectoral and international partnerships.

Emphasis is placed on generating knowledge on a broad range of environmental issues, climate change impacts and adaptation, as well as advancing technologies contributing to a more sustainable and climate-resilient future. To perform applied research, infrastructure such as the network of meteorological stations as well as related services such as real-time weather forecasts and long-term climate and environmental data need to be in place.

Responsible Bodies
BMLUK, BMFWF, BMIMI

[90] BOKU University, Upcycling of pectin-rich waste streams from food and beverage industries to value-added proteins

Beneficiary
Austrian Institute of Technology, Environment Agency Austria, GeoSphere Austria

Environmental Impact
The enabled effect of the funding is presented in Table 9 by the following indicator:

- Number of projects supported: As research projects have a key enabling function but do not have a direct environmental impact, the number of funded projects is used as a performance indicator in this category.
- In addition to projects, funding is also provided for key research infrastructures. Although these infrastructures play a crucial enabling role, they cannot be measured using a common indicator.

Austrian Institute of Technology
With its seven centres (Energy, Transport Technologies, Health & Bioresources, Digital Safety & Security, Vision, Automation & Control, Technology Experience, and Innovation Systems & Policy), the Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT) combines excellent scientific research with application-oriented technology development. Working closely with universities and other partners in fundamental research, AIT bridges the gap between scientific findings and their translation into marketable and socially relevant innovations. As a research and technology organisation spanning the entire innovation chain, AIT supports industry and the public sector in developing, validating and implementing new technologies under real-world conditions.

Environment Agency Austria
The Environment Agency Austria (EAA) is Austria's central environmental authority and a leading scientific institution in the field of environmental protection. It conducts research, collects and analyses environmental data, and provides expert advice to the government and public authorities. Key research topics include climate change, air and water quality, biodiversity, waste management, and sustainable resource use.

The EAA plays an important role in shaping environmental policy by supporting decision-making with scientific evidence. In addition, it represents Austria in international environmental cooperations and contributes to European and global environmental initiatives. It also informs the public about environmental issues and promotes awareness of sustainability and ecological responsibility.

GeoSphere Austria
As the national geological, geophysical, climatological and meteorological service, GeoSphere Austria (GSA) plays an important role in increasing Austria's resilience and disaster preparedness. By contributing to a prevention-oriented approach to climate change, GSA aims to secure a sustainable development of Austria.
With approximately 280 weather stations covering all climate regions and altitudes of Austria, GSA ensures the availability of precise, real-time weather and homogeneous long-term climate data. These data are freely accessible and shared with energy providers, public transport companies, emergency services, the federal administration and international organisations and is fundamental for any climate risk assessment. GSA is a critical infrastructure in terms of early warnings, provides and develops diverse (climate) services, and is strongly involved in applied research. GSA plays a key role in supporting the transition towards renewable energy systems and the sustainable management of natural resources through geoscientific data, monitoring, modelling and advisory services.

6 Case Studies

6.1 Austrian Railway Framework Plan and EU Taxonomy

The EU Taxonomy Regulation, a market transparency tool, has become a key instrument of sustainable finance by steering investments towards activities most needed for the transition to a sustainable economy and society. In this context, the framework has gained particular importance for Green Bonds, as it provides standardised criteria for assessing the environmental sustainability of financed projects. This case study examines the application of the EU Taxonomy to railway infrastructure projects financed through Austrian Green Financing Instruments, using the example of the Austrian Railway Framework Plan.

Most of Austria's extensive railway network is owned by ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG, a subsidiary of the Austrian Federal Railways (ÖBB). Other subsidiaries include the ÖBB-Personenverkehr AG, which provides mobility services by rail and road, and Rail Cargo Austria AG, specialised in international rail freight transport.

ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG is a railway infrastructure company with the main task to plan, build, maintain, provide and operate railway infrastructure. Its responsibilities are laid down in the Austrian Federal Railways Act, as well as in the corresponding long-term financing framework, which secures financing by the Republic of Austria.[91] The financing framework is based on two six-year contracts, which are concluded annually between the federal government and ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG. The first contract, pursuant to section 42 (1) of the Federal Railways Act, ensures the financial resources required for the operation of the rail infrastructure and its provision to users. The second contract, pursuant to section 42 (2) of the Federal Railways Act, governs subsidies for the maintenance, planning and construction of railway infrastructure.

[91] See §31, §42 (1),(2) and §47 of the Austrian Federal Railways Act

Austrian Railway Framework Plan and EU Taxonomy

The case study focuses on the second contract, which is based on the ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG's business plan and includes the six-year framework plan, which is extended on an annual basis, as an essential component. This so-called **Austrian Railway Framework Plan** must specify the funds for maintenance (in particular repairs and reinvestment) and expansion on an annual basis. It is concluded between the federal government and ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG. The funds for expansion investment are provided by the federal government and disbursed in the form of an annuity spread over 30 years.

The **Austrian Railway Framework Plan** (see chapter 5.1.1 Clean transportation infrastructure and services) is the most important tool for providing railway infrastructure, further expanding the network and increasing capacity. It outlines planned projects and their investment amounts within the respective six-year period. The framework plan puts key aspects of the government's programme in the rail sector on track and thus makes an important contribution to achieving climate neutrality. The valid framework plan relevant for the financial year 2024 covers the period from 2024-2029.

The main basis for the preparation of the **Austrian Railway Framework Plan** is ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG's target network, which defines the rail transport policy priorities. Among other things, the complete decarbonisation of rail transport by 2040 is an important priority and aims to achieve an economically optimal mix of route electrification and the use of vehicles with alternative drive technologies based on the electrification strategy. The current network electrification level amounts to 75%, with a target value of 85% in 2030.[92]

Taxonomy implementation

Certain activities of the ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG fall within the scope of the EU Taxonomy Regulation and the company is therefore required to disclose the sustainability performance of its economic activities. The purpose of the Taxonomy regulation is to establish a unified classification system defining which economic activities can be considered environmentally sustainable.[93] This reporting enhances transparency for investors, financial institutions and other stakeholders and helps direct

[92] See the ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG annual report 2024, p.68
[93] Companies must disclose the proportion of their turnover, capital expenditures (CapEx), and operating expenditures (OpEx) that are associated with taxonomy-aligned activities.

capital flows toward sustainable and climate-friendly investments.[94] As part of the reporting, an external audit is also required to verify the information provided by the company.

In accordance with the Federal Railways Act, ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG is investing in the Austrian railway infrastructure according to the investment path outlined in the Austrian Railway Framework Plan. The Austrian Railway Framework Plan meets the requirements of the taxonomy activity 6.14 *Infrastructure for rail transport,*[94] which covers the construction, modernisation, operation and maintenance of railways, including the provision of architectural services, engineering services, drafting services, building inspection services and surveying and mapping services.

As part of the taxonomy alignment assessment, investments are checked regarding their compliance with the "do no significant harm" (DNSH) criteria. For example, regarding the criteria for climate change adaptation, ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG is currently focusing on a qualitative approach to climate risk and vulnerability assessment with plans to transition to a quantitative approach. For the transition to a circular economy and in accordance with the provisions in the Waste Management Act[95], ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG has an established waste management system in place that ensures compliance with the corresponding DNSH criteria. Further, larger infrastructure projects need to be submitted under the Environmental Impact Assessment Act (UVP-G)[96], where the environmental impacts (i.e. on water, biodiversity, etc.) of a project are assessed in a comprehensive and integrated manner, thereby ensuring compliance with the DNSH for the protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems.

In this context, the framework plan forms the methodological basis for assigning CapEx and OpEx to taxonomy activity 6.14 (Infrastructure for rail transport). This allows all green bond eligible investments to be assigned in accordance with their respective taxonomy affiliation.

EU Taxonomy alignment

- **OpEx:** These investments refer to the day-to-day operations. Thus, taxonomy alignment is calculated on the basis of the electrification level in 2024 of 75%[97] (a reduction in the baseline from 85% to 75%), resulting in taxonomy-aligned OpEx of EUR 337 mn.
- **CapEx:** These investments refer to the expansion of the rail network. Thus, taxonomy alignment is calculated on the basis of the target electrification level of 85%, hence the baseline is aligned with the 2030 target value. Consequently, taxonomy-aligned CapEx corresponds to taxonomy-eligible CapEx and amounts to EUR 1,160 mn.

Relevant categories: Clean transportation

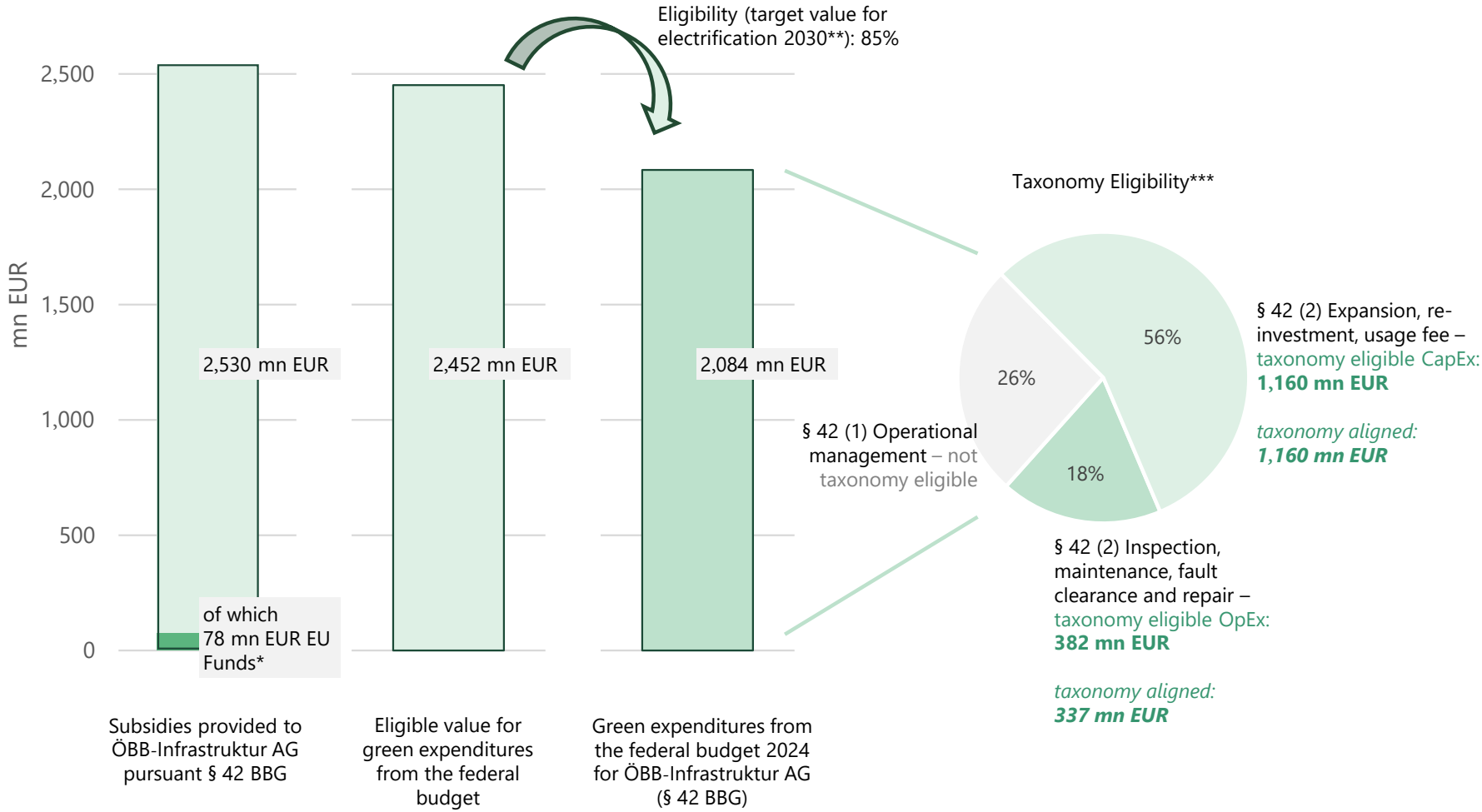
Sources and further information:

- Austrian Federal Railways Act
- Annual report of ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG 2024

© ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG

[94] For further details, see chapter Approach to evaluating Taxonomy-eligible and Taxonomy-aligned economic activities in the ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG annual report 2024, p.49
[95] See Waste Management Act: https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&Gesetzesnummer=20002086&FassungVom=2026-04-02
[96] See Environmental Impact Assessment Act: https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&Gesetzesnummer=10010767
[97] See the annual report of ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG 2024, p.68

KPIs for the year 2024



* not eligible for Green Securities

** target value for electrification 2030 according ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG annual report 2024, p.68

*** percentages for Taxonomy Eligibility calculated based on ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG annual report 2024, p.247

6.2 Koralm Railway: A strategic European rail corridor across the Alps

The Koralm Railway is a newly constructed Austrian railway line with a total length of 130 kilometres, connecting the regions of western Styria and southern Carinthia. It comprises the sixth-longest railway tunnel in the world and is the largest project realised by ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG in the last decades. It began operating in December 2025 and is located along the Baltic-Adriatic Corridor of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T). As such, it is part of the EU's long-term strategy to enhance transport connectivity across Europe and represents an important factor in strengthening north-south rail links as well as in improving connections between Central European industrial regions and the Baltic and Adriatic ports. It substantially reduces end-to-end travel times and provides additional rail capacity for both passenger and freight transport along the entire corridor by increasing line speeds and improving network resilience.

The reduced journey times are remarkable: passengers travelling between the main stations of Graz (capital of Styria) and Klagenfurt (capital of Carinthia) now benefit from a journey time of only 41 minutes by high-speed train, down from previously 2 hours by bus (fastest connection) or 2:40 hours by rail, making it also considerably faster than by car. Travel durations from Vienna and other northern cities to destinations further south are also reduced: the journey from Vienna to Klagenfurt is shortened by 45 minutes to 3 hours and 10 minutes, while the journey from Vienna to Venice is reduced by 30 minutes to 7 hours and 10 minutes. Thus, the railway is established as the fastest and most energy-efficient way of transport in southern Austria, providing a high-capacity and low-emission alternative to road travel and transport.

In combination with the completion of the Semmering Base Tunnel (commissioning planned for 2030), the operational performance of the entire Baltic-Adriatic Corridor will be further enhanced. With the combined effect of the Semmering Base Tunnel and the Koralm Railway, the end-to-end travel time for passenger services between Vienna and Klagenfurt will ultimately be reduced to 2 hours and 40 minutes.

The Koralm Railway further enables the expansion and reorganisation of long-distance train services in Austria. Existing routes profit from more frequent services and additional early and late connections. The 2025/26 timetable also introduced five new InterRegion (IR) lines on intra-Alpine routes, improving accessibility and connections to the Alpine regions.

The project has thus led to an expansion of long-distance services by around 30% (see KPIs) and is an example of how investments in new infrastructure enable improvements to overall connectivity. This makes travelling by rail more attractive, which promotes the modal shift from road to rail and leads to remarkable annual CO_2e savings (see chapter 5.1).

The Koralm Railway will not only fundamentally change mobility, but also the economic area and living space in Styria and Carinthia. It is expected that the improved connection will lead to the creation of a new integrated urban region between Graz and Klagenfurt, with a population of around 1.1 million.

Sustainable construction site management

The Koralm Railway is one of the largest construction projects in Austria to be submitted to and approved under the Environmental Impact Assessment Act (UVP-G). This entails a wide range of accompanying measures to protect sensitive areas and to restore or recreate natural habitats. Around four out of six million cubic metres of material excavated from the Koralm tunnel were reused as fill material for noise barriers and railway embankments, or as filter gravel and aggregate for concrete. Ecological compensation areas in Carinthia and Styria are now developing into valuable natural habitats and the Lavant River, once straightened, has since become designated as a Natura 2000 site, to name a few examples. Wherever possible, materials were and continue to be transported by rail, and extensive planting of trees and shrubs has been carried out. Until 2028, around 145,000 new trees are going to be planted in Carinthia as part of renaturation measures, with a similar number planned in Styria.

KPIs:

- Reduced rail travel time Graz – Klagenfurt: before 2:00 hours by bus / 2:40 hours by rail, now 0:41 hours by rail
- Five new InterRegion (IR) lines on intra-Alpine routes
- Expansion of long-distance services by around 30% in the direction of South Austria (e.g. Vienna – Klagenfurt: 26 trains per day vs 10 previously. Graz – Klagenfurt: 29 trains per day vs 8 previously)
- 70% of the excavated material from the construction of the Koralm tunnel was reused
- Lavant River as a new Natura 2000 site
- 145,000 new trees in Carinthia by 2028 (a similar number planned for Styria)

Relevant categories: Clean transportation

Source and further information:

- Bahnstrecke Koralmbahn - ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG
- Die neue Koralmbahn - Unsere ÖBB

Jauntalbrücke (Bridge over the Jaun Valley), Carinthia © ÖBB

Bird's-eye view of compensatory measures on the Drava River (Völkermarkter reservoir) near Brenndorf, Carinthia © ÖBB/evmedia

6.3 City of Vienna recovers heat from thermal resort

As part of the efforts to achieve climate neutrality, district heating plays a crucial role in reducing carbon emissions and ensuring a sustainable energy future. Currently, heat generation still heavily relies on efficient combined heat and power plants, which are primarily based on fossil fuels. In order to further decarbonise the heating sector, the integration of renewable energy sources and the utilisation of waste heat are essential steps.

By installing a 2,000 kW (thermal output) heat pump system, the waste heat from the *Therme Wien* spa is utilised and fed into the Vienna district heating network, replacing fossil fuel-based heat sources. This innovative solution demonstrates how existing local energy resources can be efficiently harnessed to support urban energy systems while minimising environmental impacts.

Therme Wien utilises heat from geothermal boreholes for its own operation. After being used in the thermal baths, the water still has an average temperature of approximately 35°C, which would otherwise remain unused. A heat pump captures this natural waste heat, raises its temperature to the level required for district heating, and injects it into Vienna's district heating network. By doing so, the system maximises the overall efficiency of the geothermal resource and extends its benefits beyond heating the spa only.

This project generates approximately 8 GWh of renewable heat usable each year and supplies around 1,700 households with district heating. In addition to reducing the demand for fossil fuels, the project contributes significantly to lowering greenhouse gas emissions. The use of waste heat at *Therme Wien* results in annual CO_2 savings of approximately 1,800 tonnes, supporting Vienna's long-term climate and energy targets and serving as a model for similar projects in urban environments. The entire subsidy came from the funding programme "Commercial heating and cooling supply".

KPIs:

- 2,000 kW heat pump system installed
- Approx. 8 GWh renewable heat generation per year, supplying heat to approx. 1,700 households
- Annual CO_2 savings of approx. 1,800 tonnes

Relevant categories: Renewable energy; Energy efficiency

Source and further information (only available in German):

- Die Bedeutung von Abwärme als erneuerbare Energiequelle | Wien Energie

Heat pump system at the Therme Wien spa © Klimafonds/Krobath

Entrance to the Therme Wien spa © Therme Wien

6.4 SKAPA Recycling GmbH

SKAPA Recycling GmbH, based in Kottingbrunn (Lower Austria), specialises in sustainable recycling processes for the treatment of aluminium used beverage cans (UBC). Founded in 2011, the company aims to increase the recycling rate of used aluminium cans and, in doing so, to utilise cleaned and briquetted UBC as the end product instead of low-quality desox aluminium.

Ongoing investments in high-quality processing facilities have enabled the company to multiply its processing volume. Since then, SKAPA Recycling has been purchasing UBC from municipalities, event organisers, scrap processors, and dealers (approx. 15,000 tonnes each year, 3,500 tonnes of which come from Austria) and recycling them in accordance with the principles of the circular economy, in line with the motto "We make it valuable again."

Sustainability and energy efficiency are central to both SKAPA's strategy as well as the wider economy, with SKAPA playing an active role in supporting Austria's climate and circular economy objectives. Recycling is not only environmentally and climate-friendly, it also saves costs with the recycling process for UBC aluminium requiring only 5% of the energy costs compared to conventional extraction from ore.

In addition to investing in machinery, SKAPA has focused heavily on sustainability projects in recent years. Important core processes within the company have been digitised to increase efficiency and reduce environmental impact.

To take another significant step towards climate protection, SKAPA Recycling is investing in a new extraction system with dust class M filter cartridges. This will reduce dust pollution by 98 percent. To finance this pollution prevention project, subsidies were provided by the Domestic Environmental Funding Program (UFI – Umweltförderung im Inland). Kommunalkredit Public Consulting is responsible for processing the subsidies on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK).

In 2025, SKAPA won the WKO innovation prize as well as the VERENA State Prize for Innovative Production (Staatspreis VERENA für Innovatives Produzieren).

KPIs:

- Recycling of approx. 15,000 tonnes of UBC per year
- Dust pollution reduction of 98% with a new extraction system

Relevant categories: Pollution prevention and control

Sources and further information (only available in German):

- Detail | Umweltförderung
- SKAPA investiert mit Kommunalkkredit in die Luftreinhaltung - SKAPA Recycling GmbH

SKAPA premises and new extraction system
© SKAPA Recycling GmbH

6.5 Expansion project for the Grimsinger and Schallemmersdorfer Danube side arm, Lower Austria

In 2024, the municipality Emmersdorf an der Donau embarked on a project to expand the Danube's side arm near Schallemmersdorf and Grimsing. The project is financed by subsidies from the federal government (Domestic Environmental Funding Program (UFI) and Biodiversity Fund), by subsidies from the province of Lower Austria (Lower Austria Landscape Fund), by own funds from Emmersdorf an der Donau and further contributions from other project partners.

The expansion project will restore essential water-typical structures such as shallow shores, gravel banks, areas for pioneer vegetation (willows, poplars), steep banks, standing water areas, and floodplains. These will expand the existing tributary system with essential elements of the original river landscape and are intended to provide habitat for a variety of aquatic and terrestrial species.

In the course of the Danube regulation in the 19th century and the construction of the Melk Danube power plant (commissioned in 1982), former side arms were separated from the Danube. The anabranching river system was reduced to one main river channel. Habitats typical of rivers, such as extensive gravel banks and shallow shores, were lost as a result of the regulation. Furthermore, the straightening increasingly cut off the riparian forests from the Danube.

The approximately 1.4-kilometres-long tributary section downstream of the Grimsinger Bridge is now to be widened by an additional 15 to 20 metres. As a result, the shallow gravel banks created provide the most important habitats for juvenile fish of riverine species such as barbel and nase, which thrive in fast-flowing waters. Areas protected from the waves caused by shipping on the Danube, particularly the shallow banks along the side arms, are important for the recovery of fish stocks in this section of the Danube.

At the lower end of the tributary system lies a remnant of the former Ochsengraben backwater. This is to be dredged and connected to the Danube downstream as a new, approximately 1.2-hectare standing water area.

The project began in January 2024 with preparatory clearing work, enabling the earthworks conducted in early August 2024. The construction work is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2026.

KPIs:

- Renaturation of 1.4 kilometres of river course
- 1.2 hectares of new water area created
- (33 "green jobs" created or secured in the region)

Relevant categories: Sustainable water and wastewater management; Biodiversity and ecosystems; Sustainable management of living natural resources and land use

Source and further information (only available in German):

- Umweltinvestitionen des Bundes

Land removal along the right riverbank at Danube side arm Schallemmersdorf and Grimsing, Lower Austria, September 2024 © Land NÖ Abt. WA3 Nesweda

6.6 Bannwald (Protective forest) Hallstatt

The Bannwald Hallstatt is a forest area with an official protective function, determined by the forest authority. As such, it has been cultivated for decades and contributes to the risk reduction of climate-related natural hazards. The current project is being implemented by the Austrian Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control (WLV) from 2020 to 2029. It provides better protection for the settlement area of the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Hallstatt by safeguarding residential buildings, cultural and educational facilities, local and supra-regional infrastructure and business facilities, including parts of the Salinen Austria AG site and the regional electricity transmission network of Netz Oberösterreich GmbH. Approximately 500 buildings are protected against rockfall, avalanches, flooding, and debris flows.

In recent decades, the protective function of the Bannwald has come under increasing pressure due to natural developments and extreme weather events, including storm-related damage in 2010, 2012, and 2018, a forest fire in 2018, floodings in 2002 and 2013, and severe avalanche winters and snow pressure in 2009 and 2019. These developments, combined with changing climatic conditions, have led to a decline in the local protective function of the forest. Without targeted measures, a further reduction in the protective capacity of the forest and an increased risk to settlement areas and access routes can be expected.

The objective of the Bannwald project is to restore and improve the level of protection for Hallstatt and its associated infrastructure. The project aims to optimise the risk reduction function of the protection forest ecosystem through a coordinated combination of silvicultural, technical and organisational measures. The already implemented protection system from projects “Lawinen über Hallstatt 1975” and “Bannwald Hallstatt Nord 1986” is maintained and developed further in line with current natural hazard conditions, projected climate impacts, and the increased occurrence of extreme events.

The planned protection system includes three categories of measures: silvicultural interventions combined with technical measures provide an area-wide ecosystem-based protection, local technical protection structures reduce the risk of hotspot assets, and organisational measures such as game and tourism management support the silvicultural interventions.

The project contributes to climate change adaptation by reducing exposure of settlements, infrastructure, and economic activities to climate-related natural hazards through ecosystem-based risk reduction measures. It also supports sustainable land management and biodiversity objectives through long-term forest management.

The project is financed by the federal government, the province of Upper Austria, and the municipality of Hallstatt, with participation from infrastructure operators and landowners. Planning and implementation are carried out by the Austrian Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control, ensuring coordinated implementation and long-term maintenance.

KPIs:

- Number of buildings located within the protected area: approx. 500 buildings
- Natural hazards addressed: rockfall, avalanches, flooding, debris flows
- Implementation period: 2020-2029
- Implementation of nature-based adaptation measures: yes

Relevant categories: Biodiversity and ecosystems; Sustainable management of living natural resources and land use; Climate change adaptation

Source and further information (only available in German):

- FWP Bannwald Hallstatt DP III

Silvicultural intervention for rockfall and avalanche protection © die.wildbach

View of Hallstatt and surrounding forests from Lake Hallstatt
© Österreich Werbung/Cross Media Redaktion

6.7 Award-winning adaptation

In Austria, selected climate change adaptation initiatives are recognised through dedicated awards that highlight effective, practice-oriented responses to climate risks. The Climate Change Adaptation Model Regions (KLAR!)[98] Project of the Year Award acknowledges locally implemented measures developed within these regions, while CliA, the Austrian State Prize for Climate Change Adaptation, recognises forward-looking adaptation projects. Both are aligned with the principles of good adaptation practice. Together, these awards support the visibility, learning, and replication of adaptation measures contributing to the objectives of the Austrian Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan.

Goats for avalanche control in the KLAR! Kaunergrat[99] region – KLAR! Project of the Year

In alpine regions, climate change has altered snow conditions and increased the occurrence of glide snow avalanches and slope instabilities, particularly during milder winters. In the KLAR! Kaunergrat region, abandoned and steep alpine pasture areas have contributed to elevated natural hazard risks affecting infrastructure, access routes, and land use.

The project "goats for avalanche control" addresses this challenge through targeted goat grazing as an ecosystem-based adaptation measure. Controlled and rotational grazing reduces shrub growth and old vegetation, shortens vegetation height, and compacts the grass sward. This stabilises surface conditions and reduces the likelihood of snow avalanches and debris flows on steep slopes.

The measure is implemented on approximately 25 hectares using more than 200 goats. It functions as a nature-based solution, complementing conventional avalanche protection through technical structures. In addition to risk reduction, the project supports alpine pasture management, biodiversity, soil stability, and local cooperation among agricultural stakeholders. Scientific support and adaptive pasture planning are used to inform implementation and enable knowledge transfer.

The project contributes to climate change adaptation by reducing risks from climate-related natural hazards (snow avalanches and debris flows) through ecosystem-based measures. It aligns with the objectives of the Austrian Adaptation Strategy by promoting nature-based solutions, strengthening local resilience, and avoiding long-term lock-in effects associated with purely structural protection measures.

KPIs:

- Area covered: approx. 25 hectares of alpine pasture
- Climate-related hazards addressed: snow avalanches and debris flows

Relevant categories: Climate change adaptation; Biodiversity and ecosystems; Sustainable management of living natural resources and land use

Sources and further information (only available in German):

- KLAR! Projekte des Jahres
- KLAR! Kaunergrat
- Ziegen gegen Lawinen: Gezielte Beweidung reduziert Naturgefahren

Goats grazing on steep alpine pastures, reducing exposure to snow avalanches and debris flows in the Kaunergrat region © KLAR! Kaunergrat

[98] KLAR – Places of Tomorrow (only available in German)
[99] TOP KLAR! Projects 2025 – Places of Tomorrow (only available in German)

Winner of the State Prize for Climate Change Adaptation (CliA)

Located in the Triesting valley in Lower Austria, a region with around 35,000 inhabitants across twelve municipalities, the area has repeatedly experienced severe flood events over the past decades. Increasing extreme precipitation linked to climate change has exposed the limits of isolated measures, such as local embankments or property-level protection by individual households, which proved insufficient to manage flood risks at the catchment scale. As a result, the Triesting water board has implemented the Fahrafeld retention basin as a central component of a supra-regional climate change adaptation approach. The supra-regional character lies in its catchment-wide protection function: by retaining floodwaters upstream, the basin reduces peak flows and flood risks not only locally, but across multiple downstream municipalities along the Triesting river system.

With a retention capacity of up to 750,000 m^3 and a 2.6-kilometre dam, the basin represents the largest flood protection project by the Triesting water board and one of the largest retention basins in Lower Austria. It protects around 35,000 people, as well as key infrastructure across twelve municipalities. Construction began in 2019 following several years of planning, land acquisition and permitting, and the project was completed in 2024.

The project combines technical flood protection with ecological enhancements and sustainable land use approaches, benefitting from support by the Federal Water Engineering Administration. Through close cooperation among municipalities and landowners in the region, it was possible to implement the project without any expropriations. Today, the retention basin is a multifunctional landscape area, increasing regional flood resilience and providing ecological habitats and recreational spaces for the local population.

KPIs:

- Retention capacity: 750,000 m^3
- Climate-related hazards addressed: flooding from extreme precipitation and river overflow
- Protected people: ca. 35,000

Relevant categories: Climate change adaptation; Biodiversity and ecosystems; Sustainable management of living natural resources and land use

Triesting valley in Lower Austria © Triesting Wasserverband via dronemedia.at

Triesting valley in Lower Austria © Triesting Wasserverband via dronemedia.at

7 Annex: Impact Measurement Methodology

Quality assurance of the input data and evaluation of the effectiveness of the funding

For projects funded under the Environmental Support Act or funded by the Climate and Energy Fund, quality assurance is based on a multi-stage approach in which checks are carried out at specific intervals by the responsible institutions:

- In general, the funding process can be divided into the application phase up to the funding contract, the construction phase and the phase of auditing and final invoicing.
  - For complex projects, throughout the entire funding process, several checks are carried out, e.g. by the funding processing agency, the federal ministries, the governments of the federal provinces etc. As an example of this process in municipal water management infrastructure, a detailed flow chart is presented in the Austrian Court of Audit's report[100].
  - For all projects, spot checks are carried out by the agency responsible for processing the funding, in which the projects and information are reviewed in detail (including on-site inspections).
- On behalf of the responsible bodies (federal ministries), annual audits are carried out by independent auditors to check the legal compliance of the agency entrusted with processing the funding.
- Ex-post evaluation:
  - For projects funded under the Environmental Support Act, an in-depth evaluation is carried out every three years[101].
  - For projects funded according to the Austrian Climate and Energy Fund, ex-ante as well as ex-post evaluations are carried out on a regular basis[102]. Moreover, a detailed methodological report of these evaluations was published[103].
- In addition, audits are carried out by the Austrian Court of Audit[104] at varying intervals.

[100] See page 70 of the report "Subsidies in municipal water management – Report of the Austrian Court of Audit" (only available in German)
[101] As an example of the triennial evaluation reports according to the Environmental Support Act, see "Evaluation of environmental funding of the federal government 2020-2022" (only available in German)
[102] As an example, see report "Evaluation of the annual programmes 2018 and 2020 of the Climate and Energy Fund" (only available in German)
[103] Environment Agency Austria and Prognos AG, Evaluation report on annual programmes of the Climate and Energy Fund, 2019

General information for the impact tables in chapter 5 (Tables 1 – 9)

- Monetary figures refer to public funding spent on the corresponding UoP category and represent the respective share of the budget that was allocated to Green Financing Instruments.
- Impact and performance indicators refer to the enabled effects, i.e. effects leveraged by public funding, with regard to the overall investment volumes of the supported projects and infrastructure.
- Estimates for performance indicators are based on real data for approved projects in the respective year.
- Each overview table at the beginning of chapters 5.1–5.8 includes the sub-category "Research, development and innovation" in the bottom row. A more detailed description of this sub-category can be found in chapter 5.9.

7.1 Clean transportation

Applies to all sub-sections and indicators
The presented indicators refer to the enabled effects with regard to the overall investment volumes of the supported projects.

Indicators were calculated on the basis of data provided by the responsible institutions. Data quality assurance follows a multi-stage approach, with audits conducted at defined intervals by several bodies, including the funding institution, the relevant ministry or auditor, Parliament and the Austrian Court of Audit.

[104] As an example, see report "Subsidies in municipal water management – Report of the Austrian Court of Audit" (only available in German)

Clean Transportation Infrastructure and services

Railway

The methodological description provided under this section refers to chapter 5.1.1 Clean transportation infrastructure and services, except co-financing of the federal government in investment costs for the expansion of the Vienna underground system.

Methodology for estimating the avoided GHG emissions

1) Allocation of budget items to passenger and freight transport

The relevant budget items are allocated to the following clusters to enable a differentiated presentation of the GHG savings enabled by investments in:

- Rail passenger transport: non-commercial services and commercial services
- Rail freight transport: subsidised and non-subsidised

The creation of clusters is necessary, as an attractive rail service can only be created through the interaction of rail infrastructure and the transport services provided on it. Rail infrastructure and rail services therefore work together and contribute to shifting transport from road to rail and thus to avoiding GHG emissions.

2) Passenger and freight transport infrastructure[105]

The infrastructure investments are reduced by the share of non-electrified lines and then allocated on a pro rata basis to the above-mentioned clusters. The infrastructure investments include the federal subsidies to ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG and the co-financing of rail infrastructure investments by private railways and contributions to the provision of rail infrastructure. The allocation of subsidies to ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG to the clusters is based on the electrified kilometres travelled by public/private passenger and by freight trains on the ÖBB network (data provided by ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG). The co-financing of rail infrastructure investments by private railways and contributions to the provision of rail infrastructure are allocated 100% to the cluster rail passenger transport. For the allocation of freight transport to subsidised and non-subsidised freight transport, the subsidised share, according to the annual evaluation of rail freight funding, is used.

3) Passenger and freight transport services

The services are composed of public services in rail passenger transport, private services in rail passenger transport and freight transport services. In each case, only the electric rail transport services, in freight transport also excluding the share of fossil fuel transport (9.8% in 2024 according to Statistics Austria), are considered. Public services in rail passenger transport are financed through the budget for ordering of public services in rail passenger transport and are allocated 100% to the cluster rail passenger transport. Freight transport can be split into subsidised and non-subsidised transport. The rail freight funding is allocated 100% to the cluster subsidised rail freight transport. Data on the ordered public services in rail passenger transport as well as on the subsidised freight transport were provided by the responsible funding institution.

4) Determination of avoided GHG emissions

To determine the avoided GHG emissions, it is assumed that the transport performance (passenger-kilometres and tonne-kilometres) in passenger and freight transport by rail would otherwise have been covered by car or heavy goods vehicle. A safety discount of 15% for rail passenger and 30% for freight transport is applied, taking into account the uncertainties involved in converting mileage into transport capacity. The avoided GHG emissions can be calculated from the difference between the emissions that would have been produced if the transport service had been carried out by car or heavy goods vehicles and the emissions produced by rail transport. The calculation of emissions is based on the current emission factors per passenger kilometre or tonne-kilometre according to the Environment Agency Austria[106].

Outlook for the Green Investor Report 2026

As the evaluation of rail freight funding is only available with a two-year lag, investments in rail freight transport and the related GHG emissions avoided for 2025 will be reported in the Green Investor Report 2026.

[105] Infrastructure for rail transport as defined in criteria 1 and 2 of activity 6.14 in Annex I of the Climate Delegated Act of the EU Taxonomy (i.e. electrified lines and lines fit for use by zero-CO_2-emission trains)

[106] Environment Agency Austria, Emissions overview by means of transport (only available in German)

Co-financing of the federal government in the investment costs for the expansion of the Vienna underground system[107]

Methodology for estimating the potential CO_2e savings

In order to quantify the potential CO_2e savings and the associated environmental benefits of the U2xU5 interchange, Wiener Linien developed a set of estimates. The analysis identified a potential reduction of up to 75,000 tonnes of CO_2e emissions per year.

The estimate of the maximum CO_2e savings potential is based on assumptions from 2018. At that stage, detailed timetable data were not yet available. Therefore, the kilometres travelled on the existing underground network (U1 to U4) were extrapolated and adjusted to reflect the new route length (around 550 million additional annual passenger kilometres after the expansion). Based on the assumed occupancy rate of the underground system, the annual passenger kilometres were calculated. Subsequently, the CO_2e emissions that would have been generated if these passenger kilometres had instead been travelled by an average passenger car were determined. This value represents the maximum potential CO_2e savings.

Since then, the estimates have been cross-checked for plausibility using additional methodologies for calculating CO_2e savings. These assessments confirm that the estimated savings potential is realistic, particularly when considering the projected impact on the overall network, which could accommodate up to 300 million additional passengers.

For the calculation of car emissions, Wiener Linien used a value of 136 g CO_2e per passenger kilometre, which equates to 168.3 g CO_2e per car kilometre (average of petrol and diesel cars). For the value of the passenger kilometre, an assumed car occupancy rate of around 1.2 was used.

Comparison to illustrate the potential CO_2e savings with the CO_2e storage capacity of trees

If a beech tree absorbs an average of 12.5 kilograms of CO_2e per year, 6 million beech trees (older than 30 years) can absorb 75,000 tonnes of CO_2e annually. Consequently, Vienna's urban forest areas absorb around 8 tonnes of CO_2e per hectare annually, resulting in a total of around 65,000 tonnes of CO_2e per year. In order to absorb 75,000 tonnes of CO_2e per year, an area of the quality and composition of Vienna's forests of around 9,400 hectares, 15% more than Vienna's actual forest area, would be required[108].

Funding Programmes for a Transition to Zero-Emission Mobility

The avoided tonnes of CO_2e per project category were provided by the responsible body and institution responsible for the processing. To avoid overstatement of impact (e.g. e-bikes and cycling infrastructure), a safety discount of 50% was applied.

The methodology depends on the funding category. The basis for determining the environmental effects is the reduction in vehicle mileage enabled by the subsidy. As a baseline, the average emissions of Diesel/Gasoline/BEV vehicles, applicable for the respective funding period, are used[109].

The basis for the calculation is the standard national methodology applied by the processing agency for the annual reporting according to the Environmental Support Act of the Republic of Austria. This (long-standing) methodology was reported to the European Commission in connection with the introduction of the EU "Financing not linked to costs" approach within the framework of the *ERDF programme*.

Since there is a time lag between the funding being approved and paid out, the impact of the funding paid out has been estimated based on the reported impact per EUR of funding approved per sub-category. As a consequence, the reporting figures are not directly comparable to other publications addressing the respective funding instruments due to the different scope.

Projects and infrastructure investments are, in general, eligible to receive funding and grants from more than one responsible funding body. In order to avoid an overestimation of impact, indicators are calculated only with regard to BMIMI funding instruments.

[107] The methodology was provided by Wiener Linien.

[108] Magistrat der Stadt Wien, MA 23, Statistical Yearbook 2017 (only available in German)
[109] Environment Agency Austria, Emissions overview by means of transport (only available in German)

7.2 Renewable energy

Applies to all sub-sections and indicators
Basis for the calculation is the standard national methodology applied by the processing agency for the annual reporting according to the Environmental Support Act of the Republic of Austria. This (long-standing) methodology was reported to the European Commission in connection with the introduction of the EU "Financing not linked to costs" approach within the framework of the *ERDF programme*.

The presented indicators refer to the enabled effects with regard to the overall investment volumes of the supported projects.
Aggregated data were provided by the responsible funding institutions. Data quality assurance follows a multi-stage approach, with audits conducted at defined intervals by several bodies, including the funding institution, the relevant ministry or auditor, Parliament and the Austrian Court of Audit.

Since there is a time lag between the funding being approved and paid out, the impact of the funding paid out has been estimated based on the reported impact per EUR of funding approved per sub-category. As a consequence, the reporting figures are not directly comparable to those of other publications addressing the respective funding instruments, due to the different scope.

Annual renewable energy generation/use (MWh)
The values correspond to the energy supplied, distributed ("distributed": heat or electricity from new renewable-based generators, additional distributed energy from renewable generators, consumption of additional connected buildings etc.) and/or used (substituting energy from fossil sources) by the measure. The value is calculated individually per subsidised project.

- For **renewable heat generators**, net energy consumption after implementation of the measure is predicted by planned figures. After the measure has been implemented, operators must keep records of operations to prove the success of the renewable energy measure for review by means of spot checks. The consumption before implementation is based on energy consumption records of the operator of the heat generator.
- **Photovoltaic (PV) systems** are assumed to annually yield a standardised value of 1,000 kWh of electricity per installed kilowatt peak (kWp).
- For **small solar thermal systems** and **heat pumps** below 100 kilowatts thermal capacity (100 kWth), the calculation is carried out with standardised values, including the assumption of 1,100 full-load hours per year for heat pumps.
- For **large-scale solar thermal systems**, **"model and lighthouse projects" of PV** (using power yield forecasts) and **solar thermal heat generation**, individual calculations are used.

Annual energy savings (MWh)
If the project yields energy savings in addition to renewable energy generation, the savings are calculated as the difference in energy consumption before and after implementation (methodology: see section 7.3).

Annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided (tonnes of CO_2e)
The CO_2e emissions are calculated as the difference in emissions before and after the implementation of the measure, by multiplying the energy consumption by the CO_2e emission factor of the respective energy source. The baseline is the energy source used in the individual project before implementation of the funded measure. For programmes with standardised smaller measures, a standardised baseline is used (Austrian electricity mix; heating oil for heating measures). The applied emission factors are from Guideline 6 on Energy savings and thermal insulation of the Austrian Institute of Construction Engineering[110]. For energy carriers not covered in these Guidelines (e.g. renewable electricity with the Austrian ecolabel), emission factors by the Environment Agency Austria[111] are used. To normalise the energy consumption in the case of a capacity change, a factor to adjust the previous capacity to the changed capacity of the heat generator is used.

[110] OIB, OIB-Richtlinie 6, Energieeinsparung und Wärmeschutz (only available in German), May 2023
[111] Environment Agency Austria, Calculation of GHG emissions of different energy sources (only available in German)

7.3 Energy efficiency

Applies to all sub-sections and indicators

Basis for the calculation is the standard national methodology applied by the processing agency for the annual reporting according to the Environmental Support Act of the Republic of Austria. This (long-standing) methodology was reported to the European Commission in connection with the introduction of the EU "Financing not linked to costs" approach within the framework of the *ERDF programme*.

The presented indicators refer to the enabled effects with regard to the overall investment volumes of the supported projects.
Aggregated data were provided by the responsible funding institutions. Data quality assurance follows a multi-stage approach, with audits conducted at defined intervals by several bodies, including the funding institution, the relevant ministry or auditor, Parliament and the Austrian Court of Audit.

Since there is a time lag between the funding being approved and paid out, the impact of the funding paid out has been estimated based on the reported impact per EUR of funding approved per sub-category. As a consequence, the reporting figures are not directly comparable to those of other publications addressing the respective funding instruments, due to the different scope.

Annual renewable energy generation/use (MWh)

If the project yields renewable energy generation in addition to energy savings, the renewable energy generation is calculated as the renewable energy supplied and/or distributed by the measure (methodology: see section 7.2).

Annual energy savings (MWh)

The values are calculated for every individual project as the difference between energy consumption before and after implementation. The net energy consumption after implementation of the measure is predicted by planned figures. After the measure has been implemented, the operator must keep records of operations to prove the success of the energy efficiency measure, which are reviewed by means of spot checks. The energy consumption before implementation is based on records of the operators of the process or facility. The baseline is the energy consumption of the individual project before implementation of the funded measure. For programmes with standardised smaller measures, a standardised baseline is used (waste heat recovery below 100 kWth, partial building renovations, LED indoor lighting systems below 20 kW of capacity and beverage coolers). To normalise the energy consumption in the case of a capacity change, a factor to adjust the previous capacity to the changed capacity of the facility or the process is used.

Annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided (tonnes of CO_2e)

The CO_2e emissions are calculated as the difference in emissions before and after the implementation of the measure. To normalise the energy consumption in the case of a capacity change, a factor to adjust the previous capacity to the changed capacity of the facility or the process is used.

For building renovations, CO_2e emissions before renovation are determined from the buildings' heating demand shown on the building energy certificate before renovation, an average value for the annual efficiency of the heat generator and the CO_2 conversion factor for heating oil.

7.4 Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity

Applies to all sub-sections and indicators

All data presented were derived from external sources (BMLUK or responsible funding institutions). Data quality assurance follows a multi-stage approach, with audits conducted at defined intervals by several bodies, including the funding institution, the relevant ministry or auditor, Parliament and the Austrian Court of Audit.

Austrian Agri-environmental programme

The indicators presented show the number of farms funded as well as the area funded under different sub-measures of the *Agri-environmental programme*. These indicators were provided by

BMLUK. The selection of qualitative and quantitative impact information for reporting was based on the most recent official scientific evaluation of the programme, dating back to 2019. Measures showing the most significant positive impact on species diversity are presented.

The official evaluation of the funding programme is based on rigorous scientific practices. The baseline scenario assumes that the funding programme would not have been implemented in the area. The benchmark used in the scientific evaluation is agricultural land area that does not fall under the programme's specific measures.

7.5 Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use

Applies to all sub-sections and indicators

All data presented were derived from external sources (BMLUK or responsible funding institutions). Data quality assurance follows a multi-stage approach, with audits conducted at defined intervals by several bodies, including the funding institution, the relevant ministry or auditor, Parliament and the Austrian Court of Audit.

Austrian compensatory allowance for less-favoured areas

The indicators "number of farms funded" as well as "area funded" under the Austrian compensatory allowance for less-favoured areas were obtained from BMLUK. The selection of the qualitative and quantitative impact information for reporting was based on the most recent official scientific evaluation of the programme dating to 2019.

The official evaluation of the funding programme is based on rigorous scientific practices. The baseline scenario assumes that the funding programme would not have been implemented in the area. The benchmark used in the scientific evaluation is agricultural land area that does not fall under the programme's specific measures.

7.6 Sustainable water and wastewater management

Applies to all sub-sections and indicators

Indicators were calculated on the basis of aggregated data provided by the responsible bodies and agencies involved in the operational processing of the funding. Moreover, selected data were taken from published reports (see annex 9).

A standardised collection of input data is carried out during the project application and evaluation. The processing agency applies a standardised national methodology for the annual reporting according to the Environmental Support Act of the Republic of Austria.

Data quality assurance follows a multi-stage approach, with audits conducted at defined intervals by several bodies, including the funding institution, the relevant ministry or auditor, Parliament and the Austrian Court of Audit.

Estimates are based on real data for approved projects in the respective year. Since there is a time lag between the funding being approved and paid out, the impact of the funding paid out has been estimated based on the reported impact per EUR of funding approved for the same or comparable types of projects and infrastructure. As a consequence of the time lag, reported figures are not directly comparable to those of other publications addressing the respective funding instruments, in which impacts are usually reported with reference to the year of approval.

It is, in general, possible to receive subsidies from more than one funding body. In order to avoid an overestimation of impact, indicators are calculated only with regard to one funding instrument (Environmental Support Act). For funding according to the Municipal Investment Act 2023 (Kommunalinvestitionsgesetz 2023), no additional impact is reported in order to avoid an overestimation of the impact.

The presented indicators refer to the enabled effects with regard to the overall investment volumes of supported projects.

In the current report, impact figures are only presented for the year 2024 referring to the proceeds allocated in this category.

Water ecology
For water ecology projects, only performance indicators are presented, since the ecological impact of the measures can only be quantified years after the projects' implementation and no robust assessment methodologies are available at the time of the preparation of the impact report.

7.7 Pollution prevention and control

Applies to all sub-sections and indicators
Indicators were calculated on the basis of data provided by the responsible funding institutions. Moreover, selected data were taken from published reports (see annex 9). Additional data and information were provided by experts from the above-mentioned institutions and by institutions involved in the operational processing of the funding at an aggregated level.

Data quality assurance follows a multi-stage approach, with audits conducted at defined intervals by several bodies, including the funding institution, the relevant ministry or auditor, Parliament and the Austrian Court of Audit.

Estimates are based on real data for approved projects in the respective year. Since there is a time lag between the funding being approved and paid out, the impact of the funding paid out has been estimated based on the reported impact per EUR of funding approved for the same types or comparable types of projects and infrastructure. As a consequence of the time lag, reported figures are not directly comparable to other publications addressing the respective funding instruments, in which impacts are usually reported with reference to the year of approval.

Impact indicators refer to the enabled effects with regard to the overall investment volumes of the supported projects.

Remediation of contaminated sites: Funding according to the Environmental Support Act
A standardised collection of input data is carried out during the project application and evaluation. The processing agency applies the standard national methodology for the annual reporting according to the Environmental Support Act of the Republic of Austria. For these remediation projects, data relating to the year of disbursement are available.

Remediation of contaminated sites: Initial & supplementary investigations, analysis, risk assessment, enforcement and processing
A standardised collection and calculation of input data is done by the responsible institution for the annual reporting on the status of the remediation of contaminated sites within the framework of ALSAG.

Remediation of contaminated sites processing according to § 29 ALSAG
A standardised collection of input data is done by the responsible ministry (BMLUK) and by the processing agency. For these remediation projects, data reporting is different up to now, which explains why other indicators are presented compared to the above-mentioned remediation projects under the Environmental Support Act.

7.8 Climate change adaptation

Applies to all sub-sections and indicators
The presented indicators refer to the enabled effects with regard to the overall investment volumes of the supported projects.

Data quality assurance follows a multi-stage approach, with audits conducted at defined intervals by several bodies, including the funding institution, the relevant ministry or auditor, Parliament and the Austrian Court of Audit.

Climate Change Adaptation Model Regions
In 2025, only part of the total eligible expenditures was allocated. However, the number of KLAR! Regions as well as the figures for municipalities, inhabitants and the area covered were not scaled down. As the allocated share of the KLAR! subsidies is a key enabler, these regions would not exist without them.

Indicators were calculated based on data provided by the responsible institutions (Climate and Energy Fund, Environment Agency Austria, BMLUK and other institutions involved in the operational processing of the funding). Additional data and information were provided by experts from the above-mentioned institutions and by institutions involved in the operational processing of the funding at an aggregated level.

A standardised collection of input data is carried out during the project application and evaluation. The analyses and methodological approach were prepared specifically for the purpose of the Green Investor Report and, due to the different scope, cannot be applied to other publications addressing the respective funding vehicles.

Flood protection, torrent and avalanche control
Indicators were calculated based on data provided by the responsible institutions (WLV and BWV within BMLUK and other institutions involved in the operational processing of the funding). Moreover, selected data were taken from published reports (see chapter 5.8). Additional data and information were provided by experts from the above-mentioned institutions and by institutions involved in the operational processing of the funding at an aggregated level.

A standardised collection of input data is carried out during the project application and evaluation. The processing agency applies the standard national methodology for annual reporting, in accordance with the Austrian Water Construction Funding Act.

Estimates are based on real data for approved projects in the respective year. Since there is a time lag between the funding being approved and paid out, the impact of the funding paid out has been estimated based on the reported impact per EUR of funding approved for the same types or comparable types of projects. Because of the time lag, reported figures are not directly comparable to other publications addressing the respective funding instruments, in which impacts are usually reported with reference to the year of approval.

7.9 Research, development and innovation

RDI project funding
As RDI projects have a key enabling function but not a direct environmental impact, the number of funded projects is used as a performance indicator. According to its main research purpose, each project was assigned to the appropriate UoP category. Input data for the categorisation of the allocated amounts according to the UoP categories were provided by the responsible institutions for processing the funding (Austria Wirtschaftsservice Gesellschaft mbH, FFG and KPC) on behalf of BMWET, BMIMI and the Austrian Climate and Energy Fund.

Since there is a time lag between the funding being approved and paid out, the number of projects co-financed by the funding paid out has been estimated based on the funding approved per sub-category. Because of the time lag, reported figures are not directly comparable to other publications addressing the respective funding instruments, due to the different scope.

Global budget for research infrastructures and fundamental research
Fundamental research activities and research infrastructures have a key enabling function and leveraging effect, but do not themselves have a direct environmental impact. Therefore, selected KPIs as published in the latest available "Intellectual capital report" (Wissensbilanz)[112] are used as representative proxy figures.

Austrian environment, climate, meteorology and applied research institutions
As applied research has a key enabling function but not a direct environmental impact, the number of supported projects is used as a performance indicator. According to its focus, each individual project was assigned to the appropriate UoP category. Input data for the categorisation of the allocated amounts according to the UoP categories were provided by the responsible institutions (AIT, EAA, GSA).

[112] BOKU University, Intellectual capital report (only available in German)

8 Annex: Overview of short-term Green Financing Instruments issued in 2025

Green Financing Instrument	Name	Value date	Maturity date	Maturity in years	Issuance volume in EUR	Issuance volume in foreign currency	Form of issue	Outstanding at the end of the year
Green ATB	Austrian Treasury Bill 2025-09-25 (G)	27-Mar-2025	25-Sep-2025	0.50	200,000,000.00		Auction	No
	Austrian Treasury Bill 2025-09-25 (G)	26-Jun-2025	25-Sep-2025	0.25	500,000,000.00		Auction	No
	Austrian Treasury Bill 2026-03-26 (G)	25-Sep-2025	26-Mar-2026	0.50	700,000,000.00		Auction	Yes
	Austrian Treasury Bill 2026-03-26 (G)	03-Nov-2025	26-Mar-2026	0.39	250,000,000.00		Own Quota	Yes
	Total				**1,650,000,000.00**			
Green ACP	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/12 (G)	10-Jan-2025	10-Apr-2025	0.25	10,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/49 (G)	29-Jan-2025	29-Apr-2025	0.25	200,000.00		Bilateral	No
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/52 (G)	04-Feb-2025	05-May-2025	0.25	15,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/112 (G)	14-Apr-2025	14-Jul-2025	0.25	13,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/122 (G)	17-Apr-2025	17-Jul-2025	0.25	10,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/159 (G)	08-May-2025	08-Aug-2025	0.25	15,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/212 (G)	16-Jul-2025	16-Oct-2025	0.25	5,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/221 (G)	21-Jul-2025	21-Oct-2025	0.25	10,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	USD Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/106 (G)	12-Aug-2025	10-Sep-2025	0.08	85,587,127.70	100,000,000.00	Bilateral	No
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/253 (G)	12-Aug-2025	12-Nov-2025	0.25	11,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/257 (G)	22-Aug-2025	24-Nov-2025	0.26	14,200,000.00		Bilateral	No
	USD Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/119 (G)	11-Sep-2025	10-Dec-2025	0.25	85,084,659.24	100,000,000.00	Bilateral	No
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/275 (G)	19-Sep-2025	19-Mar-2026	0.50	50,000,000.00		Bilateral	Yes
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/281 (G)	24-Sep-2025	24-Mar-2026	0.50	40,000,000.00		Bilateral	Yes
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/282 (G)	26-Sep-2025	29-Dec-2025	0.26	10,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/312 (G)	23-Oct-2025	23-Jan-2026	0.25	10,000,000.00		Bilateral	Yes
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/343 (G)	14-Nov-2025	17-Feb-2026	0.26	5,000,000.00		Bilateral	Yes
	EUR Austrian Commercial Paper 2025/345 (G)	18-Nov-2025	18-Feb-2026	0.25	20,000,000.00		Bilateral	Yes
	Total				**409,071,786.94**			

Green Financing Instrument	Name	Value date	Maturity date	Maturity in years	Issuance volume in EUR	Issuance volume in foreign currency	Form of issue	Outstanding at the end of the year
Green Deposits	Deposit (G)	10-Jan-2025	10-Apr-2025	0.25	8,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	15-Jan-2025	10-Mar-2025	0.15	2,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	14-Feb-2025	14-Mar-2025	0.08	5,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	11-Apr-2025	12-May-2025	0.08	5,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	11-Apr-2025	11-Jul-2025	0.25	3,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	17-Apr-2025	17-Jul-2025	0.25	5,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	25-Apr-2025	26-May-2025	0.08	5,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	30-May-2025	29-Aug-2025	0.25	5,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	27-Jun-2025	26-Sep-2025	0.25	5,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	24-Jul-2025	24-Oct-2025	0.25	5,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	24-Jul-2025	10-Sep-2025	0.13	14,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	07-Aug-2025	08-Sep-2025	0.09	5,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	28-Aug-2025	28-Nov-2025	0.25	2,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	04-Sep-2025	04-Dec-2025	0.25	7,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	11-Sep-2025	13-Oct-2025	0.09	5,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	02-Oct-2025	03-Nov-2025	0.09	3,000,000.00		Bilateral	No
	Deposit (G)	10-Sep-2025	09-Jan-2026	0.33	11,000,000.00		Bilateral	Yes
	Deposit (G)	02-Oct-2025	05-Jan-2026	0.26	7,000,000.00		Bilateral	Yes
	Deposit (G)	22-Oct-2025	09-Jan-2026	0.22	7,500,000.00		Bilateral	Yes
	Deposit (G)	31-Oct-2025	02-Feb-2026	0.26	7,000,000.00		Bilateral	Yes
	Deposit (G)	07-Nov-2025	06-Feb-2026	0.25	7,000,000.00		Bilateral	Yes
	Total				**123,500,000.00**			
Total short-term Green Financing Instruments issued (incl. rollovers and intra-year funding)					**2,182,571,786.94**			
Thereof rollovers and intra-year funding					**1,068,071,786.94**			
Total new Green Net Issuance 2025					**1,114,500,000.00**			

9 Annex: Literature on Impact Reporting

The following sources were used for the compilation of section 5.1 Clean transportation:

- Environment Agency Austria (2025), Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2024, Facts and Figures. Rückgang der Treibhausgas-Emissionen 2024 | Daten & Grafiken
- Environment Agency Austria (2025), Emissions overview by means of transport. Emissions overview by means of transport
- Federal Railways Act. Federal Law Gazette Nr. 825/1992
- ÖBB Holding AG (2025): Geschäftsbericht 2025. https://bericht.oebb.at/de/download
- ÖBB Holding AG (2024): Geschäftsbericht 2024 Geschäftsberichte - ÖBB-Presse
- BMK (2022): Investitionsoffensive Privatbahninfrastruktur 9. MIP. Eine Umsetzungsstrategie des Mobilitätsmasterplans 2030 für den Ausbau des ÖV.
- Schienen-Control (2024): Jahresbericht 2024. https://www.schienencontrol.gv.at/de/publikationen.html
- Infas (2025): KlimaTicket-Report 2023/24 KlimaTicket Report
- Klima- und Energiefonds (2024, 2026): Leitfaden klimaaktiv mobil 2025 Leitfaden klimaaktiv mobil 2025 and the klimaaktiv mobil funding guideline 2013 klimaaktiv mobil Förderungsrichtlinie 2013
- Klimaaktiv mobil Beratungsprogramme (2026): klimaaktiv
- BMK (2023): Förderung der Umstellung auf emissionsfreie Nutzfahrzeuge – Sonderrichtlinie Förderung der Umstellung auf emissionsfreie Nutzfahrzeuge
- BMDW (2021): Förderungsrichtlinie "COVID-19-Investitionsprämie für Unternehmen" 20200828_Richtlinie_InvPR_final
- Magistratsabteilung 23 (2017): Statistisches Jahrbuch der Stadt Wien 2017
- Eurostat, Online data codes: rail_pa_typepas and demo_gind
- Österreich zu Fuß (2026): Gehen als Erlebnis im Alltag
- Österreich Radelt (2026): Österreich Radelt

The following sources were used for the compilation of section 5.2 Renewable energy:

- BMLUK (2026): Federal environmental investment in 2025 (Umweltinvestitionen des Bundes 2025)
- BFW (2024): Assessment of the risk of unsustainable production of forest biomass
- BFW: Austrian forest inventory
- BMK (2022): Investment Guidelines 2022 for Domestic Environmental Subsidies under the Environmental Support Act (Investitionsförderungsrichtlinien 2022 für die Umweltförderung im Inland nach Umweltförderungsgesetz)
- BMK (2022): Supplement to the Investment Guidelines 2022 for Domestic Environmental Subsidies under the Environmental Support Act (Zusatz zu den Investitionsförderungsrichtlinien 2022 für die Umweltförderung im Inland nach Umweltförderungsgesetz)
- BMF, BMIMI, BMLUK, BMWET: Overview of funding programmes offered by the Climate and Energy Fund
- BMDW (2021): Subsidy Guideline for the COVID-19 Investment Bonus for Companies (Förderungsrichtlinie "COVID-19-Investitionsprämie für Unternehmen")
- BMDW (2021): Changes to the Subsidy Guideline for the COVID-19 Investment Bonus for Companies (Neuerungen in der Richtlinie aws Investitionsprämie)

The following sources were used for the compilation of section 5.3 Energy efficiency:

- BMLUK (2026): Federal environmental investment in 2025 (Umweltinvestitionen des Bundes 2025)
- BMK (2022): Investment Guidelines 2022 for Domestic Environmental Subsidies under the Environmental Support Act (Investitionsförderungsrichtlinien 2022 für die Umweltförderung im Inland nach Umweltförderungsgesetz)
- BMK (2022): Supplement to the Investment Guidelines 2022 for Domestic Environmental Subsidies under the Environmental Support Act (Zusatz zu den Investitionsförderungsrichtlinien 2022 für die Umweltförderung im Inland nach Umweltförderungsgesetz)

- BMF, BMIMI, BMLUK, BMWET: Overview of funding programmes offered by the Climate and Energy Fund
- BMDW (2021): Subsidy Guideline for the COVID-19 Investment Bonus for Companies (Förderungsrichtlinie "COVID-19-Investitionsprämie für Unternehmen")
- BMDW (2021): Changes to the Subsidy Guideline for the COVID-19 Investment Bonus for Companies (Neuerungen in der Richtlinie aws Investitionsprämie)

The following sources were used for the compilation of section 5.4 Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity:

- Sonderrichtlinie für das österreichische Programm zur Förderung einer umweltgerechten, extensiven und den natürlichen Lebensraum schützenden Landwirtschaft (ÖPUL 2015); 2022-0.061.025 (BMLRT/Agrarumweltprogramm (ÖPUL) 2015)
- Sonderrichtlinie für das österreichische Programm zur Förderung einer umweltgerechten, extensiven und den natürlichen Lebensraum schützenden Landwirtschaft (Ö P U L 2023); 2024-0.489.174 (BML/Agrarumweltprogramm (ÖPUL)
- Sonderrichtlinie des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Regionen und Wasserwirtschaft zur Gewährung von Zahlungen für aus naturbedingten oder anderen spezifischen Gründen benachteiligte Gebiete; 2023-0.547.939 (BML/Ausgleichszulage (AZ) 2023)
- BAB (2019), Evaluierung des Österreichischen Agrar-Umweltprogramms ÖPUL – Nationaler Detailbe¬richt 2019
- Environment Agency Austria (2019), Zusammenfassende Bewertung der Auswirkungen des Programms LE 14-20 auf die Quer¬schnittsthemen Umwelt und Klima, Endbericht 2019
- Holzer et al (2019), Bewertung der Wirkung relevanter LE Maßnahmen auf Heuschrecken und Tagfalter als Indi¬katorarten für Biodiversität
- Websites:
  - https://www.nationalparksaustria.at

The following sources were used for the compilation of section 5.5 Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use:

- Sonderrichtlinie für das österreichische Programm zur Förderung einer umweltgerechten, extensiven und den natürlichen Lebensraum schützenden Landwirtschaft (ÖPUL 2023); 2022-0.061.025 (BMLRT/Agrarumweltprogramm (ÖPUL) 2015)
- Sonderrichtlinie des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Regionen und Wasserwirtschaft zur Gewährung von Zahlungen für aus naturbedingten oder anderen spezifischen Gründen benachteiligte Gebiete; 2023-0.547.939 (BML/Ausgleichszulage (AZ) 2023)
- BAB (2019): Evaluierung des Österreichischen Agrar-Umweltprogramms ÖPUL – Nationaler Detailbericht 2019
- Environment Agency Austria (2019): Zusammenfassende Bewertung der Auswirkungen des Programms LE 14-20 auf die Querschnittsthemen Umwelt und Klima, Endbericht 2019
- Holzer et al (2019): Bewertung der Wirkung relevanter LE Maßnahmen auf Heuschrecken und Tagfalter als Indikatorarten für Biodiversität
- BMK (2024): The Austrian Circular Economy Strategy – Austria on the path to a sustainable and circular society. First progress report
- BMK (2022): Austria on the Path to a Sustainable and Circular Society – The Austrian Circular Economy Strategy
- BMK (2022): Biodiversitäts-Strategie Österreich 2030+
- BMLUK (2026): Umweltinvestitionen des Bundes, Klima- und Umweltschutzmaßnahmen 2025
- KPC (2025): Informationsblatt Kreislaufwirtschaft
- Websites:
  - https://www.bmluk.gv.at/themen/wald/waldfonds.html
  - https://www.waldfonds.at
  - https://www.bmluk.gv.at/themen/klima-und-umwelt/abfall-und-kreislaufwirtschaft/kreislaufwirtschaft.html

- https://www.bmluk.gv.at/themen/klima-und-umwelt/abfall-und-kreislaufwirtschaft/abfallwirtschaft.html
- https://www.umweltfoerderung.at/betriebe/kreislaufwirtschaft-allgemein

The following sources were used for the compilation of section 5.6 Sustainable water and wastewater management:

- BMLUK (2025): Facts and Figures 2025
- BMLUK (2023): Trinkwassersicherungsplan
- BMLUK (2025): Umweltinvestitionen des Bundes – Maßnahmen der Wasserwirtschaft 2024 [Federal environmental investments - Water management measures 2024]
- BMLUK (2024): Public sewer and water pipeline inventory (only available in German)

The following sources were used for the compilation of section 5.7 Pollution prevention and control:

- BMLUK (2025): Federal Environmental Investment 2024 (Umweltinvestitionen des Bundes 2024)
- BMK (2024): Förderungsrichtlinien 2024 für Maßnahmen an Altstandorten und Altablagerungen
- Environment Agency Austria (2025): Verdachtsflächenkataster und Altlastenatlas. ISBN 978-3-99004-803-0
- Environment Agency Austria (2026): Altlasten in Österreich

The following sources were used for the compilation of section 5.8 Climate change adaptation:

- BMK (2024): Hochwasserschutz (Flood protection)
- BMK (2024): The Austrian strategy for adaptation to climate change – Part 1; Executive Summary in English
- BMK (2024): The Austrian strategy for adaptation to climate change – Part 2
- BML (2024): Wildbach- und Lawinenverbauung in Österreich [Torrent and Avalanche Control]. https://info.bml.gv.at/dam/jcr:c18b2bbe-cafd-4b21-970f-b4f8fc749c16/WLV_Wildbach_Broschuere_A4_BF.pdf
- BML (2024): Umweltinvestitionen des Bundes – Maßnahmen der Wasserwirtschaft 2023 [Federal environmental investments - Water management measures 2023]
- BML (2018): Flood Risk Management in Austria Objectives – Measures – Good practice
- Klima- und Energiefonds (2024): KLAR! Climate Change Adaptation Model Regions for Austria! (only available in German)
- Klima- und Energiefonds (2024): Österreichischer Staatspreis für Klimawandelanpassung [Austrian State Prize for Climate Change Adaptation]
- Viadonau (2024): Donauhochwasserschutz-Konkurrenz [Danube Flood Protection]

The following sources were used for the compilation of section 5.9 Research, development and innovation:

- Austrian Institute of Technology website: Research Topics
- Austrian Patent Office (2024): Clean and sustainable innovations from Austria. An Intellectual Property Perspective
- Austrian Patent Office (2024): Grüne Patente: Österreich auf Platz 1 im Bereich Gebäude
- BOKU University (2026): BOKU Wissensbilanz 2025
- Environment Agency Austria website: Our fields of expertise
- Federal Government of the Republic of Austria (2022): RTI Pact 2024-2026
- FFG website: Ressourcenwende 2025 - call for application
- GeoSphere Austria website: Subsite on Climate
- Statistik Austria, Press Release (2026): Research intensity 2025

10 Annex: List of Abbreviations and Translations

Abbreviation (if available)	English Term	German Term
ALSAG	Act on the Remediation of Contaminated Sites	Altlastensanierungsgesetz, ALSAG
	Air Pollution Control Act	Immissionsschutzgesetz – Luft (IG – L)
	Austria's national circular economy strategy	Die österreichische Kreislaufwirtschaftsstrategie
ÖPUL programme	Austrian Agri-environmental programme	Agrarumweltprogramm
	Austrian compensatory allowance for less-favoured areas	Ausgleichszulage
	Austrian Federal Railways Act	Bundesbahngesetz
AIT	Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH	Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH
	Austrian Research Financing Act	Forschungsfinanzierungsgesetz
WLV	Austrian Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control	Wildbach- und Lawinenverbauung
	Austrian Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change	Die österreichische Strategie zur Anpassung an den Klimawandel
AWG	Austrian Waste Management Act	Abfallwirtschaftsgesetz, AWG 2002
WRG	Austrian Water Act 1959	Wasserrechtsgesetz 1959
	Circular Economy Funding Programme	Förderung Kreislaufwirtschaft
	Climate and Economic Stimulus Package	Klima- und Konjunkturpaket
	Climate and Energy Fund Act	Klima- und Energiefondsgesetz
KLAR! Programme	Climate Change Adaptation Model Regions Programme	Klimawandel-Anpassungsmodellregionen
	Employee Protection Act	Arbeitsschutzgesetz
EAA	Environment Agency Austria	Umweltbundesamt GmbH
	Environmental Impact Assessment Act	Umweltverträglichkeitsprüfungs-gesetz (UVP-G 2000)
	Environmental Support Act	Umweltförderungsgesetz
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund	Europäische Fonds für regionale Entwicklung
	Equal Treatment Act	Gleichbehandlungsgesetz
BMWET	Federal Ministry for Economy, Energy and Tourism	Bundesministerium Wirtschaft, Energie und Tourismus
BMLUK	Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management	Bundesministerium Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Klima- und Umweltschutz, Regionen und Wasserwirtschaft
BMIMI	Federal Ministry of Innovation, Mobility, and Infrastructure	Bundesministerium Innovation, Mobilität und Infrastruktur
BMFWF	Federal Ministry of Women, Science and Research	Bundesministerium Frauen, Wissenschaft und Forschung
BWV	Federal Water Engineering Administration	Bundeswasserbauverwaltung
	Forest Fund Act	Waldfondsgesetz
GSA	GeoSphere Austria	Bundesanstalt für Geologie, Geophysik, Klimatologie und Meteorologie
	Industrial Code	Gewerbeordnung (GewO)
	Investment Bonus Act	Investitionsprämiengesetz
KPC	Kommunalkredit Public Consulting GmbH	Kommunalkredit Public Consulting GmbH
	Labour Constitution Act	Arbeitsverfassungsgesetz
	Municipal Investment Act 2023	Kommunalinvestitionsgesetz 2023

Abbreviation (if available)	English Term	German Term
	RTI Pact 2024–2026	FTI-Pakt 2024-2026
	Special Directive for the Promotion of Emission-Free Commercial Vehicles and Infrastructure	Sonderrichtlinie zur Förderung der Umstellung auf emissionsfreie Nutzfahrzeuge und Infrastruktur
	Strategy for Research, Technology and Innovation 2030	FTI-Strategie 2030
	Water Construction Funding Act	Wasserbautenförderungsgesetz

11 Disclaimer

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