

The Austrian Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics (AWI)

The Austrian Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics (www.agraroekonomik.at) has been founded in 1960 as a research institute attached to the Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management in Vienna. Staff of 14 scientists of socio-economic and technical disciplines work in the topics of research and empirical analyses, methodology and information technology, provide materials and tools for extension services and run a comprehensive library and literature service in agricultural economics. The research projects are mostly ordered by the Ministry but also other national and international projects are funded. The working fields comprise farm management, agricultural and food markets, agricultural and rural policy, regional development, economics of the environment, agricultural statistics and world agriculture.

AWI is in permanent contact with the different departments of the Austrian Ministry for Agriculture concerning political consultation and assessments about potential consequences of agricultural policy measures. AWI is involved in consultations and evaluations of implementing EU Common Agricultural Policies from beginning of Austria's preparations for EU accession until now. The institute is involved in various national and international co-operations, as there are Twinning projects, Interreg projects or EU framework programs.

In ESPON program the priorities 1 (Applied research), 2 (Targeted analysis) and 3 (Scientific platform) are of big interest for AWI. It could contribute with its expertise in case regional research, agricultural economics, landscape planning or rural development are concerned.

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Reference projects:

Ex ante, mid term and permanent evaluation of the Austrian Rural Development Program 2007 -2013

Client: Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water
Management, Vienna

Coordination: Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water
Management, Vienna

Period: 2006 / ongoing

Scope: Assessing the impacts of specific measures of the rural development program in line with the guidelines of the European Commission, coordination of the ongoing evaluation of the whole Austrian Rural Development Program

Alp Water Scarce

Client: European Commission / Interreg Alpine Space

Coordination: Institute de Montagne, University Savoy, France

Period: 2008 - 2011

Scope: Evaluation of water consumption in agriculture and development of mitigation strategies against water scarcity in climate change scenarios in integrated land management planning

Flood Risk II

Client: Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water
Management, Vienna

Coordination: Environment Agency Austria, Vienna

Period: 2007 - 2008

Scope: Assessments of agricultural contribution to flood prevention and flood sensitivity of agricultural areas for regional integrated land management

Parks&Economy

Client: European Commission / Interreg IIIB

Coordination: Province of Teramo, Italy

Period: 2006 - 2008

Scope: Methodological support and new models for integrating agriculture and nature parks in sustainable regional development, SWOT, Stakeholder-, Success factor analyses, Marketing plans

Regio Sustain

Client: European Commission / Interreg IIIC

Coordination: Leibniz Institut für Länderkunde, Leipzig

Period: 2004 - 2007

Scope: Building a network of stakeholders and experts for knowledge transfer in the field of potentials for biomass in peripheral regions

ILUP – Integrated Land Use Planning

Client: European Commission / Interreg IIIB

Coordination: Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water
Management, Vienna

Period: 2003 - 2006

Scope: Review, primary data collection, model development, integrated assessment of multifunctional agriculture, recommendations of policy measures to integrate agriculture in spatial planning systems