

Austrian Partnership Practice:

ZENTRUM FÜR SOZIALE INNOVATION
CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION



The Austrian TEPs, its network and Co-ordination Unit

(TEP: Territorial Employment Pacts)

Uherské Hradiště, 2-3 April 2008



Look Who's Talking?



ZSI: Think-Tank for Social Innovation

Policy Advice, Network Co-ordination and Research

46 experts in innovative labour market issues, equal opportunities, integration and migration, eLearning, democracy and participation research, technology shaping and European RTD policies

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Expert for labour market and employment policies, especially employment partnerships and governance

The Austrian TEP rationale

Labour market challenges exist, which can not be met by just a few institutions on their own

- _ e.g. concentration of unemployment on certain groups of persons
- _ e.g. gender segregation on the labour market
- _ e.g. shifts between industries, economic sectors and regions as a result of developments, in the business and technology areas in particular

Partnerships add considerable value to the policy development process through:

- _ e.g. bringing together actors and policy areas;
- _ e.g. improving vertical communication between policy makers;
- _ e.g. supporting the better adaptation of policies to local circumstances, needs and opportunities;
- _ e.g. testing and sharing good practice; offering know-how on what works and what does not.

(See also Vienna Action Statement on Partnerships, 2007,
OECD LEED Forum on Partnerships and Local Governance)



TEP Definition

What is a Territorial Employment Pact?

Territorial Employment Pacts (TEPs) are contracted regional partnerships to better link employment policy with other policies in order to improve the employment situation on regional and local level.

The support structure is being offered within the framework of the structural funds programme (**ESF, 2007-2013**) on an intensified basis by means of a specific focus in **Objective 2 Austria programme (priority 5)**.



Objectives and tasks

TEPs contribute

- _ to greater effectiveness and efficiency of resources;
- _ to improved support for certain target groups;
- _ to saving existing jobs and creating new ones;
- _ to generating subsidies for regions; and
- _ to maintaining our living space sustainable.

Major tasks of TEPs

- _ co-ordinating partners and their topics;
- _ developing joint work programmes (TEP-programme); and
- _ implementing the measures according to the emphasis of the TEPs.

Partnership – Regional Structure – Innovation

- _ **Autonomy** in decision making
- _ **Flexible** organisation
- _ **Dynamic** implementation



TEP - Partners

Labour Market Service

Federal Office of Social Affairs

Chamber of Labour

Economic Chamber

Chamber of Agriculture

NGOs (Local Initiatives)

Gender Mainstreaming
Experts



Provincial Government

Federation of Industry

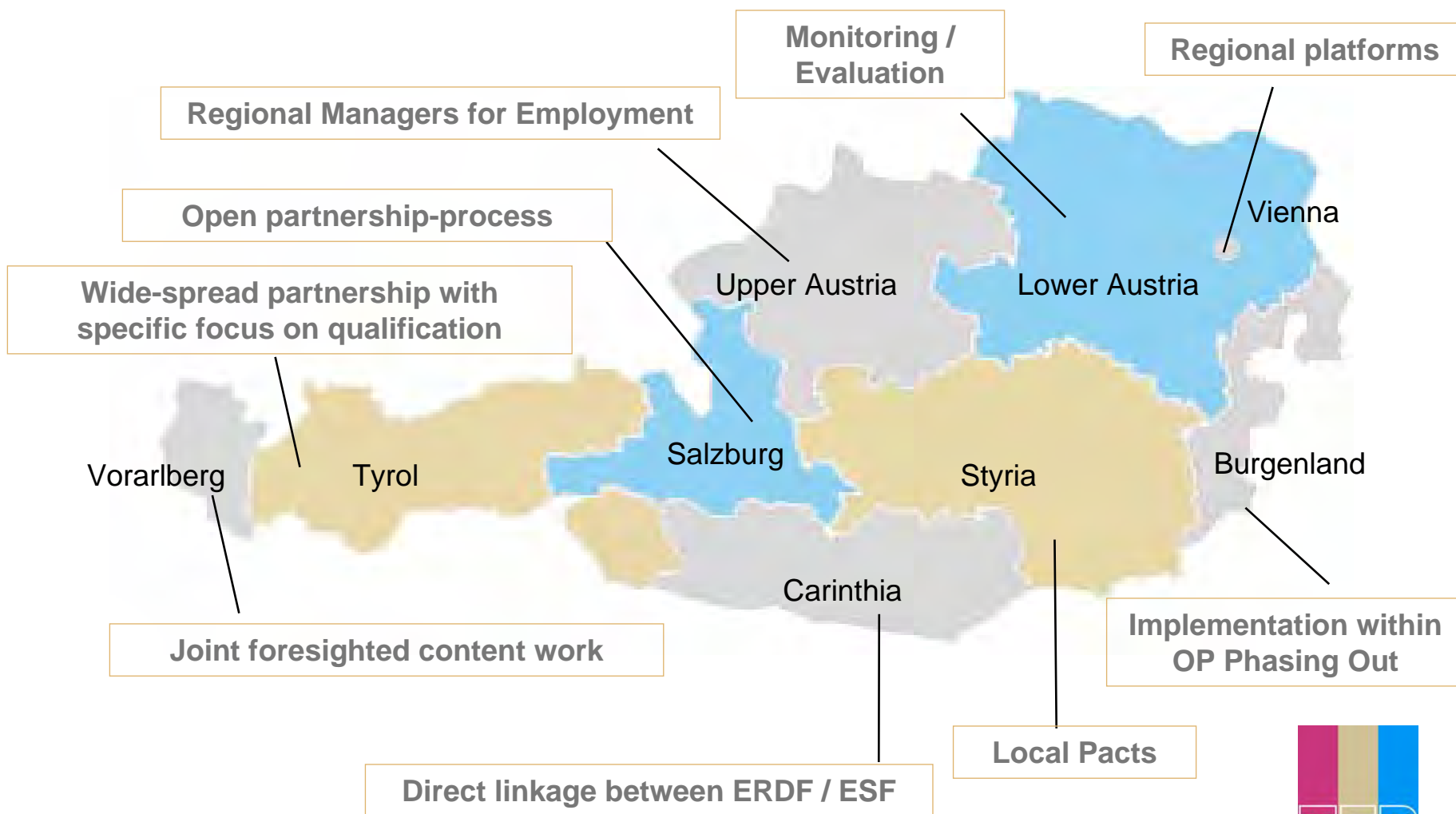
Federation of Trade Unions

Provincial School Board

Educational Institutions

Municipalities

Regional Highlights



Examples of TEP - Activities

TEPs	Emphases and Areas of Action (2006)	Main Partners (2006)
Salzburg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> _ Implacement foundation and training measures _ Socio-economic employment projects for the long-term unemployed _ Counselling for women, youth and the older unemployed _ Projects aimed at overcoming segregation in the labour market based on gender („Young Women and Technology“) _ Salzburg continued education cheque, „Older Employee Coaching“ _ Further development of measures 	<p>Province, AMS, BSB, WK, AK, ÖGB, IV, Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry, Chamber of Agricultural Labour, GM Expert, regional management associations</p>
Vienna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> _ Implacement and outplacement foundations _ JASG measures _ Programmes for entrants and re-entrants into the job market _ Programmes for counselling and promoting working people and for integrative vocational training _ „Vienna – Bratislava Interregional Employment Strategy“ 	<p>City of Vienna, AMS, Vienna Employment Promotion Fund (waff), BSB – Provincial Office Vienna, interest group representatives of employers and employees (provincial working group)</p>

AMS_Public Employment Service, BSB_Federal Office of Social Affairs, WK_Economic Chamber, Chamber of Labour, ÖGB_Federation of Trade Unions, IV_Federation of Industry, GM_Gender Mainstreaming



The Austrian TEP-model

1. The **TEPs**:

Country-coverage

TEPs are established in all nine Austrian Federal Provinces (since 2000). Additionally, TEPs have been set up on sub-regional levels (NUTS III)

2. The **Co-ordination Unit**:

Provides support

A nation-wide Co-ordination Unit (contracted with the BMWA / Federal Ministry of Economics and Labour / ESF-Unit) provides partnership support, training, information and exchanges between partnerships (since 1999)

3. The **TEP-Network**:

Exchange is ensured

The TEP-network is maintained by the Co-ordination Unit and brings together all TEPs as well as other important stakeholders.



The Co-ordination Unit



- provides support, training, information and exchanges
- is contracted by the BMWA
- serves as information hub and manages the TEP-network
- matches the needs between BMWA and TEPs
- has a neutral role

The support structure is being offered within the framework of the structural funds programme (**ESF, 2007-2013**) on an intensified basis by means of a specific focus in **OP for Employment (Technical assistance)**.

joint use_{of}
opportunities



TEP - Network & TEP - results

The Managing Authority together with the Co-ordination Unit and the TEPs as well as other important stakeholders cooperate within the TEP network for the benefit of all involved:

- (1) the TEPs increased the involvement of actors in labour market and employment policy;
- (2) they successfully linked policy areas;
- (3) contributed to improved effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of policies and
- (4) are characterized by openness, flexibility and dynamics.

The operative structures of the TEPs are subsidized by the [OP for Employment \(priority 5; ESF, 2007-2013\)](#).



Balance TEPs 2000-2006

Identicators	2000 (Beginning of the Structural Fund period)	2006 (End of the Structural Fund period)
Number of TEPs on local and sub-regional level	7	17
Target groups	Youth, Women, Long term unemployed, Employees, Enterprises, Low qualified	Youth, Women, Long term unemployed, Employees, Enterprises, Low qualified, Socially excluded groups, Persons with disabilities, Older workers, etc.
TEP-Budget co-ordinated with all partners	Approx. Euro 200,000,000.-	Approx. Euro 700,000,000.- (calculation)
Budget used for co-ordination (ESF)	Annually, approx. Euro 200,000.- per regional TEP	
Selection of regional programmes implemented and accompanied by the TEPs	Establishment of TEPs, Partnership work, Devolution	Interface of the labour market and social welfare, Elderly at the labour market, TEP Consolidation / „STEPs-Process“, Gender Mainstream-ing, EU-Enlargement, EQUAL / Innovative Measures, Devolution, International Knowledge Exchange, Monitoring and Evaluation, Governance, etc.



Input – Output Ratio

Input (from BMWA) :

- Ideological support, such as developing, establishing, mainstreaming partnership approaches, etc.
- Financially:
 - e.g. €200.000 are spent for funding the partnership structures per region annually (the costs are subsidised within the OP for employment 2007-2013)
 - e.g. the annual average costs for the Co-ordination Unit amount for approximately €275.000 (the costs are subsidised within the OP for employment 2007-2013)

Output:

- e.g. the Austrian TEPs coordinate €800 million allocated to active labour market policy annually (data of 2007; the budget is provided by the partners of the partnerships for measures and target groups).
- e.g. the TEPs contribute to improved effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of policies



Testimonies

"The development and implementation of the Territorial Employment Pacts was a milestone in the Austrian labour market policy. Now we can better solve problems together with the regions."

Martin Bartenstein, Federal Minister of Economics and Labour
(translated by the Co-ordination Unit of TEPs; Source: www.pakte.at)

"Over the years the establishment of the co-ordination unit of the TEPs as information platform about the Austrian labour market policy proved to be a key success factor"

Michael Förschner, Head of ESF-Unit Austria
(translated by the Co-ordination Unit of TEPs; 2003; Source: Lokale Beschäftigungsbündnisse – Europäische Perspektiven in Forschung und Praxis. Hans Böckler Stiftung, edition sigma, ISBN 3-89404-989-8)



Partnerships

Is Austria isolated with its TEP-approach?



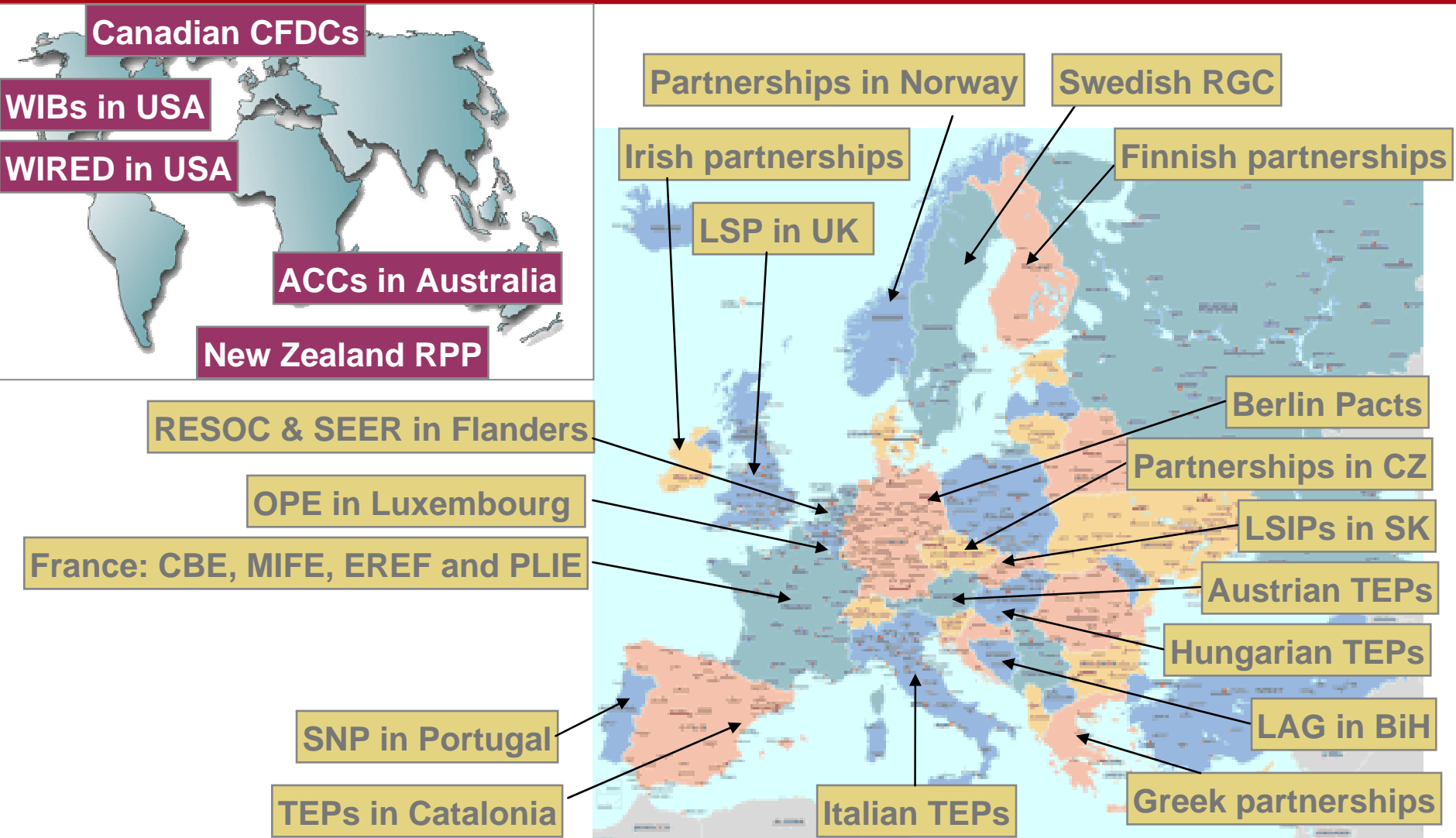
Partnerships & EU

The European Union's **growing recognition** of the positive effects of partnership and networking activities is reflected in the provisions of the **European Social Fund**.

Article 3(1), in defining the scope of the Fund's assistance, states as one key priority “**promoting partnerships, pacts and initiatives through networking of relevant stakeholders, such as social partners and NGOs, at national, regional, local and transnational level in order to mobilise for reforms in the field of employment and labour market inclusiveness**”.

Financial support from the European Social Fund will be open to all Member States for partnership-related activities from 2007-2013.

OECD LEED Forum Partnerships (A Selection)



The Mission of the Forum



The **OECD LEED Forum on Partnerships and Local Governance** aims

to **enhance the contribution** of partnership structures to local development and local governance and the effectiveness of policies.

Main challenges of partnerships



OECD LEED forum on
partnerships and
local governance

- _ **financing** the operation (partnership structure, projects)
- _ sufficient **documentation** of work performed
- _ adequate **performance indicators** to measure added values
- _ working on different levels (national/regional/local) requires **precise separations of tasks** between levels (decentralisation)
- _ using **synergies between programmes** on local/regional level
- _ capacity building

Implementation Guidance (part I)

1. Provide a **secure financial base** for the partnerships as well as the Co-ordination structure
2. Ensure **flexibility in policy implementation** (policies which are flexible and adaptable to change)
3. Ensure a **neutral role** of the co-ordination structure (e.g. not to be established at the MA nor next to the partnerships)
4. Provide **policy coordination** between the levels (multi-level governance; e.g. build up channels of communication within multi-level governance arrangements that are open to inputs from the bottom up)

Implementation Guidance (part II)

5. The Co-ordination unit should ensure the **exchange of information** among all institutions involved, enhance learning between the partnerships, advise and assist the TEPs for joint activities
6. Build up a **receptive culture** among all involved (partnerships, policy makers, other stakeholders).
7. Support the **recognition of local diversity** within the policy process and the value of evidence from practice.

(See also Vienna Action Statement on Partnerships, 2007,
OECD LEED Forum on Partnerships and Local Governance)



Links

— **Austrian TEPs**

<http://www.pakte.at>

— **European Commission**

<http://ec.europa.eu>

— **OECD LEED Forum**

<http://www.oecd.org/cfe/leed/forum/partnerships>

— **Forum database (all 45 countries)**

<http://www.forumpartnerships.net>



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Thank you