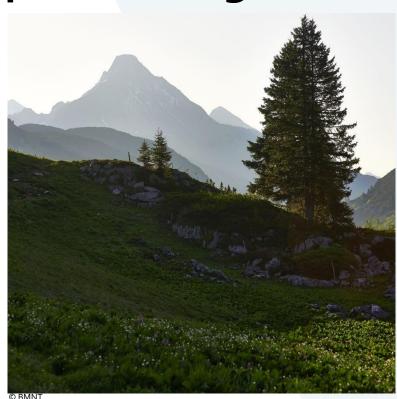
Austrian Rural Development Programme

The current RDP (2014–20) and lessons learnt for the next period (2020+) in Austria



ANDREA OBWEGER

Directorate-General II - Agriculture and Rural Development Brussels, 6 November 2019

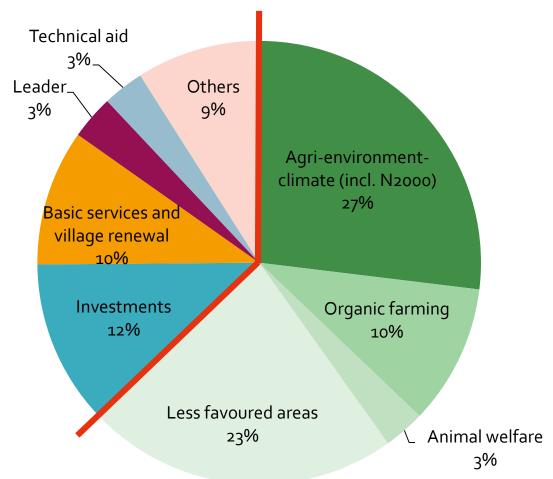
Farming structure in Austria

- family-farm-based agriculture
- Ø 18.7 ha UAA
- ~ 110,000 IACS-farms, ~60 % part-time farmers
- "2nd pillar country" (2/3 of CAP payments)
- high proportion of less favoured areas (3/4 of UAA)
- high diversity of production sectors
- high proportion of organic farming (1/4 of UAA)
- 80 % of agricultural holdings participate in AECM
- CAP payments have high share on farm income
- export is important for Austrian agriculture





Financing of the Austrian RDP



RDP 2014-20: EUR 1.1 bn/y

area-related measures

- agri-environment
- organic farming
- less favoured areas

project-related measures

- productive investments
- non productive investments
- education & training



AECM: approaches to maintain and improve

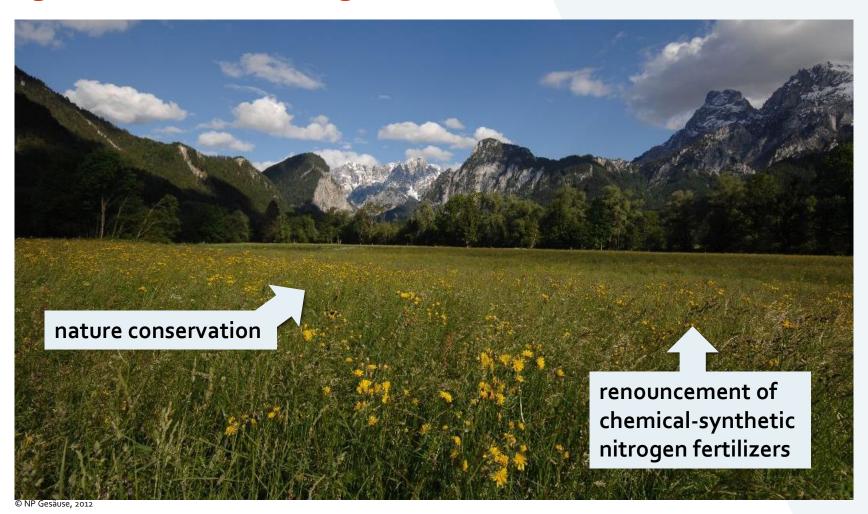
topic	broad approaches	focused approaches
bio- diversity	organic farming, landscape elements, biodiversity areas, renouncement of silage, training	nature conservation, maintain alpine pastures, cultivation of mowed mountain grassland, rare agricultural plants, endangered livestock breeds
water quality	organic farming, intermediate crops, renouncement of N-fertilizers and plant protection, training	management of arable areas particularly threatened by leaching, reduction of fertilizers and plant-protection, training
soil quality	organic farming, maintenance of grassland, intermediate crops, crop diversification, training	erosion protection of permanent crops, direct seeding and seeding on mulch

additional impact on climate protection, animal welfare & air quality

Agri-Environmental Programme ÖPUL 2015–20: measures (1)



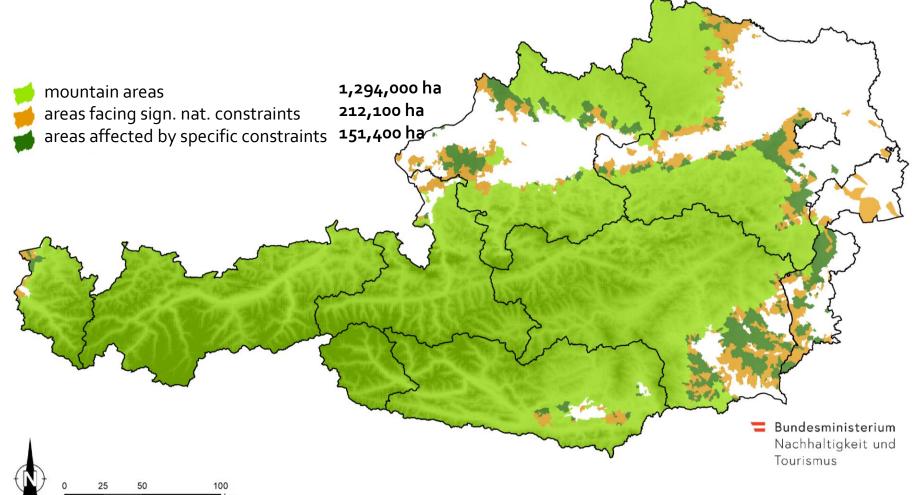
Agri-Environmental Programme ÖPUL 2015–20: measures (2)



Agri-Environmental Programme ÖPUL 2015–20: measures (3)



Less favoured areas (LFA) in Austria





Individual LFA payments in Austria



of farm and fields expressed by handicap-value-points

Handicap-value-points (HVP)			
A	Topography	Max. points	
1	Steep slopes	280	
2	Fields (≤ 1 ha) in scattered location	30	
3	Traditional herding	10	
4	Accessibility of farmstead	25	
5	Maintenance of side-roads	15	
	Sub-total	360	
В	Climate and soil	Max. points	
1	Extreme conditions (accessibility)	10	
2	Climate-value of farmstead	60	
3	Altitude of farmstead	50	
4	Soil-climate value (soil productivity)	60	
	Sub-total	180	
9	Total	540	

Targets, challenges & lessons learnt from current RDP

<u>targets</u>

- to maintain a multifunctional & sustainable agriculture
- to keep broad land coverage & specific measures for regions with environmental challenges
- practice-oriented implementation (simplification)

<u>challenges</u>

- lower participation rates in highly productive areas
- decline of biodiversity despite extensive efforts
- to maintain low-intensity farming

<u>lessons learnt</u>

 education trainings, awareness rising & specific project measures in combination with area-payments have long-term impacts







Educational rural development projects

- good collaborative relationship between nature conservationists & agricultural interests
- education & training duties
- awareness raising
- specific biodiversity projects:



© http://www.suske.at/projekte/alle-projekte/ordentlich-schlampert

- pilot project: results-based nature conservation plan
- "We care..."-project
- "Messy land..."-project ("Ordentlich schlampert")
- "Diversity on my farm..."-project







Process of CAP Strategic Plan

- participation format:
 - conferences
 - expert groups
 - website & newsletter
- May 2019: kick-off event, multistakeholder process
- May-October 2019: SWOT analysis & needs assessment
- from October 2019: work on interventions in 14 expert groups
- June 2020: draft interventions
- 2020/2021: submission of CAP-SP





Andrea Obweger

Directorate-General II - Agriculture and Rural Development andrea.obweger@bmnt.gv.at