

# **Austrian energy and climate policy priorities**

## in last 20 years and challenges for future

**DI Dr. Bettina Bergauer**

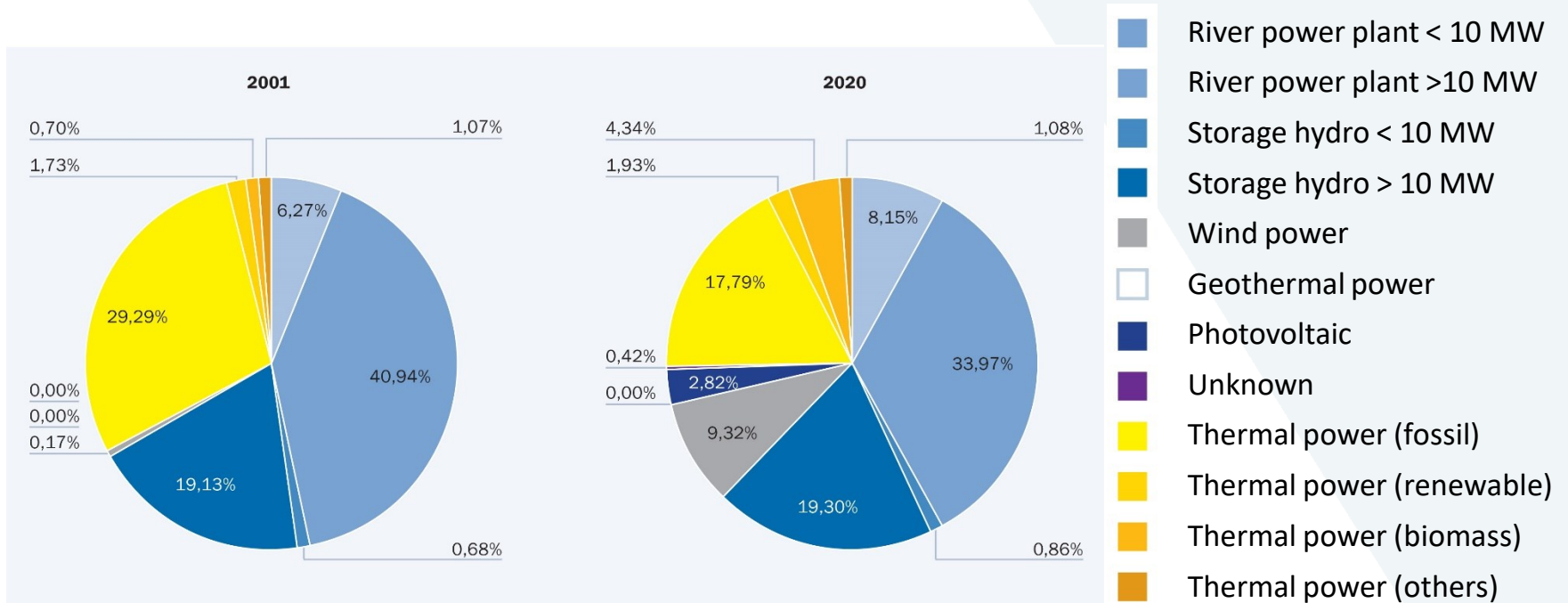
Task Force Dialogue on Energy Transition and Climate Protection,  
Section VI, BMK

21. November 2022

# Background Information

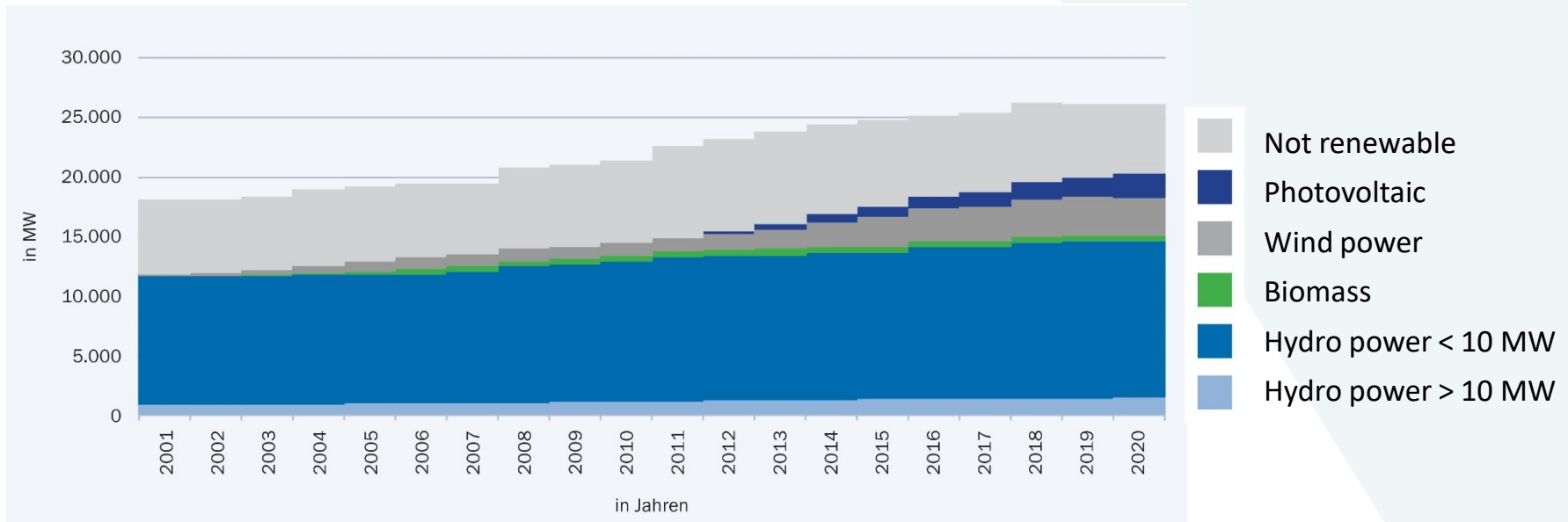
- **Market liberalization in the 1990s**
  - Increase competitiveness in world market
  - Harmonization of energy prices in Europe
  - Creation of fair competition
- **Expansion of renewable energies**
  - Since 2009, addressing climate change is part of the EU Treaty
  - Variable generation poses challenges to energy supply
  - Transformation of electricity system

# Gross electricity production 2001 vs 2021



Source: E-Control

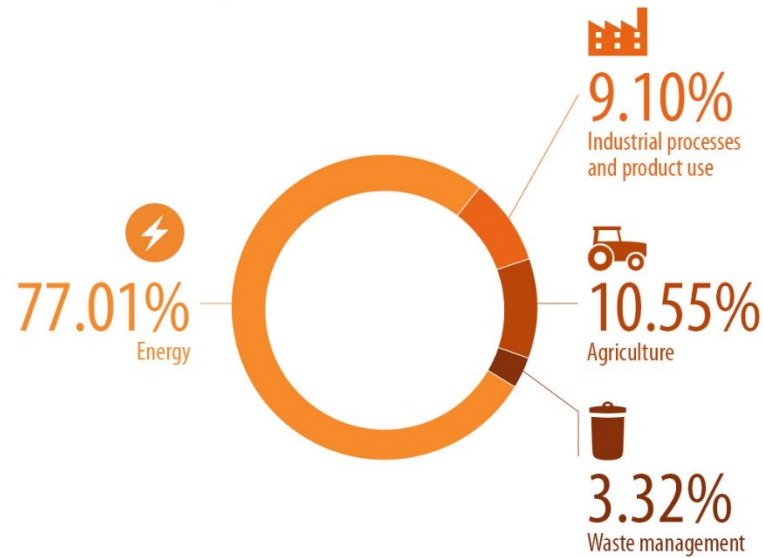
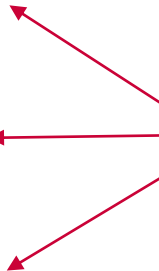
# Installed capacity renewable power plants



Source: E-Control

## Greenhouse gas emissions in the EU by sector\* in 2019

Heat  
Electricity  
Transport



\* All sectors excluding land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF)  
The percentages do not add up to 100% due to rounded figures being used

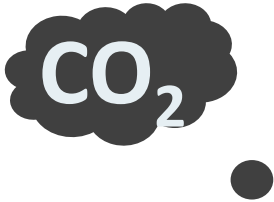
Source: European Environment Agency (EEA)





## EU: 3 main goals determine the agenda

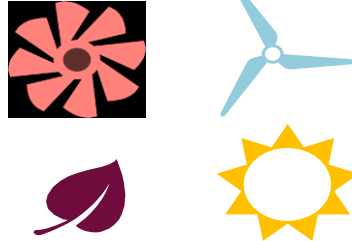
### CO<sub>2</sub>-Emissions



**55 %**

less CO<sub>2</sub> emissions  
Compared to 1990

### Renewables



**38-40 %**

Share of  
renewable energy  
in total energy  
consumption

### Energy efficiency



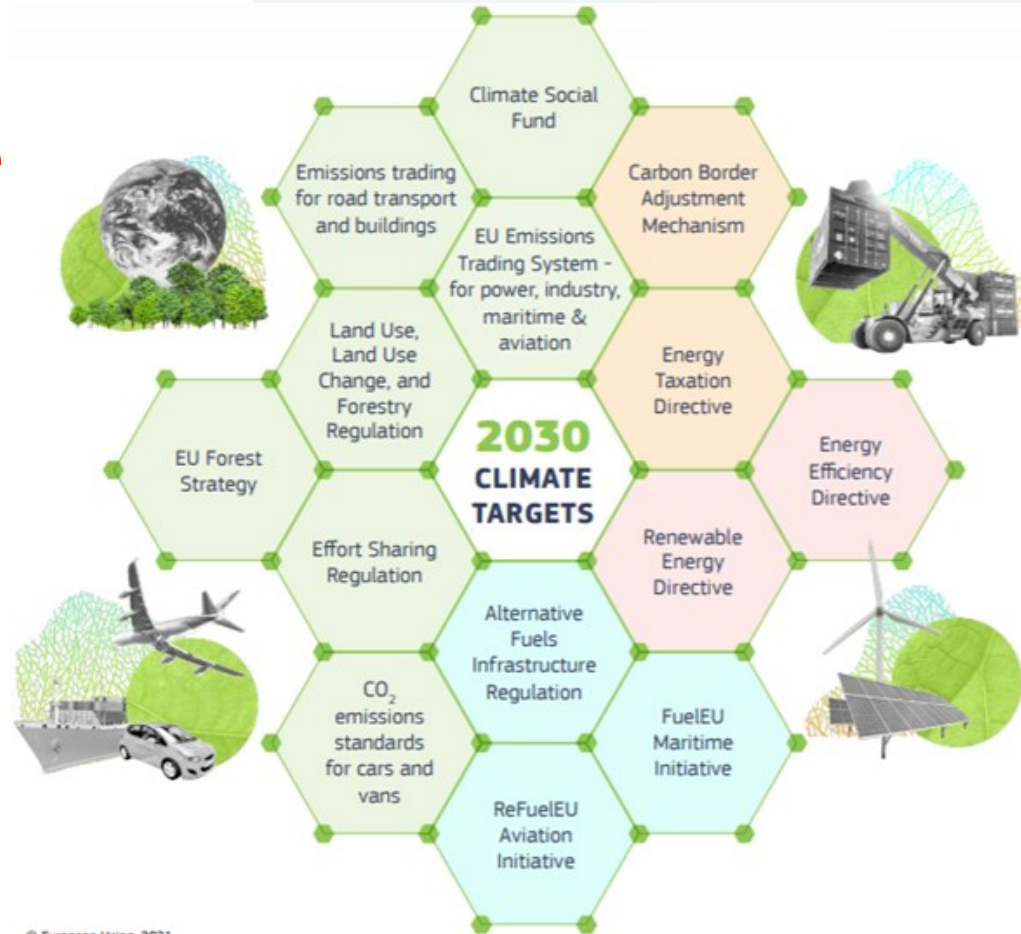
**38,5 %**

More energy efficiency  
(less primary energy  
consumption vs.  
business-as-usual)

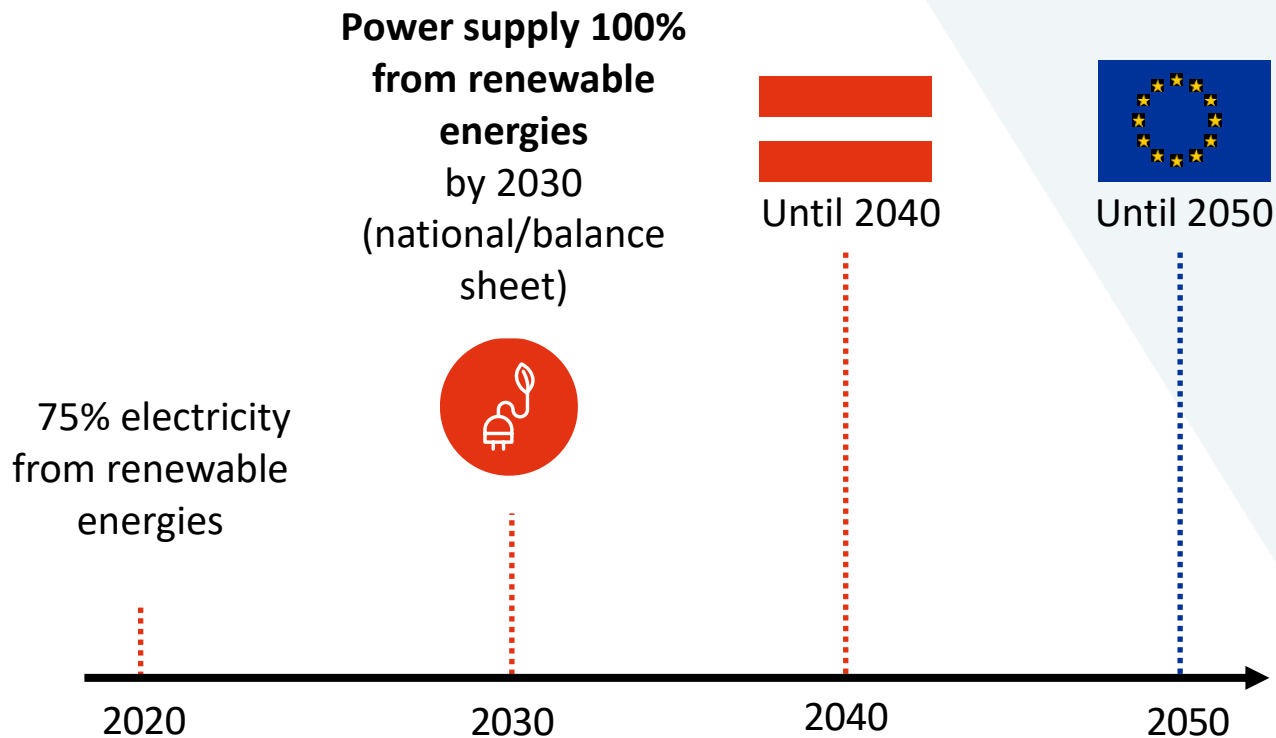
## Fit for 55 legislative package

### Increasing the EU climate target 2030

- Reduction of GHG emissions by at **least -55%** (base 1990): stipulated by the EU climate law and the European Council
- **40% renewable energy**
- Adaptation of climate and energy-related legal acts necessary!



# Government Program & Goals AT



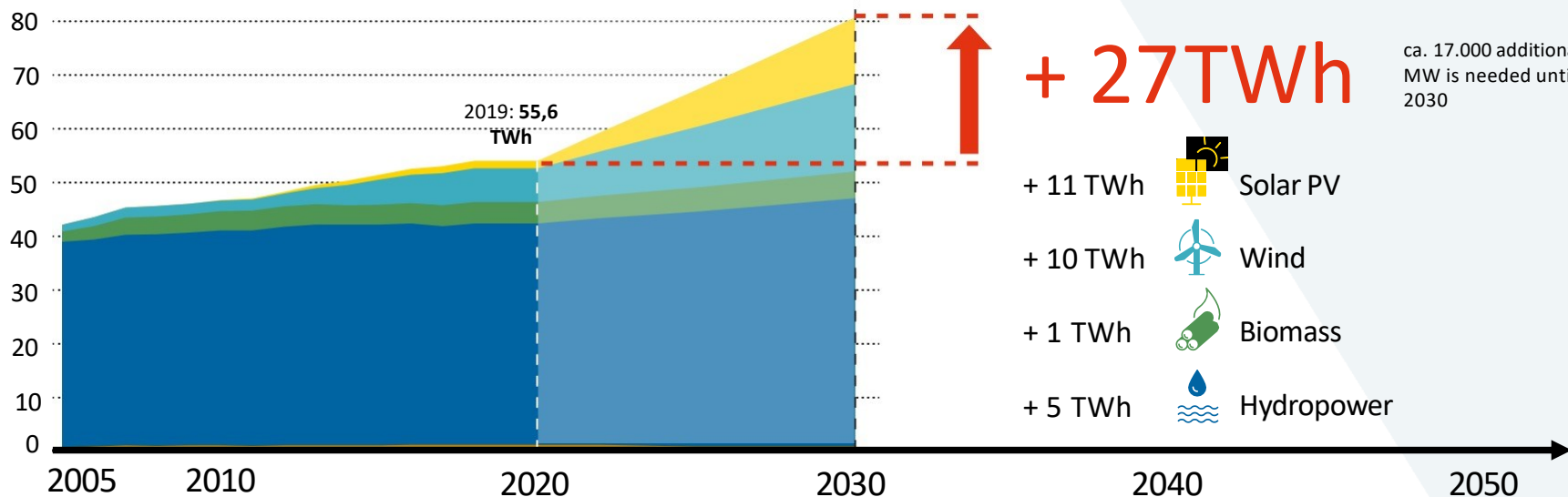


## 50% increase needed to meet the target of 100% electricity from RES by 2030

**2030 target:**  
100% electricity from RES

Corresponds to an  
increase of around  
50% compared to  
2019

### RES-electricity generation until 2030 in TWh



# Pathway to Climate Neutrality

## Necessary course settings

- **Phasing out fossil fuels** (coal, fossil oil and gas) by 2040
- Significant acceleration of the **expansion of renewables** (electricity, heat)
- Efficiency revolution - the phase-out of fossil fuels/changeover to renewables will only work if total energy demand is reduced by 40-50%.
- Massive **investments in public transport systems**  
=> fundamental change in energy and mobility systems
- Sustainable **consumption patterns** (nutrition, durable products, recycling/reuse, circular economy, etc.)
- Adaptation in **agriculture and forestry** (resilience to climate change, biodiversity, biological management, etc.)

# Pathway to Climate Neutrality

## Important steps already being implemented

- 2 billion € subsidy package (2021, 2022) for climate protection investments ("Get **out of oil&gas**", **thermal building refurbishment**, operational decarbonization, e-mobility...)
- Renewable Energy Expansion Act (EAG) - milestone for **100% electricity** from renewables by 2030
- **Mobility Masterplan 2030** for Austria - reorientation of the mobility sector towards climate neutrality in 2040 ("Umweltverbund" public transport - walking and cycling - shared mobility; e-mobility...)
- **ÖBB framework** plan 2022-2027 - 18.2 billion Euro for a modern railroad network

# Pathway to Climate Neutrality

## Important steps already being implemented

- **KlimaTicket** Austria - the whole of Austria for 1,095 Euro
- **CO<sub>2</sub> price** for all fossil fuel consumption as of July 2022
- Start with gradually increasing fixed price (30 euros -> 55 euros/t CO<sub>2</sub> by 2025)
- **Transition to trading system/ETS** from 2026 ("cap & trade")

# Pathway to Climate Neutrality

## Next steps

- Renewable Heat Act (EWG)
- Amendment of the Energy Efficiency Act
- New Climate Protection Act 2022
- Adaptation of Austria's long-term strategy to climate neutrality 2040 (LTS 2040)
- Adaptation of National Energy and Climate Plan to 2030 (draft 2023, final 2024)

## Subsidies of the Ministry of Climate Protection

- **“Out of Oil and Gas” for Privates (2021/2022)**
- Initiative supports the switch from fossil-fuelled space heating to sustainable heating systems
- Subsidies up to 7500€
- **„Clean Heating for All“ for Privates (2022)**
- particularly low-income households
- boiler replacement is subsidized by up to 100 percent

## Subsidies of the Ministry of Climate Protection

### **Anti-Inflation Aid Packages 1,2 & 3 (2022-2026):** Worth 31,7 billion Euro

- Investment offensive for energy independence; wind and PV projects
- Price reductions in public transport and expansion of services
- Support for businesses to switch to renewables
- Climate Bonus

- **The Eco-Social Tax Reform (2022)**
- Comprehensive relief measures for private households and companies
- The introduction of a CO<sub>2</sub> price and related compensation payments

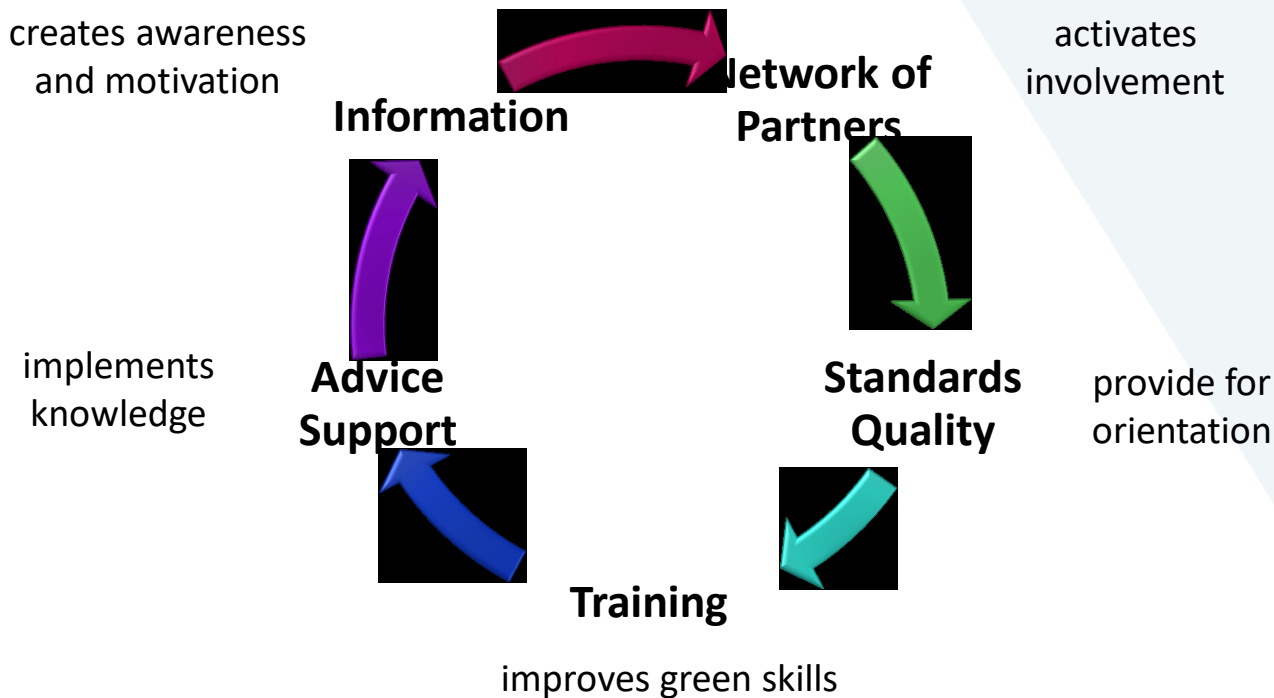
## Market introduction & expansion of climate-friendly Technologies & Services



**Network of klimaaktiv experts from all over Austria  
Program implementation**



# klimaaktiv transition cycle



## Climate Alliance (Klimabündnis)

- Is a global partnership to protect the climate
- Founded in 1990 in Germany
- Connects more than 1,700 communities in 27 countries in Europe with indigenous peoples in South America.
- The common goals are:
  1. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions
  2. Preservation of the Amazon rainforest

Information and awareness raising

Networking

Education

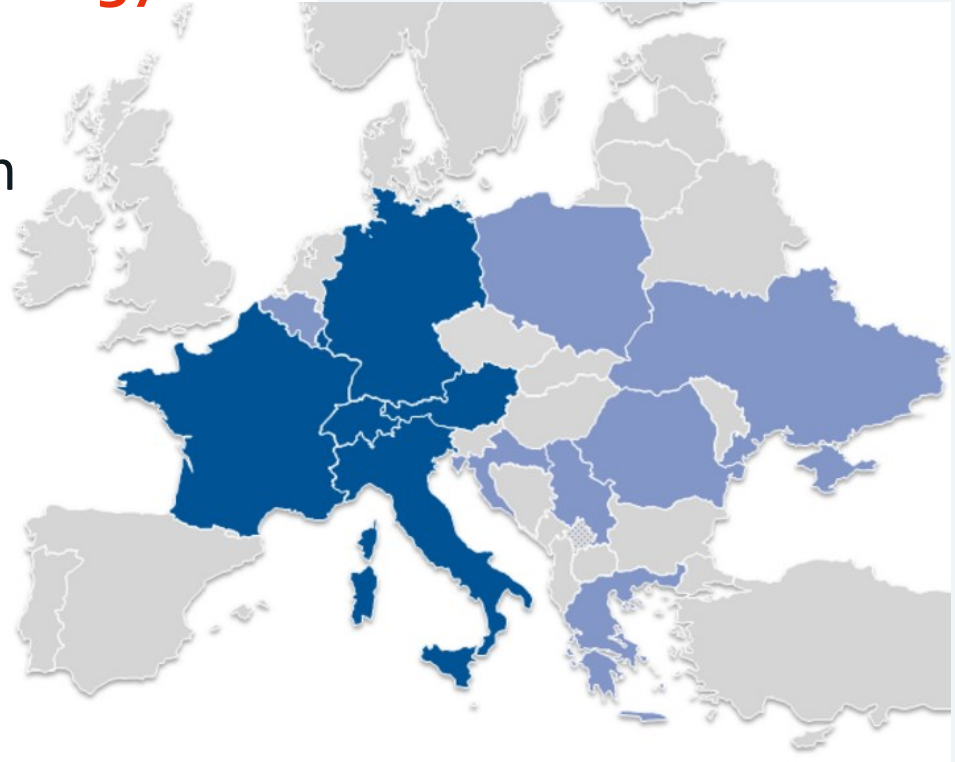
Projects and campaigns in climate protection, climate justice and climate change adaptation

## European Energy Award

- 1,700 local authorities with
- a population of 71 million people participating today
- Advisors for municipalities

Dark blue: full members

Light blue: pilot countries



# Thank you for your attention!

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