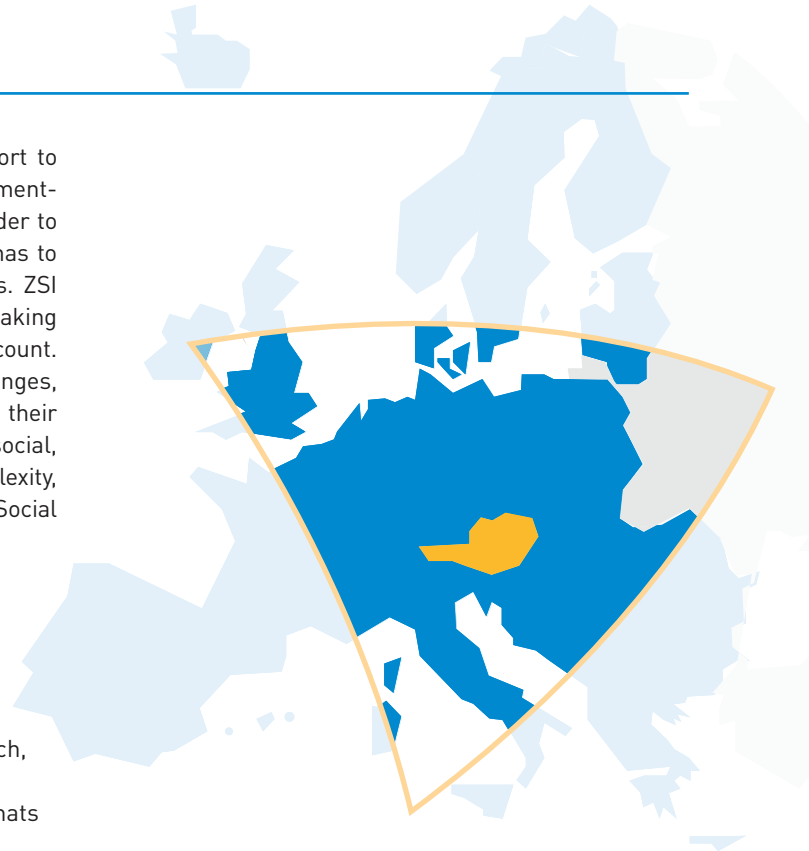


REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Regional development is often described as a general effort to reduce regional disparities by supporting economic (employment- and wealth-generating) activities in regions. However, in order to achieve a liveable future, this narrow economic definition has to be broadened to encompass social and ecological aspects. ZSI supports and co-develops initiatives and programmes taking endogenous potentials and region-specific demands into account. Especially peripheral and shrinking regions face great challenges, where traditional regional development approaches reach their limit. The idea is to adapt policies (in an economic, labour, social, health, etc. context) in a way that considers regional complexity, singularity and diversity and mitigates adaptive difficulties. Social innovations are centrally relevant for a successful adaption.

WE OFFER

- **Regional Analysis:** quantitative and qualitative research, regional statistical analysis, SWOT-analysis, foresight, scenario analysis, policy analysis, dialogue based formats and qualitative insights
- **Visualisation:** offline and online visualisation of regional data
- **Networks:** a broad network of specialists in Austria and Europe
- **Programming:** drafting of regional development programmes, thematic programmes (social, economic, innovation) and policy recommendations on regional level in Europe and Austria
- **Participation:** a broad set of participatory methods from focus groups, workshops, future workshops to world cafes and citizen panels
- **Evaluation:** ex-ante, interim and ex-post evaluation of programmes, impact evaluation, strategic environmental assessment, environmental impact assessment, project assessment
- **Connecting Stakeholders:** developing consolidated approaches and programmes by bridging the gap between different stakeholders and interests
- **Training:** practical networking and targeted training activities either f2f or online
- **Innovation:** advice on regional innovation support structures and mechanisms



OUR REFERENCES - PROJECTS AND PUBLICATION

- From 1999 to 2014 ZSI coordinated the **Austrian Territorial Employment Pacts (TEPs)** to reconcile issues between different stakeholders for an appropriate development of the regional economies, for an integration of labour market and employment policies with other policy areas and for strengthening social cohesion at the regional level.
- The **CE-Ageing Platform** dealt with the consequences of demographic change in Central European regions. Negative effects and impacts of demographic trends on an ageing society and economy should be minimized – amongst others – through the implementation of innovative measures/services for SME's in the area of diversity management, life-long learning, work-life-balance and health.
- **Entersocial Good Practice Transfer** was a knowledge transfer project among researchers and practitioners from several EU countries to forward sustainable agriculture, rural development and regional economy.
- **Green Jobs in the Metal Working Industry** dealt with the qualification/skills adaptation requests in industrial oriented areas.
- **Master plan rural development Burgenland** is a coordinated strategy across several policy fields including regional development, agriculture, social, educational and labour market policies.
- **Danube-INCO.NET** is a large European regional project with a wide spectrum of activities targeted to strengthen research structures and innovation in the Danube macro-region. Among its many activities is the establishment of regional funding schemes for research, technological development and innovation.
- From 2004 to 2012, ZSI actively supported the **OECD LEED Forum on Partnerships and Local Governance** by gathering knowledge and providing advice on effective mechanisms for adapting policies to local needs.
- **SYN.AT** identified synergy potential between the EU funding instruments European Social Fund (ESF), European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) for a coordinated and coherent use for dealing with regional challenges.

Publication: Promoting local economic development through multi-level partnership arrangements in Europe (www.zsi.at/publication/partnership-arrangements-europe)

Imprint



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