PHASING OUT Projects from the European Union Grant Program 2007 – 2013

PUBLIC PROJECTS WITHIN THE EU-REGION OF BURGENLAND

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Dear readers,

Our county, Burgenland, is economically viable. We can be very proud of the remarkable performance of the people of Burgenland who have doubled the Economic growth and employment in comparison to the average in Austria in the year 2012. The EU-grant policy from 1995 to 2013 has made a unique ‘catch-up’ process possible for our county. Investments worth more than 4 Billion Euros have been made since Austria joined the EU. From 2007 until the end of 2012 alone, 5,573 projects have been supported by grants within the framework of the phasing out programme. The total investment in these projects totals nearly 770 million Euros. These impressive numbers show very clearly that we can expect lasting progress, especially in the areas of further education, innovation and technology, in the coming years.

Personally, what makes me very happy, are the high numbers of employment, which we in Burgenland can show and be proud of.

For the first time in the history of our county more than 100,000 people have the opportunity to develop their professional potential. The positive impact of grants also shows in this area: Over 13,500 work placements would not have been possible without the EU grant programme. This alone shows clearly, how much the EU is really worth to every single person in Burgenland.

To further boost the economy of Burgenland, develop new work places and reduce regional disparities, the support of the European Union through grants will therefore also be very important beyond 2013. A significant step in the right direction towards the next grant period was the granting of the status of a ‘Transition Region’. Therefore further, even though lower, but still not unimportant grant finance from the EU will be paid to our county.

This we want and have to invest into a knowledge based society. To reduce the quota of early school leavers, to fight social poverty and boost education, are three fundamental milestones. If we also succeed in increasing our productivity and boost cross-border projects, then we can expect further positive development in Burgenland.

Hans Niessl

Head of a Provincial Government, Burgenland
Equal Rights

Disability shouldn’t be a handicap. According to this motto the school project of the RMB in cooperation with the ÖZIV is lobbying for more sensiblity when dealing with people who are affected with a mobility, sense or learning disability.

Mag. a Beate Tschida  
Regional Management Burgenland  
European Information & Public Relations

Hans-Jürgen Groß  
President of ÖZIV – Zivil-Disability Foundation Bgld.  
Vice President ÖZIV-Austria

Sara Repo MA  
Regional Management Burgenland  
European Information & Public Relations

Andreas Schlägl  
Class representative, HAK Oberpullendorf
are affected by a mobility, sense or learning disability, according to a study by the Social Ministry in 2012. This equates to a fifth of the total population. This subject is often accompanied with insecurity and a lack of sensibility when dealt with by society. Many just don’t know how to treat people with disabilities.

“Completely normally”, says Hans-Jürgen Groß, President of the Zivil-Disability Foundation Burgenland (ÖZIV), „speak with these people in the same way you would speak with your friends and other people you know. Nothing else, only at the equal level.”

It’s literally talking to people face to face. A simple chair will already do - and won’t talk down to people in a wheel chair, but instead on the same level. Often only small gestures already show respect and appreciation. „An important thing is, that when speaking about people with disabilities, the word „people’ has to be the centre point. Saying „the blind person’ or „the disabled person’ (in German) is often offensive to people with these disabilities.”, says Mr. Groß who knows it from many years experience. Many young people though still need to be educated in these ways.

The school project by the Regional Management Burgenland supports young people by encouraging them to develop a concience for the special needs of the people concerned. In Cooperation with the ÖZIV, the RMB is offering sensibility-training in 14 schools in Burgenland.

„Youngsters should feel the kind of barriers many people have to cope with on a daily basis.“

Mag.a Beate Tschida
Regional Management Burgenland
European Information & Public Relations
What was granted:

- The school project against discrimination and the exclusion of people with disabilities.
- The training for more sensibility in 14 schools in Burgenland in 7 different areas.

Grant aims:

- Sensitization of society for equal rights for people with bodily or psychological disabilities.

Grant details:

- Period: September 2012 - March 2013
- The grant given supported the project within the framework of the PR work of the RMB for the phasing out programme with 39,000 Euros.

Project Executing Organisation:

Regionalmanagement Burgenland GmbH
Technologiezentrum
Marktstraße 3
7000 Eisenstadt
www.rmb.at

School project „Disability shouldn’t be a handicap“

„It is about successfully completing a wheelchair obstacle course and learning how to handle the white stick“, says the coordinator of the RMB projects Mag.a Beate Tschida. „Youngsters should really experience what kind of barriers people with a mobility or sight disability have to cope with on a daily basis.“ The ramps and barriers of the obstacle course give the students a true to life impression of what it would be like to be in a wheelchair. The non-see through mask, the white stick and being led by a fellow student give the participants a step by step feel of how people with a sight disability cope with daily life.

The financing for this school project is supported by one of the earliest grants offered by the EU: the European Social Fund. Support from this fund is given to all people who are in any way discriminated against. Every person in Europe should have the opportunity to do their own thing, live their own life and to fully exploit their talents. „The European Union is strongly in favour of equal rights, supports the battle against exclusion and gives grants for special projects for youngsters“, clarifies Sara Repo MA from the department of European Communication and Public Relations at the RMB. „As part of this project we are always there with an EU-info stand and a European ‘wheel of fortune’. We also bring exciting brochures and publications of what the EU does for youngsters and what grants are available for them.“ says Repo.

„This school project can achieve a lot for society."

Andreas Schlögl
class representative, HAK Oberpullendorf

The participating students are sure that all these efforts for the school project will bring benefits. Class representative Andreas reports: „At this event I have collected many impressions of the life of people with mobility or sight disabilities."

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School project „Disability shouldn’t be a handicap“
A walk through the history of home culture in Burgenland.

Pigeon Loft in Burgenland.
Village stories

About life in the countryside through the ages.

More than 10,000 visitors annually visit the idyllicly situated open air museum in Geresdorf with its 35 historic, rustic buildings. With a lot attention to detail and supporting grants from the EU, the buildings, some of which are more than several hundred years old, have been gradually restored.

Eveline Niederbacher-Kisser
Museum-Manager

Bgm. Wilhelm Pammer
Mayor of Geresdorf
Chairman of the association „Friends of the open air museum Geresdorf“
The journey through time begins.....

....in the year 1765 in front of a south Burgenland „Kitting“ (old farm storage building). Only a few of these kind of granaries are still in existance. Not far from it: a beautiful three room dwelling from 1794. It appears to be in such excellent condition and so beautifully furnished, as if the inhabitants have just gone to the stable next door to feed the cattle and will be back any minute.

In 1972 he immediately decided to purchase the land on which the open air museum is situated today. His exceptional vision was to move those valuable rustic timber buildings onto that land in order to save them from complete deterioration.

“Every single wooden beam was labeled, the buildings dismantled and rebuilt true to original specifications.”

Eveline Niederbacher-Kisser
Museums-Manager

Over the years, more and more buildings which were worth preserving were added and so the „village in the village“ has gradually evolved to become the biggest open air museum in Burgenland.

“...it was relatively easy for my husband, being a graphic designer, to measure and draw the houses. Every single wooden beam was labled, the buildings dismantled, transported to the Museum site and rebuilt true to original specifications,” remembers Eveline Niederbacher-Kisser. In this way 35 buildings, which reflect the pannonian way of living in the 18th and 19th centuries, up to the first half of the 20th century, were moved.

“We have dwellings, commercial buildings, buildings for presses and work shops, such as a house of a blacksmith and a carpenter. Brand new
and only constructed last year was a glazier’s workshop.” says Mrs. Niederbacher-Kisser. „We are really proud of that one, because it dates back to 1900 and is the only one of its kind in a museum in Austria.”

“Thanks to EU-grants, the running of the museum is secured for the coming years:“

Mayor Wilhelm Pammer
Mayor of Gerersdorf
Chairman of the association „Friends of the open air museum Gerersdorf”

Making a profit was never the main aim, only the preservation of valuable cultural goods. In the early years everything was privately financed, but after some time it became difficult to maintain this. „Our association was founded in the middle of the 90’s to enable the preservation of this cultural heritage. The open air museum has since been run, managed and operated by us in cooperation with the family Kisser.” says Chairman/Mayor Wilhelm Pammer.

„For many years we have tried to make a profit with this museum, but even with our events, we are not able to do so.” continues Prammer. „In association with the government of Burgenland, we were able to aquire all the much needed EU-grants, which enabled us to update the museum to meet today’s standards. Thanks to the grants we were able to sustain three permanent positions and secure the running of the museum for the coming years.”

Originally not thought to be a place for events, the museum is today a popular event location: „Since becoming a member of the EU we aim to create a lively museum”, says Prammer. „We offer not only technical shows, artistically high valued exhibitions, but also concerts in the framework of the event called; „Gussinger-Kultursommer”. Furthermore, we try to attract as many visitors as possible to the museum, by offering traditional festivals, which are important to our community”, says the chairman. „Everything is possible in the open air museum Ensemble Gerersdorf, from private birthday parties and events to festivals and romantic weddings."

Open air museum Ensemble Geresdorf

What was granted:
• Cultural-touristical adaptions to the open air museum Gerersdorf
• Renovation of the old buildings, where many are hundreds of years old, moderate reconstructions and improvement of the infrastructure of the area

Grant aims:
• Contribution to preserve cultural heritage
• The project contains cultural-touristical aspects
• Improvement of cultural offers in the country

Grant details:
• Period: September 2010 - September 2012
• Amount invested: 190,000 Euros
• Grant sum: 190,550 Euros

Responsible Grant Department:
• Bureau of the government in Burgenland/Department 7 cultural, economical and archival belongings

Project Executing Organisation:
Open Air Museum Ensemble Gerersdorf
Gerersdorf Nr. 66c
7542 Gerersdorf/Sulz
www.freilichtmuseum-gerersdorf.at

...
THE INTERCULTURAL EVENT CENTRE KUGA IN GROSSWARSdorf
Sve o KUGI! *)

*) Burgenlandcroation for: „All about KUGA!“

An intercultural event centre, a place for creativity, a place for seminars and adult education and a place for children and teenagers - all this is incorporated in the KUGA in Großwarasdorf. Offering a variety of events, the centre invites everyone to intermingle with the multilinguality of the region.

GF Alex Karazman
KUGA Cultural Association Kulturna Zadruga
Every subsidised Euro was sensibly invested.

In the beginning, structural measures for renovation were taken, with the help of the European Regional Development Fund (EFRE). The centre was newly painted, tiled, the roof was repaired, the entrance hall was fully renewed and the technical aspects were modernised to conform to current standards. “We now own a state of the art sound and light system that we use for all our functions and are now able to hold very diverse and complex events, i.e. big symposia, cabaret evenings and double concerts by international artists,” says Karazman proudly.

Was it difficult to procure grants from the EU? “In short, No.”, answers Karazman clearly and says additionally: “We only sent a request and luckily received the grant. The cooperation with the EU worked very well, as well as the cooperation with the county of Burgenland. They luckily also accepted everything we had done. I guess a reason for this was, that we always made sure, that every subsidised Euro was sensibly invested.”

“The newly renovated event centre in Großwarasdorf is also a pleasure for all the visitors”, reports Karazman: “We get very positive feedback from our visitors. They have realised that the KUGA shines like a new penny, which was also the title of our EFRE-project: KUGA like NEW. The implementation of this project has succeeded.

450 years of a lively community...

...proves that integration can be successful. Since they settled here as farmers in the 16th century, the Burgenlandcroation community are now a permanent part of Burgenland’s identity. In an impressive way they have managed to not only keep their identity as an ethnic group, but also to develop a minority group language and culture.

Veliki Boristof - also known as Großwarasdorf - is a Burgenlandcroation village. Croations, Hungarians, Romanies and German speakers are a good example that peaceful cohabitation for several hundred years has been possible. The KUGA is the intercultural centre of the region and mirrors the cultural and linguistical diversity. Founded in 1982 as a non profit association the main focuses of the KUGA are ethnic group culture, adult education, teenage culture and art.

“We do not want to watch the language fade away, without doing anything about it.”

GF Alex Karazman
KUGA Cultural Association Kulturna Zadruga

“With impetus we have started the 4th decade of our existance”, says General Manager Alex Karazman, full of enthusiasm and confidence. Folk music and folklore, concerts from rock to classic, readings, cabaret, theatrical performances, running of a gallery, jazz music, childrens theatre and the big summer festival „Croatisada” - this full range of the cultural spectrum can be found at the KUGA. „It is important to us, to make it possible for people to experience the Burgenlandcroation old folk and modern cultures at our centre, in order to boost bilingualism in all areas”, says Karazman. „Our offers are very diverse, in order to reach as many middle Burgenland people as possible, also importantly, non-Croation people.”

The reason for founding the KUGA, was namely the lack of cultural activities, but also the high emigration rate in this region: „We wanted to stop villages dying out and didn’t want to watch the language fade away, without doing anything about it”, explains Karazman. „To elimante deficits, to stop the ongoing assimilation and to make the region worth living in, are still the main concerns of the KUGA.” For over 30 years the KUGA has successfully managed these difficult tasks and now the centre attracts up to 25,000 visitors annually. „In recent decades many cultural changes have taken place”, says Karazman. „It was clear that many renovations and adaptions were needed. Therefore we were very happy, that from 2007 to 2010 the urgently needed renovations were undertaken, within the framework of the EFRE-project, which were supported by grants.”
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What was granted:
• Adaption and renovation of the event centre
• Renewal of the technical infrastructure, moderate structural measures, investments for the interior and renovation of the toilets in the event centre

Grant aims:
• Contribution to preserve cultural heritage
• The project contains cultural-touristical aspects
• Improvement of cultural offers in the county

Grant details:
• Period: November 2007 - March 2010
• Amount invested: 191,900 Euros
• Grant sum: 191,000 Euros

Responsible Grant Department:
• Bureau of the government in Burgenland/Department 7 cultural, economical and archival belongings

Project Executing Organisation:
KUGA Cultural Association Kulturna Zadruga Parkgasse 3
7304 Großwarasdorf
www.kuga.at
Full „windenergy“ ahead!

Strong foundations for renewable energy sources

Burgenland is the first county in the world which is wind energy autarkic. The trend for renewable energy has been boosted by the construction of a wind turbine concrete tower factory in Zurndorf by the wind turbine producer ENERCON.

Dr. Mathias Moser  
Head of Logistic,  
ENERCON GmbH

Dipl. Wirt.-Ing. (FH) Stephan Leipe  
Plant Manager Windenergiekomponentenfertigung  
Austria GmbH
The two towers...

...have a dizzy height of 99 and 133 meters - technical precision made from steel and concrete. Already the smaller of the two is 6 meters higher than the Statue of Liberty. The taller tower is only a little bit shorter than ‘Stephansdom’ in Vienna. These giants are produced in the small, tranquil village of Zurndorf situated in the north of Burgenland.

„We produce hybrid towers in our concrete tower factory“ says Stephan Leipe, Plant Manager Windenergiekomponentenfertigung Austria GmbH. „Part of the tower is made with prefabricated concrete parts. We then attach steel sections to these parts, which enables us to build higher towers than our competitors."

At the core of the production plant is the approx. 230m long hall, where the prefabricated parts of these concrete giants are produced in 3 stages. Firstly, the long iron rods are braided by professional iron braiders. Secondly in the ‘betonage’ department, these braided ‘baskets’ are put into molds, which are in turn filled with concrete. Finally, each section is coated. These heavy parts weigh approximately 50 tonnes, the base segment has a diameter of 11 meters and the highest segment of the 133 meter tower is still 4 meters in diameter. For logistical reasons the lower sections are are subdivided into halves or thirds, to enable them to be transported by lorry.

„Our long term plan is to export our products."

Dr. Mathias Moser
Leiter Logistik ENERCON GmbH

„Due to the high Austrian demand, all towers produced within the next 2 years will most likely be used in Burgenland and Lower Austria.“ says Dr. Mathias Moser, Head of Logistics, ENERCON GmbH. „Our plan though is, to ship the towers to South Germany and Eastern Europe, by means of inland waterways. If however the demand in Germany increases within the next 2 years, we could begin exporting earlier than planned."

The building phase of the factory should be completed by the end of 2013. By this time 40 million Euros would have been invested in this factory. This project is financed by EU grants and ENERCON’s own resources.

„The development of the Austrian, South German and Eastern European markets is very advantageous for ENERCON“, says Mr. Moser happily. „That’s also a reason why the transport-intensive components – the concrete towers – are produced here. Austria, as a location, was chosen over Slovakia and..."
Concrete component factory for wind turbines

What was granted:

- Structural investments and investments for machines for the building of a concrete component factory for wind turbines

Grant aims:

- Establishment of competitive and innovative regional economical structures
- Job creation

Grant details:

- Period: December 2011 - December 2013
- Amount invested: appr. 40 Mio. Euros
- Grant sum: appr. 8 Mio. Euros

Responsible Grant Department:

- ERP-Fonds

Project Executing Organisation:

Windenergiekomponentenfertigung Austria GmbH und Burgenländische Erneuerbare Energien GmbH
Ludwig Boltzmannstr. 2
7100 Neusiedl am See

Due to its location, up until now 140 people have gained employment here. Our factory is therefore an important employer in this region”, says Plant Manager Mr. Leipe. „We are very proud to have recruited mainly local staff, whose commute is therefore kept short. With a commuter-call-back-campaign, we were able to bring back commuters to Burgenland. What we were very surprised about was the high number of professionals that we found in this area.”

Also, the parish of Zurndorf is happy to have this company in their region. „We have been welcomed with open arms here”, says Mr. Leipe. „What made it clear that we were very welcome here was the fact that 1,200 people came to the opening.”

THE CZECH REPUBLIC. WITHIN AUSTRIA, BURGENLAND WAS PROVEN TO BE A BETTER LOCATION THAN LOWER AUSTRIA.”

„OUR FACTORY IS AN IMPORTANT EMPLOYER IN THIS REGION.”

Dipl. Wirt.-Ing. (FH) Stephan Leipe
Plant Manager Windenergiekomponentenfertigung Austria GmbH

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the most modern pet food factory in Europe

AUSTRIA PET FOOD IN PÖTTELSDORF
Treat!

25 Millionen for the best food

Austria Pet Food produces high quality gourmet food for four legged friends with the label „Made in Austria“ and this brings many benefits to the region.

DI Michael Hehn  
Chairman of the General Management  
Austria Pet Food GmbH

Mag. Otto Bruckner  
General Manager  
Austria Pet Food GmbH
Great markets ...

... can easily be reached from the location Pöttelsdorf in Burgenland, which in return offers great chances for innovative companies. The location has proven to be very advantageous to the most modern pet food factory in Europe: Austria Pet Food GmbH. Many popular pet food store brands of well known supermarkets, loved by dogs and cats, are freshly produced here.

What applies to both dog and owner are the legal food regulations set by the International Food Standards I.F.S. During the production process, the same hygiene and security regulations are applied. Theoretically, you could actually try our dog and cat food yourself, you wouldn't like the taste though, because animals prefer different flavours.” says DI Hehn.

An unbelievable 150 Mio. tins of cat food roll off the production line in Pöttelsdorf every year, are put directly into lorries and begin their journey to the food bowls of happy house cats. Also dogs mouths start watering as soon as an Austrian Pet Food tin is opened, just like the ‘Pawlow’ dog!

No question: The production of pet food is very challenging. „In comparison to people, who mix and match their food as they like, the pet food we produce is often the only source of food the animals get,” explains DI Michael Hehn, Chairman of the General Management. „All vitamins, minerals, carbohydrates and protein that pets need are contained in our products. The content requirements for pet food therefore have to be more precise than those for human food.”

„The content requirements for pet food have to be more precise than those for human food.”
DI Michael Hehn
Chairman of the General Management
Austria Pet Food GmbH

An insight into the production process is explained by General Manager Mag. Otto Bruckner: “The leftovers from every boned chicken fillet for human consumption consist of bones and some meat. The meat and some of the bones are then processed and made into sausage meat, which in turn is then steamed and sliced. Dependent on the required flavour it is then mixed with a special sauce. The
“We have made the perfect decision.”

Mag. Otto Bruckner
General Manager
Austria Pet Food GmbH

Countrywise, the main target market for Austria Pet Food is primarily Austria, although there are in fact a number of customers in surrounding countries. „Our aim is not to drive thousands of kilometres to our customers, as this would not be ecologically or economically viable. We chose this location as it is central to our main customer base and also because our clients prefer to take delivery of goods from nearby suppliers.”

„The economical framework offered by the location Pöttelsdorf was optimal for us.” says Mag. Bruckner. „Our decision was also influenced by the attractive grants offered, most importantly for us though were the excellent employees that could be found in this region, who are the heart of our company. We can happily say then, that we have made the perfect decision!”

Project Executing Organisation:
Austria Pet Food GmbH
Mach Allee 2
7023 Pöttelsdorf

Grant details:
- Period: February 2011 - August 2013
- Amount invested: appr. 25 Mio. Euros
- Grant sum: appr. 4.3 Mio. Euros

Responsible Grant Department:
- WiBAG – Wirtschaftsservice Burgenland AG

What was granted:
- Construction of a pet food factory

Grant aims:
- Establishment of competitive and innovative regional economical structures
- Job creation
- Productive investments in commerce and industry

Austria Pet Food GmbH

sterilisation procedure in the autoclave is followed by the canning process and immediate shipment to ensure the goods are fresh and of the highest quality at the time the pet is fed.”

Depending on the clients requirements, the recipe is changed and the tins are labeled accordingly. The phrase „Made in Austria” is however always clearly stated. A promise that is always 100% guaranteed. All ingredients used are from certified companies in Austria, often in fact, even from Burgenland. Even the tins, the labels and the boxes are produced in Austria. In a similar manner, we trusted in the know-how of local companies from Burgenland, with regard to the construction of the factory and the planning and installation of the production line. The investment of 25 Mio. Euros required for this, the most modern pet food factory in Europe, was put together by a group of investors, as well as being supported by grants.

30 new jobs have been created in this region due to the establishment of the company in this location. After the final construction phase the plan is to increase the number of staff to 50.
Basische Vollwertkost
für mehr Lebensfreude
Verzichten Sie auf
geschmacksverstärker
Konservierungstoffe
und Mikrowelle
Female independence!

Healthy self confidence in the Fruttis Vitaloase

*Due mainly to a lack of infrastructural supply, rural areas offer good chances for self employment. Women often know the situation in their region very well and usually have a high number of social contacts. These are the ideal prerequisites for starting you own business! But how?*

Margit Hegedüs
Fruttis Vitaloase
Great business ideas ...

...are often close at hand. The ESF-project „Start your own work place“, which was founded by Verena Dunst, a member of a provincial government, encourages women to develop their potential to achieve self-fulfilment through a happy working life.

The opening of the „Fruttis Vitaloase“ has enabled Margit Hegedüy to fulfill her dream of owning her own restaurant. As the first restaurant in Eisenstadt to offer guests not only delicious specialities, but also healthy ones, she has actually discovered a niche market.

„When I was a child I had severe asthma, allergies and skin problems. At an early age I had to learn everything about an alkaline diet“, says the founder. „In time, it became more and more difficult for me to eat out, because I always reacted badly to flavour enhancers and preservatives. Due to my extensive research in this field, I knew that there were many allergy sufferers who needed to avoid white flour, white sugar and other such common ingredients. That made me believe that the Fruttis Vitaloase could really be the first restaurant in Eisenstadt for people with health and allergy problems“.

„Fruttis Vitaloase is the first restaurant in Eisenstadt to offer an all-round healthy cuisine.“

Margit Hegedüs
Fruttis Vitaloase

A friend told Margit Hegedüs about the EU-course „Start your own work place“ and so she decided to use her chance. „I learned a lot about economy and marketing on the course, as well as in the „one to one‘ coachings“, says Hegedüs. “To make a business plan was especially hard, that’s why I needed a lot of support. My trainer, Mrs Rössler, helped me a lot and motivated me to make sure I didn’t give up.” The course offers support, starting from the first idea all the way through to launching the business, as well as „one to one‘ coachings. In 12 modules, the participants gradually learn everything they need to know about being an entrepreneur. To answer individual questions and help with implementation steps, a corporate consultant is also available. Other entrepreneurs happily share their experiences and give tips on „do’s and dont’s“, as well as offering advice on starting and running your own business. There is even a market place where anyone can display their offers. This has proved to be an attractive and on top
of that free of charge programme, which helps people succeed. Often good ideas don’t come to anything, due to a lack of money, not finding the right location or not enough outside support. Margit Hegedüs was able to overcome these three obstacles with the help of the coaching offered as a part of this programme. „While I was making the business plan, I was applying to the chambers of economy for a ‘new entrepreneur credit’, which was approved. Additionally I have financed the restaurant with my own resources“, says Hegedüs and admits „To be honest I didn’t really think about what could potentially go wrong, I was only listening to my heart.“

„I didn’t really think about what could potentially go wrong, I was only listening to my heart.“
Margit Hegedüs
Fruttis Vitaloase

To become self-employed also means to work for yourself and to work all the time. No problem for committed entrepreneurs: “My children are already grown up and found my idea very good. Apart from that I can say: ‘Female independence!’ It is no problem for me to work a lot, I enjoy it. Besides, I have two employees, who regularly support me in the kitchen and also with serving the customers.”

This location was chosen, because of the idyllic ambience of the church: „Eisenstädtener Bergkirche“, which is a magnet for tourists, because it is the last resting-place of Joseph Haydn. The Vitaloase brings a breath of fresh air to an otherwise quiet district: „I thought it was time to bring a little bit of energy to this tranquil district“, says Margit Hegedüs happily and adds: “In the spring we will open an outdoor dining area!”
SECURITY-ROADSHOW IN THE COMMUNITIES, © FOTOS: SCHAU MEDIA WIEN GMBH / SANDRA PERL
Better safe than sorry.

Exemplary neighbourly help in Burgenland

Being the gateway between Western and Eastern Europe, Burgenland is open minded towards people. Boundless freedom brings many advantages, but also worries people, so they see the necessity for more security.

Jürgen Karall
Chairman and project coordinator
Association „Nachbarschaftshilfe Sicherheit“

Ing. Sandra Krutzler
Project Manager
Association „Nachbarschaftshilfe Sicherheit“
Crime statistics ...

...clearly show that Burgenland is still comparatively safe. Security doesn’t only imply to fighting crime. The association „Nachbarschaftshilfe Sicherheit“ has recognised this fact and tries to encompass all aspects of security.

„How do I protect my belongings? This is, of course, the main thought of the residents of Burgenland“, says Jürgen Karall, Obmann des Vereins „Nachbar-

...control. At the time our project started, there were many floods in Burgenland, where people not only had to deal with damage to property, but also with psychological stress. We have identified the wide range of duties that we will have to deal with and have aligned our activities accordingly“, says Chairman Karall.

All the media coverage referring to organised crime, garden shed break-ins and illegal immigration, is not helping. The anxiety of citizens increases and with that scepticism towards the EU.

„The feelings towards security have changed in the last few years. But there are also other important areas to consider, one of them being disaster

„We want to make the country more secure and increase the feeling of safety among the people of Burgenland.“

Ing. Sandra Krutzler
Project Manager
Association „Nachbarschaftshilfe Sicherheit“

On that basis, the association „Nachbarschaftshilfe Sicherheit“ was founded and in turn imple-
mented the exemplary EU-project „Security in Burgenland“. The project was funded by the EFRE. Members of the association include on one hand, communities in Burgenland and on the other hand „security contact people“, who have been appointed by various communities in Burgenland.
areas to consider, one of them being disaster measures. But there are also other important aspects. The feelings towards security have changed in the last few years. There is a scepticism towards the EU. The anxiety of citizens increases and this is understandable that people are sensitive when it comes to organised crime. All the media coverage referring to organised crime, garden shed break-ins and illegal immigration, is clearly showing that Burgenland is still comparable to other areas.

In practice the duties are multi-purpose and very diversified, says the very committed Project Manager Ing. Sandra Krutzler: “Security is based on several aspects. Our aim is to increase the overall security of Burgenland and raise the individual feeling of safety amongst the people of Burgenland. At this point I would like to highlight our website: www.sicherimburgenland.at, which is an important source of information and offers great services in order to alert people to this matter. At our roadshows, security experts are offer their knowledge and experience to people in the communities. This is essential for the development of a security strategy for Burgenland, which enables us to deal in a better way with sources of danger”, says Ing. Krutzler.

The association works closely with an advisory board, made up of representatives from the three emergency services. In addition, the association „Nachbarschaftshilfe Sicherheit” receives support from a number of private companies and also partner companies.

„In practice the duties are multi-purpose and very diversified”, says the very committed Project Manager Ing. Sandra Krutzler: “Security is based on several aspects. Our aim is to increase the overall security of Burgenland and raise the individual feeling of safety amongst the people of Burgenland. At this point I would like to highlight our website: www.sicherimburgenland.at, which is an important source of information and offers great services in order to alert people to this matter. At our roadshows, security experts are offer their knowledge and experience to people in the communities. This is essential for the development of a security strategy for Burgenland, which enables us to deal in a better way with sources of danger”, says Ing. Krutzler.

Further measures are planned, such as expert-workshops, a security symposia for business people, as well as a software supported, catastrophe-protection-platform for communities. Typical duties of the association include linking members with each other, using sociability and communicating security offers.

“The most important security tip: Be alert!”

Jürgen Karall
Chairman and project coordinator association „Nachbarschaftshilfe Sicherheit”

“If you ask me what my best security tip is, then I can say: Make sure you are alert!” says Karall. „Watch you own behaviour, but more importantly watch your neighbourhood, and if you see any abnormalities then do not hesitate to contact the police! We are happy to assist wherever we can. Security is also though a question of your own personal responsibility.”

Security in Burgenland

What was granted:

• Implementation and coordination of the project „Security in Burgenland”
• Support for citizens, communities, counties and business people to take more personal responsibility, when it comes to security.

Grant aims:

• Establishment of permanent communication between security experts and the people in need
• Coordination of public and private stakeholders in order to increase the security in Burgenland

Grant details:

• Period: October 2011 - June 2013
• Amount invested: 889,400 Euros
• Grant sum: 889,400 Euros

Responsible Grant Department:

• Bureau of the government in Burgenland/EU administration agency

Project Executing Organisation:

Verein „Nachbarschaftshilfe Sicherheit”
Europaplatz 1
7000 Eisenstadt
Projektbüro: 7343 Neutal
Werner von Siemensstraße 1
www.sicherimburgenland.at
Panel discussion at the certificate award for EU-borough councillor
Burgenland needs EU-Borough Councillors

How much Europe can you find in Austria’s communities?

*Europe is not formed in Brussels. Decisions which affect citizens directly are often made at a community-level. What many don’t know: Communities play a big role in Europe’s politics! The establishment of EU-Borough Councillors will bring the EU closer to people and help them understand these decisions, improve the communication between people and the EU, as well as show the obvious advantages of a combined Europe.*

Hans Niessl  
Head of Provincial Government, Burgenland

Mag. Franz Steindl  
Deputy Head of Provincial Government, Burgenland

WHR Mag. Georg Schachinger  
General Manager of the Regionalmanagement Burgenland GmbH

Mag. Arnold Obermayr  
Ministry of European and International Affairs

Dirk Fassbender  
Deputy Director of the Representation of the European Commission in Austria,  
Director Public Relations European Partnership

Bgm. Renate Habetler  
EU-Borough Councillor
No other county...

...has stepped up as remarkably as Burgenland since Austria joined the EU. It's a fact that Burgenland would not be where it is today without the revenue of EU grants.

It's also a fact that, global financial and economic crises, international speculators and horror scenarios about other financially and economically ruined EU members pushed by the media, cause uncertainty amongst the EU member states and their citizens, therefore personal clarification and short communication paths are now very important. Burgenland reacts excellently and offers more transparency by using educational and informative programmes for EU-Borough Councillors, which also helps to bring politics and citizens closer together.

This programme was instigated on the initiative of the Regionalmanagement Burgenland (RMB). „Negative news about the EU alienates citizens“, says General Manager of the Regionalmanagement Burgenland GmbH. „That was the reason why we decided in spring 2012, to launch the project ‘Burgenland needs EU-Borough-Councillors’. Today I can happily report that this important and trust developing measure has been perfectly accepted. Already 142 specially trained contact persons offer very valuable awareness training in the communities.“

Participants of the project are not only Borough Councillors and Mayors, but also people, who are not working for a party and are therefore not politically influenced.

„The continuation of the project has already been decided. The RMB gives community relevant information, organises network meetings and supports newly trained EU-Borough Councillors with practical knowledge. “ says Mr. Schachinger.

„EU-Borough Councillors offer valuable awareness training in the communities.“

WHR Mag. Georg Schachinger
General Manager of the Regionalmanagement Burgenland GmbH

The EU needs co-determination and co-creation to exist, that’s why the EU-Borough Councillors ask citizens for more communication. On a broad level, they contribute and make it possible to understand and use the advantages the EU brings. „We need to get across that we are all European“, says Hans Niessl, Head of Provincial Government Burgenland. „A small country cannot solve global problems by itself, it can only contribute. We need clear structures, in order to make Europe stronger“, he adds. „In order to do this we need to listen to the criticisms of the people and their communities and pass them on. How do we deal with the financial and economic crisis we are in now? How does the EU fight youth unemployment? How do we prepare for the change in energy supplies? It is questions like these, that can only be solved as a community. That’s an exciting challenge!“

So far, 103 communities have actively joined the project. The eventual aim, according to Steindl, is to win the approval of all 171 communities in Burgenland. There are no additional costs for the communities, because it is an EU-supported project, called „Phasing Out“. „There are already 500 EU-Borough Councillors throughout Austria.“

Mag. Franz Steindl, Deputy Head of Provincial Government Burgenland, who is convinced by the success of this project says: „Community politicians, such as Mayors and Borough Councillors attain the highest acceptance amongst politicians, that’s why this project is so important. We want to bring the EU closer to the people, and this can be better achieved through Borough Councillors.“

Not only in Burgenland, but throughout Austria, this project has set a precedent“, says Mag. Arnold Obermayr, Ministry of European and International Affairs and adds: „This initiative, called ‘Europe starts at the communities’, was started by the Austrian External Affairs Ministry in cooperation with the Representation of the European Commission.“
Since Austria joined the EU, Burgenland would not be where it is today without the revenue of EU grants. It’s a fact that Burgenland has stepped up as remarkably as Burgenland land would not be where it is today without the revenue of EU grants. It’s a fact that Burgenland has stepped up as remarkably as Burgenland

One of the new EU-Borough Councillors is Mayor Renate Habetler, whose personal commitment spreads far beyond the boundaries of her home community, Bernstein in Burgenland. „I have decided to take on this important duty, because I want to be a positive ambassador for the EU. It is my wish to be able to give people first hand information, when they have concerns regarding the EU“, says Mayor Habetler.

She does not however receive an income for this responsible function. „I carry out this job, like all other EU-Borough Councillors, voluntarily, but it is very worthwhile. Not only for my personal gain in knowledge, but also for the people of Burgenland. I think, in this way, we can clearly see the benefits the EU brings us!“

„Voluntary commitment is profitable for everyone.“
Bgm. Renate Habetler
EU-Borough Councillor

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Burgenland needs EU-Borough Councillors

What was granted:
- Implementation and Training of EU-Borough Councillors

Grant aims:
- Implementation of Regional Governance
- Improvement of the communication with citizens regarding EU subjects
- Clarification of the fascinating idea of a united Europe

Wie gefördert wurde:
- Period: March 2011 - June 2013
- Amount invested: 635,000 Euros
- Grant sum: appr. 635,000 Euros

Responsible Grant Department:
- Regionalmanagement Burgenland GmbH / EU-Administration Office

Project Executing Organisation:
Regionalmanagement Burgenland GmbH
Marktstraße 3
7000 Eisenstadt

www.rmb.at

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RSS | PLEASE FIND THE VIDEO-PODCAST ON WWW.RMB.AT/PODCASTS <<>
Through time and space
In 48 grant projects throughout Burgenland

A look into the available brochures of the RMB produces many surprises and 'Aha'-experiences. Not only representatives of the EU in Brussels, but also international business people and the people of Burgenland are amazed when they discover how many great companies there are in the country.

The variety of available grants and the success stories of Burgenland make exciting reading. They clearly show how sensibly and accurately directed the EU grants, in the framework of the 'Phasing Out' period from 2007-2013, were. The projects presented are only a small percentage of the countless positive developments, which took place in the areas of education, economy and culture, as well as tourism and health care.

Our thanks go to the people who made this growth possible, through their efforts and ideas: all the citizens of Burgenland.

Order now!
Collectors box with all 6 publications.
Free of charge available from the RMB:

office@rmb.co.at

All video-podcasts for the projects and online brochures in German and English are available for download, as well as information about the ‘Phasing Out’ programs:

WWW.PHASING-OUT.AT | WWW.RMB.AT
1 Zoerkler Gears The spirit of precision
2 Pannonia Tower Hotel Good views
3 Euro Forming Servicing In good shape
4 Café Crustulum Sweet temptations
5 PARADOR At home on the international parquet scene
6 CARLA Shopping at Carla’s
7 KOLARZ Bright ideas
8 Apprenticeship workshop middle/north Success factor education
9 RMB Regionalmanagement Burgenland

1 Haydn-Centre Eisenstadt In the centre
2 Centre for Creative Industry Burgenland Creative? Economy!
3 Theatre Festival at Kobersdorf Castle Insights into Haydn
4 Estiva 7 at one blow
5 Joseph Haydn Burgenland GmbH Marketing Phenomenon Haydn
6 Adult Education Centres So ... you can’t read?
7 Association Koryphaen True blue
8 Children’s University Growing with Europa
9 RMB Success = (Ideas + Courage) x Funding

1 VILA VITA Pannonia Pamhagen
2 Clinical Massage Jormannsdorf
3 Path of the Senses Markt Neuhodis
4 Hair Salon Bleich Pamhagen
5 Hotel Restaurant Reisinger Neufeld an der Leitha
6 Knowing what I can do Neusiedl am See
7 Open-Air Theatre Güssing Castle
8 HERZ Energietechnik Pinkafeld
9 Success Phasing Out-Programme

1 Professional Childminders Project Burgenland Draßburg
2 VAMOS Association Markt Allhau
3 Ordination Dr. Götzing Andau
4 Wachter-Wieslers Ratschen Deutsch Schützen
5 JOB’S Pharmacy Eisenstadt
6 Gröller Beauty Salon Neustift bei Güssing
7 Aviation Academy Austria Neusiedl am See
8 Binder Construction Company Kemeten
9 Love Without Limits Regional Management Burgenland

1 LUMITECH Jennersdorf
2 BRAUN Lockenhaus
3 SEAL MAKER Pöttelsdorf
4 Austrotherm Pinkafeld
5 Education Advice Line Burgenland
6 Brigitte Schrödl Stoob
7 Diesel Cineplex Oberwart
8 PET to PET Müllendorf
9 Burgenland 2020

1 SCHOOL PROJECT BURGENLAND
2 OPEN AIR MUSEUM Gerersdorf
3 KUGA Großwarasdorf
4 ENERCON Zurndorf
5 AUSTRIA PET FOOD Pöttelsdorf
6 Fruttis Vitaloase Eisenstadt
7 Security in Burgenland
8 EU-BOROUGH COUNCILLORS BURGENLAND
9 48 Grant Programmes

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