Phasing Out Projects financed by the European Union in the funding period 2007 - 2013

SENSUS ASPECTS OF THE EUROPEAN REGION BURGENLAND

for all senses

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

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RSS- and video-podcasts at www.rmb.at/podcasts
Dear Readers,

For all senses is the other comprehensive topic of our brochure but it perfectly describes plenty of the characteristics our province has to offer: Vitality, well-being, pleasure and culture. Nevertheless, it also highlights the good sense of the people of Burgenland who intuitively followed their inner voice and conviction. Undergoing further education, starting a new business or helping to implement leading projects with care and cleverness are only a few characteristics mentioned along with healthy self-confidence, common sense and trust in one’s own skills and strengths to this success.

The projects presented in this brochure outline the purpose of funding projects in Burgenland. These model projects represent more than 1,600 projects financially supported by the phasing out programme in the funding period 2007 – 2013. Projects already carried out and those currently being implemented contributed significantly to Burgenland’s economy to reach modern standards.

The main objective of the phasing out funding is to encourage the population of Burgenland and safeguard the economy. This applies even more in times of troubled economies. How effective and goal-oriented the funding management took place was made clear during the economic downturn. There is no doubt that the crisis had its impact on our economy, nevertheless, in Burgenland only through the phasing out programme investments of more than 180 million Euros were initiated. The funds made available in this case accounted for 81 million Euros.

Thanks to these initiatives, we were able to counteract successfully to the trend towards slowing economies in 2009. Even in the hospitality industry, we gained a remarkable increase in the value added. Furthermore, tourism in Burgenland has taken a special position as it developed far better than the average of Austria.

So far, the funding period 2007 – 2013 has proven to be more than satisfactory. It’s not in the tradition of the people of Burgenland to rest on their laurels and I’m optimistic that the years to come will provide us with a lot of positive results in the economy and for the people of Burgenland alike.

In this spirit, I hope you enjoy exploring the following pages.

Hans Niessl
Governor of the province Burgenland

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Hans Niessl
Governor of the province Burgenland
Nature-loving

Hotel business in balance with flora and fauna

The Lake Neusiedl National Park with its impressive plants and wildlife is home to the wellness and family paradise Vila Vita.

On almost 500 acres, this sanctuary offers time to unwind – perfect for a unique family holiday or a flying visit to nature.

Joe Gelbmann, Managing Director
VILA VITA Pannonia
The awakening of nature...

... can be best experienced when having a picnic right in the middle of nature. Only less than one hour from Vienna, adjoining the National Park Lake Neusiedl/Seewinkel, you can have this perfect combination by staying at Vila Vita Pannonia.

Take the picnic baskets filled to the top with specialties of Burgenland and start off your tour through this natural paradise. Vila Vita offers its guests a broad choice of how to get started—you may choose an electric bike, an electric car or—the most “natural” device for exploring the region, the good old bicycle.

“Pannonia is a car-free area - thanks to the 500 bicycles we provided for our guests.”

Joe Gelbmann, Managing Director
VILA VITA Pannonia

“The Vila Vita Pannonia is not a hotel in its traditional sense. It is rather a holiday village on an area of 500 acres. We are situated close by a unique landscape inscribed on the World Natural Heritage list. Naturally, we see it as our responsibility to keep upscale tourism, sophisticated hotel business and our affinity with nature in a good balance”, Joe Gelbmann points out.

Considering this, it is an interesting aspect how the combination of a traditional thatched roof and modern photovoltaic worked out. “The warm water in some of our bungalows is sourced from solar convectors on the thatched roof”, Gelbmann says.

The Vila Vita generally explores new avenues when it comes to energy supply and counts on renewable energy sources. “Inside the view tower with the panoramic lounge you find a well hidden wood chip heating system to power the resort”, Joe Gelbmann emphasizes. “20 per cent of the required wood chips come from our own woodlands and green spaces, the rest we source from the region.” Thanks to these efforts and being fully compliant with environmental regulations, Vila Vita has been awarded the Eco-label.”
VILA VITA Pannonia

What has been funded:

• Expansion and extension of the Holiday Village Pannonia
• Building of 9 Adebar suites (5-star category)
• Additional building of a sauna landscape with swimming pond

Funding objectives:

• Development of the infrastructure and leading tourism projects
• Sustainable consolidation of quality tourism
• Creation and safeguarding of permanent jobs

Funding details:

• Period: September 2007 – December 2008
• Total volume of investments: approx. 1.4 million Euros
• Funding volume: approx. 265 000 Euros

Responsible funding body:

• WIBAG – Wirtschaftsservice Burgenland AG

Funded project:

VILA VITA Pannonia
Storchengasse 1
7152 Pamhagen
www.vilavitapannonia.at

project 1

NOT only our guests soak up the sun - so do the solar cells on the roof of the power house.

As much as 127 bungalows currently characterize the overall appearance of Vila Vita Pannonia. Fitted with natural materials they are the perfect holiday resort for families. "The whole resort has a four-star rating which makes us very proud and we want to keep this level," the landlord explains. "There are, however, always guests who appreciate the service of a five-star house."

In this respect, the ‘Adebar’ suites leave nothing to be desired. "Our luxurious suites are named ‘Adebar’ as they are located right beneath the stork’s nest," Joe Gelbmann illustrates smilingly. "The suites are exquisitely furnished offering our guests the requested 5-star comfort."

At the Vila Vita not only the combination of ecological energy strategy and spatial planning fulfills an impressing task. Moreover, the guests are offered a wide range of sports and leisure activities. Whether they choose to swim in the natural pond, a tennis match, action on the high-rope climbing park, riding excursions through the countryside or pony rides for children - endless fun is guaranteed.

"I dare say that 13 years ago we were the pioneers in the field of wellness in Burgenland", Joe Gelbmann sums up. "Two years ago, we expanded our bathing and sauna landscape. A real gem for example is the panoramic sauna, which allows a splendid view onto the natural pond. Only recently the Vila Vita Wellness and Sauna Parc has been distinguished by the Relax Guide and received 2 Lilies."

The new Adebar suites, the new sauna landscape, the new natural swimming pond and the additional beds in the four and five star category were in large part financed by the owner’s equity. "Nevertheless, the funding of the phasing out programme was valuable support with sustainable effects."

"As a leading project of Burgenland, we have to meet expectations and this requires ongoing investments," Joe Gelbmann concludes. "To keep the quality standards in this resort as high as possible is very much favoured by both, our guests and, of course, by us, for being responsible for almost 200 employees at the Vila Vita Pannonia."
Golden hands

The healing art of massage

*Massage is probably the oldest healing therapy known to man. While in other cultures massage has been applied over thousands of years this type of therapy, however, has reached the status of a medical therapy here only since the 20th Century.*

Regine Felber
Clinical Masseur
Clinical massage ...

... was already known to the Romans. Broken bones and sprained limbs were probably the injuries less serious after chariot races and gladiator fights in the Circus Maximus. Did you also know that after these fights wounded gladiators would receive massage therapies in special therapy centres?

The origins of massage lie far back in the history of humankind and perhaps base on a native instinct. When banging your head you instinctively reach to the aching spot and rub it in order to ease the pain protectively.

In the course of thousands of years a great many types of massage evolved across the cultures. Traditional forms of treatments like Shiatsu, Ayurveda or Aromatherapy are virtually en vogue and are becoming trendier than ever. Yet, massage not only has refreshing and relaxing effects, it supplies the muscles with blood, stimulates the nervous system, tenses the tissues and strengthens the locomotor system.

"The work of clinical masseurs is different to that of commercial masseurs. Clinical masseurs work with the patient under the direction of a doctor. Therefore, patients cannot directly come to my premises but need the doctor’s referral to a special treatment," Regine Felber explains. She has been trained in the "craft" of Clinical Massage at the Health College of BFI Burgenland in the castle "Schloss Jormannsdorf".

"After two weeks I knew that I had been in the wrong job for 20 years"  
Regine Felber  
Clinical Masseur

"The training for Clinical Masseurs lasts one year. Seven months comprise theoretical training, where massage techniques on each other are demonstrated in order to learn it properly. Afterwards, a 5-months internship in a therapy centre or a convalescent care centre has to be carried out. To round off the theoretical training the knowledge gained can then be put into practice by applying thermo-therapies like mud baths, mud packs and carbonated baths."

Those who prefer to work freelance can choose a follow-up training to become a therapeutic masseur. Of course, this position increases the degree of personal responsibility. While clinical masseurs deliver treatment under the supervision of a doctor the therapeutic masseur, however, applies treatment basing on a doctor’s referral but performing independently and being liable for the outcome.

"The training opened up completely new ways," Regine Felber gives insight into her personal development. "Furthermore, the training course was even free of charge. The costs were funded by the province of Burgenland and by the European Union out of the phasing out programme. AMS (Austrian Employment Service) referred me to this training and took over the costs for my living expenses during this course."
Training for Clinical Masseurs

What has been funded:

- Acquisition of knowledge and skills for completing the national final exams and obtaining a license for the profession “Clinical Masseur”
- Labour market integration as well as social integration
- Demand-oriented qualification measures to develop a knowledge-based society

Funding details:

- Funding period: October 2008 – October 2009
- Total volume of investments: approx. 103,000 Euros
- Funding volume: approx. 103,000 Euros

Funding objectives:

- Meeting structural qualification requirements of Burgenland’s economy
- Increase of professional mobility among the workforce, especially among women
- Increase of professional opportunities for re-integration, especially for women
- Increase of the qualification level of unemployed and of the work force potential

Funding body:

- Office of the provincial government of Burgenland, Department 6 for social, health, family and sports affairs

Funded project:

BFI Burgenland
Grazer Straße 86
7400 Oberwart
www.bfi-burgenland.at

“I am now in the profession of my dreams. The funding covered all the costs of training.”

“Two personal experiences made me choose this profession. When my mother-in-law became ill with multiple sclerosis, I felt powerless in trying to ease her pain, because I couldn’t help her even if I wanted to. Then, all of a sudden, I lost my job. Thus far, I had already worked in an office for 20 years.”

“At the Austrian Employment Service I learned about the training for Clinical Masseurs. Entering a completely different world of profession was quite difficult at the beginning. I had to try very hard to be registered in this course, as I was qualified in the office sector. Yet the health sector is a different thing.

At last, however, I succeeded and I was invited to an interview. The training instructors asked the candidates for their motivation and basing on that selected them. This was the moment I was among the 20 lucky candidates to start the training for clinical masseurs.

After two weeks, I knew that I had found the profession of my dreams. Ahead of this decisive moment stood 20 years of hard work that in the end was of no use. Destiny opened my eyes to realise, that the profession I had been in was the wrong one. It was definitely worth it going through all this enormous bureaucracy and struggling. I have managed to turn my hobby into my profession,” Regine Felber concludes.
Path of the senses

Experience nature – touch, smell, hear

Seeing nature with different eyes, discovering it through all the senses and perceiving it is the special offer to be experienced in the Geschriebenstein Nature Park for people with special needs. A treetop path, accessible for disabled and barrier-free, constitutes the heart of the innovative project. It is meant to raise and strengthen interest and awareness for the forest, the nature park and the overall eco-system.

Hubert Reschl
Geschriebenstein-Iriottkő Nature Park
Unique in Europe...

...is the path of the senses in the forest of Markt Neuhodis. "The idea to construct a barrier-free treetop walk for the blind, the visually impaired and wheelchair users allowing them to experience nature from close up is the first of this kind here," Hubert Reschl says describing the beginning of the indeed viewy project. "There were no examples we could copy, we really had to develop and implement our ideas ourselves."

The result of these considerations today peaks in a walk through the tree tops of Geschriebenstein Nature Park. This unforgettable and impressive experience is definitely not everyday business.

On a length of 250 metres, the bridge walkway meanders via eleven towers onto a 21 metres high viewing platform. Once you proceed to the dizzying heights, you will be rewarded with spectacular panoramic views over the country.

"The treetop walk is only a part of the path of the senses," the intellectual father of the project explains. "The whole trail offers on 600 metres various interactive stops for visitors. A guidance system, which we developed, also allows blind and visually impaired people and wheelchair users to explore the whole path independently."

800 to 1000 visitors per week exceeded by far the prime expectations of the operators. "On peak days we have up to seven school classes here," Reschl points out. "We highly welcome schools from urban areas. We have noticed that there are nine or ten year-old children who have never seen a forest before. This fact encourages us in our commitment to offer children experience in the nature and thus they have something to take home with them."

The basic idea to adapt the site for people with special needs derives from the educational work of the Nature Park team. "In the course of time in dealing with nature issues we have noticed, that a lot of pupils of integration classes come to visit us."
In fact, while some kids are always frolicking around and gathering impressions, others could not howl with the wolves. This fact raised the idea of developing a project allowing these kids to be no longer disadvantaged when it comes to experiencing nature.

“We have noticed that there are nine or ten year-old children who have never seen a forest before.”

In a many years lasting period of detailed preparation and in cooperation with the Blind’s Association, a school for the blind and a social school, a specially designed programme aiming at this special target group has been developed. All stops are precisely signposted in Braille, moreover, for blind visitors mp3 players to get information on habitats of flora and fauna are available.

Due to the professional adaptation of the whole project, also the residents reacted positively from the beginning to the unusual plan. “The villages Markt Neuhodis und Althodis, especially the land owners, firmly stand behind the project,” Hubert Reschl expresses. This mental support deemed highly important as the decision to realise that project of course, involved an enormous amount of money.

“The required equity capital had to be provided by the Neuhodis Nature Park Association,” Reschl explains. “Beyond that, extraordinary helpful were the funding of the European and the federal and provincial grants alike.”

“Our work is accompanied by the nice aspect that we can bring everybody closer to nature,” Hubert Reschl smiles. “Just yesterday, a 93 year-old man from Vienna, who is dependant on a wheelchair, was here. He told us that the whole year round he cannot leave his flat due to the lacking elevator. But using this path in a wheelchair gave him an unrivalled happy experience.”
Pamhagen, 3 o’clock p.m

Perfect hold for your hairstyle. Whatever the weather.

Cutting, washing, drying. This was once upon a time. Hairdressers today are highly qualified stylists who advise their clients comprehensively. Whether it is an elegant updo hairstyle, a cheeky bob or freaky hair tattoos, there is only one important thing: Professional training.

Margit Bleich
Master Hairdresser
Hair Salon Margit Bleich
Put a pot on the head,

take the kitchen scissors – snip and snap once around... et voilà- the traditional “pot haircut” is done. “There have always been artistic hair styles,” Margit Bleich resumes happily. “The hairstyling profession has changed considerably. Variety and creativity truly have no limits anymore. By changing your hair colour, hair styling products, hair extensions or thickenings nearly everything has been made possible. Therefore, an adequate professional training and constant advanced training are always very popular.

“Talking about hairstyles, nobody has to let the hair go grey these days.” Nevertheless, hair dyeing has become a rather scientific task because of the immense number of different hair dye products on the market. “To be honest: Not all blondes are the same. There are enormous differences in the tones of blonde,” Margit Bleich explains. “When defining hair type, choice of colour and how to apply the right bleaching formulation, I strongly advise against bleaching in a self-experiment. Especially with blonde tones, this could turn out badly. Beginning with yellow and green to grey, these are the most unwanted results your hair could end up with.”

“Not a blonde joke: Not all blondes are the same.”
Margit Bleich
Master Hairdresser

As a hairdresser you live and learn,” Margit Bleich knows. Even being a time-served hairdresser, she still attends advanced training on a regular basis to keep up to date with the latest hairstyling trends. “The courses I booked last time were about changes in colour, ‘Keys to Colour’ and ‘Creative Blonde’. I can very well put this knowledge into practice.”

Since further training is not particularly cheap but also time-consuming and involving a lost business, Margit Bleich is pleased about the European Union funding for entrepreneurs.

“The latest training courses were funded by the WiBAG. I was pleasantly surprised that the whole funding business was not at all a ‘hairy’ issue. The procedure was undertaken quickly and simply and went off without a hitch. Simply collect the application form from WiBAG, fill it in, post it and wait for further notice, if the course will be funded or not. That’s it. What a great service.”

Furthermore, regular customers appreciate Margit Bleich’s accommodating service, too. Starting off as a mobile hairdresser she became self-employed already ten years ago. To have one’s hair professionally cut at home by a trained hairdresser has always...
been welcomed by her customers. Nevertheless, only recently Mrs Bleich opened a new hair salon in Pamhagen.

“It has always been my dearest dream since apprenticeship to have my own salon. Three years ago I took over a small salon in Kleinwarasdorf, a few days ago I opened my own shop in my home village.”

The construction period was surprisingly short. “In only two months time everything was completed. Thanks to the help of my husband and other busy helpers who worked day and night,” Mrs Bleich reveals blinking the eye.

It has been worthwhile to work so hard. Within a few weeks the former ‘Heurigen’, a wine tavern, of her parents-in-law had been remodelled into a hair salon in a fresh look.

The hair salon Bleich seats six women and two men. The dynamic managing director shares working hours with another employee and a second position is being offered.

The mobile hairdressing business, however, Master Hairdresser Bleich does not want to give up. “No, I won’t give that up. I wouldn’t let my clients down! They appreciate to keep me coming to their place. Some, however, now prefer to have their hair done in my salon. They meet here other people, too.”

Thus, a hair salon as a place of communication has not lost anything of its appeal in our society. Finally, only one question arises: Was the opening of the hair salon also funded? “I already submitted the application form”, Margit Bleich answers smilingly before turning over to her next customer: “Have a seat, please. Fancy a coffee or Prosecco?”

Hair Salon Margit Bleich

What has been funded:
- Further training courses and seminars for entrepreneurs
- Adjustment to economic structural change
- Strengthening of competitiveness

Funding details:
- Funding period: April 2008 – June 2008
- Total volume of investments: 370 Euros
- Funding volume: 370 Euros

Funded project:
Frisiersalon Margit Bleich
Marktplatz 13
7152 Pamhagen

Responsible funding body:
WiBAG – Wirtschaftsservice Burgenland AG

Growing with Europe
PROJECT PART-FINANCED BY THE FEDERAL STATE OF AUSTRIA, THE PROVINCE BURGENLAND AND THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND.
Moments of joy

Visiting the house on the lake

*Love for life and joy for indulgence are the main – though not so secret – ingredients in Christian Reisinger’s gourmet cuisine. He invites guests to his newly opened ‘house on the lake’ to enjoy and linger – to a place full of beauty and clarity for refreshing your senses.*

Christian Reisinger, Managing Director
Hotel Restaurant Reisinger
The recipe for success of the Reisinger family...

...is the family itself. Since decades, their name has stood for hospitality and fine dining at upscale level. As a young managing director of the only 4-star hotel including bar and restaurant at Lake Neufeld Christian Reisinger continues in the culinary tradition in the third generation.

"I'm proud of all that my father has established. And I would like to be the one to push our cuisine and hospitality to the next higher level," Christian Reisinger frankly speaks.

This distinctive talent as an innkeeper, although having graduated in business administration, was in a way taught him since he was little. Yet his father, Gerald Reisinger, is considered one of the pioneers to establish upscale gastronomy in Burgenland. As a young chef in the 1980s his father had received at first one Gault Millaut chef’s hat, and later the second for the parent house in Pöttsching before he chose a second source of income with event catering.

Today “Der Reisinger” is among the largest caterers in East Austria. The family-run business has become famous far beyond the region in particular by catering for the tenth time at the Mörbisch Lake Festival.

"We love and live gastronomy. We would like to share this attitude of life with our guests”, Christian Reisinger points out the philosophy of the house. “Now we’ve ventured to go a bit further. In addition to gastronomy, we discovered the hotel business for us and opened the “Reisinger at Lake Neufeld” in Neufeld an der Leitha.”

Lake Neufeld is the perfect choice for this kind of business. For being Austria’s only lake where you can dive it is not only popular with water sports enthusiasts.

The recreational area around the lake offers space for a wide range of sports and leisure activities like windsurfing, swimming, walking and cycling. From sunbathing at the beach to diving in 30 metres depth and crossing the lake via sailing boat, e-boat or pedal-boat - there is something for everyone! The nearby destinations like Burg Forchtenstein, the Mörbisch Lake Festival, the Haydn Festival in Eisenstadt or the Kobersdorf Castle Festival are completing the touristic events in the cultural sense.

"Moreover, Neufeld an der Leitha is located at the interception of four of the best wine-growing areas in Austria - Lake Neusiedl/Hügelland, Carnuntum, Mittelburgenland and our neighbouring thermal region of Lower Austria. Growing up in the middle of the most renowned vineyards makes it obvious, to offer these wines,” Christian Reisinger reckons and adds: “Our wine list offers a selection of more than 250 types of wine.”

"Our guests appreciate this great variety. Especially, of course, our restaurant customers like to have their 5- or 8-course meal accompanied by one or the other bottle of wine.”
“The house on the lake is a leading tourism project which gives impetus to the whole region.”

The target group cannot be clearly defined as the restaurant and hotel is open all-year-round. “While during summer we have mainly guests for bathing we reach in winter high occupancy through seminars and regional festivities. Our premises offer room for up to 500 people – whether it is for a large company Christmas party, a small and fine family dining for 10 to 20 people or even a romantic dinner for two.”

Under the leadership of the Reisinger family, the former Seerestaurant Lake Neufeld has become a leading tourism project giving impetus to the whole region. The total costs for the extension and renovation amounted to 3.1 million Euros. The project was funded with 700,000 Euros out of the phasing out programme.

The “year-round concept” of the hotel and restaurant business allows for maintaining a solid occupancy rate in both winter and summer. With the opening of the only 4-star hotel at Lake Neufeld also permanent jobs for highly qualified staff were created. “Our core team exists of 20 staff members who work with us the whole year round,” Christian Reisinger explains. “Throughout the year though, we employ a lot more personnel. During peak time in summer there are about 100 members of staff who care for the well-being of our guests.”

Renovation and extension of the Seerestaurant Lake Neufeld

What has been funded:
- Development of the infrastructure to maintain a sustainable location development
- Specific company investments in leading tourism projects

Funding objectives:
- Development of the tourist destination Lake Neufeld
- Sustainable consolidation of quality tourism
- Creation and safeguarding of permanent jobs

Funding details:
- Funding period: October 2008 – October 2010
- Total volume of investments: 3.1 million Euros
- Funding volume: 775,000 Euros

Responsible funding body:
- WiBAG – Wirtschaftsservice Burgenland AG

Funded project:
Neufeld Seebetriebe GmbH
Eisenstadter Straße
2491 Neufeld an der Leitha
www.der-reisinger.at

PROJECT PART-FINANCED BY THE FEDERAL STATE OF AUSTRIA, THE PROVINCE BURGENLAND AND THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND.
Theresa Brettl, Volkshochschulen Burgenland | Participants of a Workshop

workshop 'knowing, what i can do'
Knowing, what I can do

Highly proficient for the new job

A large part of our skills does not show in a certificate. About 70% of all learning processes take place outside of education centres by informal learning, as in families, daily work and leisure time.

Theresia Brettl
Burgenländische Volkshochschulen
Real strengths...

...are indeed more difficult to assess as commonly presumed. “What you are good at is often easy for you to do”, Theresia Brettl states. “You do something. You keep on doing it and again and again you do it very well. By doing so you do not even notice – oops! I really can do it!”

This is exactly the moment where the Adult Education Centre of Burgenland, the “Volkshochschulen” tie in with the workshop series ‘Knowing, what I can do’. “Our programme aims at women who are looking for a job or are about to return to work after maternity leave. In the workshop they learn about useful guidelines and techniques how to write down strengths and skills they have gained in their life. First, to become aware of what they already have achieved up to this point. Secondly, to make their skills visible to others.”

“Job dynamics are increasing severely. While in many fields specialised knowledge was once sufficient, today also soft skills are mostly required, too.”

Theresia Brettl
Burgenländische Volkshochschulen

Knowing about one’s strengths is getting more and more important. Simply specialised knowledge, however, has not been sufficient anymore for a long time. “If you look at the job offers in the newspaper, you realise that not only specialised knowledge is required but soft skills, too.”

It says, self-knowledge is the first step towards improvement. How, in fact, could you improve in your profession in consideration of the current labour-market situation being almost in a hopeless condition? How could you possibly get ahead, if you are just treading water?

Becoming aware of one’s strengths and skills is a step in the right direction. By knowing that, the crucial part is to overcome one’s limits and barriers. Most notably as well, to apply the skills acquired directly in the further occupational career.

“This always turns out to be difficult at that stage, when I actually don’t have an idea in which direction I should further develop myself. If I am uncertain, which job description suits me. If I don’t know where I could leverage my strengths and skills at all,” Theresia Brettl gives insight into the problems of those concerned.
Social and personal skills you only gain by sufficient practical experience. Unfortunately, the acquired life experience is not mentioned in any certificate.

Under the direction of specially trained instructors, women attending the workshops will therefore analyse their CV's thoroughly. Special attention is paid to how personal and social skills can be best wrapped in the cover letter. Within five weeks, the participants thus develop their own skills profile, which finally will be certified by the quality-assured CH-Q Certificate, the Swiss qualifications programme for a professional career.

“In the workshop women learn about useful hints and suggestions for job application and develop their own skills profile.”

Moreover, in a special workshop we look at specific job opportunities in the region,” Theresia Brettl carries on. “Cooperating with the Austrian Employment Service we inform on current local job opportunities, various companies of this area or on how to look for a specific job on the internet.”

The workshop, course material as well as the certificate is free of charge for participants. “Currently ten women participate in the workshop series in Neusiedl/See. The course fees are funded out of the operational programme Phasing-Out 2007 – 2013, the European Social Fund as well as the province of Burgenland. We really appreciate that. If you experience how through working together in the workshop someone gains new optimism and new self-confidence, then you know that subsidising makes sense.”

Burgenländische Volkshochschulen/Adult Education Centres of Burgenland

What has been funded:

- Workshops for job-seeking and unemployed women, work returners, women facing barriers to integration
- Development of a skills profile CH-Q certified under qualified guidance

Funding objectives:

- Increase of professional mobility among the work force, especially among women
- Labour market integration as well as social integration
- Increase of professional opportunities for re-integration

Funding details:

- Funding period: May 2010 – July 2010
- Total volume of investments: approx. 8,800 Euros
- Funded volume: approx. 8,800 Euros

Responsible funding body:

- Office of the provincial government of Burgenland/
  LAD-Women’s Representative

Funded project:

- Office of the provincial government of Burgenland/
  LAD-Women’s Representative
- Europaplatz 1
- 7000 Eisenstadt
- www.vhs-burgenland.at
Awakened by a kiss
Vibrant open-air theatre in Güssing

The romantic Güssing Castle roused from its century-long slumber to be given new life for as long as magic seven years of theatre performances in the middle of the 20th Century. From 1950 to 1956, the plays of a committed amateur theatre group had shaped the events until the spectacle again gently fell asleep. Almost four decades had to pass ere theatre music was to sound from the castle’s courtyard again.

Johann Grandits
Administrator Güssing Castle

Count Ladislaus E. Batthyány
Trustee Güssing Castle
A sight worth seeing …

... is Castle Güssing not only for its historical significance as a ruler’s residence and a fortified bastion over nine centuries. Moreover, in recent history it has become famous far beyond the region for its summer theatre festival in this beautiful setting.

“Soon after the war, it was realised that the castle would brilliantly suit as a venue,” Johann Grandits reports, the Administrator of Güssing Castle. “Already in the fifties the first plays were performed in summer.”

However, for what had then started with great ambition and considerable success short time later had to spell the end. In 1956, only after seven seasons, the final curtain fell. Nevertheless, a few decades later the curtain was to rise again – but this time - for good.

The Castle’s Association of Güssing rediscovered using Güssing Castle as a venue in the 1980s. For the past ten years, the ‘Güssinger Kultursommer’ has managed the open-air theatre festival in summer. “A lot of great events take place here in Güssing,” Johann Grandits gives insight into the local cultural scene. “On the one hand there are the plays in the castle, on the other the events organised by the Castle’s Association at the foot of the castle with the musical theatre performances of ‘Güssinger Musicals’, too.

What distinguishes the diverse theatre productions are the broad performance schedule reaching from drama and classical comedy to musical plays that are loved by all target groups from young to old. In addition, the professionally directed amateur companies entertain their audience with an exceptional enthusiasm.

Castle Güssing provides all the prerequisites spectators of open-air theatre festivals long for: It is a wonderful setting and offers both romantic ambience and fine culinary varieties. To be used as a stage and venue some structural alterations had to be carried out.

“Güssing is blessed with excellent performers as well as grand musicians.”
Johann Grandits
Administrator Güssing Castle

“In my function as administrator of Güssing Castle I am certainly very glad about the local open-air plays the Castle’s Association organises”, Johann Grandits says. “Not only the team performing up here in the castle is great but in Güssing, too, we are blessed with excellent performers and grand musicians.”
“For example, there was no room available where performers could change costumes. Therefore, the so-called ‘Ujlaki’s Tower’ was refurbished to an artist’s cloakroom. Until the rooms were finished, a lot of work needed to be done. Walls were erected, ceilings constructed, toilets installed – all this with the support of the European Union,” Johann Grandits explains.

“I really welcome that thanks to the funding a lot of events have found their way up to the castle.”

Count Ladislaus E. Baththyány
Trustee Güssing Castle

Hardly anyone knows better about the castle’s history than Count Ladislaus E. Baththyány. He is member of one of the oldest Houses of Magnates of Hungary. For almost 500 years up to this day, the Baththyány family has closely been connected to the castle and the region of Güssing.

“I’m very pleased that a lot of events have found their way up to the castle. Not least because of the funds it was made possible that today more events take place and new life has come to this castle and with its new visitors,” Count Batthyány shows delight.

Being the trustee of the castle, he shares his commitment for preservation with his ancestors. “Life in a castle is on one hand romantic, but this implies looking ahead into the future. For this reason, my ancestor Prince Philipp Batthyány-Strattmann, established in 1870 a private foundation for the preservation of Güssing Castle. In the 1980s, the authority of the province of Burgenland participated as partner and investor in the foundation. Since then, the foundation was no longer private but turned into a public foundation.”

For generations to come Güssing Castle thus will retain a historical and at the same time a tourism jewel. Additionally, just as pleasing appears Grandits’ personal weather forecast for the future of summer theatre festivals in Güssing: “Last year we had flooding. That is to say that for the next 250 years we shall be on the safe side, statistically. I’m really looking forward to every single event!”
ACCESS ROAD TO HERZ-ENERGITECHNIK GMBH | ENTRANCE HALL
A heart for the environment

114 years of innovation devoted to renewable energy sources

A spectacular 13 million Euros did it cost – the new production plant of HERZ Energietechnik GmbH in Pinkafeld. Fully equipped with cutting-edge production, own laboratory and research centre the heating engineering products of tomorrow are produced here.

Morteza Fesharaki, Managing Director
HERZ Energietechnik GmbH
Did you know ... 

... that Austria is the world’s leading nation in the development and installation of biomass power plants? “That is true, indeed”, Morteza Fesharaki, Managing Director of HERZ Engergietechnik GmbH in Pinkafeld, emphasises. “In Austria we have high quality products in the field of renewable energy systems. Unfortunately, politicians have not yet noticed Austria’s number one position worldwide - and that it would have good chances to stay ahead in future.”

For this, the market provides valid arguments. With increasing oil and gas prices, the demand for manual feed heating systems rose significantly in the past three years. “The consumers want to keep the comfortable gas and oil heating, though they are not ready to spend so much money. Moreover, some people still have direct access to wood, for example by owning a small forest, which would make sense to add an additional wood boiler.”

Indeed, this is legitimate criticism considering Austria’s storage of sufficient oil reserves in case of shortfalls. In this country, however, you will desperately seek for national buffer stocks for wood pellets and wood chips.

“Oil and gas as energy sources are of too high quality. Burning them is a crime against the future.”

Morteza Fesharaki
Managing Director
HERZ Energietechnik GmbH

“Oil and gas as energy sources belong to the past. Those, who haven’t yet realised, will sooner or later have to recognise it,” Morteza Fesharaki is convinced. “I utterly regret that oil or gas is simply burnt. Fossil energy sources are of too high quality for just being burnt to generate heat. To source heat from gas is – to put it exaggeratedly - a crime against the future.”

As a leading business in the production and sales of complete heating solutions, HERZ has been involved in developing renewable energy systems for more than two decades. “At our new location in Pinkafeld we are carrying out extensive research on the combustion of biomass and heat generation to be used as heating energy”, Morteza Fesharaki explains.

At HERZ, still an owner-run business, one rightly takes pride in the 114 year-long tradition. The owner himself, Gerhard Glinzerer, manages the 100% Austrian company. However, the various subsidiaries of the group act to a high degree commercially independent. “We have a flat hierarchical structure. Therefore we belong to the quick fish.”

Produced in Pinkafeld the fully automated and manual feed heating systems are highly sophisticated high-tech systems. “Automated combustors were first launched in about 1992 – they are, by the way, almost exclusively Austrian products. HERZ was one of the first companies...”
What has been funded:

- Erection of a new manufacturing building
- Innovative and productive investments

Funding objectives:

- Creation of jobs
- Improvement of competitiveness

The local higher technical education institute (HTBL) is Austria’s only school offering the field “Building Services Engineering. Let’s not forget about the focus “Energy and Environmental Management” of the local technical college with which we are cooperating in the next three research projects. By now, we have 130 people working with us here and we want to grow further,” Morteza Fesharaki says.

HERZ invested in total 13 million Euros into the new factory and herewith created 130 new jobs. Thus, the approved funding amount of 2.3 million Euros represents almost 18,000 Euros for each new job.

Considering regional unemployment rates, this of course, gives a sensible and cost-efficient impetus to new jobs in the south of Burgenland.

“We need technicians with economic background.”

In order to achieve these goals the company requires adequately skilled workers. Therefore, Pinkafeld constituted the perfect choice for the new business location.

“What we need are highly qualified technicians. Thus, the training centre in Pinkafeld is unparalleled.”

HERZ Energietechnik GmbH

Funding details:

- Funding period: October 2008 – October 2010
- Total volume of investments: 13.3 million Euros
- Funding volume: 2.3 million Euros

Responsible funding body:

- WiBAG – Wirtschaftsservice Burgenland AG

Funded project:

HERZ Energietechnik GmbH
Herzstraße 1
7423 Pinkafeld
www.herz-feuerung.com
Stork’s eye view
An analysing flight over Burgenland

Spot landing of the phasing out programme 2007-2013! If plans work out despite the turmoil in the business year 2008 is presented in the latest implementation report 2009 of the Regional Management Burgenland. A macroeconomic study with all figures, facts and results of 1.607 funded projects.

Download RMB-Implementation Report 2009: http://phasingout.at/de/umsetzungsstand_foerderprogramme

Date: 31.12.2009
Source: RMB Programme-Monitoring

<table>
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<td><strong>81.2 m</strong></td>
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In this spirit, I hope you enjoy exploring the following pages.

Dear Readers,

For all senses is the rather comprehensive topic of our brochure but it perfectly describes plenty of the characteristcs our province has to offer: Vitality, well-being, pleasure and culture. Nevertheless, it also highlights the good sense of the people of Burgenland who intuitively followed their inner voice and conviction. Undergoing further education, starting a new business or helping to implement leading projects with care and cleverness are only a few characteristics mentioned leading along with healthy self-confidence, common sense and trust in one's own skills and strengths to this success.

The projects presented in this brochure outline the purpose of funding projects in Burgenland. These model projects represent more than 1,607 projects financially supported by the phasing out programme in the funding period 2007–2013. Projects already carried out and those currently being implemented contributed significantly to Burgenland’s economy to reach modern standards.

The main objective of the phasing out funding is to encourage the population of Burgenland and safeguard the economy. This applies even more in times of troubled economies. How effective and goal-oriented the funding management took place was made clear during the economic downturn. There is no doubt that the crisis had its impact on our economy, nevertheless, in Burgenland only through the phasing out programme investments of more than 180 million Euros were initiated. The funds made available in this case accounted for 81 million Euros.

Thanks to these initiatives, we were able to counteract successfully to the trend towards slowing economies in 2009. Even in the hospitality industry, we gained a remarkable increase in the value added. Furthermore, tourism in Burgenland has taken a special position as it developed far better than the average of whole Austria.

So far, the funding period 2007–2013 has proven to be more than satisfactory. It’s not in the tradition of the people of Burgenland to rest on their laurels and I’m optimistic that the years to come will provide us with a lot of positive results in the economy and for the people of Burgenland alike.

In this spirit, I hope you enjoy exploring the following pages.

Hans Niessl
Governor of the province Burgenland

177 million Euros....

80% of the funded projects are companies, most of them small and medium-sized enterprises.

ERDF-programmes deal with traditional fixed investments or the promotion of research projects. Overall, 700 projects have been approved. These are mainly focusing on improving competitiveness as well as developing infrastructure and sustainable business locations.

Around 80% of those running a project are companies. Most of them belong to small and medium-sized enterprises whereas only 16% of the projects approved by the ERDF are of big enterprises.

The significance of these support programmes became quite clear especially in the beginning of 2009, when the economic downturn set in on international level. Despite the challenging economic climate, four economic sectors in Burgenland again delivered growth rates by the end of 2009: Among them energy and water supply and the hospitality and restaurant sector.

Tourism in Burgenland increased significantly in growth compared to the average of Austria. Especially the spa region and initiatives in the Haydn-year 2009 delivered a more significant increase in the value added than in the last year.

Overall, due to the results basing on the implementation report 2009 we can confidently expect positive results in the future. It’s possible for the Burgenland’s economy to pick up the successful thread to its former development compared to the national’s average and be again on the right way of increasing growth for the second half of the funding period.

Press service: Photos in this brochure and more pictures of projects within the phasing out programmes ERDF/ESF 2007-2013 on RMB’s photo gallery at http://bilder.rmb.at.
SENSUOUS ASPECTS OF THE EUROPEAN REGION BURGENLAND
for all senses

1. VILA VITA Pannonia Pamhagen
2. Clinical Massage Jermannsdorf
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 Energetechnik Pinkafeld
9. Success Phasing Out-Programme

PHASING OUT Projects financed by the European Union in the funding period 2007 - 2013

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