

**#NEXTGENEU | FEBRUARY 2024** 

# **KEY FIGURES**

**EUR 3.96 billion** in grants
 >30% value of payments requested

 0.9% of GDP1
 25% of milestones/targets

 Imate Target
 Digital Target

 56%
 56%

# WHAT ARE THE MAIN CHARACTERISTICS OF THE AUSTRIAN PLAN?

GREEN	Strong focus on investments and complementary reforms, aimed at renewable energy, clean mobility, decarbonisation, circular economy and biodiversity.
CONNECTING	The two largest investments aim at upgrading key infrastructure by constructing a new electrified trans-European railway line, and by enabling widespread access to broadband internet connections.
SOCIALLY FAIR	Ambitious measures tackling energy poverty, improving childcare, healthcare, as well as upskilling, reskilling, access to education and social inclusion.

1 Based on GDP in current prices for 2021.

# HOW DOES THE AUSTRIAN PLAN HELP CITIZENS?

It helps improve people's **quality of life** by reducing heating-related energy bills and air pollution, by enhancing the access to quality childcare, primary healthcare and long-term care, by investing in public transport infrastructure, and by investing in inclusive education and upskilling.

## FLAGSHIP EXAMPLES

#### Replacing oil and gas heaters with renewable technology alternatives



The Plan promotes investment in renewable heating technology, replacing old fossil-fuelled heaters in households. In doing so, it helps:

- to reduce people's energy bills;
- to improve air quality;
- to create new green jobs;
- to fulfil Austria's climate ambitions.

## Digital devices for pupils to facilitate digital education



The investment in digital devices improves the access of pupils at lower secondary school level to digital education.

In total, 400,000 laptops or tablets will be distributed to pupils from all social backgrounds, in order to facilitate their digital learning. This will contribute to a high standard of education for pupils, while also promoting crucial digital skills for the future.

# HOW DOES THE AUSTRIAN PLAN HELP BUSINESSES?

By supporting investments in renewable energy, innovation, cutting-edge technology, and skills, the RRP helps Austrian businesses seize the opportunities of the twin transitions, fostering their sustainability and competitiveness.

## **FLAGSHIP EXAMPLES**

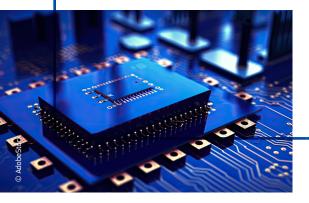


## Transforming industry towards climate neutrality

Industry plays an important role in Austria's economy, and decarbonising it, in particular the energy-intensive production sector, remains a challenge. The Plan supports investments in large-scale transformative industrial projects targeting:

- Switching to renewable energy,
- Energy efficiency measures,
- Significant reduction of greenhouse gas emissions

#### Strengthening Austria's chip industry



The Plan supports 5 major projects, which develop highly innovative products in the fields of semiconductors, advanced processors, power electronics and sensors.

These projects aim at fostering Austria's long-term competitiveness and safeguarding Europe's leadership in key enabling technologies.

# HOW DOES THE AUSTRIAN PLAN STRENGTHEN OUR UNION?

It provides important contributions to EU climate ambitions, improves Europe's core network infrastructure, and enhances the EU's strategic autonomy in critical key enabling technologies.

### **FLAGSHIP EXAMPLES**

#### Construction of new railways and electrification of regional railways



The Plan includes the construction of a new 130-kilometerslong railway line (Koralmbahn) between the Austrian regions of Styria and Carinthia. It will reduce the travelling time between their respective capitals, Graz and Klagenfurt, from 3 hours to just 45 minutes, make the journey safer and also help to shift freight transport from roads to railways.

Given that the Koralmbahn currently represents a bottleneck along the Baltic-Adriatic Corridor, the completion of this major construction project will also significantly improve the capacity of the overall Trans-European Core Network.

#### Accelerating hydrogen deployment in Europe

As part of the framework on Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEI), the Plan promotes 6 integrated projects developing new hydrogen production, storage and applications, focusing in particular on emissions-intensive sectors such as the chemical industry and mobility. The investments are aimed at:

- Contributing to Austria's climate ambitions, i.e. reducing reliance on fossil fuels;
- Building a European hydrogen ecosystem;
- Anchoring Austria in the renewable hydrogen value chain.

For more information: Austria's recovery and resilience plan - European Commission (europa.eu)

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