

Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 12 months

Table 3: Overview of main reform commitments for the next 12 months			
Main (new or updated) commitments in the NRP for the next 12 months	Foreseen main measures and indication on whether they are CSR relevant	Timetable or other details on implementation	The estimated impacts of the measures (qualitative and/or quantitative)
Labour market			
Public Employment Service (Arbeitsmarktservice AMS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Efficiency and focus of the AMS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus labour market objectives on sustainable reduction of unemployment • Review and revision of instruments in terms of efficiency, employment incentives and reintegration into sustainable employment • Review of regional organisational structures in the light of current labour market policy conditions - Promotion of women in technical professions as well as of men in pedagogical and care professions, inter alia within the framework of measures for vocational reorientation and qualification - Evidence-based and equitable distribution of funding in the AMS between women and men - Securing the funds for Socio-Economic Enterprises and Non-Profit Enterprises in the Labour Market Policy Financing Act (AMPFG) - Workplace-oriented qualification (AQUA): Training courses increasingly in cooperation with companies - Further develop unemployment benefits with incentives to encourage unemployed people to return to work more quickly. - Evaluation, adaptation and further development of the so-called AMS algorithm 		<p>Increasing efficiency of labour market programs and customer satisfaction.</p> <p>Reducing unemployment and increasing effectiveness of labour market policy.</p>

	<p>– see also Table 2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One-Stop-Shop: a contact point for jobseekers while increasing the efficiency of existing structures with advice and support 		
Intersection labour market / people with disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Measures for longer-term employment of people with disabilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placement(s) in the labour market through Integration Subsidy and labour cost support measures • into the subsidised labour market (e.g. through Socio-Economic Enterprises) - No automatic determination of incapacity for work for young people under 24 years of age 		Supporting employment of people with disabilities, reducing long-term unemployment.
Intersection labour market / health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Offers of low-threshold employment for people with health impairments combined with health services and therapies 		Supporting employment of people with health impairments
Intersection labour market / integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integration offers of the AMS for priority groups with migration background - Strengthening of the German courses 		Increasing employment of people with migration background
Reducing the burden on labour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Examination of the potential for reducing non-wage labour costs without reducing benefits 		Reducing tax burden on labour
Intersection labour market / digitisation / climate protection / future challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction of an learning account (“Bildungskonto”) on the basis of a social partner agreement: vocational reorientation, training and further education with social security - Further development of Short-Time Work With Qualification: possibility of short-time work not only to secure employment in the event of economic difficulties, but also in the transition of companies to ecological and climate-friendly production methods or digital restructuring - Circular economy development package: Support to Socio-Economic Enterprises with 		Reducing unemployment and increasing effectiveness of labour market policy as well as customer satisfaction.

	<p>circular economy (ecological and social). Target group: long-term unemployed, people with placement obstacles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - expansion of employment opportunities for people with disabilities and socially disadvantaged people through the Integration Subsidy - expanding of age-appropriate employment opportunities for people over 50 through the Integration Subsidy - Regional and industry-specific work foundations in industries and regions particularly affected by ecological restructuring and digitisation as required 		
Securing skilled labour needs – strengthening the apprenticeship system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adequate funding for Supra-Company Apprenticeships, including support measures for young people with special needs - Support measures for apprenticeship training in companies for young people with special needs - Provision of measures for qualification, counselling, support and placement for the fastest possible integration into the labour market of persons entitled to asylum and subsidiary protection - Support for young people who drop out of school in Production Schools and similar institutions - Check/improve cross-financing between labour market policy and IEF in connection with apprenticeship training 		<p>Improving skills and labour market matching. Improving the qualification of young people and decreasing the number of drop-outs</p>
Equality for women in the labour market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing opportunities for women in rural areas (keyword digitisation) - Education and training opportunities 		Decreasing gender gap
Implementing a skilled workers offensive for Austrian companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In order to be able to fill the largest possible number of vacant skilled labour positions in 		Improving skills and labour market matching.

	<p>Austria, an overall strategy is needed that is particularly geared towards education and further training of employees with regard to the requirements of the labour market. In this overall strategy, other factors such as health, mobility and care situation ("personal life situation") must also be taken into account. The Federal Government will upgrade vocational training and modernise the Vocational Training Act.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reform and further improve the Red-White-Red Card ("RWR-Karte"), simplify procedures. – see also Table 2 - Existing annual quotas for seasonal visitors for tourism and agriculture are to be adjusted according to demand, in compliance with all provisions of labour law and collective agreements. – see also Table 2 		
Integration and Labour Market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Priority initiative Job integration for asylum and subsidiary protection beneficiaries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisation of regular job fairs by the AMS for people granted asylum who are not integrated into the labour market. 30,000 people granted asylum are currently looking for work and need a clear perspective. - Take measures to promote greater mobility, especially of those granted asylum, in the labour market and in apprenticeship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement of the supra-regional placement of AMS: Improved cooperation between the AMS regional offices and job placement through a new catalogue of criteria (local roots, age, length of stay, duration of registration, marital status, 		Increasing employment of people that were granted asylum

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> parental responsibilities, etc.). • Focus on unemployed young people under 25 years of age to start an apprenticeship in another federal state as well <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continuation of the Competence Checks of the AMS - Further development and flexibilisation of the integration year: Increased modular qualification of asylum seekers in order to become fit for the labour market. <p>Employment of migrants according to their qualifications and skills.</p>		
Healthy until retirement: Support remaining in employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Targeted optimisation of Partial Retirement (“Altersteilzeit”) with a view to promoting and maintaining health in the workplace - Increased incentives for companies to carry out targeted health and age management, to design the working environment in an age-appropriate and health-promoting manner and to offer suitable working models - Increased attention to the labour market of the 50+ generation - Consideration of extending the model of partial reintegration (“Wiedereingliederungsteilzeit”) – see also table 2 - Strengthening and expanding support for occupational health management 		Increasing Employment Rate of older workers
New apprenticeships with a focus on digitisation in the course of 2020	CSR 2	2020	Maintain knowledge transfer in the apprenticeship system at a high level, adapt apprenticeships to constantly changing qualification requirements
Ongoing evaluation and modernisation of apprenticeship job profiles			
Planned amendment of the Vocational and Educational Training Act (BAG), e.g.	CSR 2	2020	Constant development of the Austrian apprenticeship system

focus on easing of apprenticeship in combination with counselling obligations			
Finance/ Tax			
Simplify and rationalise fiscal relations and responsibilities across layers of government and align financing and spending responsibilities.	The reform process on a new Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations Act (from 2022 onwards) will start in 2021. The CSR is an important input.	A new Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations Act should enter into force on 1 January 2022. The government programme 2020-2024 stipulates the aim of simplifying and rationalising the tasks of the different governmental layers and of reallocating responsibilities and expenditures.	The aim of the Federal Government is to simplify and rationalise the tasks of the different governmental layers and to reallocate responsibilities and expenditures.
Reducing taxes and revising the tax structure to shift burden on labour to more growth-friendly sources of revenue	In an initial step, the starting tax rate for income tax at source and personal income tax will be reduced from 25% to 20% in order to benefit low-income employees, pensioners, the self-employed and agricultural and forestry workers. Extension of the so far temporary tax rate of 55% for incomes over EUR 1 million.	A detailed presentation of tax relief measures and the first step in terms of greening initiatives will be given in the summer of 2020. These measures are scheduled to enter into force from 1 st January 2021.	This measure will reduce the burden on taxpayers especially for low- and middle-income earners.
	Further tax relief will be provided to the agricultural sector via the elements set out in the government programme, such as an increase in the accounting threshold to EUR 700,000, a reduction in notional leases to 10%, an increase in the pension insurance contribution basis for those working full-time up to the age of 27, and adjustment of the minimum contribution basis for health insurance to the level of the General Social Security Act. In addition, a three-year distribution is to be established for agricultural profits.	A detailed presentation of tax relief measures and the first step in terms of greening initiatives will be given in the summer of 2020. These measures are scheduled to enter into force from 1 st January 2021.	The measures will relieve the tax burden on the agricultural sector.
Promoting the greening	Increase of the air passenger duty		The measures will make a contribution to shift burden on labour to more growth-friendly sources of revenue and to foster the greening.

	Greening of the motor-vehicle registration tax ("Normverbrauchsabgabe")		
	Greening of the payment in kind for company cars (greater incentives should be provided for CO2-free company cars)		
	Greening and better targeting of the commuter allowance		
	Fight against "fuel tourism" and the transit of heavy goods vehicles from abroad: The Austrian federal government will take all measures permitted under EU law, as well as national measures, in order to prevent fuel tourism and to reduce the transit of heavy goods vehicles		
Economic situation			
Modernisation of national Competition Law	Adapting unfair competition and antitrust law to ensure fair competition in the face of new challenges of digitisation and globalisation CSR 3	In the second quarter of 2020, building on numerous international studies, a consultation process should be launched to identify appropriate measures to ensure a level playing field by modernising the current national competition law framework.	The aim of such measures is to restore healthy competition, particularly in the area of digital platforms and global competition. Fair conditions are intended to mitigate existing imbalances and the resulting dependencies. Innovative European companies should thus be given a real opportunity to assert themselves in the face of tough international competition.
SME.DIGITAL	In order to strengthen small and medium-sized enterprises in their digital transformation, the SME.DIGITAL support programme is planned to be continued in mid-2020. (see Table 1, CSR 3)	-	Within the last three years, over 10.000 SMEs have been supported worth more than 10 million Euros.
Using public procurement as a driver for SME growth	In 2020, a strategic but hands-on concept will be developed that compiles policy measures to increase SME's access to public contracts and improve the framework conditions for SME with regard to public procurement. CSR 3	Development of the strategic concept in 2020, implementation from 2021 onwards.	-

NEW: National Action Plan on Entrepreneurship Education	In Austria there are numerous activities implemented by different actors that deal with the issue entrepreneurship education, but act independently of one another. A coordinated approach (bundling activities and projects) can / should lead to an increase in impact. Against this background, the national action plan is the result of a cooperation between the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research and the Federal Ministry for Digital and Economic Affairs as well as other ministries, the Federal Chancellery and many stakeholders who are working on a common vision (for entrepreneurship education), jointly striving to achieve this vision. Other actors are constantly being added (65 initiatives are currently included). After completing the action plan (within the next months) it should be handed over to the responsible ministers during an event with appropriate publicity.	Finalisation in 2020; implementation starting from 2020/2021 onwards.	The system “school” should be fully opened for entrepreneurship education and 100 % of the young people have the heart to implement ideas.
Once Only	Reduction of information obligations (see Table 1, CSR 3)	-	-
Strategic Action Plan	Creating framework conditions to optimally exploit the digital transformation for the benefit of all (see Table 1, CSR 3)	-	-
Fit4Internet	Expansion of the activity, awareness measures (see Table 1, CSR 3)	-	-
Research, Technology, Innovation			
Public Procurement Promoting Innovation (PPPI)	Ongoing implementation of the Austrian Action Plan on Public Procurement Promoting Innovation (PPPI), particularly via the PPPI Service Center that has been established within the Federal Procurement Agency (BBG). The PPPI Service Center will conduct a variety of measures, e.g. running a PPPI online	The adaption of the PPPI Action Plan will be finalized by the end of 2020.	Through PPPI, industry is encouraged to deliver innovative goods and services, i.e. to invest in R&D. Furthermore, the public sector is being modernized and thus able to provide advanced and (eco-) efficient goods and services to the Austrian citizens.

	<p>platform for both demand-side and supply-side; community building events; initiation, implementation and support of pilot projects; trainings for public procurers etc.</p> <p>The Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) will provide funding for pilot projects using the new procedure “innovation partnership”. The “Austria Wirtschaftsservice” (aws) will provide financial support for public procurers via the “PPPI Toolbox”.</p> <p>The Austrian Action Plan on Public Procurement Promoting Innovation (PPPI) will be adapted to the current framework conditions and challenges.</p>		In 2020, an evaluation of the impact of innovation procurement cases will be conducted - results are expected by the end of 2020.
<u>Initiative “Broadband Austria 2030”</u>	<u>Reworked funding programs to achieve the target to provide full coverage of mobile and fixed gigabit-capable connections throughout the country by 2030.</u>	<u>implementation starting from 2020/2021</u>	<u>Gigabit-capable connections for regions in Austria where a market failure – especially rural areas – occurs. For Austria further development it is essential that no region is left behind and that all people and companies can participate at the digitalisation.</u>
Research Financing Act	The Research Financing Act is intended to ensure long-term, strategic planning of research funding, to make the governance of the Austrian research and innovation system more efficient, and to achieve a continuous increase in public and private research expenditures. This new law will establish a revolving three years’ cycle for RTI budgets, thus providing a higher level of financial stability than the overall budgetary framework. Based on this, performance contracts will be granted to the most important research and research funding organisations.	In August 2018 the Council of Ministers mandated the Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology, in agreement with the other ministries represented in the high level working group “Task Force RTI”, to propose a Research Financing Act. The according proposal has been put forward in September 2019. The public review was completed in October 2019. The federal government is expected to pass its bill to parliament in spring 2020. Entry into force is envisaged by mid-2020.	The three years’ period and the comprehensive performance contracts will reduce the number of transactions between ministries and agencies as well as between ministries and the treasury. This should result in leaner structures and eventually lead to more efficient and effective research. These gains should be underpinned by increasing budgets.
Elaboration of a new RTI Strategy for	With the national RTI programme „Mobility of	The elaboration of the strategy shall be	The new RTI Strategy for Mobility shall

Mobility	the Future“ expiring at the end of this year – just like Horizon 2020 – Austria is about to set directions for drafting a new RTI strategy for mobility. This aims at elaborating a successor program for mobility RTI, which should support participation of Austrian stakeholders in mobility-relevant measures within the frame of Horizon Europe (calls, partnerships etc.) Similar action is taken in the field of aviation research with the elaboration of Research & Innovation Flightmaps identifying innovative solutions for a climate-neutral air transportation system as basis for Austria’s RTI – strategy programme TAKE OFF.	finalised until June 2020.	lay the foundations for the design and launch of a comprehensive national package of RTI measures for mobility (like a funding program) until 2030, in accordance with the overarching RTI strategy of the new Austrian Federal Government. The estimated budgetary envelop would be around 25-30M€ per year. RTI projects initiated by those measures are expected to develop their impact in the Austrian and European mobility system as from about 2025.
Research, Technology and Innovation (RTI) Strategy 2030	New RTI strategy 2030 based on the OECD Reviews on Innovation Policy: Austria 2018. The new strategy will be the main reference point for RTI policy over the next decade.	Final RTI strategy 2030 to be presented in 2020	RTI policy based on the principles of excellence and competition; Enhanced focus on impact, output and openness; Strategic steering and increased efficiency as well as effectiveness of the Austrian RTI system in order to become innovation leader;
Regulatory Sandboxes	Implementation of Regulatory Sandboxes CSR 3	Not yet specified	Enabling the testing of innovative technologies, products and services.
Promoting the application of modern crowd sourcing methods R&D	The Austrian Center for Citizen Science at the OeAD launched in cooperation with the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) and the BMBWF three calls of an initiative entitled “Top Citizen Science” (TCS). This initiative invited project leaders of ongoing research projects (which were funded by the programme Sparkling Science or by the Austrian Science Fund) to apply for a citizen science expansion project. The applications were peer-reviewed by a panel of international citizen science experts.	Between 2015 and 2018 three calls were launched. The last TCS projects will finish in 2020. The Austrian Science Fund (FWF) has continued to fund citizen science projects – after a fourth Top Citizen Science call in 2019, a fifth call started at the end of January 2020.	The OeAD supported 14 TCS projects with a budget of almost € 700,000. 11 out of 14 projects have been completed. The Austrian Science Fund (FWF) funded 17 projects with more than € 800,000. (overall TCS budget between 2015 and 2018: OeAD + FWF € 1,5 million). In 2019 the FWF funded 4 Top Citizen Science projects.

<p>Further development of the Joint Programming Initiative, esp. the Project JPI CLIMATE</p>	<p>Evaluation and selection of projects of the ERANET Climate Services (ERA4CS and AXIS) call (Horizon 2020); Start of 4 year CSA in February 2018 2018: Creation of an International Networking platform in climate change research through the Climate Change Centre Austria to maximise JPI impact nationally</p>	<p>Budget for Call ERA4CS is € 450,000 from the BMBWF plus “in-kind Funds” and potential EU-Top up Funds (up to 100%) depending on the results of the evaluation Budget for Call AXIS is € 400,000 from the BMBWF plus “in-kind Funds” and potential EU-Top up Funds (up to 100%) depending on the results of the evaluation Call on for Social Sciences and Humanities research on climate change "Enabling Societal Transformation" in 2020. Budget of BMBWF € 400,000.</p>	<p>Promotion of the interdisciplinary field “Climate Services”, which connects scientists, society and industry.</p>
<p>Strengthening of basic research and research infrastructure in Environmental Sciences in order to enable Austrian scientists to collaborate internationally and to provide solutions to existing and emerging societal needs.</p>	<p>ABOL (“Austrian Barcode of Life”-Initiative) is a national collaboration of numerous, renowned scientific institutions and experts, engaged in biodiversity research of Austria. In the long-term it aims to generate DNA-Barcodes from all Austrian species of animals, plants and fungi. The Earth System Science Research Programme (ESS), an inter- and transdisciplinary research programme is jointly run by the BMBWF and the Austrian Academy of Sciences. The initiative “Austrian Geological Survey Research (GBA) Partnerships on Mineral Raw Materials” which started in 2015 combines resource policy with research policy.</p>	<p>Succeeding the pilot phase (2014–2017) that set up the structures, the overall project started in October 2017 and is designed as a long-term project over a period of at least 10 years. DNA barcodes will be generated in subprojects assigned to group-specific ABOL clusters. In 2018, the ESS launched the third call for proposals and awarded the projects that were launched and implemented in 2019. In 2018 the “Austrian Geological Survey (GBA) Research Partnerships on Mineral Raw Materials” has been restructured according to the results of the interim evaluation; in 2019 4 new research partnerships were implemented .</p>	<p>The infrastructure of the barcodes will allow an open-access database thus free available for all applications. The ESS programme will support interdisciplinary and long-term environmental and sustainability research. The GBA Mineral Raw Materials Initiative aims at establishing new research networks of the relevant research institutions in order to strengthen the expertise, which is supposed to support the sustainable</p>

			supply of mineral raw materials.
Implementation of the Open Innovation Strategy for Austria	Implementation of the measures listed in the Austrian Open Innovation Strategy Monitoring of the implementation progress	Monitoring-report concerning the current implementation status of the Open Innovation Strategy for Austria in the Austrian Research and Technology Report (June 2019) Stakeholder-roundtable by the end of 2020 to assess the implementation progress of the Open Innovation Strategy for Austria	Involvement of wider public in innovation activities Increase of the innovation potential of Austria by using Open Innovation
Promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in science and research	Ongoing implementation of the 50% female quota in university boards and annual reporting on progress made; reduction of the gender pay gap at universities;	Annual reporting on progress made	More creative and innovative university boards through higher diversity. Women in rectorate positions (university management) are shaping the university development and are visible as role models. Higher incentives for young scientists to start an academic career through the closure of the gender pay gap.
Promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in science and research - Analysis of the Gender Equality plans to promote a non-discriminatory science and research landscape	Development and adoption of Equal Opportunity Plans by universities (compatibility of study/work with family obligations and 6 non-discrimination areas). If all 22 Equal opportunity plans are adopted and published and implementation has been started, the BMBWF will commission an in-depth analysis of the measures and make recommendations on how to measure progress.	By the end of 2019 not all public Universities had adopted a GE-Plan (16 out of 22). Therefore, the BMBWF will continue further activities to ensure that in 2019 all universities will adopt their Gender Equality Plan.	22 universities have adopted their Gender Equality Plan and started implementation – a further milestone for gender equality at Austrian universities.
Promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in science and research – Strengthen gender equality	With a set of measures - developed by external consultants - the BMBWF supports the universities of applied sciences in their efforts	A manual is currently being drawn up, which contains guidelines and foundations for equality and diversity management at	Main objective is the sustainable development and implementation of gender equality and diversity into the

at universities of applied sciences	to develop, establish and spread gender equality- and diversity-politics.	the universities of applied sciences. This handbook, which will be completed in 2020, is intended to serve as a guide for both university management and equal opportunities experts.	structures and processes of the universities of applied sciences. Result of this process is the establishment of a sustainable "institutional knowledge" about gender quality and diversity.
Promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in science and research - Possanner Awards to promote the integration of the gender dimension in teaching and research content	The Gabriele Possanner Awards (state, appreciation and promotion prizes) have been awarded every two years since 1997. They promote the continuous presence of the gender perspective in fields of research and studies. Due to the continuous qualitative development, their endowment and their high status in the research landscape, they rank among the most attractive awards in the field of gender research.	After the Possanner award ceremony in 2019, the year 2020 will be dominated by the further development of the award. It is planned to develop a new price category and also to implement the VWA price from the education sector.	The awards contribute to the implementation of the gender equality objective concerning the integration of the gender dimension in research content and teaching along the whole educational chain.
Promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in science and research - implementation of recommendations for the dissemination of gender competence in higher education structures and processes to promote the gender-sensitive cultural change.	An ad hoc working group of the Austrian Higher Education Conference developed 36 recommendations for implementation within the Austrian HE-institutions and the Federal Ministry. These were adopted by the Austrian Higher Education Conference. This is a first step so that future implementation can take place at the university and research institutions.	The recommendations were disseminated in 2019, and the implementation phase at universities is now being intensified. The BMBWF supports this process and will organize in the second semester of 2020.a network-meeting with participants from all higher educational institutions to discuss the progress, achievements and obstacles that arise during the implementation process of the recommendations.	The broadening of gender competence in higher education is a key success factor for a cultural change in favour of gender equality. The recommendation paper provides important inputs on the areas management, teaching and research. If the implementation succeeds, it can lead to sustainable structural changes to promote gender equality.
Promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in science and research - implementation Gender equality and Diversity Management objectives, measures within the performance agreements of public universities	Universities have undertaken a variety of projects and objectives in the 2019–2021 performance agreements on gender equality and diversity. This starts with concrete training programs for gaining competencies through gender professorships to the creation of diversity strategies. These processes will be supported.	Implementation started in 2019. This process continues in 2020 and in the course of the accompanying discussions/talks with the universities on the performance agreements, the progress of the implementation of the goals and projects is monitored with the experts from the specialist departments. For this purpose, department Präs / 1	The objectives and measures strengthen the European gender equality goals through diversity-oriented equality policy.

		gave those experts involved in the talks a comprehensive briefing on the focal points of gender equality in the performance agreements. Furthermore, there are constant feedback loops to secure the high quality of implementation.	
Promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in science and research – Diversity Management Award	The Diversity Management Award “Diversitas”, which is awarded every two years since 2016, aims to raise awareness for a diversity-oriented and non-discriminatory culture in the organizational structures at Austrian universities and research institutions.	The next Diversitas Award Ceremony will be in December 2020. As an innovation, the universities of teacher education are also being invited to make submissions for the first time.	The award of the Diversity Management Prize is intended to raise and promote public and organizational awareness for gender-equitable and diversity-oriented equality policies at Austrian higher education institutions and selected research institutions the Federal Ministry is responsible for.
Implementation of the national strategy on intellectual property (IP strategy)	Implementation of the measures listed in the Austrian IP Strategy. Monitoring of the implementation progress	Monitoring-report concerning the current implementation status of the IP Strategy for Austria in the Austrian Research and Technology Report	The main goal of the strategy is to foster an increase in innovative capacity to the innovation system and to unleash potential in the field of IP. The measures of the IPR Strategy will help to ensure that Austria's creative individuals and inventors, its industries, universities and research institutes are given the abilities and freedom to use their intellectual property more effectively for future innovations.
Promotion of Knowledge Transfer between universities, other research organisations and the private sector	The funding Programme “Knowledge Transfer Centres and IPR Commercialisation” 2014–2018 ended in 2018. Knowledge Transfer between universities, other research organisations and the private sector was promoted within three virtual regional Knowledge Transfer Centres and is laid down in the performance agreements with the universities. A virtual thematic Knowledge Transfer Centre	2014–2018 2019–2021	Strengthening collaboration in R&D between academia and industry has been a major point in Austria's STI policy for decades. The Austrian RTI strategy aims at improving and stimulating the level of collaboration between universities, public research organisations and the economic sector. For this purpose the Austrian RTI strategy promotes the establishment of knowledge transfer centres.

	<p>in the field of life sciences operated from 2014 to 2017. Its function shall be enhanced through the set-up of a Translational Research Center (TRC, see next line).</p> <p>The above expired programme was analysed and rendered very positive results. The programme will continue for three years until 2021. Funding is provided by the Austrian National Foundation. The expansion of the knowledge transfer centers is anchored in the current government programme.</p> <p>As one of the measures of the Life Sciences Strategy another thematic Knowledge Transfer Centre in the field of medical devices is planned to run for 3 years starting in 2018/2019.</p> <p>The funding programme “Spin off fellowships” started in 2017.</p>	<p>2019–2021</p> <p>2019-2021</p> <p>2017-2021 Three calls have been launched in 2017, 2018 and 2019 the resulting 24 projects started in summer 2018 and in 2019.</p>	<p>The programme provides incentives for universities to collaborate with other universities and Public Research Organisations in the region. Amongst other issues knowledge transfer between relevant stakeholders in the field of STEM shall be promoted.</p> <p>Fellowships programme: Scientists and students with innovative ideas should be supported in their efforts to establish their own companies. The fellowship can ensure the financing of salary costs and access to the academic infrastructure. The fellowships will be granted within the context of a competition via the knowledge transfer centers. This measure is funded to the amount of € 5 million per year.</p>
<p>Implementation of the measures of the Strategy for improving conditions for Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) in Austria</p> <p>Establishing access for researchers to administrative and registry data</p> <p>Call “Urban Migration” within the European JPI Urban Europe</p>	<p>Establish Austrian Micro Data Center to provide safe and secure access to administrative and registry data for scientific purpose. Austrian researchers will get access to data of federal ministries as well as the National Statistical Institute (Statistik Austria).</p> <p>Call “Urban Migration” for projects that translate scientific findings into social</p>	<p>Monitoring-Group and Stakeholder-Roundtable at least once a year to assess the implementation of the 41 measures of the Strategy for improving conditions for SSH in Austria.</p> <p>Establish Austrian Micro Data Center by the end of 2020 and provide safe and secure access to administrative and registry data for Austrian researchers</p> <p>The call will provide € 300,000 to</p>	<p>Strengthen research conditions in the Social Sciences and Humanities by using instruments more efficiently.</p> <p>More scientific output (publications) and scientific evidence for policy measures.</p> <p>The call “Urban Migration” brings together researchers and practitioners</p>

	innovations and applications as well as implementation in the field of migration and integration in urban areas.	researchers with a deadline in 2020.	from cities, NGOs, the education system and other relevant societal stakeholders and will have impact on society.
Renewal of the Vienna Biocenter Vision for the time 2020 – 2030.	Continuing the support of the Vienna Biocenter Cluster by investments in and continuous operation for research infrastructure for the Life Sciences in the Vienna Region until 2030.	2020–2030	Investments and continuous operation in research infrastructure for the Life Sciences in the Vienna Region until 2030. It is planned to finance this measure with an average of € 6 million per year (co-financed by the national and regional governments).
Climate Protection			
Climate action: Government Programme 2020-2024 (prioritization for 2020 remains subject to political guidance):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update to the National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) - Climate Change Act with sectoral emission reduction targets for 2030 and 2040 - New system of climate governance - Compulsory “climate check” for a range of (regulatory) undertakings - Climate neutral administration 	Starting in first half of 2020	Ensuring fulfilment of the 2030 energy and climate goals
Sustainability	<p>Austria’s „SUSTAINABILITY ACTION DAYS“ is an annual country-wide Initiative to promote and visualize the manifold multi-stakeholder engagement and their scope of action for sustainability in Austria. Its aim is to increase awareness for sustainable development/ the Agenda 2030 and foster networking in the SD community.</p> <p>Jointly organized and managed by the “Sustainability Coordinators” of the 9 Austrian Federal provinces and the Austrian Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology the initiative commonly contributes to the goals and initiatives of the EU2020 Strategy and the implementation of the Agenda2030.</p>	In 2020, the sustainable action days will take place from May to June.	It strengthens the visibility of bottom – up approaches within all mayor stakeholder groups to contribute to sustainable development across the three dimensions, addressing a total of 15 thematic fields of actions.

Development of a national heating strategy	Development of a national heating strategy	Development up to the 2nd quarter; start of implementation not yet determined	The heating-strategy focuses on the replacement of fossil fuels by renewable sources and highly efficient renewable district heating in the entire heating market. As well as on a reduction in heating energy requirements by modernising the building and the heat supply infrastructure.
Implementing bioeconomy in Austria based on the bioeconomy strategy adopted in March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bioeconomy Actionplan - Bioeconomy database and monitoring Bioeconomy Cluster 	the measures will be implemented in 2020 and 2021	The Austrian government is in line with the recommendation of the European Union to implement national bioeconomy strategies for decarbonisation of the economy
Energy			
Adopting and implementing a Hydrogen Strategy for Austria			Scale-up of renewable hydrogen production in Austria and Europe; Provide flexibility with regard to the 100% renewable electricity target; Further decarbonise industry and transport.
Development of the Renewable Deployment Act		Development until during 2020; envisioned entry into force 2021	<p>Expand all renewable energy sources, infrastructure and storage Modernise long-term funding and financing of investments Energy system that ensures the balance between sustainability, competitiveness and security of supply now and in the future.</p> <p>Austria will make greater use of its innovative power and processes of change, such as digitization, in order to modernize the energy system with new key technologies.</p> <p>A need to reduce bureaucracy, facilitate</p>

			investments and simplify licensing procedures in line with environmental standards and EU requirements. Innovation and investment need suitable framework conditions.
Education			
Strengthening basic skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project "Ensuring basic skills": Intensification of support for pupils at schools with low performance results - Modernisation of primary and lower secondary curricula (including definition of basic competences and corresponding teaching objectives) - Implementation of the curriculum for German language support classes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project "Ensuring basic skills": It is planned to involve 504 schools in 2020/21 (primary and secondary level, including 9th grade). 	Improved basic skills and educational outcomes.
Improvement of educational transitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Standardisation and improved design of the school entry phase in cooperation with the kindergarten: "Schuleingangsscreening" (criteria for school entry / school readiness) - Collaboration between kindergarten and school by transferring data on the child's development and promoting of skills, especially German language skills - iKM^{PLUS}: Development of a specific instrument to support the individual orientation and competence development process of students ("Einschätzbogen"). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 31.12.2020: Final version of "Schuleingangsscreening" is available. - 2020: further verification of the construct validity of the instrument; Development of a catalogue of advice on development promotion - Data protection regulations for the data transfer are installed. A specific handover document ("Übergabeblatt") from the kindergarten to primary school concerning the child's German language skills will be in place for the first time in May/June 2020 - End of 2020: Final version of the "Einschätzbogen" is available (iKM^{PLUS}). - End of 2020: Final version of "BO-tool" are available. 	Improved transition pathways, improved career decisions
Qualitative expansion and strengthening of demand and result orientation taking into account the gender equality aspect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demand-oriented expansion of all-day schooling and care forms - Evaluation of the assessment of special needs in order to strengthen the demand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluation is planned to start autumn 2020 - Aspects of inclusive education are part of the resource, target and performance 	

	<p>orientation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further development of inclusive education 	<p>plans (RZL Plans) 2020 (gender, talented and gifted, special needs, language/migration)</p>	
Improved quality assurance and mandatory quality management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of a new quality management system for schools including a common Quality Framework for Schools, the strengthening of (mandatory) internal evaluation in schools and the professionalization of school supervisors - Establishment of a standardized external school evaluation system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Quality Framework for Schools will be rolled out as of the school year 2020/21 - External school evaluation will be piloted as from 2021 	<p>The Quality Framework will help schools, supervisors and the school system at large to share a common understanding of school quality and to strive to achieve joint quality objectives. Standardized external evaluation will provide schools with evidence based, objectivized feedback on the quality of their teaching and school management processes.</p>
Comprehensive education monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conceptualisation and implementation of a national education monitoring system that systematically collects and prepares information and data on the school system to provide feedback for informed decision-making on all levels of school administration. This includes an information system (IT) for education statistics as well as a new reporting system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School year 2021/22: A pilot version of the new reports of the education monitoring system will be introduced 	<p>A comprehensive educational monitoring system will foster informed decision-making and a more efficient governance. Moreover, it makes visible differences along the system, problem areas and needs for action as well as best practices.</p>
Compulsory education up to 18 (“Bildungspflicht”)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Definition of basic skills students should have acquired by the end of their compulsory schooling - Development of compensatory measures for students who have not acquired the required basic skills by the end of their compulsory schooling - Development of a monitoring system to ensure that students who lack certain basic skills attend suitable compensatory measures up to an age of 18 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 31.12.2019: New curriculum for pre-vocational school, including a branch focusing on basic skills, has been developed and is submitted for nationwide review (date of implementation: September 2020) - 31.03.2021: Draft law on compulsory education until the age of 18 has been submitted to the National Parliament. 	<p>Reduction of the number of young adults lacking basic skills Improved transition to vocational education and training and/or the labour market</p> <p>The aim of the implementation of a compulsory education up to the age of 18 is that as far as possible no pupil leaves the education system without having acquired basic skills. In order to reach this goal, the “educational package” puts together a bundle of measures, i.e. clear school-entrance</p>

			criteria for everyone, the development of up-to-date curricula, the development of the “individual assessment of competences” (IKM+). Furthermore it will also provide compensatory measures for those who do not have yet acquired the necessary basic competencies at the end of general compulsory schooling.
Pedagogical package	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation/piloting of mandated changes in Primary and New Secondary Schools by Federal Law Gazette I, No 101 /2018 - The development of the “individual assessment of competences (iKM^{Plus})” to inform teaching, pedagogic support, orientation and counselling, and quality development at system level at grade 3, 4, 7 and 8 (iKM^{Plus}3, iKM^{Plus}4, iKM^{Plus}7, iKM^{Plus}8). - The implementation of new curricula for primary and lower secondary schools and of new legal regulations for assessing students’ performance (“Leistungsbeurteilungsverordnung”) with a strong focus on formative assessment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 01.09.2019: new regulations for assessment in Primary Schools - 2019/20: Piloting of assessment grids of basic, indispensable competences for all subjects in Primary Schools and for German, maths, foreign language in New Secondary and Academic Secondary Schools - New Secondary Schools decide autonomously on how to manage teaching in heterogeneous classes from grades 6-8 - The iKM^{Plus} will first be implemented at grade 3 (iKM^{Plus}3) and 7 (iKM^{Plus}7) in the academic year 2021/22; at grade 4 (iKM^{Plus}4) and 8 (iKM^{Plus}8) in the academic year 2022/23. - New curricula for primary and lower secondary schools will be implemented as of the academic year 2023/24. - New regulations for assessing students’ performance will be implemented starting 2022/23. 	<p>School marks together with increased formative assessment and an increase in schools’ autonomy improve educational outcomes</p> <p>Educational careers after Primary School and New Secondary Schools are in accordance with the pupils’ talents and potentials.</p> <p>The iKM^{Plus} will expand the evidence base available for developing the quality of teaching, orientation and individual support, and quality development at the regional and system level.</p>
Improving the management and reorganisation of school administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of education directorates as of 2019 - Further development of quality management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The reorganisation process is completed and BIFIE is becoming a subordinate agency of the Ministry by 1.7.2020. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> and reorganization of BIFIE to become a subordinate agency of the Ministry - Uniform accounting of teaching staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 31.12.2019: Data migration of all active employees and pensioners (1st tranche) completed. - 31.12.2020 Technical implementation (1st and 2nd tranche) completed. 	
School autonomy measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Schools can be organized in so called “clusters” comprising different types of schools - School leaders enjoy greater freedom in selecting new teachers and are responsible for human resources development. - Enhanced flexibility of opening hours, duration of class hours as well as class sizes and sizes of learning groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New school clusters to be implemented. - School year 2020/21: Roll out of the new teacher recruitment online platform in two provinces. 	<p>More efficiency in school administration. More flexibility for schools to tailor the organisation of the school day and instruction to their students’ needs.</p>
Digitalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Digitising school education (new government programme) - Integration of digital learning in the curricula of the subjects - Enhancing the digital competences of pedagogues 	<p>2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - implementation planning for the measures of the new government programme Integration of digital competencies and digital learning in the curricula of the various subjects - Fostering new innovative models of teacher training through the eEducation Schoolnetwork - Development of models for optimizing IT equipment and broadband connection/WLAN - Realization of the metadata-based portal for digital teaching/learning materials and educational media. 	<p>Improved digital competences and skills of all pupils. Strengthened digital competences of teachers. Creation of the best possible infrastructure conditions at schools and quality-assured content for effective digital education.</p>
Further developing of Austrian adult education system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of the Agreement according to Section 15a of the Constitution between the Federal Government and the provinces (Bundesländer) in order to continue the Initiative for Adult Education from 2018-2021. - Development of a curriculum for basic skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of the third programme period from 2018 to 2021 has started. - Implementation of a quality assurance and evaluation system for the period 2018 – 2021 has begun - Implementation of the curriculum until the end of 2020. 	<p>Reduction of the number of persons without basic education, increase of the number of persons with basic educational qualifications, increase in the permeability of the education system</p>

	education courses in order to make non-formal and informal skills validation possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of learning outcome documentation in basic education in a pilot phase and evaluation of the results. - The final curriculum will be available until 2021. 	
Sustainability	<p>The Sustainable Development Goals of the Agenda 2030 are being mainstreamed in all relevant strategies and measures. Performance Management at the federal level of government in Austria provides an impact assessment on SDG targets. Main reform measures contribute to SDG 4 "Quality Education", e.g.: a new quality management system for schools, school autonomy measures. Education for Sustainable Development will be a guiding principle in the curricula development process for primary and lower secondary schools (see above) regarding cross-curricular topics such as citizenship education, media literacy, digital education, economic and consumer education.</p>		Positive impact on the implementation of sustainable development aspects and SDGs in education.
Early childhood education and care	The federal government plans to rise the earmarked federal funds (regulated by Agreement on elementary education for the kindergarten years 2018/19 to 2021/22 according to Art. 15a B-VG) considerably in the kindergarten year 2020/21 and thereafter.		
Higher Education			
Broadening the financial base for the funding of higher education	Raising the public budget for university funding (the 22 public universities received in total a budget increase of € 1.3 billion or +13% for the period 2019-2021) for the implementation of the new model for university funding by the performance agreements.	Performance agreement period 2019-2021	The measure puts a strong focus on students by increasing the quality of teaching and learning and contributes to create optimal conditions for students, lecturers and scientists in order to provide a higher number of best-

			qualified graduates.
New model for financing universities – implementation of “Student-and Capacity-oriented University Funding” of public universities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The new model applies in the performance agreement 2019-2021 with the 21 public universities (University of Continuing Education Krems is funded separately). It puts a strong focus on students by increasing the quality of teaching. - As result of a call for projects on digital and social transformation, as a further competitive element in the third pillar of university funding, the BMBWF is going to fund 35 projects for digital and social transformation at universities. 	<p>Performance agreement period 2019-2021</p> <p>Supplementary funding of cooperation projects through the third pillar of the new university funding model for 2019-2021 (Call on digital and social transformation projects):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - call for proposals and funding decision: 2019 - realization phase: 2020-2024 	The measure has positive effects on the quality of teaching and learning as well as on the study and research conditions at universities.
Improving the quality of teaching, learning and the study conditions at universities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allowing access restrictions in fields of study, which are in especially high demand. - Further expand the range of fields of study allowing access restrictions (e.g. foreign language studies, law, educational sciences/pedagogy). - The implementation of the “Student-and Capacity-oriented University Funding” contributes to the increase the number of teaching staff and to the improvement of teacher-student-ratios. - The performance agreements 2019-2021 with the universities contain measures for financing additional academic staff (in total 358 new professors or tenure track positions). 	<p>The performance agreements 2019-2021 specify the numbers of study places at universities concerned.</p> <p>Implementation of the new model of university funding in the performance agreement period 2019-2021.</p>	<p>Positive impact on the quality of teaching and learning and the study conditions.</p> <p>Impact on increasing the number of students who actively take examinations as well as the number of degrees awarded, on reducing the drop-out rate, on increasing the share of higher education graduates.</p>
Reform of teacher training (Pädagog/innenbildung NEU)	<p>Implementation of further measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of joint curricula in line with the Bologna architecture and the national curricular framework. - Cooperation of universities and university colleges of teacher education in four regional clusters. 	<p>Performance agreements with public universities for the period 2019-2021 include measures to deepen the co-operation in teacher training between higher education institutions.</p> <p>A meta-evaluation of the reform and its</p>	The reform is expected to develop positive effects on the quality of the entire education system in Austria. It is exemplary for co-operation between higher education institutions (in different sectors).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hiring of new scientific staff, esp. in didactics, and promotion of young researchers. - Strengthening the links between teacher education and practice in schools. 	effects is due to start in 2021.	
Improve the social dimension in higher education	<p>Implementation of the “national strategy on the social dimension of higher education”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The quantitative goals and the action lines have been integrated into the Austrian University Development Plan 2019-2024. - “Social dimension” is also embedded in the Development and Financing Plan 2018/19 to 2022/23 for Universities of Applied Sciences. - “Social dimension” is a strategic priority in the performance agreements with public universities. Relevant measures shall be implemented by the performance agreements 2019-2021 and 2022-2024. - Regulations concerning the new funding model for public universities also comprise regulations to guarantee the realisation of measures for underrepresented groups and measures on the social dimension. 0.5% of the allocated budget for each public university can be withheld towards the end of the performance agreement period if universities do not implement SD measures agreed upon in their performance agreements. - Call for projects on digital and social transformation at universities. 	<p>Implementation of results particularly by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - performance agreements with public universities for the period 2019-2021, - the Development and Funding Plan for Universities of Applied Sciences 2018/19 to 2022/23. <p>At the end of 2020 the universities show their progress on implementing the measures for promoting the social dimension and/or drawing up institutional strategies (according to their performance agreements) . The ministry can retain up to 0.5% of the overall budget of the respective university, if a university does not have any measures for social dimension.</p> <p>Call on digital and social transformation projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - call for proposals and funding decision: 2019 - realization phase: 2020-2024 	<p>Improving the social dimension in higher education towards more participative equity (widening access for under-represented groups and students with specific needs). Reducing drop-out rates. Raising the share of graduates from under-represented groups and of students with specific needs. Positive impact on the participation of underrepresented groups in higher education. The national strategy is embedded in a European process with the overarching target that “the student body entering, participating in and completing higher education at all levels should reflect the diversity of our populations” (London, 2007).</p>
Qualitative and quantitative development of the Universities of Applied Sciences (UAS)	The Development and Financing Plan 2018/19 to 2022/23 for Universities of Applied Sciences specifies relevant themes and subjects (e.g. digital transformation, STEM) which are the basis of annual calls by the Federal Ministry of	The Development and Financing Plan for Universities of Applied Sciences 2018/19 to 2022/23 has been adopted with the aim of further increasing the number of study places at Universities of Applied	Further increase in the overall number of study places. As a consequence, the number of HE graduates will increase too. That is an important contribution to achieving the EU 2020 target.

	<p>Education, Science and Research for financing additional study places and new study programmes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 450 new study places for beginners in Programmes focusing on STEM and digitalisation have been financed since 2018/2019. - Another 330 additional study places for beginners with a focus on STEM and digitalisation will be provided in 2020/2021. <p>The government's aim is to offer 55,250 study places in the Universities of Applied Sciences (UAS) sector in 2020/2021. The increase in student numbers is intended to continue. The total number of UAS study places is expected to be about 57,700 in 2024/25.</p>	<p>Sciences (UAS). Financing new study places in 2020/21 (and beyond) at Universities of Applied Sciences (UAS).</p>	
Development of the Austrian Higher Education Plan 2030	<p>A „prototype“ of the Austrian Higher Education Plan is going to be issued. It refers to the current Austrian higher education system as a whole and the intended development until 2030. It addresses public and private universities, universities of applied sciences and university colleges of teacher education.</p>	<p>Expected date of issue: Dezember 2020</p>	<p>This governance-document shall improve the profile and societal impact of the Austrian Higher Education Institutions.</p>
Digital transformation	<p>In the performance agreement period 2019-2021, there is a special focus on digitalisation and digital transformation.</p> <p>Universities have to develop an institutional strategy on digitalisation in teaching, research and administration.</p> <p>The performance agreements put emphasis on the use of digital technologies, digital tools and methods in teaching and learning, and a high availability of open educational resources (OER), as well as appropriate service and support for students and staff, including</p>	<p>Implementation in the performance agreement period 2019-2021</p> <p>Call on digital and social transformation projects: Call for proposals and funding decision in 2019 Realization phase in 2020 to 2024</p>	<p>Positive impact on the digital transformation processes in teaching/learning, research and administration at universities.</p> <p>Positive impact on the development of Open Educational Resources (OER), digitisation strategies in higher education, the implementation of the FAIR data principles and the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) in Austria.</p>

	<p>adequate technical infrastructure. The performance agreements specify the relevant measures, especially measures to improve student/teacher-ratios and the support of students in the field of informatics/computer science.</p> <p>In 2019, to take digitalisation in teaching and research to the next level, the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research published a special call that provides additional € 50 million for digital and social transformation projects at public universities. As a result, the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research funds 35 projects for digital (and social) transformation in higher education.</p>		
Sustainability	<p>In the context of the UN Agenda 2030, sustainability and SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) have become a topic of growing importance and strategic priority in higher education, and have been integrated in the relevant steering instruments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agenda 2030 has been embedded in the Austrian National Development Plan for Public Universities (2019–2024 and 2022-2027). - SDGs are part of the performance agreements 2019-2021 with universities, and part of the project “UniNEtZ”, which is administered by the Alliance of sustainable universities in Austria. “UniNEtZ” aims at strengthening cooperation and networks between universities to integrate sustainable development as framed by the SDGs into research, education and university management. - Universities and other HEIs are awarded a special “Sustainability Award” in eight categories of action. 	<p>Performance agreement period 2019-2021</p> <p>Project “UniNEtZ”: 2021 Report to the government on options for implementing SDGs</p> <p>Sustainability Award: May 2020</p>	<p>Positive impact on the implementation of sustainable development aspects and SDGs in higher education.</p>

Poverty			
	In February 2020, the Expert Committee on Labour and Social Affairs to the Austrian National Assembly adopted a resolution, by which the Austrian Federal Government may start as soon as possible to implement measures to halving the number of persons being at risk of poverty, as agreed in the government program 2020-2024.		According to its government program 2020-2024 the Austrian federal government committed itself to take comprehensive actions in various policy areas in order to sustainably improve the living conditions of persons at risk of poverty and social exclusion setting itself the objective to halve the number of people at risk of poverty throughout the current legislative period.
Long-term care			
Currently, around 460,000 women and men are entitled to long-term care allowances, which is more than 5% of the Austrian population. In Austria, around 80% of people in need of care are cared for at home in different nursing settings. For this reason, it is important to offer these people the greatest possible support in their valuable work. It is therefore of particular importance to the Ministry of Social Affairs to continuously develop and expand support services for people in need of care and their dependents. With current governmental agreement, which was announced in Jan. 2020, the Austrian federal government identified the important demands and challenges and envisaged further various measures to ensure the quality, efficiency and sustainability of the Austrian long-term care provision system. A major goal of the agreement is to strengthen the situation of caregiving relatives, but also	As a next step, a taskforce will be appointed creating a comprehensive concept based on the government programme.	The taskforce will start the work in April 2020.	

the implementation of a sustainable funding, further development of long-term care allowance, provisions to counteract the already widespread lack of staff and to use the advantages of digitization are main issues.			
Harmonization measures for social services	In cooperation with the federal states the Master Plan intends further harmonization measures in the field of social services (e.g. to achieve the cost contributions for mobile services)	Development of a concept until the end of 2021.	Standardized cost contributions in the mobile sector.
Improve data situation and controlling	For this purpose, measures for controlling in coordination with the states are to be developed.	Development of a concept until the end of 2021.	Collection of data and its provision in order to derive future staffing and funding needs. The goal is standardized care supervision with standardized criteria and simplified structures. For this purpose, a structured and comprehensible reporting system is to be sought.
Divisibility of 24-hour care	As part of 24-hour care, currently only one supervised person per supervisor and per month will be supported. The current government program of the federal government provides for the possibility of employing one 24-hour care worker for several customers.	Development of a concept until the end of 2020.	A divisibility of 24-hour care is to be examined in connection with funding.
Care insurance	Bundling and expansion of existing funding flows from the federal budget taking into account the demographic and qualitative developments.	Establishment of a task force “care provision” in April 2020.	Simplification of funding flows and ensuring long-term care at a high level.

Explanatory notes to Reporting Table 3:

Apart from measures relevant for the achievement of the national Europe 2020 target, only key reform commitments for the next 12 months should be included. The reporting table should cover in more detail measures not yet reported in Table 1 or 2 or cross-references to Table 1 or 2 otherwise. Information on impacts should be provided to the extent available.