



KOMMUNAL
KREDIT
PUBLIC CONSULTING

KPC
PERFORMANCE
REPORT **25**

lead to success

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Our cover image shows the leaves of a water lily and is intended to highlight the importance of water bodies for our ecosystem.

Acknowledgments

On behalf of KPC, we would like to thank our partners, clients, the supervisory board and the advisory board for their cooperation, support, and continued faith in us.

We would also like to thank our employees for their commitment, loyalty, flexibility, and openness to something new.

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The business year 2025

In an interview with the management, KPC Executive Director Mag.^a Gerlinde Mayerhofer-Fras and DI Dr. Johannes Laber review the business year 2025.

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Transformation der Industrie

The introduction of the »Transformation der Industrie« program was a decisive step toward advancing the decarbonization of the Austrian economy. In 2025, the so-called »Transformationszuschuss«, a grant, supplemented the existing funding instruments, giving companies the opportunity to offset not only investment costs but also, for the first time, ongoing additional costs.

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Hochwasserzuwendung

In April 2025, KPC launched the »Hochwasserzuwendung« campaign, a one-time financial assistance to people whose home was damaged by the floods in September 2024.

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Biodiversity Fund

The current call 2025 supports projects in Austria for the restoration of ecosystems, water connectivity, unsealing, and biodiversity measures in settlement areas. The advertised and available funding budget of EUR 6.5 million was exceeded by more than three times.

EDITORIAL

Dear reader,

Once again our performance report offers a multitude of interesting topics in regard to what happened in one year at KPC. In the 2025 edition, we would like to present you an interesting interview with the management concerning the business year 2025.

We would like to inform you about the »Hochwasserzuwendung« funding campaign launched in April 2025, which provides one-time financial assistance to individuals whose home was damaged by the floods in September 2024. In addition, 2025 saw the launch of »KPC-Online«—KPC's online portal which enables applicants, both private individuals and companies, to manage their funding projects in a modern, efficient, and transparent manner.

The introduction of the »Transformation der Industrie« program was a decisive step toward advancing the decarbonization of the Austrian economy. In 2025, the so-called »Transformationszuschuss«, a grant, supplemented the existing funding instruments, giving companies the opportunity to offset not only investment costs but also, for the first time, ongoing additional costs.

We also report on the successful renovation offensive funding program, the continuation of which was announced in October 2025. The initiative still focuses on two key areas of funding: the boiler replacement for conversion to climate-friendly heating systems and the renovation bonus for thermal and energy-efficient building renovation.

There is also news from the Biodiversity Fund: the current call 2025 supports projects in Austria for the restoration of ecosystems, water connectivity, unsealing, and biodiversity measures in settlement areas. The advertised and available funding budget of EUR 6.5 million was exceeded by more than three times.

We hope you will enjoy reading our stories!

STATEMENT OF THE SUPERVISORY BOARD

Dear Sir or Madam,

2025 was a year posing particular challenges for Kommunkredit Public Consulting GmbH (KPC). The consolidation of the Austrian federal government's climate and environment budgets led to significantly tighter financial conditions in the public sector. This makes it all the more commendable that KPC not only achieved its goals but even exceeded them in key areas. This result is no coincidence but rather the outcome of a clear strategic orientation, forward-looking planning, and, above all, the high level of personal commitment of all employees—especially in a phase of growing uncertainty.

Investments in infrastructure and effective measures against climate change are essential for the sustainable development of our society. With its two business areas of funding management and international public consulting, KPC makes a significant contribution to the implementation of these future tasks. As a recognized expert on climate, environmental, and energy issues, it supports projects in the fields of renewable energy, energy efficiency, climate-friendly mobility, water and waste management, circular economy, biodiversity, and the remediation of contaminated sites, acting as a reliable extension of the relevant federal ministries.

The business area of funding management was characterized by declining means of funding in 2025. Nevertheless, funding totaling around EUR 3.0 billion was awarded. More than 600,000 climate and environmental protection projects with an underlying investment volume of around EUR 9.1 billion were assessed. Particularly noteworthy is the renovation offensive, which, despite the early exhaustion of funds, continued to meet with exceptionally high demand in the reporting year. The further development of this funding line—with a fixed annual budget, increased planning security, and consistent digitalization—impressively demonstrates how efficiency, service orientation, and transparency can work together effectively.

New tasks such as processing flood relief grants or the highly sought-after programs of the Biodiversity Fund and industrial transformation underscore KPC's role as a reliable interface between funding agencies and applicants. The ability to quickly set up complex programs and provide professional support throughout the entire funding process is one of the company's key strengths.

KPC continued its successful international development in the consulting sector. Its collaboration with renowned institutions such as the World Bank, the European Commission, the EIB, the EBRD, and the OECD underscores its high professional reputation. The consulting strategy developed in 2025 and approved by the supervisory board creates a solid foundation for further sustainable growth.

Particularly noteworthy is KPC's contribution to national and international climate policy—from supporting the Austrian negotiating teams at EU and UN level to participating in key international climate funds.

With Climate Austria, KPC has also been making an important contribution to voluntary climate protection for many years. The large number of projects supported and the CO₂ savings achieved in 2025 clearly show that voluntary commitment by companies can make an effective contribution to achieving climate targets.

The supervisory board is convinced that KPC is very well positioned for the coming years. Its strategic orientation is clear, its organization is efficient, and its commitment is exceptionally high. As a subsidiary of Kommunalkredit Austria AG (90%; 10% is held by Raiffeisenlandesbank Oberösterreich AG), KPC plays a key role in shaping the sustainable orientation of the group. In an environment that will continue to be confronted with uncertainties, KPC has the necessary expertise, stability, and innovative strength to successfully continue to fulfill its role as a key partner for climate, environmental, and sustainability projects.

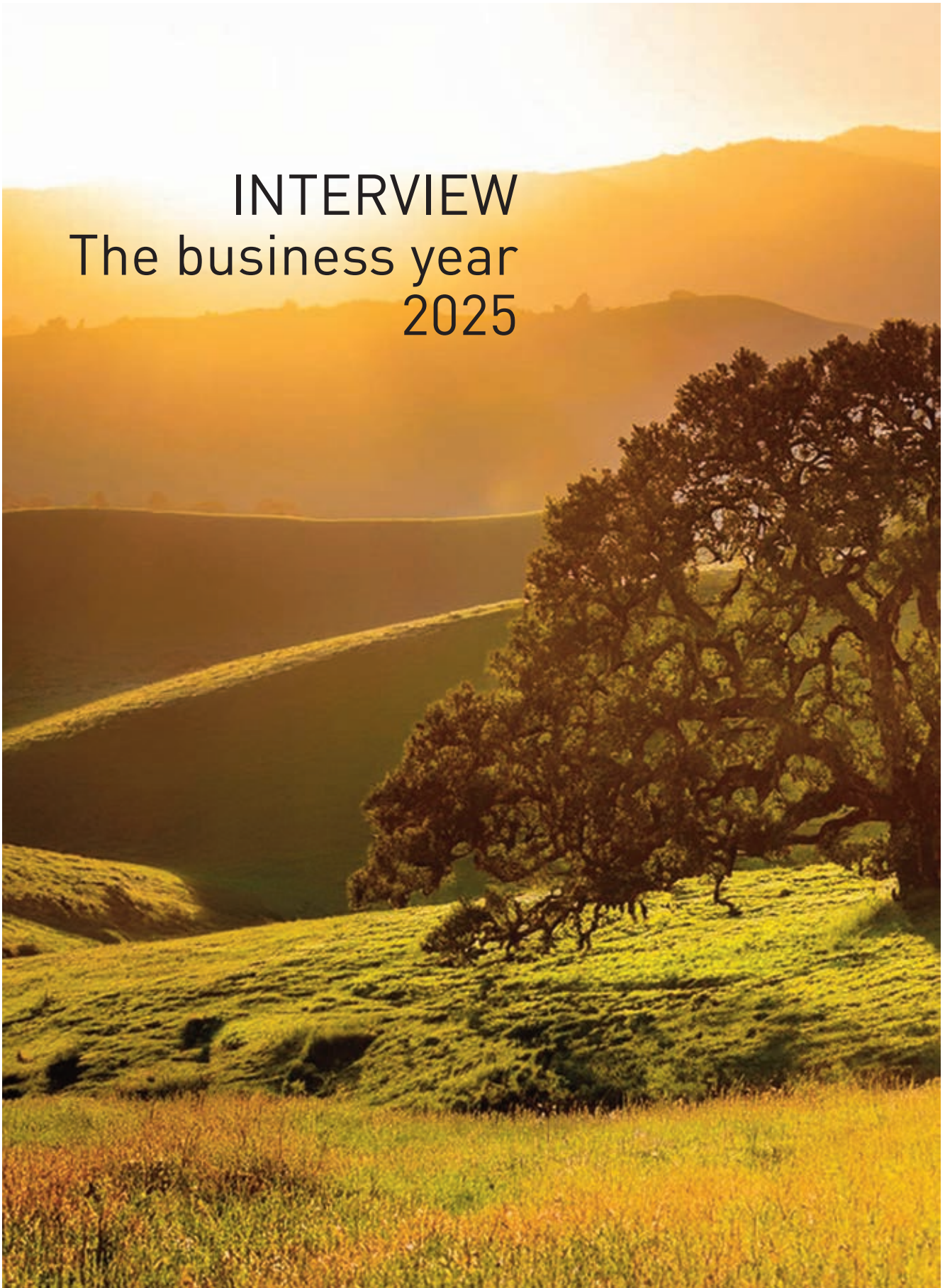
On behalf of the supervisory board, I would like to thank the management and all KPC employees for their commitment and achievements over the past year.



Kind regards
Nima Motazed
Chairman of the
supervisory board

INTERVIEW

The business year 2025





In an interview with the management, KPC Executive Director Mag.^a Gerlinde Mayerhofer-Fras and DI Dr. Johannes Laber review the business year 2025.

How did KPC's business develop in the previous year? How have things progressed concerning funding management in particular?

G. Mayerhofer-Fras: In 2025, KPC awarded means of funding totaling EUR 3,019 million (2024: EUR 2,868 million). In line with the Austrian federal government's climate protection efforts and the economic recovery at regional and local level, funding for all climate-related instruments remained at a very high level in 2025.

J. Laber: In total, 601,299 climate and environmental protection projects (2024: 768,352) were assessed in 2025, representing an investment volume of around EUR 9.1 billion (2024: also EUR 9.1 billion). The renovation offensive funding program is particularly noteworthy in this context.

What is there to tell about the renovation offensive in 2025?

G. Mayerhofer-Fras: High demand in 2024 led to even more applications being approved in 2025 than in previous years. A total of over 89,700 applications were approved, with a present value of about EUR 1,569.4 million and an investment volume of more than EUR 3,508.4 million. In October 2025, the continuation of the renovation offensive campaign was presented. The initiative continues to focus on two key areas of funding: boiler replacement for conversion to climate-friendly heating systems and the renovation bonus for thermal and energy-efficient building renovation.

Digital transformation and efficiency are topics that go along with KPC's processing activities. How have things progressed in 2025?

J. Laber: Since 2019, all funding applications are processed online. Funding applicants may submit their applications via the KPC online system 24/7 and completely paperless, they can navigate around their own login area and directly access their project data. In 2025, we continued to focus on user-friendliness and data security, further expanding these areas. In addition, 2025 saw the launch of »KPC-Online«—KPC's online portal that enables applicants, both private individuals and companies, to manage their funding projects in a modern, efficient, and transparent manner.

Let's take a look at consulting: how have things progressed in 2025?

J. Laber: In 2025, consulting prepared a total of more than 35 project proposals with a potential order volume of about EUR 37.4 million and submitted them to the tendering institutions. To date, 10 attractive new orders and extensions to existing mandates with a total order value of EUR 2.6 million have been commissioned.



Mag.^a Gerlinde Mayerhofer-Fras has been Executive Director of Kommunalcredit Public Consulting since 2021. She studied law, and, besides the funding area climate and energy, she is also responsible for central services and sustainability agenda.

In order to broaden the business base of consulting services and continue the successful development, a consulting strategy was developed in 2025 and approved by the supervisory board. This defines essential steps for the sustainable development of operating success in the consulting sector.

G. Mayerhofer-Fras: In the area of bilateral climate financing, KPC manages climate protection projects that are directly funded by the BMLUK to support climate protection measures in developing and emerging countries. With the help of this funding program, almost 40 climate protection projects in developing countries were supported in 2025.

Climate Austria is a product of KPC. How has this Austrian climate protection initiative developed in 2025?

G. Mayerhofer-Fras: Voluntary climate protection was also an important topic for the general public in 2025. Many companies are actively seeking opportunities to implement voluntary climate protection measures. With this cooperation model, more than 490 national and international climate protection projects have been funded with a total of about EUR 4.3 million so far. In 2025 alone, almost 30,000 metric tons of CO₂ were avoided through national and international climate protection projects.

How has the collaboration with Kommunalcredit Austria AG developed in 2025?

G. Mayerhofer-Fras: In 2025, KPC continued its close and successful cooperation with its parent company, Kommunalcredit Austria AG, and intensified this cooperation in key strategic areas. With its outstanding technical expertise, it provided significant support to its colleagues at the bank in the development, analysis, and evaluation of international infrastructure projects. In addition, KPC contributed its expertise to the design of sustainable investment and financing products, thereby making an important contribution to the further development and refinement of the portfolio. There are plans to expand this cooperation in 2026, particularly with regard to sustainable investment solutions, technological requirements, and regulatory developments in order to strengthen the strategic positioning of the Kommunalcredit Group in the long term.



DI Dr. Johannes Laber has been Executive Director of Kommunal-kredit Public Consulting since 2024. He studied environmental engineering and water management and is an expert in the development and implementation of funding programs.

What has turned out to be particularly successful in 2025?

G. Mayerhofer-Fras: In the course of the »Transformation der Industrie« program, a call for tenders for the investment grant and a call for tenders for the transformation grant were processed in 2025. For the first time, the transformation grant opens up the possibility to compensate not only investment costs, but also ongoing additional costs for the use of renewable energy sources compared to fossil fuel alternatives. A total of EUR 247.3 million was granted.

J. Laber: In April 2025, KPC launched the »Hochwasserzuwendung« campaign, thereby gaining the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Health, Care, and Consumer Protection (BMASGPK) as a new client. It provides one-time financial assistance to people whose home was damaged by the floods in September 2024. Applications could be submitted until September 2, 2025. Around 2,000 applications were processed in 2025.

Finally, an outlook: what is due in 2026?

G. Mayerhofer-Fras: In terms of funding management, the challenges in 2026 on the one hand lie in processing large numbers of already registered applications, especially in regard to the renovation offensive, and, on the other hand, in controlling the costs of the adjustments and the reduction of funding budgets resulting from the consolidation of the Austrian budget. Close coordination with KPC's clients will enable swift and appropriate action to be taken. The record amount of funding commitments in 2025 is not expected to be repeated due to lower funding budgets.

J. Laber: In consulting, the plan for 2026 is to further expand the number of ongoing projects. In addition, new contracts are to be won through targeted participation in tenders. The new strategy developed in 2025 is intended to secure and further advance the positive development of the business area in order to achieve further growth in consulting and also in regard to Climate Austria.

Clear values. Concrete goals.

KPC aims at making a sustainable contribution to the development of the environment, the economy and society by managing funding programs and providing targeted consulting services.

KPC focuses on the areas of development, implementation and management of funding programs. In this context, we are primarily active in the field of climate and environment protection as well as in the international carbon market. Our clients benefit directly from our long-standing know-how and our focus on what is essential in the planning and implementation.

Our vision is
an environment worth living
in for generations to come.

Our mission

We support our clients in the development and implementation of tailored funding programs. This means that we support communities, companies and private individuals in implementing their projects and also actively contribute to the development and dissemination of environmental and technology standards. In the consulting sector, we work successfully for well-known national and international development organizations and financial institutions.

Our expertise

KPC is known and appreciated on a national and international level as a highly specialized partner for climate and environment protection projects, specifically in the areas of renewable energy, energy efficiency, biodiversity, circular economy, climate-friendly mobility, water management and remediation of contaminated sites.

Our values

We value open communication and respectful interaction with our customers. Equally important to us are trust-based cooperation, reliability, quality and competence. In addition, performance is a determining factor.

Our goal

A valuable long-term solution. On the one hand, KPC sees itself as a long-term partner for projects in the fields of renewable energy, energy efficiency, biodiversity, circular economy, climate-friendly mobility, water management and remediation of contaminated sites. On the other hand, we see ourselves as a stakeholder that contributes to the sustainable protection of our environment.

FIVE PILLARS OF SUCCESS

Quality.

Always the best solution.

Service.

More than just business.

Competence.

Simply works more sustainable.

Efficiency.

Our advantage in the competition.

Flexibility.

Because change needs to be creative.

Communication.

We communicate actively, open, and fair.

KOMMUNAL
KREDIT
PUBLIC CONSULTING

KPC Team



52%
women

2
training days
per year are used by employees



33%
of employees
work part-time

38%

of executives are female



43 years
Durchschnittsalter



10.4 years
average company
affiliation



14
persons were on leave
in 2025:

4
were
on educational leave

10
on parental leave

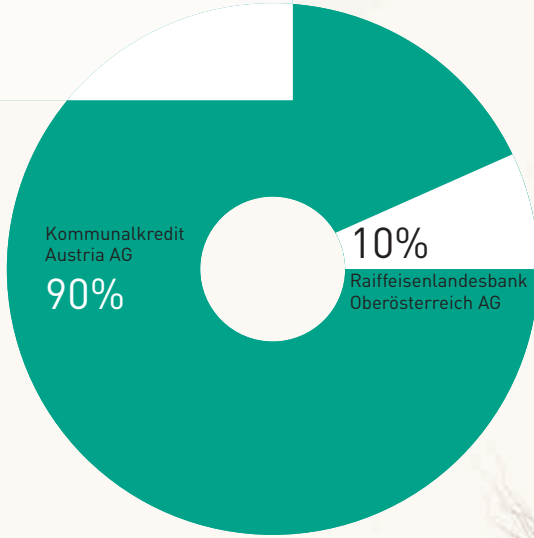
8
moms

2
dads



75%
of employees have
a university degree

Kommunalkredit Public Consulting
Ownership structure



Proprietors and bodies

Supervisory board

Nima Motazed
Chairman

Dr. Sebastian Firlinger
Vice Chairman

Mag. Johannes Schinko
Member

DI Mag. Alexander Somer
Nominated by the works council

Mag. Christian Kempf
Nominated by the works council

Advisory board

**Head of section
DI DDr. Reinhard Mang**
Chairman of the advisory board
Federal Ministry of Agriculture,
Forestry, Climate and Environmental
Protection, Regions and Water
Management (BMLUK)

Head of section DI Christian Holzer
Vice Chairman
Federal Ministry of Agriculture,
Forestry, Climate and Environmental
Protection, Regions and Water
Management (BMLUK)

Head of section Monika Mörth, MAS
Member
Federal Ministry of Agriculture,
Forestry, Climate and Environmental
Protection, Regions and Water
Management (BMLUK)

**Head of section Mag.
Dr. Jürgen Schneider**
Member
Federal Ministry of Agriculture,
Forestry, Climate and Environmental
Protection, Regions and Water
Management (BMLUK)

Mag.^a Isabella Plimon
Member
Federal Ministry of Agriculture,
Forestry, Climate and Environmental
Protection, Regions and Water
Management (BMLUK)

**Head of section
Mag.^a Cornelia Breuß, MA**
Member
Federal Ministry of Innovation,
Mobility and Infrastructure (BMIMI)
ab 01.07.2025

**Head of section (ad interim)
Mag. Dr. Benedikt Ennser**
Member
Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs,
Energy and Tourism (BMWET)
from July 1, 2025

Mag. Alois Steinbichler
Member
former Chairman of the supervisory
board Kommunalkredit Austria AG
up to June 25, 2025





2025 facts figures



Processing numbers of the funding programs 2025

	APPROVED PROJECTS	INVESTMENTS	FUNDING
Federal environmental funding	556,273	7,395,946,295	2,649,933,723
Residential water management	2,132	897,912,872	166,987,477
Ecological measures at rivers	55	59,104,571	43,812,188
Flood protection	716	192,073,943	117,385,203
National environmental funding	2,726	873,467,298	172,489,903
Energy efficiency	7,803	499,364,970	150,036,492
Transformation der Industrie	4	837,982,291	247,280,000
Climate-friendly local and district heating	60	46,759,475	11,270,500
Renovation offensive businesses	187	108,768,152	14,683,683
Thermal renovation private individuals	23,448	1,238,857,869	391,535,692
Boiler replacement private individuals	66,095	2,160,822,323	1,163,194,482
Remediation of contaminated sites	23	96,425,949	57,926,793
Land recycling	29	2,027,554	1,506,042
Circular economy	499	112,073,054	43,267,778
Reparaturbonus	452,425	101,546,715	46,664,162
Biodiversity Fund	6	10,426,159	10,426,159
Forest Fund	64	157,630,370	10,764,439
International climate finance	1	702,730	702,730
Climate and Energy Fund	38,622	1,461,849,300	345,654,654
Photovoltaic plants and storage	6,569	444,881,142	114,893,258
Climate-fit cultural institutions	0	0	0
Mobility programs	23,376	722,644,488	118,623,450
Other programs	8,677	294,323,670	112,137,946
State funding	6,404	238,267,053	23,006,349
Corporate environmental funding Tirol	155	13,537,356	510,539
Corp. environmental funding Vorarlberg	108	11,015,861	413,668
Photovoltaics Vienna	4,644	96,117,182	18,699,233
Hochwasserzuwendung	1,497	117,596,654	3,382,909
Sum	601,299	9,096,062,647	3,018,594,726

Economical effects

EUR 9.1 billion
investment volume

≙

62,500 jobs

Ecological effects

ENVIRONMENTAL FUNDING for businesses and municipalities*



1,421 GWh/a

Total energy savings



33.9m t/ND

CO₂ reduction regarding
technical service life

over

1.7m t/a

CO₂ reduction



2,711 GWh/a

Use of renewable energy sources

ENVIRONMENTAL FUNDING for private individuals

Projects 2025

CO₂ reduction t/a

89,543

Thermal renovation
incl. »Raus aus Öl und Gas«
bonus and »Sauber Heizen
für Alle«



516,744

3,631

Storage

60,361 kWh
submitted capacity



4,252

2,782

Photovoltaics

29,596 kW_{peak}
submitted capacity



8,285

20,233

E-mobility



21,470

*National environmental funding, energy efficiency, climate-friendly district heating systems, Transformation der Industrie, renovation offensive, Forest Fund (not including the effects of the Climate and Energy Fund programs)

WATER MANAGEMENT

Residential water management



6,590

objects

△ approx. 38,580 inhabitants could be connected to the public sewage system

approx.

21,250

inhabitants are being newly supplied

330 km

water pipes were funded

Flood protection

6,230

residents better protected against flooding

6,347 km

watercourses with new plans

Ecological measures at rivers

78

transverse structures were made passable.

112

meters difference in altitude were thereby overcome.

71

kilometers of river were improved hydromorphologically.

CONTAMINATED SITES

Decontamination of approx.

1.35 million m²

of contaminated areas or

8.2 million m³

contaminated underground

404

additional green jobs were provided and secured respectively

Exhaustion and treatment of **6.6 million m³/a** contaminated soil air and contaminated landfill gas

Extraction and purification of **9.5 million m³/a** contaminated ground and seepage water respectively

Clearing and treatment of **390,000 m³** highly contaminated underground and landfill bodies respectively

LAND RECYCLING

Reuse of

320,000 m²

developed land

29 development concepts

15 examinations



International Consulting

OUR SERVICES

- Climate Change Advice
- Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
- Environment, Water/Wastewater, and Contaminated Sites
- Design and Implementation of Financing Facilities and Support Schemes for Green Finance

38

ongoing projects

EUR 4.4m

sales

9

different clients

Climate Austria

Climate Austria is a provider of voluntary climate protection contributions. Private customers, companies and public institutions can use Climate Austria to calculate their greenhouse gas emissions, define measures to reduce CO₂ and offset remaining emissions by contributing to climate protection projects.

Compensations

Period from January 1st, 2025 to December 31st, 2025



companies

18,812

compensated metric tons of CO₂



flights

10,002

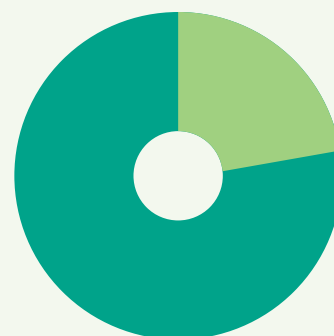
Number of flights offset in 2025

11,018

number of metric tons of CO₂ offset by flights 2025

ALLOCATION BASED ON CONTRIBUTION

Austrian projects
78%



International projects
22%

Funding Management

BUSINESS AREA

FUNDING MANAGEMENT

Funding management is our main business area. For our clients, we implement tailored funding programs in the field of climate and environment protection. Serving as an interface between our clients who provide financial means and the applicants of fundings, we see the whole funding process through. The funding process is carried out on a digital, networking, and coordinated basis and guarantees a quick and non-bureaucratic handling of the instruments. Clear funding criteria make for objectivity and planning reliability and add to customer satisfaction.

The range of services includes:

- Granting of funding application in form and content
- Determination of funding degree
- Support concerning the decision process, compiling of funding recommendations
- Assistance of decision boards
- Issuing of contracts and letters of rejection
- Processing of final settlements and payment management
- Monitoring and reporting

For further information concerning funding management, please go to:
www.umweltfoerderung.at

Facts and figures regarding funding management can be found in **Facts & Figures 2025** in the front section of this report. (from page 17)

CONTRIBUTION 1 National Climate and Energy Strategy

National environmental funding once again substantially helped towards the realization of the Austrian Climate and Energy Strategy in 2025. [page 25](#)

CONTRIBUTION 2 Transformation der Industrie – transformation grant

The introduction of the »Transformation der Industrie« program marked a decisive step toward advancing the decarbonization of the Austrian economy. The transformation grant complements existing funding instruments and gives companies the opportunity to compensate not only investment costs but, for the first time, ongoing additional costs as well. [page 29](#)

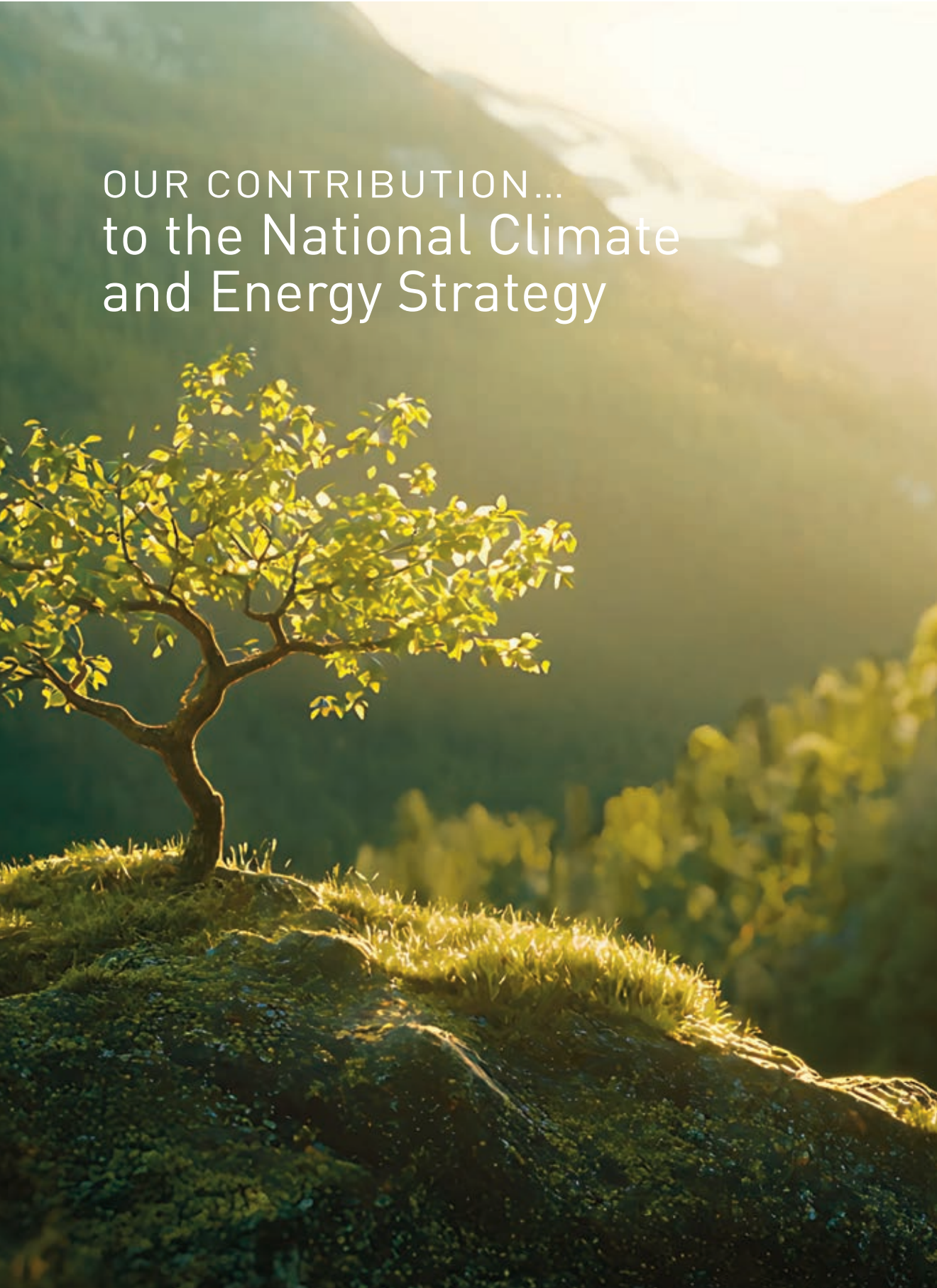
CONTRIBUTION 3 Hochwasserzuwendung 2025

In 2025, KPC secured the Ministry of Social Affairs (BMASGPK) as a new client and launched the »Hochwasserzuwendung« in April. This is not a funding per se, but rather a one-time financial assistance payment for private individuals whose primary residence was damaged by the floods in September 2024. [page 37](#)

CONTRIBUTION 4 Reparaturbonus becomes Geräte-Retter-Prämie

Under the slogan »Get it running again«, the »Geräte-Retter-Prämie« was launched on January 12, 2026, as a funding campaign by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management. [page 54](#)

OUR CONTRIBUTION...
to the National Climate
and Energy Strategy



The main goal of the National Climate and Energy Strategy (NEKP) is the decarbonization of both the economy and the energy systems. The energy revolution is not only connected to technological change but is also a social project. The revolution shall be made possible through a combination of awareness raising measures, the increase of energy efficiency, the efficient use of renewable energies, and the specific support of innovative environmental technologies.

The goal: until 2030, greenhouse gas emissions are to be reduced by 48% in comparison to 2005. Electricity in Austria shall be fully produced by renewable energies. The fundings in regard to environment are important tools for the achievement of these ambitious goals of the Austrian federal government.

Administered by Kommunalkredit Public Consulting (KPC), national environmental funding (UFI) is the long-established instrument of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK), the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs, Energy and Tourism (BMWET), for the funding of environmental and climate protection measures in Austria.

Over the last years already, this instrument has put a particular focus on climate protection: with the funding of renewable energies, a broad funding palette concerning energy efficiency, the use of industrial waste heat, the transformation of the industry, and more. Besides that, also resource efficiency belongs to the funding offer. The second big instrument for which KPC oversees funding actions in the field of climate and energy is the Climate and Energy Fund which also has a broad funding palette designed for different target groups. A lot of the projects which are processed daily by employees of KPC are making a significant contribution to the implementation of the NEKP.

Renovation offensive

With its decision to continue the renovation offensive in 2026, the BMLUK is providing a decisive incentive for achieving national climate targets and strengthening sustainable change in the building sector. With an

annual budget of EUR 360 million for the period 2026 to 2030 (i.e., a total of EUR 1.8 billion), the initiative provides substantial funding specifically targeted at the decarbonization and modernization of Austrian housing. The renovation offensive continues to focus on the proven priorities of boiler replacement and renovation bonus, the continuation of which promotes the conversion to renewable heating systems and comprehensive thermal and energy-efficient renovations.

To ensure efficient and targeted use of funds, the flat-rate fundings have been revised and the maximum funding rate adjusted to 30%. The registration and application process has been redesigned and now uses a modernized authentication process that combines security and user-friendliness. A new central webpage offers clear information, digital application submission, and personal advice from a single source.

The 2026 renovation offensive takes into account current technical specifications such as the UZ37 (2025) environmental label and the new EU F-gas Regulation, thus complying with the latest standards in climate protection and building technology. Applications and registrations can be submitted from November 2025 as long as budget funds are available, but no later than December 31, 2026.

The offensive will make a significant contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and at the same time create a framework for implementing comprehensive renovation projects quickly and effectively. This will improve the quality of life in residential areas in the long term and shape the future in a climate-friendly way through the implementation of ambitious projects.

The supplementary funding program for low-income households that cannot afford to switch to climate-friendly heating, which has been available since the beginning of 2022, will also be continued. The »Sauber Heizen für Alle« campaign is being implemented in close cooperation with the federal states and enables funding of up to 100% for heating system replacement.

Renewable heat

As with the renovation offensive, the demand for heating and water is also an important topic—but from another point of view. Fossil heating systems (fuel oil, natural gas) still play a major role concerning heating

Funding management

in Austria. Even though the amount of renewable energies has risen in previous years, many oil and gas heating systems are still operating nationwide. The projects funded by national environmental funding (UFI) annually increase the use of renewable energies by many gigawatt hours. Concerning this field, district heating connections, the extension of district heating networks and their production centers, heat pumps, biomass individual plants and micro grids, geothermal use, and thermal solar systems are funded. With an environmentally relevant investment volume of about EUR 678.0 million (2024: about EUR 635.0 million), the respective funded projects in 2025 are able to save about 378,700 metric tons of CO₂ per year (2024: about 323,800 metric tons). The projects funded in the course of national environmental funding (UFI) boost the use of renewable energies in Austria, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase the degree of national self-supply with energy, and push local value added.

Energy efficiency

In addition to the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources, saving energy is another important pillar of environmental funding through the energy efficiency

program. Measures to increase energy efficiency are increasingly important and gaining in significance. As part of the energy efficiency program, EUR 150 million was made available for energy efficiency projects in 2025. In the area of energy saving, funding was provided for lighting optimization, energy-efficient refrigeration systems and energy efficiency measures in industrial processes and plants, among other things.

In 2025, projects with an environmentally relevant investment volume of around EUR 499.5 million (2024: around EUR 594.9 million) were funded in the course of the energy efficiency program. The wide range of funding offered by national environmental funding and the energy efficiency program enables energy consumption to be reduced and CO₂ emissions to be cut. The projects supported by all funding instruments will result in total energy savings of around 1,421 GWh per year.



PROJECT EXAMPLE RENEWABLE HEAT Nahwärme

Nahwärme Naarn GmbH increases energy efficiency by expanding the network and modernizing the heating plant

Nahwärme Naarn GmbH has been operating a local heating network in the municipality of Naarn im Machland (Upper Austria) for many years and is taking another step toward sustainable heat supply with a comprehensive expansion project. The aim is to expand the existing network and increase efficiency through technical modernization of the heating plant.

As part of the project, the local heating network will be expanded to include 72 new heat consumers, including housing associations and several small consumers. The additional connected load is 1,555 kW. Together with the existing expansion, this will result in an annual heat output of around 3,427 MWh. The network length will grow to around 6,035 meters, which will enable the supply of 96 consumers in the future.

A flue gas condensation system will be installed in the heating center, which will help to recover heat from the exhaust gases and increase the overall efficiency of the system from 75% to 83%. In addition, the flue gas fan of the existing biomass boiler will be replaced. An oil boiler with a rated output of 1,350 kW will be installed to cover peak loads and act as a backup reserve. Two buffer storage tanks with a volume of 45 m³ and 5 m³ will ensure stable grid operation.

In the future, thermal energy will be generated by an 800 kW biomass boiler. The fuel used will mainly consist of wood chips sourced from within a radius of 50 km. This means that the project meets the requirements for a sustainability bonus.

The new plant will save around 395 MWh of heating oil and 2 GWh of natural gas annually. This corresponds to a CO₂ reduction of around 604 metric tons per year—a significant contribution to the regional energy transition and climate protection.

Around EUR 2.7 million has been invested in this forward-looking project. Thanks to national environmental funding on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK), administered by Kommunalkredit Public Consulting (KPC), around EUR 327,000 of the investment costs can be funded. In addition, around EUR 411,000 is being funded by the EU as part of the »National CAP Strategic Plan 2023–2027« and around EUR 218,000 by the federal state of Upper Austria, bringing the total funding to around EUR 956,000.



PROJECT EXAMPLE ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Ankerbrot

Baking tradition with vision:
Ankerbrot focuses on energy efficiency
at its new industrial bakery site

Ankerbrot—Austria's largest bakery chain with a history spanning more than 130 years—is fundamentally modernizing its production. With the relocation of the bakery site from Absberggasse in Vienna to Lichtenwörth in Lower Austria, a comprehensive energy efficiency concept has also been implemented.

For this, the energy audit compared the energy consumption of the old site with that of the new production facility. The results speak for themselves: total energy consumption was reduced from 31,500 MWh at the old site to 16,000 MWh in Lichtenwörth, Lower Austria—a saving of almost 50%.

Thanks to a series of innovative measures, energy consumption has been drastically reduced. The use of efficient thermal oil furnaces and the optimization of the baking process save around 6,551 MWh of natural gas per year. In addition to that, the new furnace technology enables better heat transfer, lower supply losses, and leads to a reduction in production waste.

Heat utilization has also been optimized: heat recovery from production processes and refrigeration systems supplies the hot water and heating circuits. In combination with a high-temperature heat pump, Ankerbrot saves 1,276 metric tons of CO₂ per year. With comprehensive heat recovery technology, the heat demand of 5,165 MWh/a can be covered entirely by waste heat. Additional savings of 167 MWh of electricity and 38 metric tons of CO₂ can be achieved through the use of modern fermentation and cooling processes:

- Ultrasonic atomization in the fermentation process reduces the electricity required for humidification to just 2% of the previous energy consumption.
- Ultrasonic atomization (adiabatic cooling) and free cooling with outside air cooling are used in the cooling process for baked goods.

Optimizing the deep-freeze warehouse causes additional efficiency: automated conveyor technology with a positioning system drastically reduces heat input during storage. This saves 1,137 MWh of electricity and 258 metric tons of CO₂ per year.

Ankerbrot is investing a total of around EUR 8.6 million of environmentally relevant costs for the entire project, saving around 3,100 metric tons of CO₂ annually. Around EUR 1.3 million of this is being provided by national environmental funding. Kommunalkredit Public Consulting is responsible for processing the funding on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Climate Protection, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation, and Technology (BMK).

Transformation der Industrie

Transformation grant

The implementation of the »Transformation der Industrie« program marked a decisive step toward advancing the decarbonization of the Austrian economy.

The transformation grant complements existing funding instruments and gives companies the opportunity to offset not only investment costs but, for the first time, also the additional running costs of using renewable energy sources compared to fossil fuel alternatives. The aim is to facilitate the transition to climate-friendly technologies and thus significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions in particularly energy-intensive industries.

The funding is aimed at manufacturing companies whose activities fall within the scope of the Environmental Funding Act. The prerequisite is that the measures submitted result in a substantial reduction in emissions and contribute to the long-term decarbonization of the overall process. The call for proposals stipulates that projects must be implemented within a clearly defined time frame and that the required environmental impacts must be demonstrably achieved. The special feature of the transformation grant lies in its structure: over a period of up to ten years, the additional costs for renewable energy sources are offset on the basis of transparent price indices. This creates a financial incentive that ensures the competitiveness of the industry during the transition and at the same time increases planning security. The amount of funding is based on the actual cost differences and the greenhouse gas reduction achieved.

The program is designed to be competitive in order to prioritize those projects that make the most efficient contribution to climate neutrality. Besides quantitative criteria such as cost per metric ton of CO₂ avoided, qualitative aspects such as ecological and economic sustainability and project maturity are also taken into account. With a total annual budget of EUR 400 million and a clear strategic focus, the »Transformation der Industrie« program is a key instrument for achieving Austria's ambitious climate targets and sustainably strengthening the country as an industrial location.

4
granted
projects

Amounts in million Euro

838
Investment

Amounts in million Euro

247.3
Fundings

PROJECT EXAMPLE
TRANSFORMATION
DER INDUSTRIE

Holcim C2PATplus

Holcim (Austria) GmbH is one of the leading companies in the building materials industry and operates two major cement plants in Mannersdorf am Leithagebirge and Retznei in southern Styria. With the »C2PATplus« project, the company is setting a groundbreaking milestone for the decarbonization of the cement industry. At the Mannersdorf site, the largest cement plant in the country, a large-scale carbon capture plant is being built for the first time, combining PSA (pressure swing absorption) technology and cryogenic gas separation. The plant will be installed as a retrofit solution directly on the existing exhaust stack of the rotary kiln without changing the thermal process. With continuous production, around 700,000 metric tons of CO₂ can be separated annually. The liquefied CO₂ is collected in a 7,500 m³ tank and then transported by rail to the storage infrastructure in Ravenna, Italy, where it is geologically stored in a certified offshore gas storage facility under the Adriatic Sea.

In the medium term, a CO₂ utilization concept for the production of plastics and other chemicals will be developed. Only renewable electricity will be used to operate the separation plant, with an additional annual requirement of around 288,500 MWh at full capacity. The investment amounts to around EUR 400 million. With this measure, Holcim is significantly reducing process-related emissions and creating a scalable model for comparable industrial companies in Europe. Commissioning is scheduled for April 2031 at the latest. Holcim is thus positioning itself as a technological pioneer and demonstrating how industrial decarbonization can be implemented on a large scale.

Leuchttürme der Wärmewende 2025

The Climate and Energy Fund's »Leuchttürme der Wärmewende« funding program supports companies, municipalities, and research institutions in implementing innovative solutions for climate-neutral heating and cooling. The aim is to push the decarbonization of the heating sector, accelerate the renovation of existing buildings, and promote holistic concepts for neighborhoods. This should reduce dependence on fossil fuels and make a significant contribution to achieving national climate targets.

The call for tenders provides a comprehensive range of funding opportunities that combine both research and implementation. Funding will be provided for three priority areas: the establishment of a national innovation laboratory as a central platform for knowledge transfer and networking; the preparation of combined research and demonstration projects through exploratory studies; and the demonstration and implementation of innovative solutions in large-volume buildings and neighborhoods. The latter includes measures for renovation, redensification, and renewable heat and cooling supply, as well as the decarbonization of existing climate-friendly district heating networks.

The program addresses companies, energy suppliers, non-profit housing associations, cities and municipalities, as well as research institutions. A total of EUR 45 million is available for the call for tenders. Depending on the module, the funding rate is up to 65%, with a maximum of EUR 4.5 million per project. Innovative integrated projects combine research and development measures with demonstration projects and are intended to serve as holistic solutions for the heat transition.

The program has initiated numerous projects that take into account not only technological innovations but also social and ecological aspects. Particular emphasis is placed on resource conservation, circular economy, and climate change adaptation. All funded projects are required to publish their results according to the open access principle and to participate in monitoring by the innovation laboratory.

Boiler replacement private individuals

62,538
granted projects

Amounts in million Euro

2,045.7
Investment

Amounts in million Euro

1,101.1
Fundings

Renovation offensive 2025

With the funding programs of the renovation offensive («Raus aus Öl und Gas» and renovation bonus), Austria is taking a decisive step toward achieving climate neutrality.

In addition to climate protection, thermal energy renovation measures also improve the quality of living, reduce energy consumption, maintain property value, and lower operating costs.

A total of EUR 3.7 billion was available for the renovation offensive during the 2023–2025 funding period. In December 2024, the funds were exhausted and the campaign was terminated. With a valid registration, it was still possible to submit a funding application until December 20, 2025, at the latest.

High demand led to more applications being approved in 2025 than in previous years. A total of over 89,700 applications were approved, with a net present value of around EUR 1,569.4 million and an investment volume of more than EUR 3,508.4 million. The projects achieve annual CO₂ savings of 524,570 metric tons.

In October 2025, the continuation of the renovation offensive was announced and the new funding conditions were presented. The initiative continues to focus on two key areas of funding: boiler replacement to switch to climate-friendly heating systems and the renovation bonus for thermal and energy-efficient building renovation. Due to budget consolidation in the public sector, funding for the coming funding period is declining compared to the very high levels of previous years. Nevertheless, the BMLUK is providing a budget of EUR 1,800 million (EUR 360 million per year) for 2026–2030 to continue on the path to climate neutrality by 2040.

The 2026 renovation offensive presents a number of improvements compared to the previous funding system: a fixed annual budget will ensure efficient use of funds in the future, and mandatory registration guarantees planning security. In addition, a new website has been implemented, the online portal »KPC-Online« has been integrated as a central submission platform, and a chatbot has been provided to support the application process. These enhancements have further improved the straightforward and user-friendly online submission process for climate protection projects and contribute to more efficient processing. The funding campaign was successfully launched on December 24, 2025. In the first week, 1,750 applications and over 4,200 registrations were already recorded.

The renovation offensive thus remains an immediate measure for implementing the goals of the NEKP, the Austrian Energy and Climate Plan. In recent years, it has proven to be a reliable, continuous, and at the same time flexible funding instrument with opportunities for targeted prioritization.

Renovation bonus

23,448
granted
projects

Amounts in million Euro

1,238.9
Investment

Amounts in million Euro

391.5
Fundings

The year 2025 in numbers

In the course of the »Raus aus Öl und Gas« initiative, around 62,500 applications were approved with a total funding volume of approximately EUR 1,101.1 million. That is almost 70% of the entire renovation. Around half of households (49%) opted to switch to a highly efficient heat pump. Around 41% switched to climate-friendly biomass heating, while district heating was used by around 10% of applicants. Almost half of the heating systems replaced were oil boilers (46%), followed by gas heating systems (38%). Multi-fuel burners, coal and coke stoves were replaced in 13% of households, and 3% had their old electric heating systems removed. Overall, this led to annual CO₂ savings of almost 437,700 metric tons.

As part of the renovation bonus for private individuals, around 23,400 applications were approved with a total funding volume of just over EUR 391.5 million. Looking at the applications approved in 2025 as part of the renovation bonus, 13% relate to comprehensive renovations. 4% of the applications pertain to partial renovations, around 83% of the applications to the renovation of individual components, with 88% concerning window replacement, followed by insulation of the top floor ceiling/roof (7.5%), insulation of exterior walls (3.5%), and insulation of the bottom floor ceiling/basement (1%).



Sauber Heizen für Alle 2025

In addition to the federal funding program »Raus aus Öl und Gas« and the renovation offensive, the BMK also supported low-income households in replacing fossil-fuel-fired space heating with sustainable, climate-friendly heating systems in 2025. The funding campaign »Sauber Heizen für Alle« is financed by the federal government and implemented together with the federal states.

The funding in the course of »Sauber Heizen für Alle« includes the basic funding provided by the federal government, which all households are entitled to for the replacement of the boiler, the basic funding provided by the respective federal state, and additional funding for low-income households in order to cover up to 100% of the eligible costs in the overall package. Funding is available for the replacement of fossil fuel heating systems (oil, gas, coal/coke/multi-fuel stoves and electric night storage or direct storage heaters). Private building owners of a single/two-family home or terraced house with their main residence at the project site can apply for additional social funding.

The year 2025 in numbers

In 2025, around 3,500 funding applications were approved as part of the »Sauber Heizen für Alle« campaign. The majority of applicants (69%) opted to switch to biomass heating. Another 27% chose a heat pump as their new heating system, and 4% of applicants installed a connection to local or district heating. Nearly half of the decommissioned heating systems were oil-fired (40%), followed by gas-fired (31%). In addition, 26% of households replaced a multi-fuel burner, coal stove, or coke oven, and 3% got rid of their electric heating. The resulting annual CO₂ savings amount to approximately 27,800 metric tons.

3,557
granted
projects

Amounts in million Euro

115.2
Investment

Amounts in million Euro

62.1
Fundings

KPC-Online: The new portal for funding projects

»KPC-Online« is a new online portal from KPC that enables applicants—both private individuals and companies—to manage their funding projects in a modern, efficient, and transparent manner.

The project was launched in spring 2025. The most important goals and content of the new portal were mapped in initial consultations and workshops. The result was a draft that presented the concept and desired functions of the new platform. From this, the final design for the new online portal was created in collaboration with the agency »eigenart.«. The »Enterprise Solutions« team at KA-IT was responsible for the technical implementation and integration into the funding process at KPC, working closely with the central team in the »Wohnen und Energie« department. The new portal can be accessed at **www.kpc-online.at**.

Important milestones for the project were the launch of the e-mobility offensive 2025 and the renovation offensive 2026. With the start of the funding campaigns in October and November 2025, respectively, the portal was made available to applicants for the first time.

Access to the portal is straightforward and project-based: users can log in with their business number and email address without the need for complex user administration. The business number is automatically sent to users after registration or application. Once logged in, you can conveniently manage your projects on »KPC-Online« and view the current status of your funding applications at any time.

What are the advantages of KPC-Online?

The portal impresses with its intuitive and simple operation. Thanks to its responsive design, »KPC-Online« can be used optimally on all devices, from smartphones to desktop PCs. The clear structure and easy navigation make it easy for all target groups to get started and use the portal.

A key feature of »KPC-Online« is its transparent communication: applicants can track the status of their funding applications in real time, giving them a quick overview of the current status at any time. The portal acts as a single point of contact and offers a central point of contact for all questions and concerns relating to funding projects.

New funding programs can be easily integrated. The portal is also being continuously developed to meet future requirements and technological developments. Among other things, there are plans to store all correspondence and relevant documents centrally so that they can be viewed online at any time.



Hochwasserzuwendung 2025

In 2025, KPC secured the Ministry of Social Affairs (BMASGPK) as a new client and launched the »Hochwasserzuwendung« in April.

This is not a funding per se, but rather a one-time financial assistance payment for private individuals whose primary residence was damaged by the floods in September 2024.

To maintain living space, support amounted to EUR 2,200 per damage location. Up to EUR 3,500 per damage location could be applied for to procure living space.

Applications could be submitted until September 2, 2025. A total of 1,950 applications were submitted and processed by KPC.



OUR CONTRIBUTION...
to water management

Facts and figures regarding residential water management can be found in **Facts & Figures 2025** in the front section of this report. (page 19)

Residential water management

One of the main concerns of Austrian water policy is to keep Austria's water resources clean and to use them sustainably. For this, funding is provided for municipal water supply and municipal wastewater disposal in Austria through the Environmental Funding Act.

On the one hand, the aim of municipal residential water management is to ensure a high-quality drinking water supply through which the population and commercial businesses are supplied 24/7. On the other hand, public wastewater disposal must be ensured with regard to groundwater protection, water pollution control and, ultimately, health care. Since 1959, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK) has been funding the construction, renovation, and adaptation to the state of the art of these facilities.

Supplying the population with high-quality drinking water and the disposing of wastewater are important municipal tasks. In order to secure and expand this important infrastructure, EUR 100 million is being provided for residential water management through the Fiscal Equalization Act. Furthermore, additional means of funding from a special tranche of around EUR 50 million per year from the Environmental and Water Management Fund are available for permits for the years 2024 to 2026.

Water is essential for human and nature, it is our most precious resource. Investments in the regional water infrastructure are not only investments in the quality of life of the people but also serve the protection of the environment and nature. Drinking water supply projects are a high priority, especially in view of the drought. In addition to that, the renovation of sewer networks and the expansion of sewage treatment plants must also be pushed forward. Experience shows that a large proportion of the contracts are awarded regionally, securing jobs in the immediate vicinity of the projects being implemented.

2,132
granted
projects

Amounts in million Euro

897.9
Investment

Amounts in million Euro

167.0
Fundings



Ecological measures at rivers

Based on the Environmental Support Act, a total of EUR 340 million from the equity of the Environmental and Water Management Fund has been available since 2009 for measures to improve the ecological condition of watercourses. The aim is to reduce the hydromorphological strains on surface waters. KPC supports measures to improve structures and ensure the permeability at transverse constructions or hydro power plants.

For centuries, water bodies have been heavily influenced by the settlement of areas close to rivers, industrial activity, the use of hydropower, and intensive agricultural activity: cross constructions, water abstraction, damming, and regulation can have significant effects on aquatic organisms and thus on the ecological status of water bodies. Overall, around 54% of Austria's water bodies with a catchment area of > 10 km² are at potential or definite risk of failing to meet the targets set by the European Water Framework Directive due to hydro-morphological strains.

Goals and intended effects of the funding

The two funding programs (for municipal funding applicants and for competition participants) as well as the financing of ecological measures at rivers the federal government is obliged to implement support the implementation of measures of the National Water Management Plan (NGP). More so than in the first two management plans, the 3rd NGP focuses on improving water structure, i.e., creating suitable habitats for aquatic life. In order to restore functional systems with stable populations, all necessary habitats must be available in sufficient numbers and sizes and they must be accessible.

If there are too few suitable habitats in a water system, the effect of the measures taken to restore passability will also be limited. The restoration of type-specific habitat conditions is not only a basic prerequisite for functional ecosystems and the achievement of good ecological status in water bodies, it is also indispensable in view of the additional stresses of climate change in the future in order to make water bodies more resilient.

Rivers need more space

In addition to sufficient financial resources, the availability of land is a decisive factor for the successful implementation of measures. Morphological measures, such as widening watercourses, usually require a lot of space to be effective. This space is often difficult to obtain due to existing uses, and the acquisition of land requires considerable financial resources. Acquiring land for watercourse restoration is certainly the greatest challenge in planning and implementing measures to improve the condition of watercourses.

55
granted
projects

Amounts in million Euro

59.1
Investment

Amounts in million Euro

43.8
Fundings



Flood protection

The purpose of flood protection is to protect people and their living, settlement, and economic areas, as well as to preserve and protect watercourses and flood catchment areas. Priority is given to prevention over post-disaster clean-up, and to maintaining the protective effect of the natural environment over the implementation of technical protective measures.

Flood risk management in Austria

Due to its geographical location and climatic conditions, Austria is highly vulnerable to natural disasters. Heavy debris-laden floods and mudslides threaten mountainous regions, while prolonged, widespread flooding affects residential and commercial areas in flat and hilly terrain. Flood protection systems are being built in Austria to protect settlements, critical infrastructure, and important economic locations. In addition to flood protection dams, the focus is on flood retention measures such as the construction of retention basins.

Where possible, the aim is to keep areas at risk of flooding free of development in the spirit of »passive« flood protection, with spatial planning, building regulations, disaster control, and awareness raising playing an important role. All interventions take ecological requirements into account and select methods that protect water bodies and the landscape as far as possible. The designation of floodplains, hazard zones, and functional areas forms an important basis for local spatial planning and informing the population about natural hazards.

It should be noted, however, that despite all protective measures, a residual risk always remains. Although the protective structures are designed to withstand a 100-year event in accordance with Austrian objectives, overload or failure due to even larger/rarer events can never be ruled out.

Technical Guidelines for Hydraulic Engineering – New Implementation Regulations (DFB)

The Implementation Regulations (DFB 2020) for the Technical Guidelines for Hydraulic Engineering (TRL-WB), which have been in force since 2020, were subjected to an internal evaluation and a federal/state discussion. The DFB were revised with a view to simplifying administration, increasing transparency and comprehensibility, strengthening (superior) planning instruments, and clearly prioritizing retention and land conservation.

The main changes concern the clear definition of financing requirements, the homogeneous determination of financing shares, and the significant improvement of the position of interested parties. As a basis for decision-making on measures, a superior planning level—the water development and risk management concept—was established to ensure catchment-related planning. Furthermore, the financing shares can be increased by keeping functional areas free in accordance with the Hazard Zone Planning Ordinance and by additional costs due to sediment transport.

716
granted
projects

Amounts in million Euro

191.9
Investment

Amounts in million Euro

117.4
Fundings

PROJECT EXAMPLE
 WATER MANAGEMENT
 KI-WAZU
 AI-supported water supply of the future

With its project »KI-WAZU – AI-supported water supply of the future«, the Leibnitzerfeld-Süd Water Association is implementing innovative measures designed to ensure security of supply even in times of increasing climatic challenges.

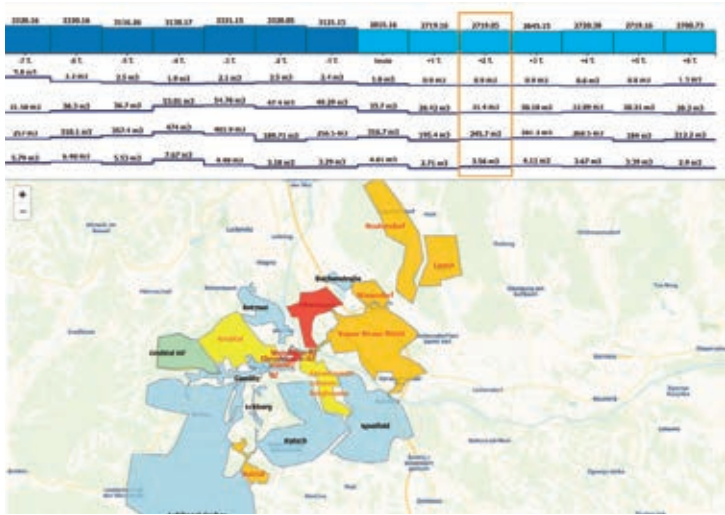
Measures and innovations

In order to assess water supply and demand at an early stage and to manage operations proactively, a dynamic groundwater and forecasting model was developed that takes weather data, consumption habits, and groundwater levels into account. Based on this data, the water manager receives forecasts for the coming days. The course of action derived from this corresponds to the requirements for passive AI.

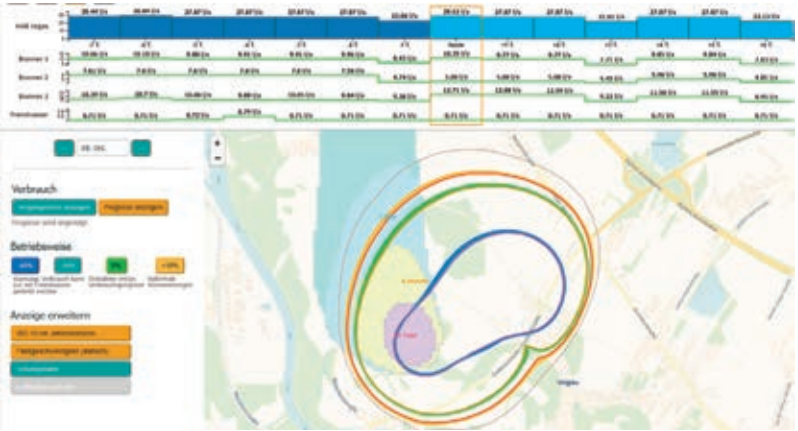
In addition, sensors, microphones, and cameras are used in relevant parts of the plant. These systems enable real-time acoustic and visual monitoring. With the help of AI, damage or anomalies—deviations between information from the control technology and AI evaluations, such as pump and motor problems, leaks, smoke development, or unauthorized access—can be detected at an early stage. This allows spare parts to be procured in good time and downtime to be prevented or greatly reduced.

Another focus is the creation of a digital hydraulic twin of the entire distribution network. This allows different operating scenarios, such as the failure of plant components or the provision of firefighting water reserves, to be simulated and predicted for the next six days. This provides the association with a sound basis for decision-making.

The multitude of data sources and data exchange capabilities is secured via a secure demilitarized zone configuration that maintains all essential services as digital twins. This isolates direct access to the control technology and the office network.



Precise predictions of water demand based on historical data, weather forecasts, and zone-specific consumption patterns for the next 6 days



Visualization of model results water demand for the last 7 days and forecast for the next 6 days, isolines of groundwater drawdown for the following water withdrawals: recommended operating mode, +15%, and -45%



Valve field at the ZHB Weinleiten, which is monitored using body and air sound microphones and an infrared camera

Euro

494,000
Investment costs

BMLUK is investing about

104,000
Euro

The association supplies around

12,000
residents with drinking water

Findings and improvements

- **Greater security of supply:** Risks such as dry periods, tourist peaks, or water extraction in the event of a fire can be better anticipated and compensated for.
- **Increased efficiency:** Predictive pump controls and resource-saving operating modes save energy and water.
- **Early fault detection:** Anomalies in plant operation are detected before failures occur.

Summary

»KI-WAZU« clearly shows that artificial intelligence already offers concrete advantages in water supply today. The combination of forecasting models, real-time monitoring, and high data security makes it possible to significantly increase supply security, sustainability, and efficiency.



OUR CONTRIBUTION...
to biodiversity

Biodiversity Fund

The Biodiversity Fund aims to maintain, improve, and restore biological diversity in Austria by supporting measures to implement the national Biodiversity Strategy.

The destruction and fragmentation of natural habitats, loss of land, overuse, pollution, and displacement of native species by invasive species have led to a massive loss of biodiversity. The diversity of plants and animals as well as a large proportion of their habitats are endangered or have already been lost.

With the Biodiversity Fund, the Austrian federal government has created a funding program to support the implementation of the Austrian Biodiversity Strategy and achieve the Austrian biodiversity goals. From 2021 to 2025, in addition to national funds, the fund will receive a total of EUR 50 million from the EU's Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), which is part of NextGeneration EU. From 2026 onwards, the Biodiversity Fund will have access to approximately EUR 5 million in national funds annually in accordance with the Environmental Support Act.

The fund promotes measures to preserve, improve, and restore biodiversity in Austria, complementing EU agricultural policy and the Forest Fund.

The specific goals are:

- Improving the status of 30% of endangered species, biotopes, and habitat types
- Protecting 30% of the country's land area under nature conservation law
- Significantly increasing strictly protected areas within this percentage
- Establishing and implementing nationwide biodiversity monitoring
- Connecting protected areas through habitat corridors

6
granted
projects

Amounts in million Euro

10,4
Investment

Amounts in million Euro

10,4
Fundings

Funding priorities in 2025

In 2025, funding measures focused on projects in Austria dedicated to the key issues of ecosystem restoration, water connectivity, biodiversity measures in settlement areas, and measures to prevent the consequences of flooding. These priorities contribute significantly to strengthening the ecological functions of our landscapes and increasing resilience to climate change.

The funding calls published on these topics between 2022 and 2024 already made an important contribution to the implementation of the Biodiversity Strategy Austria 2030 and the achievement of global sustainability goals. The call for tenders was aimed at a broad spectrum of actors: local authorities (federal, state, and municipal), legal entities of biosphere, nature, and national parks, NGOs, companies, and private individuals who are actively committed to the protection and promotion of biodiversity.

Results of the 2025 funding period

A total of 38 projects with a funding volume of around EUR 6.5 million were recommended for funding in the fifth call for tenders. The resulting investment volume totaled EUR 6.5 million. Formally, most of these projects will not be approved until 2026, as the 2025 commitment framework has already been fully utilized. In 2025, a total of six projects with a funding volume of around EUR 10.4 million were approved by the Biodiversity Fund. The funded projects make a significant contribution to increasing biological diversity and the ecological enhancement and networking of habitats. For example, with the support of the Biodiversity Fund, new biodiversity areas and amphibian ponds have been created in numerous municipalities and cities, providing valuable habitats for endangered species.

These measures illustrate how targeted funding not only strengthens biodiversity, but also sustainably improves the quality of life in urban and rural areas.

KPC has set up a special website for the submission of projects to the Biodiversity Fund at **www.biodiversitätsfonds.at**.



Bustard courtship
Hanság

PROJECT EXAMPLE BIODIVERSITY FUND

Neusiedler See – Seewinkel National Park

Waasen–Hanság area expansion:
A win for nature, climate, and agriculture

The Biodiversity Fund of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK) was established at the end of 2022 and aims to preserve, improve, and restore biological diversity in Austria by supporting measures to implement the national biodiversity strategy. Since the launch of the Biodiversity Fund, more than 200 projects have been supported. The funding is aimed at local authorities, biosphere reserves, nature reserves, national parks, NGOs, companies, and private individuals who want to make a significant contribution to the protection of biodiversity.

The funding priorities to date have been the restoration of endangered ecosystems, the protection of threatened species, and the establishment of newly created protected areas.

Among the projects receiving funding, the expansion of the Waasen–Hanság conservation area in the Neusiedler See – Seewinkel National Park is particularly significant. Around 150 hectares of valuable wetland meadows have been secured for the long term and integrated into the existing national park. This not only enhances the protection status of the areas, but also makes a valuable contribution to the implementation of the Biodiversity Strategy Austria 2030 and the EU Renaturation Act.

In the summer of 2025, BMLUK and the Neusiedler See – Seewinkel National Park concluded the funding agreement. By involving local landowners and farmers, it has been possible to combine ecological goals with regional interests. Targeted grazing and mowing will support maintenance measures in the future and thus contribute to the sustainable preservation of biological diversity.

The Hanság is Austria's largest lowland moorland area and a unique habitat of European importance. Once part of the Neusiedler See lake basin, it was extensively drained in the 19th century. Today, only small remnants of the original moorland landscape remain. The expansion of the national park now enables the long-term protection and ecological enhancement of these areas. In addition to protecting biodiversity, bog conservation also makes an important contribution to climate protection, as bogs store large amounts of carbon and help protect groundwater.

The expansion strengthens cross-border cooperation with the Hungarian Fertő–Hanság Nemzeti Park. The new areas are only two kilometers away from the already protected Hungarian areas, thus creating important stepping stone habitats for migratory species. This is a decisive step towards better connectivity within the Europe-wide network of protected areas.

Numerous endangered species benefit from the expansion of the area:

- **Breeding birds:** Montagu's harrier (*Circus pygargus*), corncrake (*Crex crex*), imperial eagle (*Aquila heliaca*)
- **Amphibians:** Danube crested newt (*Triturus dobrogicus*), fire-bellied toad (*Bombina orientalis*), tree frog (*Hyla arborea*)
- **Grasshoppers (Orthoptera):** Marsh grasshopper (*Stethophyma grossum*), short-winged sword grasshopper (*Conocephalus dorsalis*), Pfändler's burrowing grasshopper (*Xya pfaendleri*)
- **Mammals:** Pannonian water vole (*Microtus economus mehelyi*), a rare relict species in Europe

The expansion of the Waasen–Hanság conservation zone is a prime example of how nature conservation, agriculture, and international cooperation can work together. The project not only strengthens ecological diversity, but also benefits the climate, water balance, and people in the region. This represents a significant step toward achieving Austrian and European biodiversity goals.



OUR CONTRIBUTION...
to a circular economy

Circular economy

The funding campaign »Kreislaufwirtschaft« intends to contribute to the implementation of the Austrian Circular Economy Strategy—Austria on the way to a sustainable and circular society. The transformation towards a circular economy means closing resource flows in manufacturing, distribution and consumption processes, thereby massively reducing the consumption of raw materials and other materials, as well as the amount of waste and environmental pollution.

In the second year, funding was again provided for measures in several important areas of the value creation cycle: »Circular design and sustainable production«, »Sustainable business models«, and »Sorting, reuse, and recycling of selected waste streams and residual materials«. In 2025, EUR 61 million in funding was available.

Austria on the way to a sustainable and circular society

The dramatic consequences of the energy and climate crisis are confronting our society with extraordinary challenges. The circular economy model can make a significant contribution: it protects the climate and conserves valuable materials by promoting a more conscious use of our natural resources. This is a prerequisite for a sustainable economic development and for achieving the climate protection goals. For this reason, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK) established the »Kreislaufwirtschaft« funding program back in 2024 with the aim of implementing a functioning circular economy in Austria.

More circular economy for Austria – Funding of measures in important areas of the value-added chain

The information sheet on funding for the circular economy, which was adopted in January 2025, contains five areas of action. The area of action »Circular design« is located at the beginning of the value creation cycle and covers the areas of »Product Design« and »Sustainable Design of Production Processes«. »Sustainable business models« and the »Sorting, reuse, and recycling of selected waste streams« are further areas of action covered by the information sheet.

499

granted projects

Amounts in million Euro

112.1

Investment

Amounts in million Euro

43.3

Fundings

Another component of the information sheet is investments in facilities related to waste incineration. These are facilities for incinerating municipal sewage sludge as a pre-treatment prior to recovering phosphorus from the resulting incineration ash, and facilities for recovering phosphorus from the incineration ash of sewage sludge incineration plants. Plants for the material recycling of residues from waste incineration plants in accordance with Chapter 4.10 of the Federal Waste Management Plan 2023 are also included in the funding program.

The »Reparaturbonus« campaign and the funding of reverse vending machines also make an important contribution to realizing a functioning circular economy in Austria. The »Reparaturbonus« campaign, which expired in May 2025, was intended to be an important step away from the throwaway society and toward a more sustainable use of valuable resources.

The successor model to the »Reparaturbonus« campaign, the »Geräte-Retter-Prämie«, was launched in December 2025.

The »Geräte-Retter-Prämie« also creates a new incentive to repair electrical and electronic devices, and household appliances can be repaired at low cost. The aim is to reduce material consumption through repair and thus protect the environment.

As of January 1, 2025, a mandatory deposit has been in force in Austria. Anyone who buys a disposable bottle or can pays a small amount as a deposit. This money is returned when the container is returned. The purchase of reverse vending machines for the return of these containers has been funded since 2022. Submissions were accepted until June 2025.

PROJECT EXAMPLE
CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Müller-Guttenbrunn Group

Composite material processing plant (VAA)
for the recovery of relevant raw materials

Since 1954, the Müller-Guttenbrunn Group has specialized in the recycling of ferrous and non-ferrous metal scrap as well as the treatment and recovery of waste electrical and electronic equipment.

METRAN Rohstoff-Aufbereitungsgesellschaft m.b.H. is the competence center for non-ferrous metals within the group. It recovers high-quality, unmixed secondary raw materials from complex waste and shredder streams. Through the continuous development of its sorting and separation processes, METRAN is creating the technological basis for processing more and more industrial metals with even greater precision, purity, and efficiency—or for extracting them in the first place.

The new composite material processing plant in Kematen an der Ybbs, Lower Austria, is specially designed for the processing and separation of shredder light fractions, electrical and electronic scrap, packaging fractions, and aluminum composites, with a treatment capacity of 15,000 tons per year. This complex recycling plant is divided into several steps to ensure the efficient recovery of valuable metals.

This composite material processing plant (VAA) uses mechanical separation processes to separate secondary raw materials that were previously not recoverable in Austria. The following secondary raw materials from complex composite materials are recovered at the site: copper, brass, zinc, stainless steel, and even gold and silver. This leads to increased resource efficiency and the closure of material cycles that were previously not possible in Austria. Without this plant, the non-separable material would be transported to special copper smelters in Sweden or Germany and melted down there.

The VAA contributes to the separation of waste types that were previously unseparable using various technologies. This achieves a higher recycling rate and allows more secondary raw materials to be recycled, thereby recovering critical raw materials.

The measures applied for funding amount to eligible investment costs of approximately EUR 2.4 million. The project is financed from national funds. KPC is responsible for processing the project on behalf of the BMLUK.

Reparaturbonus – Campaign stopped and relaunched

The »Reparaturbonus«, a federal funding program launched by the Ministry of Climate Protection for the repair of electrical and electronic devices, was an important step away from the throwaway society and toward a more sustainable use of valuable resources. It also strengthened the regional economy and created additional jobs.

EUR 188 million budget

From 2022 to 2025, the »Reparaturbonus« funding program enjoyed very strong demand. A total of EUR 188 million was made available for the funding program to increase the number of repairs of electrical and electronic devices and, from September 2024, bicycles in Austria.

EUR 130 million was made available for the repair of electrical and electronic devices by means of funding from »NextGenerationEU« as part of the Austrian Recovery and Resilience Plan. In 2024 and 2025, the budget was increased by EUR 58 million from national federal funds.

A funding in the amount of EUR 200 was available for the repair, service, and maintenance of electrical and electronic devices and bicycles, and up to EUR 30 was available for obtaining a cost estimate.

6,000 partner services throughout Austria

Around 6,000 companies were listed as partner services throughout Austria. There were no additional costs for them as a result of participating, but a significant increase in customers and turnover could be expected.

The year 2025 in numbers

The simple application process as well as strong public interest are reflected in the high number of repair bonds applied for: a total of 452,425 repairs in combination with the »Reparaturbonus« were granted in the amount of EUR 46.7 million in 2025.

Campaign stopped in May 2025

In May 2025, the campaign had to be stopped due to the exhaustion of funding.

New edition of the funding program as Geräte-Retter-Prämie in 2026

Under the slogan »Get it working again«, the »Geräte-Retter-Prämie« was launched on January 12, 2026, as a funding campaign by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management.

Since then, bonds in combination with the »Geräte-Retter-Prämie« can be applied for and redeemed for the repair of electrical and electronic devices. This will save valuable resources and energy and avoid waste by extending the service life of these devices. At the same time, it will make a significant contribution to environmental protection, strengthen the domestic economy, and create additional jobs. The funding will be financed with national means of funding from the federal government amounting to EUR 30 million for the year 2026. A funding in the amount of up to EUR 200 can be applied for to repair, service, and maintain electrical and electronic devices, and up to EUR 30 is available for obtaining a cost estimate.

Attractive and simple

The funding process remains as simple as ever. The bond in combination with the »Geräte-Retter-Prämie« can be easily applied for online and redeemed within three weeks at a participating partner service when paying the invoice. After the bond has been redeemed or after the three-week period has expired, a new bond can be applied for immediately. There is no limit to the number of possible applications per person, but only one bond can be redeemed at a time.

Details in regard to the current funding campaign »Geräte-Retter-Prämie« can be found at www.geräte-retter-prämie.at.

452,425
granted
projects

Amounts in million Euro

101.5
Investment

Amounts in million Euro

46.7
Fundings

OUR CONTRIBUTION...
to land recycling



Land recycling

Land recycling is one of many instruments in order to reduce land consumption: what happens is that previously used or developed areas that are not currently in use—typically commercial or industrial wastelands—are returned to use. This is intended to prevent or reduce the new consumption of natural land area.

Development concepts for determining a future use are eligible for funding, along with related inspections of the underground—for example in regard to possible contamination—and of the existing building fabric.

The main target groups for funding are municipalities but also private individuals or companies that aim to reuse brownfield sites in urban areas.

In 2025, the Federal Minister for Climate Action granted 29 projects for funding.

Funding applications were submitted from all federal states and from municipalities, companies, and private individuals. This broad spectrum underlines both the usefulness and the need for this funding.

Facts and figures regarding land recycling can be found in **Facts & Figures 2025** in the front section of this report. (page 19)

29
granted
projects

Amounts in million Euro

2.0
Investment

Amounts in million Euro

1.5
Fundings

A young green plant with several leaves is growing out of a mound of dark, rich soil. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a natural, outdoor setting. The lighting is bright, highlighting the texture of the leaves and the soil.

OUR CONTRIBUTION...
to Austria's
remediation
of contaminated sites

Facts and figures regarding the remediation of contaminated sites can be found in **Facts & Figures 2025** in the front section of this report. (page 19)

Remediation of contaminated sites

Contaminated underground from former operating sites and landfills often pose a significant risk to human health or the environment. The groundwater as the basis of our drinking water supply is particularly affected. The remediation of contaminated sites is therefore urgently needed. Through the Contaminated Sites Remediation Act, the necessary means of funding for this purpose are provided by the contaminated sites contribution. Derived from these means of funding, KPC funds the remediation of contaminated sites.

23
granted
projects

Amounts in million Euro

96.4
Investment

Amounts in million Euro

57.9
Fundings

New funding program Brachflächen

A new additional funding program has been established in the area of the remediation of contaminated sites: on January 1, 2025, the »Förderungsrichtlinien 2024 für Maßnahmen an Altstandorten und Altablagerungen – Brachflächen« came into force. KPC experts played a key role in designing and formulating these funding guidelines.

The main objective of the new funding program is to support the reuse of contaminated sites in order to contribute to reducing land consumption. The legal basis for this is the amendment to the Contaminated Sites Remediation Act (ALSAG) 2024. According to this amendment, the financial resources from the contaminated sites contribution can now be used not only for »classic« remediation of contaminated sites but also for measures on contaminated areas that are not contaminated sites.

The ALSAG defines contaminated sites as business locations where pollutants were handled until mid-1989 and old deposits as waste deposits until mid-1989, i.e., landfills. In both cases, the subsoil is contaminated. According to ALSAG, these sites are published in the Ministry of Environment's »Altlastenportal« at www.altlasten.gv.at. A distinction is made between sites that have not yet been investigated in detail and those that, after investigation and assessment, are designated as »not contaminated« because the contamination or risk to humans or the environment is not significant. However, these sites remain contaminated, which in practice represents a significant obstacle to reuse. Investigations can be funded for the former, and measures to improve the environmental condition can be funded for the latter. These typically include the removal and appropriate treatment of contaminated excavated material in the course of construction work.

Funding management

Firefighting school
Lebring
Burn house



The potential of the new funding program is considerable: according to the »Altlastenportal«, there are currently around 1,000 such sites across Austria that are eligible for this funding.

The funding amount is 75% for investigations, with a maximum present value of EUR 100,000, and 50% for measures, with a maximum present value of EUR 300,000.

In 2025, KPC reviewed the first funding applications and recommended them to the minister for approval. These included, for example, the excavation and treatment of contaminated subsoil as part of a residential construction project on a former industrial site. The funding contributed to the project operator's decision to reuse industrial wasteland instead of building on a greenfield site.

Conditional on and enabled by the ALSAG amendment of 2024, a number of changes were also made to the funding guidelines for the »classic« remediation of contaminated sites from 2025 onwards. The underlying intention was to promote both measures in regard to the remediation of contaminated sites and the reuse of contaminated sites. The monitoring of contaminated sites in priority class 3 is considered a new contaminated site measure and is therefore eligible for funding. Furthermore, special funding is available for innovative remediation methods. In addition, in the interests of reuse, funding will be made available for cost-intensive total clearance if this serves the reuse of the site for a project in the public interest. In this sense, the decontamination (removal of contamination, e.g., through clearance) of a contaminated site that has already been secured with previous funding can also be funded in the future.



PROJECT EXAMPLE
REMEDiation OF
CONTAMINATED SITES

Firefighting school
Lebring (PFAS)

Firefighting school Lebring
Fire drill area

Specific environmental issues are supposedly niche topics. Not so PFAS (per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances): these can also be found in the mainstream news. And everywhere else too—they have even been detected in Antarctica.

PFAS, a group of organic compounds consisting of several thousand individual substances, accumulate in organs and have multiple harmful effects on health. Due to their resistance to degradation, PFAS are referred to as »forever chemicals« and could also be called »everywhere chemicals«. Another characteristic property—they are water-, grease-, and dirt-repellent—has led to their use in many applications since the 1960s: Teflon pans, functional clothing, ski wax, sofa covers, pizza boxes... The substances spread into the environment via various products and, not least, via water and air. This ubiquitous distribution contrasts with point sources—locations with high PFAS concentrations or loads. There were no PFAS production facilities in Austria though, and also other industries (electroplating, textile, paper, and pulp industries, etc.) and landfills are not currently the focus of attention. More urgent due to their high PFAS concentrations are those areas where firefighting foam was used extensively—not in isolated fire incidents but at fire training grounds at airports, refineries, and fire departments. Since around 2010, people have been aware of the dangers of PFAS, and concentrations in firefighting foams have been continuously reduced or more compatible substitute substances have been used. The transitional provisions will culminate in a complete EU-wide ban on the release of PFAS through firefighting foams in 2030.

Styrian fire departments have been trained at the Fire Department and Civil Protection School in Lebring in southern Styria since the 1970s. PFAS entered the groundwater through firefighting exercises, spreading southward parallel to the flow of the nearby Mur River to form a 5 km long plume of contamination. As part of the POPMON 2020 food monitoring project, the contamination was contained and, as a result, two drinking water wells, among other things, were closed. After comprehensive investigations of groundwater, irrigation water, drinking water, fruit, vegetables, and fish, the Styrian Fire Department and Civil Protection School in Lebring 2024 was designated as contaminated site ST37 with the highest priority 1. The Styrian Provincial Government, Department of Civil Protection and National Defense, submitted an application for the remediation of the contaminated site, which was approved at the 80th commission meeting in June 2025. With budgeted costs of around EUR 5.6 million, a protective barrier consisting of eight downstream barrier wells is to be constructed. Accompanying narrow walls will be installed on the east and west flanks to prevent groundwater from communicating with the source of the contamination. The pumped groundwater will be purified with activated carbon filters and partially reabsorbed into the center of the contamination. This will flush out the pollutants more quickly, reducing the duration of the safety operation to a few decades. The project is currently being developed and coordinated with the authorities. Also worth mentioning: a funded research facility is also being installed at the site. The experimental setup: the PFAS are to be concentrated by flotation and then destroyed by electrochemical oxidation.

Consulting

BUSINESS AREA

CONSULTING

As a company specialized in consulting, we are successfully working for notable national and international organizations and financial institutions. As part of our activities, we particularly focus on providing consulting services in the areas of energy, climate protection, and sustainable finance. In these areas, we primarily offer technical and economic consulting services and carry out studies, know-how transfer and policy advice, as well as project evaluations and the development of sustainable credit lines.

Our expertise includes regulatory, (climate) policy, technical, and economic specialization, which we particularly apply to projects and programs in the energy and energy efficiency sector, in water management, as well as in climate protection, and green and sustainable financing solutions.

Our clients include institutions such as the World Bank, the European Commission, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the European Investment Bank (EIB), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and the German Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW). We support these clients with our consulting services, particularly in the South East European candidate countries, in Eastern Europe, in the Caucasus region, as well as in the Mediterranean neighboring countries.

In order to consistently broaden our business base in consulting services and continue our successful development, a consulting strategy was developed in 2025 and approved by the KPC supervisory board. This strategy sets out key steps for the sustainable development of operating success in the consulting sector.

Although the prevailing crises continue to have a direct and indirect impact on the budgets of multilateral development banks, KPC was able to prepare and submit a total of more than 35 project proposals with a potential contract volume of around EUR 37.4 million to the tendering institutions. This resulted in 10 attractive new contracts and extensions of existing mandates with a total contract value of EUR 2.6 million.

Consequently, KPC continues to provide international consulting services in the areas of climate protection, sustainability, and green finance and offers its expertise to multinational, regional, and bilateral institutions in order to continue the positive development in 2026.

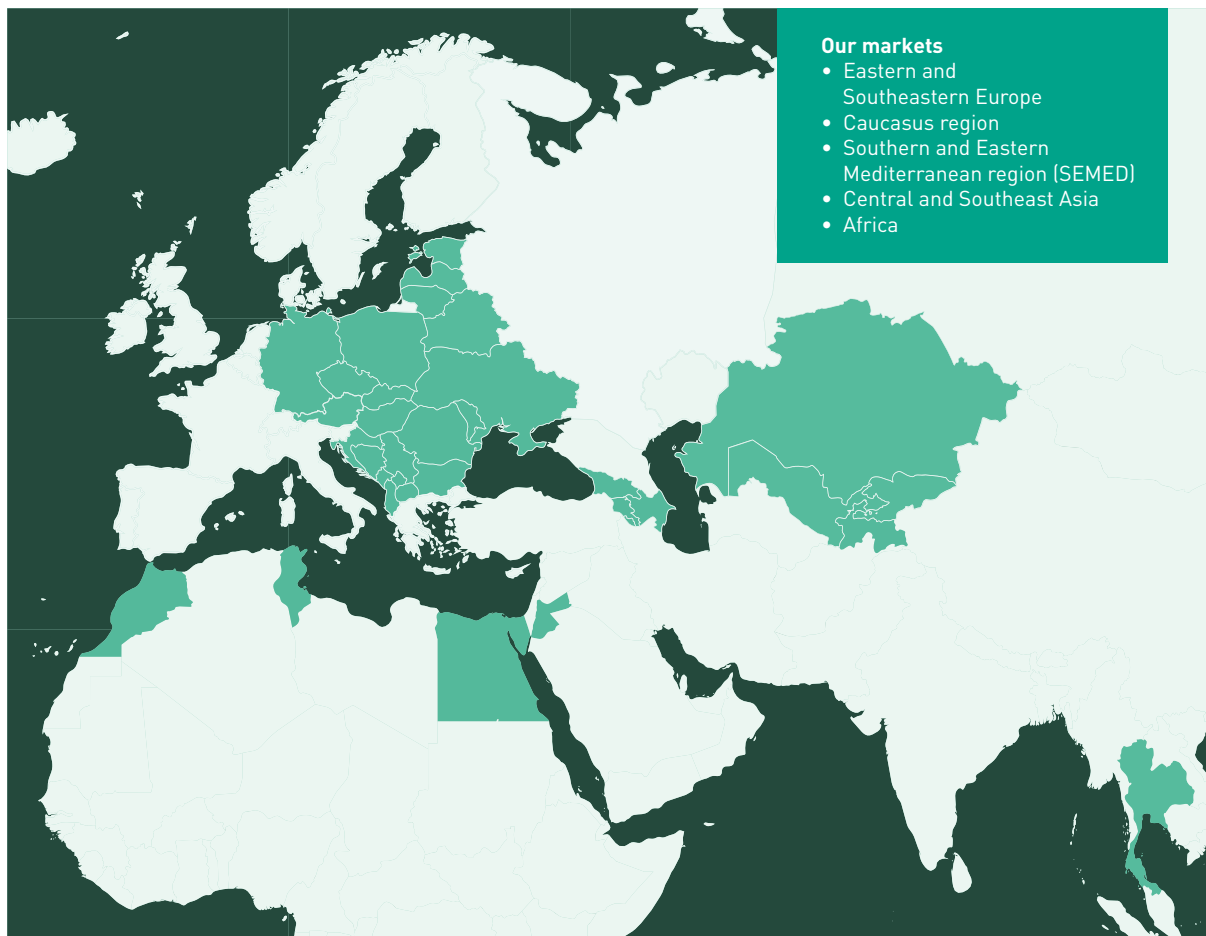
On top of that, Kommunalkredit Public Consulting (KPC) offers its expertise in the field of international climate policy and climate financing to the BMLUK. In the area of climate policy consulting, we directly support the Austrian negotiating team in climate negotiations at EU level and in international UN climate negotiations (including COP30 in Belém, Brazil, in 2025). There, we also conduct negotiations on the so-called Adaptation Fund for the EU. In addition to that, KPC advises the Austrian representative in the Green Climate Fund (GCF), an international climate finance instrument that provides funds for projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change in developing countries. KPC also advises the Austrian representative in the Fund for Loss and Damage (FRLD), which supports projects in the area of climate-induced loss and damage.

In the area of bilateral climate finance we manage climate protection projects that are directly funded by the BMLUK to support climate protection measures in developing and emerging countries. In the course of this funding program, nearly 40 climate protection projects in developing countries were supported in 2025.

Facts and figures regarding consulting can be found in **Facts & Figures 2025** in the front section of this report. (page 21)


For further details concerning consulting and our list of references please see:
www.kpc-consulting.at

Where are our consulting projects located?




More information concerning ongoing and recently completed projects can be found here:
www.kpc-consulting.at/projektreferenzen-kunden/

Selected clients

 Bundesministerium Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Klima- und Umweltschutz, Regionen und Wasserwirtschaft





The expertise mentioned above KPC for instance provides in the following counseling mandates:

PROJECT EXAMPLE 1

KPC strengthens equal access to green financing: Gender baseline assessments in the Western Balkan countries

As part of the GEF Western Balkans III program, KPC is supporting the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in promoting inclusive and gender-equitable access to green finance.

PROJECT EXAMPLE 2

IKI-SPAR6C Program – Supporting Preparedness for Article 6 Cooperation

Since spring 2022, KPC has been leading the cooperation program »Supporting Preparedness for Article 6 Cooperation – SPAR6C« for the German International Climate Initiative (IKI) with Thailand.

PROJECT EXAMPLE 3

KPC continues its cooperation with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) under the InvestEU program

At the end of 2023, the EBRD exclusively commissioned KPC to implement the »InvestEU Green Portfolio Guarantee Framework«. The first results are now visible.



1

KPC strengthens equal access to green financing: Gender baseline assessments in the Western Balkan countries

As part of the GEF Western Balkans III program, KPC is supporting the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in promoting inclusive and gender-equitable access to green finance.

The aim of the project is to increase the involvement of women as key players in the green transition and to break down barriers that hinder their access to climate-related investments. This is based on gender baseline assessments in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and North Macedonia, which were successfully completed in 2024/25.

Project objectives

KPC's key objectives include analyzing gender-specific differences in access to finance, information, and green technologies, identifying structural barriers—such as limited access to collaterals, lower availability of information, or traditional role distributions—as well as developing concrete recommendations for financial institutions, authorities, and other stakeholders to specifically support women in investing in renewable energies and energy efficiency.

The assessments thus form a strategic basis for further measures within the GEF program, in particular for the development of gender-responsive financial products and awareness-raising measures.

Approach

The project implementation was based on a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods. To this end, KPC conducted

- desk research on macroeconomic conditions, gender relations, and climate resilience,
- focus groups and surveys of women and men on financing options, access to information, and decision-making processes,
- stakeholder mapping, and consultations with banks, government institutions, local women's organizations, and civil society actors.

This comprehensive data basis enabled a differentiated analysis of the barriers to access and the needs of the target groups.

Multi-stakeholder workshops in North Macedonia and Bosnia and Herzegovina

A central component of the project implementation were national workshops, at which KPC presented the results of the gender baseline assessments and discussed ways to strengthen gender equality in green finance together with partner institutions.

North Macedonia

The workshop in Skopje brought together representatives from financial institutions, government, civil society, and international organizations. The discussion focused on gender-specific barriers to access, the role of data in gender-responsive banking, as well as strategies for better integrating women as investors in green technologies.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

The event in Sarajevo emphasized the importance of women as decision-makers in the transition to a green economy. Against the backdrop of the study results, obstacles such as a lack of financial security or traditional role models, as well as possible solutions—such as gender-sensitive communication strategies or simplified financing processes—were discussed in depth.

Results achieved

With the completion of the first phase of the project, comprehensive, evidence-based analyses are now available for three countries, providing crucial insights into gender-specific factors in green finance. Key findings include an improved understanding of how women and men perceive and use financing opportunities, the identification of target groups with special support needs, particularly women in rural areas and women in informal or part-time employment, as well as concrete recommendations for action to further develop products, advisory services, and outreach measures offered by partner banks.

These findings provide a solid basis for increasing the effectiveness of the GEF program and making the green transition more inclusive.

Outlook

Based on the results, KPC will take further steps together with the EBRD and local partner institutions. These include supporting the development and implementation of gender-responsive financial products, expanding training and information measures for women as potential investors, and continuing the stakeholder dialogue in phase II of the project, particularly in Kosovo and Montenegro.

Through this project, KPC is making a significant contribution to ensuring that the green transformation in the Western Balkan states is not only technologically but also socially inclusive.



IKI-SPAR6C Program – Supporting Preparedness for Article 6 Cooperation

In cooperation with several consortium partners and under the leadership of the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), KPC has been leading the cooperation program »Supporting Preparedness for Article 6 Cooperation – SPAR6C« for the German International Climate Initiative (IKI) in Thailand since spring 2022.

The overall goal of the program is to use cooperative approaches in accordance with Article 6 of the Paris Climate Change Agreement to involve the private sector in NDC implementation and increase implementation goals. This will enable cost-effective, flexible carbon markets with high integrity and positive sustainability impacts. Article 6 enables countries to cooperate in complying with the climate protection agreement in terms of transferring emission reductions (e.g., through renewable energy projects or similar), i.e., trading CO₂. Ideally, this will also allow host countries to increase their climate protection ambitions, as they must comply with their own targets under the Framework Convention on Climate Change and must not jeopardize them by selling emission reductions.

SPAR6C will run until 2027 and, with its EUR 20 million budget, aims to prepare countries for the use of the mechanism under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement through the following measures:

- Participation in regular international exchanges to discuss relevant experiences
- Development and implementation of strategic documents regarding the implementation of the mechanism
- Design of the necessary processes with the involvement of the host country's authorities and preparation of pilot projects

KPC's task is to support the Thai government in implementing the above measures.

The transformative design of A6 pilot projects for real ITMO transactions is enabled by research-based capacity building in four partner countries (Thailand, Pakistan, Zambia, and Colombia), catalyzing an ambitious community of practice at regional and global levels. The program consists of six work packages, two of which are centrally managed and four of which are country-led. The first two develop best practice tools and approaches for implementing cooperative mechanisms, supported by an international forum that brings together countries and experts who share the common goal of increasing climate change mitigation goals through markets. On-site implementation will focus on three areas of work in each of the four countries: 1) long-term planning, 2) institutional readiness for transactions, and 3) pilot design and transactions.

Although all four countries have expressed interest in cooperative approaches, they face different challenges in terms of their existing institutional capacities, the level of development of their climate protection strategy, and the knowledge base on progress in achieving their NDCs as well as corresponding opportunities for using Article 6. The goal is to build up comprehensive expertise in all countries so that Article 6 can be applied effectively in practice, thereby implementing the respective NDCs.



KPC continues its cooperation with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) under the InvestEU program

At the end of 2023, the EBRD exclusively commissioned KPC to implement the »InvestEU Green Portfolio Guarantee Framework«. The first results are now visible.

InvestEU funds support investments in two ways: first, they hedge against the risk of loss, enabling the financing of projects that might otherwise not meet the required risk thresholds. Second, the guarantees enable improved terms for borrowers, lower collateral requirements, or longer maturities, which increases the attractiveness of financing and reduces market failure.

This gives individuals, businesses, NPOs, and public sector actors access to funded loans. Investments in energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable transport, the transition to clean energy, the circular economy, and industrial modernization are eligible for funding.

As part of this mandate, KPC and its partners are currently active in Croatia, Bulgaria, and Poland, supporting several local banks with the implementation. Specifically, our experts have set up customized settlement processes that help investors get started as quickly as possible.

Customized processes have been developed specifically to enable investors to implement projects efficiently. The Green Technology Selector, which we designed at KPC, has been adapted to the conditions in the three countries and expanded to include locally available products. Once a product is selected, it is immediately approved, allowing the investor to apply for a loan through the partner bank and start the project.

We also receive more complex project ideas, especially in Bulgaria. Our experts take a closer look at each project idea and inform the local banks whether the project is eligible for InvestEU funding. This takes the pressure off banks that do not have the relevant technical expertise. The projects reviewed range from ventilation systems in agriculture to battery storage solutions in the food industry to the revitalization of sports facilities using ESCO financing. In Poland, there continues to be great interest in PV systems with storage systems. Market analyses were conducted in advance to identify relevant sectors and develop suitable loan products. Special portfolio screening made it possible to connect existing customers with the new guarantee products.

Various marketing measures were implemented to support the program launch: in addition to two launch events in Sofia and Zagreb, a promotional video was filmed and numerous suppliers were mobilized to offer sustainable products for the Green Technology Selector.

In addition, bank employees received comprehensive training; a total of around 1,000 people were trained in 2025.

The InvestEU guarantees are expected to enable lending of around EUR 700 million. The goal for 2026 is for each bank to provide approximately EUR 15 million in financing per month. In addition, activities will be expanded to Greece and Romania, and cooperation with other banks in the region will be initiated.



The Austrian initiative for voluntary climate protection

On the way to a carbon-free economy, companies have an important role to play. The focus here is on measures to avoid and reduce corporate greenhouse gas emissions. This is the only way to achieve national and global climate protection targets. In addition, companies should take responsibility for remaining emissions and support climate protection projects beyond their own value chain (beyond value chain mitigation). There are various options available to them. Transparent communication of these measures is equally important. Climate Austria supports you as a reliable partner.

Climate Austria offers companies and private individuals the opportunity to make a voluntary contribution to climate protection. After clearly committing to avoiding emissions and taking measures to reduce their own CO₂ footprint, companies and private individuals can make voluntary contributions to support high-quality national and/or international climate protection projects.

Climate Austria's main focus is on the quality of climate protection projects. As a responsible mediator, Climate Austria only offers projects that have a sustainable impact and protect the environment in the long term. Strict selection criteria and thorough internal review procedures ensure that only projects of the highest quality are included in the portfolio and passed on to customers.

Climate Austria is a product of Kommunalkredit Public Consulting (KPC). KPC is responsible for the management of Climate Austria and resorts to long-term experience in climate protection projects in Austria and abroad. The initiative was launched in 2008 as a collaboration of the Ministry of Environment, Austrian Airlines, Vienna International Airport AG and KPC in order to support climate protection in Austria and enable companies and private individuals to support climate protection measures. So far, more than 490 national and international climate protection projects have been supported, with a total of around EUR 4.3 million. In 2025 alone, around 30,000 metric tons of CO₂ could be avoided through national and international climate protection projects.

Facts and figures regarding Climate Austria can be found in **Facts & Figures 2025** in the front section of this report. (page 21)





Frauenthal Handel Group AG

With its strong brands ÖAG, SHT, Kontinentale, and Elektromaterial.at, the Frauenthal Handel Group is the Austrian market leader in wholesale plumbing, heating, and installation supplies, as well as in technical wholesale for industry and civil engineering. Sustainability and responsible conduct are firmly anchored in the company's management. In a market environment characterized by the energy crisis, ambitious climate targets, and structural change, Frauenthal positions itself as an active designer of sustainable solutions in the building services industry.

Frauenthal has been publishing an annual sustainability report since 2017, creating transparency about its environmental, social, and corporate activities. The report serves not only as documentation but also as a strategic management tool to measure progress and further develop specific areas of action.

In the operational business, there is a clear focus on technologies that support the energy transition. The service portfolio ranges from energy-efficient heating systems such as heat pumps and intelligent control solutions to comprehensive photovoltaic solutions—from technical planning to the delivery of large-scale systems, including electrical installation. Frauenthal is thus addressing the growing demand for sustainable building solutions, particularly in the public sector and industry. At the same time, the Frauenthal Handel Group is implementing comprehensive measures in its own operations.

The key levers include the procurement of predominantly green electricity, investments in photovoltaic systems, the expansion of electromobility, and the gradual conversion of the logistics fleet to lower-emission vehicles—including the increased use of plant-based fuels such as HVO100. Sustainable projects continue to account for a significant proportion of total investments and underscore the strategic importance of ESG criteria in investment decisions.

The Frauenthal Handel Group's goal is to consistently reduce CO₂ emissions. In addition, the company specifically supports climate protection projects aimed at reducing emissions, thereby setting another example for voluntary climate protection in partnership with Climate Austria.

Further information on the Frauenthal Handel Group's sustainability activities and its annual sustainability report can be found at: www.frauenthal-handel.at/nachhaltigkeit/

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AND PROJECT SUPPORT

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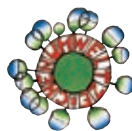
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