

Styrian Employment Pact

STEBEP



Main partners

Province of Styria, Labour Market Service, Federal Office of Social Affairs, Economic Chamber, Chamber of Labour, Austrian Federation of Trade Unions, Federation of Austrian Industry, regional pacts, Committee on the Advancement of Labour, Gender Mainstreaming Experts, non-profit organisations

2000

2001

Contractual Partners Province of Styria, Labour Market Service
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2002

Pact Area Federal Province of Styria
Timeframe 2002 – 2005

2003

Contract The provincial Styrian Employment Pact (STEBEP), an umbrella organisation encompassing the regional pacts within the province, was agreed upon in December 2001 by the contractual partners.

2004

Financing The provincial government, specifically the Department of Economics and Finance, has by way of the „Co-operative Qualification and Employment Programme“ provided the organisation with a budget of approximately EUR 27,300,000 in 2003 for carrying out joint measures. A special budget item amounting to approximately EUR 2,500,000 is devoted to „innovative pact projects“. Further funds are made available by the main partners for co-ordinated employment measures outside of those carried out jointly. Additional funding is being supplied from the Objective 3 Programme (European Social Fund – ESF, priority area 6). One of the medium-term goals is to attract further funding by linking the pact to regional project emphases (financing mix).

2005

Description of the Partnership The strategic steering group of the STEBEP is the Forum for Employment Policy. Besides the main partners, two gender experts and delegates from non-profit organisations involved in regional pacts participate in the Forum for Employment Policy. The regional pacts represent the STEBEP's operative units responsible for regional strategy. The STEBEP Platform, consisting of all members of the regional steering groups and all those interested in employment policy issues, convenes at least once a year. At the STEBEP Platform, regional concerns and focuses are networked with provincial goals and strategies. These processes are guided and implemented by the STEBEP co-ordination team.

2006

Objectives and Guidelines in 2003 Continued development of the pact processes and structures and focuses/contents: integration of labour market policy target groups, co-operation with municipalities and companies, innovative measures, gender mainstreaming

Target Groups Youth (up to age 25), older persons (over 50), persons with psychological or social special needs, persons with a lengthy history of unemployment or joblessness, persons re-entering the employment system, foreign citizens entitled to residence

Results in 2002 The Forum for Employment Policy passed the Rules of Order for the STEBEP as well as the working programmes. The first STEBEP Platform took place in November 2002, when actors from the six pact regions and provincial representatives met for an in-depth exchange of views. The key results of this common process were incorporated into the working programme for 2003. An evaluation of co-operative labour market policy in Styria was launched in the summer of 2002. Results from effect, control and network analyses will serve to further develop regional pacts as well as the provincial level in 2003.

Contents in 2003 In the STEBEP working programme, programme emphases corresponding to the objectives mentioned above are defined each year. In the year 2003 these are to be: the development of measures suited to needs posed by current developments in the labour market; making new inroads into co-operation with municipalities and companies by means of innovative, sustained measures; and integration of gender mainstreaming principles in all working programmes and projects.

The strategic framework for the regional pacts is defined at the STEBEP level. The focus is on the following areas: clarification and definition of the roles of the main actors at the regional and provincial levels; the development of structures or forms of co-operation and the development of a vertical and horizontal information system available to all actors. Quality criteria, developed and adapted continually in tandem with ongoing processes, serve as an aid in project decision-making.