

Styrian Employment Pact (STEBEP) and Regional Pacts

STEBEP: Provincial Government, Public Employment Service, Federal Office of Social Affairs, Economic Chamber, Chamber of Labour, Austrian Federation of Trade Unions, Federation of Austrian Industry, Regional Pacts, Gender Mainstreaming Experts, Non-Profit Organisations

Main Partners

Regional pacts: Regional management association, Public Employment Service, representatives of employees, employers and regional non-profit organisations, Gender Mainstreaming Expert

2000
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006

Contractual Partners **STEBEP:** Provincial Government, Public Employment Service (AMS)

Regional pacts: Public Employment Service, regional management board, regional actors

Description of the Partnership

The STEBEP, the TEP for the entire province that was first agreed upon in 2001, serves as a strategic umbrella agreement over the six regional pacts. While the Forum for Employment Policy has the role of a strategic steering group, the regional pacts serve as operational and strategic units for the regions. Other bodies of the STEBEP are the Core Team (including Co-ordination) and the STEBEP Platform. The bodies of regional pacts are the regional platforms, steering groups, working or project groups and the pact coordination teams.

Contractual Period

STEBEP 2002 – 2005, **regional pacts** 2000 – 2006

Objectives

The aim is to create a comprehensive partnership that combines activities pertaining to social and regional policy with objectives derived from employment and labour market policy. Funding and actions are to be pooled and coordinated to the end of combating unemployment and creating jobs.

Areas of Action and Target Groups

Implementation of the cooperative programme between the Public Employment Service and the Province (Dept. of Economy) involving the following priorities: creation of jobs, qualification of the unemployed and of individuals threatened by exclusion from the labour market and implementation of the annual STEBEP working programme.

Activities and Results in 2004

The focus was on coordinating strategies and measures for people with disabilities, carrying out the second STEBEP Platform as well as on further developing the dialogue between the STEBEP and the Regional Pacts and implementing a „STEBEP monitoring“. Transnational co-operation with Hungary and Slovenia was further expanded, while Styria's regionalisation model was presented on an international level on several occasions.

Contents in 2005

In 2005, the STEBEP will concentrate on exercising its core functions, such as anchoring the pact in a new contract and integrating additional partners. The working programme includes the integration of further policies, building up competencies, public relations, monitoring and (trans-) national cooperation as well as six regional programmes.

Financing

In the „Cooperative Qualification and Employment Programme“, jointly run by the Province (Dept. of Economy) and the AMS, measures amounting to about EUR 27,000,000 (budgeted figure) are to be stipulated. Additional funding will be obtained from the EU and national sources.

„Added Value“ of the Pact

Measures pertaining to employment policy are combined with those of other policy areas as well as with regional development and are planned and implemented in cooperation. This results in better coordination at the provincial and regional levels as well as in being able to obtain further funding from the public and private sectors.

Further Development of the Pact

The STEBEP will concentrate on realising its core functions, which are to consolidate employment policy on a broad base and to steer, coordinate and support the Regional Pacts. Further expanding competencies, expanding the basis of cooperation and partnerships, documentation of services and monitoring are intended to ensure that the pact structures have a sustained impact beyond 2006.

Objective 3 Support

Funding from the Objective 3 programme (European Social Fund – ESF Priority 6) is used for coordinating and further developing the STEBEP, for the Pact Coordination Offices at the regional level and for communication and public relations efforts.

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