

Best Practices: Climate Change Policy Integration at the Subnational Level in Italy and Austria

Examples from the Autonomous Provinces of Trento and Bolzano
and *Länder* Vorarlberg and Tyrol

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The **fight against climate change is increasingly a matter of subnational interest**, both for the effects climate change produces at the subnational and local levels and because subnational governments have powers to address some of the challenges posed by climate change in relation to mitigation and adaptation.

Within the framework of the research project 'Climate change integration in the multilevel governance of Italy and Austria: policy-making and implementation in selected subnational policies' (Research Südtirol 2019), financed by the Autonomous Province of Bolzano, this document presents a **collection of best practices**, i.e. a non-exhaustive list of examples concerning how the subnational governments analyzed, the two Autonomous Provinces of **Trento** and **Bolzano** and the two Austrian *Länder* of **Vorarlberg** and **Tyrol**, have successfully managed to **mainstream climate change considerations in subnational and local policies**, plans, and initiatives. The practices regard the selected policy fields of **transport, energy and water** and **spatial planning**, as well as cross-cutting policy fields such as, **climate protection**, environmental protection and sustainability.

The practices are retrieved from both **desk research** and the results of the **39 expert interviews**, conducted with institutional respondents and members of civil society organizations in the territories of analysis from June to November 2021.

Practices are organized by territory, displaying first the Italian examples and then the Austrian ones. Each best practice indicates the title of the initiative, the territory where it has been identified, the government level (national, subnational or local) and the policy sectors concerned. A limited numbers of best practices realized in collaboration between the considered territories are listed at the end of the document as joint projects. The Austrian national e-5 program is listed within the section on Vorarlberg, which first implemented it, but it also refers to Tyrol, as well as other Austrian *Länder* not included in this study. All best practices are also categorized with reference to the factors/dimensions that influence climate policy integration and that are present in each selected practice. These dimensions are **coordination** (the existence of formal or informal mechanisms of vertical or horizontal coordination among policy-makers), **leadership** (the level of engagement or policy initiative on the part of political leaders or administrative officers in charge of climate related matters), **participation** (the level of involvement of civil society in decision-making), **information** (the extent to which the public is informed about climate related initiatives and the quality of information) and **funding** (the extent to which there is dedicated funding to support climate initiatives). Best practices finally contain a 'further information' section, where sources, such as legal documents and relevant interviews, and links are listed. Under this section, interviews are cited with codes in order to ensure anonymization. IntTN corresponds to interviews conducted in Trento, IntBZ in Bolzano, IntT in Tyrol and IntV in Vorarlberg.

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1 Province of Trento

Best Practice 1

Identification of APPA Trento as a reference agency for climate issues

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Coordination, leadership

Starting from 2020, the Provincial Environmental Protection Agency (APPA Trento)'s mandate was enlarged to include horizontal coordination functions among provincial departments in order to better mainstream climate change into policy-making and implementation. In particular, APPA Trento is responsible for the promotion and implementation of the program "Trentino Clima 2021–2023", which will lead to the adoption of a Provincial Strategy for Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change in 2023. The agency is also entrusted with communication, education and information activities. Furthermore, it represents the Province at national and international tables on climate matters. APPA Trento supervises and coordinates the activities of inter alia:

- *Tavolo di coordinamento sui cambiamenti climatici* (infra [best practice 2](#));
- *Osservatorio Trentino sul Clima* (Trentino Climate Observatory): it deals with the technical-scientific coordination of entities engaged in research and monitoring of climatic variables, scientific dissemination activities, information campaigns and environmental education in the Trentino area;
- *Forum provinciale sui cambiamenti climatici* (Provincial Forum on Climate Change): composed of research institutions such as the University of Trento, the E. Mach Foundation and the B. Kessler Foundation, cultural and scientific promotion bodies such as MUSE, the Rovereto Civic Museum Foundation, the Adamello Brenta Natural Park and the School for the Government of Territory and Landscape of the Trentino School of Management, and associations such as Trento Film Festival and Viração & Jangada. It promotes the coordination of awareness and communication actions aimed at Trentino citizens on climate issues.

Further information:

- Decision of the Provincial Government (D.G.P.) No. 647 of 15 May 2020
- <https://www.provincia.tn.it/Documenti-e-dati/Atti-amministrativi/Deliberazione-n.-647-del-15-05-2020>
- http://www.climatrentino.it/chi_siamo/osservatorio_trentino_clima
- http://www.climatrentino.it/chi_siamo/osservatorio_trentino_clima/-Forum_osservatorio/

Best Practice 2

Tavolo di coordinamento sui cambiamenti climatici

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Coordination, leadership, information

The Coordination Table on Climate Change (*Tavolo di coordinamento sui cambiamenti climatici*) is a technical advisory body, established in 2010 and coordinated by APPA Trento since 2020, that brings together the provincial departments in charge of climate-related matters (Department of territory, environment, energy and cooperation, Provincial Agency for Water Resources and Energy – aka APRIE, Department of civil protection, forests and fauna, Department of education and culture, Department of agriculture, Department of economic development, research and work, Department of health and social policies, Department of infrastructures and transport). These departments may also appoint technical experts. The body is consulted when legislative or strategic acts on climate-related matters are adopted and is therefore an example of coordination. For instance, consultation was activated for the adoption of Trentino Clima 2021-2023, namely the program finalized to identify the provincial strategy of mitigation and adaptation.

Further information:

- D.G.P. No. 1836 of 5 August 2010; D.G.P. No. 965 of 4 June 2018
- <https://www.ufficiostampa.provincia.tn.it/Comunicati/Tavolo-del-clima-la-Giunta-nomina-Roberto-Barbiero-coordinatore>

Best Practice 3

Mobility and energy managers

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting, energy, transport

Dimension(s): Coordination, leadership

Two managerial figures have been identified in the energy and the mobility sectors, one per sector. In the energy sector, this figure belongs to the Strategic Mission Unit for Innovation in the Energy and Telecommunications Fields (Unità di missione strategica per l'innovazione nei settori energia e telecomunicazioni). Although the energy manager is not hierarchically superior to the other co-workers in the unit, his/her role is to coordinate energy-related policies and actions among provincial departments. In the mobility sector, instead, the role is currently covered by a general manager of the Autonomous Province of Trento, therefore with formal managerial functions vis-à-vis provincial officers in charge of transport-related matters. In both cases, managers are in charge of managing overlaps and fragmentation in policy-making and implementation, as well as distributing the available resources as effectively as possible. Although the mandate of these figures is under evolution, the existence of dedicated coordinators seems promising.

Further information:

- http://www.trasporti.provincia.tn.it/chi_siamo/
- https://trasparenza.provincia.tn.it/archivio13_strutture-organizzative_0_5019_65_1.html

Best Practice 4

Coordination and participation process of the PEAP

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting, energy

Dimension(s): Coordination, leadership, participation, information

PEAP (*Piano Energetico Ambientale Provinciale* – Environmental Provincial Plan on Energy) is the primary mitigation tool of the Autonomous Province of Trento; its main goals are the reduction, until 2030, of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 55% compared to 1990 levels, and energy autonomy by 2050. In the elaboration of PEAP, an enlarged coordination and participation process took place. The Provincial Agency for Water Resources and Energy – APRIE was in charge of coordination among provincial departments. First, there was a "vertical" process, entrusted to scientific experts who have identified possible future scenarios. Based on that, the heads of the department were involved, and individual chapters were elaborated on the basis of specific competences. As the contacts with single departments took place in the day-by-day and informal way, it was not necessary to create specific bodies. Following the preliminary approval and the publication in the Official Bulletin of the Region, the public consultation phase of the plan began. Within thirty days from the publication, anyone could submit written comments to APRIE to be evaluated for final approval. In parallel, the participatory process took place through public hearings, lasting several weeks. The participants of these public hearings were divided in three groups: 1) trade, professional and environmental associations; 2) research bodies, schools, universities, local authorities and consortia; and 3) entities and enterprises in the energy sector, together with structures and entities of the provincial system. After the public consultation, the PEAP was approved by the Provincial Giunta: 12 strategic lines have been defined, then declined into 83 priority actions that transversally affect the various sectors. As emerging from interviews, although environmental associations did not actively participate in the public hearing, the participation of the rest of the civil society representatives was impressive. Comments raised during public hearings were used to motivate the choices made in the plan.

Further information:

- IntTN_05
- <http://www.energia.provincia.tn.it/peap/>

Best Practice 5

Coordination for the elaboration of urban planning documents

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Spatial Planning

Dimension(s): Coordination

Since the mid-2000s, documents to monitor territorial hazards (*Carta della pericolosità* and *Carta di sintesi della pericolosità*) are annually updated by the administration. This requires well-established protocols of coordination among the responsible units, namely the Civil Protection Department (*Dipartimento di Protezione Civile*), and the whole group of structures that belong to it, together with Urban Planning Department (*Servizio Urbanistica e Tutela del Paesaggio*). An important way to test this method was to approve the first excerpt of the *Carta della pericolosità* in 2018 to verify its effectiveness in a specific territory and then to extend its application to the whole provincial territory in the following year. Based on these maps, updates of the Provincial Urban Plan (*Piano urbanistico provinciale* – PUP) are adopted by the administration. Maps therefore are a way to integrate scientific evaluations into the provincial planning process.

Further information:

- <http://www.protezionecivile.tn.it/territorio/Cartografia/cartografiatematica/-Cartografiapericolo/pagina11.html>
- http://www.urbanistica.provincia.tn.it/carta_pericolosita_-preliminare2017/pagina61.html

Best Practice 6

Trentino Climate Conference of Youth (COY)

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Participation, information

Youth were able to contribute to the preparatory work for COP26, the annual conference of the Parties organized by the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In April 2021, youth representatives from Trentino, already active in the field of environmental sustainability, met three times within the Trentino Climate COY. Their work revolved around three main themes: contextualization of climate change, climate justice and entrepreneurship. The results of these discussions were presented during the Trento Film Festival in May 2021 at the MUSE-Museum of Sciences. After the COY ended, the participants drafted recommendations addressed to profit, non-profit, educational and political actors. Following these meetings and the subsequent steps, participants produced a document that was presented on the occasion of the Milan Pre-COP (October 2021), the last official meeting of the national ministers in charge of climate issues before the COP26 held in Glasgow. A training course, organized through the collaboration of the Youth Policy Office of the Municipality of Trento (Ufficio Politiche Giovanili del Comune di Trento), the Autonomous Province of Trento and the Provincial Forum on Climate Change (*supra* [best practice 1](#)) preceded the conference.

Further information:

- <https://trentogiovani.it/Novita/Eventi/Conferenza-dei-Giovani-sul-Clima-Trentino-Alto-Adige#:~:text=In%20attesa%20della%20Pre%2DCOP,durante%20il%20Trento%20Film%20Festival>
- http://www.climatrentino.it/notizie_clima/pagina185.html

Best Practice 7

A scuola per il clima

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information

‘A scuola per il clima – Proposte di educazione ambientale sull’emergenza dei cambiamenti climatici’ (At school for the climate – Proposals for environmental training on the emergency of climate change) is a permanent training program launched by the Trento Provincial Forum on Climate Change (*supra* [best practice 1](#)) in the school year 2020/2021 (and then repeated in 2021/2022). The program offered training activities aimed at students of the provincial schools at all levels. In September of each school year, teachers could choose the courses, offered by the Forum and displayed in a dedicated brochure, that fit better with their teaching program. Examples of schools particularly responsive to this initiative are the Comenius comprehensive school in Cognola, the De Gaspari elementary school in Trento and the Fontana Institute in Rovereto.

Further information:

- <https://educazioneambientale.provincia.tn.it/>
- http://www.appa.provincia.tn.it/binary/pat_appa_restyle/APPA_informa/APPA_clima_breve_v003.1598428838.pdf

Best Practice 8

Una finestra sul clima

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information

‘Una finestra sul clima’ (A window on climate) is a traveling, interactive exhibition developed for students by the Trentino Environmental Education Network for Sustainable Development (*Rete trentina di educazione ambientale per lo sviluppo sostenibile*), under the supervision of APPA Trento (*supra* [best practice 1](#)). It addresses the issues of climate change, environmental protection and atmospheric pollution. Through interactive stations, the exhibition raises students’ awareness about the problems associated with GHG emissions. Objects, models and games allow students to learn about GHG emissions, their causes and consequences of this phenomenon, the importance of safeguarding the Amazon forest for life on the planet, and other topics.

Further information:

- http://www.appa.provincia.tn.it/binary/pat_appa_restyle/mostre/Una_finestra_sul_clima.1442322440.pdf

Best Practice 9

Tic Toc Future campaign

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information

‘Tic Toc Future’ is a communication campaign targeted to young people, promoted by APPA Trento, on issues related to the 2030 Agenda (Sustainable Development Goals – SDGs) and climate change. The initiative, carried out by the Viração & Jangada association, involved students and teachers of six classes in four secondary schools in Trentino (Don Milani Higher Education Institute of Rovereto, the “Marie Curie” Education Institute of Pergine Valsugana and Levico Terme, the Celestino Endrici Archbishopric College of Trento and the Russell Lyceum of Cles). High school students were asked to realize videos to illustrate the SDGs, through the social medium TikTok, under the motto “Like, comment and save the Planet”. The videos created were presented during the Trento Film Festival 2022 to an audience of students that involved other schools as well as the protagonists of the campaign, and subsequently published on the Instagram, Facebook and TikTok pages of the “TicToc Future” campaign.

Further information:

- <https://educazioneambientale.provincia.tn.it/Catalogo-del-sistema-provinciale/TIC-TOC-FUTURE-future-like-comment-save-the-planet#:~:text=La%20campagna%20di%20comunicazione%20TIC,temi%20inerenti%20l'emergenza%20climatica.>
- <https://trentofestival.it/t4future/eventi/schedule/92161/tic-toc-future-03-05-2022/>

Best Practice 10

Microfoni Fusi

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information

‘Microfoni Fusi - Il clima raccontato con i ragazzi (Melted microphones – Climate narrated with youth)’ is the first broadcast of the web radio ‘Radio Pianeta3’ entirely dedicated to climate change. The campaign, promoted and financed by APPA Trento (*supra* [best practice 1](#)) and created by AmBios, is a new concept of "media education" entirely developed through web radio, created to discuss with students about the relationship between human beings and the planet. Two (adult) anchormen comment on the topics chosen by students at secondary schools, giving space to their voices and opinions: the students therefore suggest questions and themes, but also intervene by offering their ideas for the future, being not only a passive public but also an active subject.

Further information:

- <https://www.radiopianeta3.it>

Best Practice 11

Clima Open Park

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Funding, information

In the context of the European project Alptrees (financed under the program Interreg Alpine Space 2014-2020), the initiative Clima Open Park was launched in the town of Canova in 2021. The initiative, which involved the Gardolo district and numerous local associations, aims to create a new green area of about half a hectare of surface and is currently ongoing. Under development is also “the Canova wood”, a safe but highly natural area that will expand the arboreal heritage and will also display installations created by citizens and local associations. The planting of trees will extend to suburban areas suitable for this purpose.

Further information:

- <https://www.ildolomiti.it/cronaca/2022/ombreggianti-un-nuovo-parco-e-la-piantumazione-di-nuovi-alberi-a-trento-gli-interventi-per-adattarsi-ai-cambiamenti-climatici>

Best Practice 12

Vivila in 3D

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information

‘Vivila in 3D’ (Live it in 3D) is a project sponsored by the Youth Policy Office of the Trento Municipality (*Ufficio Politiche Giovanili del Comune di Trento*) developed by 13 young people involved in the civil service, with the aim of both raising awareness among the Trentino population regarding critical consumption, conscious behavior and sustainable production, and of provoking a reflection on the origin of the products used in everyday life. An additional aim is to present more sustainable alternatives to everyday consumption habits from an economic, social and environmental point of view, thus having important impact on the climate. The approach is summarized in the slogan “think global, act local”: the project shares the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda, while trying to act concretely to change and improve its own territorial context, through the awareness of citizens regarding sustainable consumption, reuse, km0 products. The benefits are therefore pragmatic, but also cultural, aiming to promote locally the concept, relevant for climate issues, of intergenerational justice, according to which current development must satisfy the environmental needs of present and future generations.

Further information:

- <https://trentogiovani.it/Novita/News/Vivila-in-3D-Alla-scoperta-della-sostenibilita>
- <https://vivilain3d.wordpress.com/>

Best Practice 13

Dolomiti Paganella Future Lab

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information

‘Dolomiti Paganella Future Lab’ is a project created by *Azienda per il Turismo* (APT – Tourist Board) *Dolomiti Paganella* to make the Paganella Plateau Community more resilient and capable of imagining the future. Unique in its kind for its set-up as a constantly evolving platform, it is conceived to consider and constantly adapt to the opinions of the people who live (with a specific focus on young people), work and make their holidays on the Plateau. These stakeholders were asked to imagine tourism in the Plateau within the timeframe of the next 15-20 years. It is also an example of co-created research since, based on the responses of the interviewees, the key questions of the project have been reformulated in four statements (linked to the four key themes of the project: characteristics of the territory, new generations, climate change, tourism in balance). These statements represent the desired future for the local territory, seen as both a residence place and as a tourist destination.

Further information:

- <https://www.dolomitipaganellafuturelab.it/il-progetto/#zero3>

Best Practice 14

Participatory process related to the Brennero Basis Tunnel and related infrastructures

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Transport

Dimension(s): Participation, funding

The Brennero Basis Tunnel is an infrastructure, financed by the EU, that aims to move traffic from road to rail. The realization of this big infrastructure necessitates also ancillary works that are realized at local level and promoted by local authorities through EU funding. For example, the city of Trento will realize a ring railway that will cross the city, financed through the NextGenerationEU Fund (1 billion Euros). A public debate procedure on the realization of this municipal infrastructure was initiated. In particular, the Mayor of Trento announced in November 2021 the appointment of a coordinator of the public consultation, chosen by the Italian Railway Network (*Rete Ferroviaria Italiana*) company, among a list of candidates made available by the Italian Ministry of Infrastructure. The coordinator initiated the debate and now guides the participatory process. Various forms of participation were envisaged: actively participating in public meetings, sending requests for clarification on the project and the public debate, and presenting short documents containing suggestions and proposals.

Further information:

- <https://www.dpcirconvallazioneferroviariatrento.it/>

Best Practice 15

Improvements of train lines

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Transport

Dimension(s): Funding, leadership

The reopening of the Calliano train station is an excellent example of initiatives to promote intermodality between private vehicles and rail services on the Brenner line. The cost for the administration was very low (2 million Euros), and the investment was highly repaid because the station benefits an area of 8,000 inhabitants. Vehicular traffic is planned to be reduced following this initiative. In more general terms, from 2005 to 2020, in the Province of Trento, the number of train passengers doubled thanks to public investments that introduced more rational and performing models, such as the implementation of minimal interventions that led to structural improvements on some road networks: Valsugana, Trento-Malè, and Brennero. It is therefore not necessary to add new kilometers of tracks to improve the quality of the railway service, but it is more useful to make existing services efficient and better: this meant improving management services and minimally intervening on existing infrastructures.

Further information:

- <https://www.ufficiostampa.provincia.tn.it/Comunicati/A-Calliano-riapre-la-stazione-ferroviaria>

Best Practice 16

Ricomassimo: Energy community

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Trento

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Energy

Dimension(s): Leadership, participation

Based on the European Directive RED II (2018/2001/EU), the first energy community in Trentino was created in 2021 in Ricomassimo, a district of the Municipality of Storo, a mountain village of 51 inhabitants, including 13 children and teenagers. The project was promoted by the *Consorzio Elettrico di Storo* (CEDIS – Electricity Consortium in Storo), which has been dealing with self-consumption, self-production and renewable energy in the municipalities of Storo, Bondone and Ledro since 1904. CEDIS, a partner of the Ministry of Economic Development, has proposed itself as a third-party producer, offering its knowledge in both the regulatory and technical fields for the creation of the energy community, in collaboration with the newly formed APS (*Associazione di Promozione Sociale* – Association of Social Promotion) '*La Buona Fonte*'. The representatives of *La Buona Fonte* both provided legal support to the energy community and contacted all the owners of electricity users to illustrate them the opportunity to join the community. Joining the community implies both committing to use electricity and, if possible, to share the production. The initiative was welcomed with great favor by the local population, which benefitted also from the retrofitting of some buildings (former schools made available on free loan), where the photovoltaic system was built in with the aim of creating spaces for socialization in the future.

Further information:

- <https://www.ufficiostampa.provincia.tn.it/Comunicati/Inaugurata-a-Ricomassimo-la-prima-comunita-energetica-rinnovabile>
- <https://www.italiachecambia.org/2022/02/comunita-energetica-ricomassimo/>

2 Province of Bolzano

Best Practice 17

Elaboration of the Climate Plan South Tyrol 2040

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Leadership, coordination, information, participation

Following the plan of 2011, the drafting of the new Climate Plan South Tyrol 2040 (previously known as Climate Plan – Energy South Tyrol-2050), currently under revision, was preceded by a series of meetings with local scientists to understand the different trade-offs with regards to climate change. The revision and implementation of the Climate Plan is also an example of both leadership, in that it was actively promoted by the President of the Province, and coordination, since bilateral meetings between the different departments took also place. Interdepartmental meetings were conducted with the aim of fostering the mutual understanding of related policy fields, to be informed about the status quo of the policies at hand, and to anticipate the possible obstacles that might present themselves in the implementation of the plan. The revision of the plan was preceded by a process of public participation. In 2021, all interested people have been asked to send their comments and proposals through an online questionnaire for a period of almost one year. Less clarity, though, concerns the way in which these proposals will be taken into account in the final formulation of the plan.

Further information:

- <https://www.klimaland.bz/it/piano-clima-alto-adige-2040/>
- IntBZ_07

Best Practice 18

Creation of the provincial agency CasaClima

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting, energy

Dimension(s): Leadership, information, funding

Created in 2002, in 2014 the agency 'CasaClima' became part of the provincial administration as body responsible for energy matters. The agency is a renowned center of competence for energetic efficiency and sustainability in construction, both for new building and requalification of older ones. Its standards have somewhat become the frame of reference for such type of activities all over Italy and in Europe. Over the years, thanks to the ambition of the CasaClima standards, the bar was progressively raised to the point of making South Tyrol one of the first regions in Europe to adopt since 2017 the energetic standard A (energy consumption lower than 30 kWh/m²a) as a minimum requirement for new buildings. The agency promotes a lot of informative initiatives, including the CasaClima Energy Check, a tailored assessment of the energy consumption of individual buildings, which evidences inefficiencies in the consumption of energy and effective interventions to contrast them.

Further information:

- <https://www.agenziacasaclima.it/it/chi-siamo-5.html>
- <https://www.klimaland.bz/it/initiativen/casaclima-energy-check/>
- IntBZ_08

Best Practice 19

Information desk for municipalities on energy matters

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Energy

Dimension(s): Information, coordination

Following the memorandum of understanding signed between the Autonomous Province of Bolzano, the agency CasaClima (see *supra* [best practice 18](#)) and GSE (*Gestore Servizi Energetici* – Energy Services Manager) in January 2021, an information desk was set up at the premises of CasaClima. At this desk representatives of local public administrations may receive advice on the procedures to be activated to obtain provincial contributions to improve energy efficiency in buildings. The information desk is accessible by appointment and requires the simultaneous presence of a GSE technician, a technician from the Energy and Climate Protection Office (*Ufficio Energia e tutela del clima* within APPA Bolzano) and a technician from the CasaClima agency. More than 20 municipalities availed themselves of this counselling opportunity until now.

Further information:

- IntBZ_08

Best Practice 20

Comuneclima program

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting, energy

Dimension(s): Coordination, leadership, information

As part of a broader initiative, the ‘*Comuneclima* program’, based on the European Energy Award, aims to provide concrete help to municipalities in the area of sustainable policies, specifically concerning the sustainable use and production of energy. Upon adoption and implementation of specific standards, a certificate is released to officially attest the results achieved in terms of reforms and performance: gold is the maximum level of sustainability to be certified. Moreover, every municipality is provided with a consultant that guides the entire process by providing expertise on all technical aspects of the process. The rationale is that municipalities are usually the realities most impacted by climate-related regulations, and that imposing reforms has not been producing the desired effect. It has been observed that empowering these smaller realities and increasing their ownership also increase the overall effectiveness of the measures enacted. The Municipality of Bolzano is part of this program and has been awarded with the Gold certification – first among Italian cities.

Further information:

- <https://www.agenziacasaclima.it/it/comuneclima-1559.html>
- http://www.comune.bolzano.it/stampa_context.jsp?area=295&ID_LINK=426&page=23994

Best Practice 21

Energy subsidies: bonus energia

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Energy

Dimension(s): Leadership, funding

Incentives, contributions and subsidies are central to the decarbonization objectives of the Province in the energy sector. For instance, the '*bonus energia*' (energy bonus, also known as *bonus volumetrico* or *bonus cubatura*) have been the main drivers of the requalification of buildings. The only real price of these interventions is the increase in volume of the buildings. Specifically, the bonus energia consists in the possibility to expand the surface of a residential building (up to 10%) if specific CasaClima standards are respected (*supra* [best practice 18](#)). Moreover, further conditions to be met concern the origin of the energetic coverage of the building at hand. As of today, this bonus has been extended until the end of 2026. Other incentives also include funds for making productive processes more energy-efficient, including the optimization of lighting in private businesses.

Further information:

- <https://news.provincia.bz.it/it/news/la-giunta-approva-il-bonus-energetico-fino-alla-fine-del-2026>
- <https://www.consumer.bz.it/it/agevolazioni-e-incentivi-nelledilizia-alto-adige>
- https://www.provincia.bz.it/it/servizi-a-z.asp?bnsv_svid=1032365
- IntBZ_08

Best Practice 22

Alto Adige Pass and Abo+

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Transport

Dimension(s): Coordination, information, leadership

Initiatives involving as much of the general population as possible have proved to be particularly effective in the context of realizing green mobility. Among the initiatives, two stand apart. The first one is the 'Alto Adige Pass', part of a project of modernization of the local public transport. This pass can be used on all means of transport (bus, train, funiculars, etc.) around the province (also to reach Trento and Innsbruck) in substitution of normal tickets. The pass is conceived in such a way that the more one travels, the less he/she spends on public transportation since transport rates decrease proportionally to the km covered using the pass. Moreover, for the students of all ages the 'Abo+ card' was made available. Purchasable for a fixed price and valid until one's student status expires, the card allows the owner to travel on all local transportation. Further variations of this pass are also available to senior citizens and people with disabilities, completing the far-reaching approach of this green policy. Moreover, the coordination in the mobility sector has favored so far more effective intermodality and has made public transportation appealing to the general public.

Further information:

- https://www.eltis.org/sites/default/files/case-studies/documents/mobilitaaltoadige_01-2012_6.pdf
- <https://news.provincia.bz.it/it/news/dieci-anni-di-altoadige-pass-243-069-utenti-e-nuovi-servizi-in-vista>

Best Practice 23

Green mobility fund

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Transport

Dimension(s): Leadership, funding, information

A green mobility fund was established in 2017 to fund initiatives that promote sustainable mobility. Contributions can be used, in particular, to cover, up to 75%, the costs of studies, surveys, events, meetings, awareness campaigns, training courses, as well as municipal, corporate and school mobility management projects. Beneficiaries are mainly municipalities, but companies can apply to reduce or move the traffic that they contribute to create. The prerequisite for any initiative is that these support sustainable mobility in everyday life. Contributions are also envisaged for the purchase of goods to improve daily mobility by bike or on foot, for example the construction of safe bicycle parking spaces.

Further information:

- <https://www.greenmobility.bz.it/it/projekte/incentivazione-alla-mobilita-sostenibile/>
- DGP No. 121 of 6 February 2018

Best Practice 24

Incentives to favor electric mobility

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Transport

Dimension(s): Funding

The Province of Bolzano is one of the first administrations in Italy that provides funds to the general public, including companies, for the purchase of electric cars. The incentives consist of € 2,000 for electric vehicles and of € 1,000 for plug-in hybrid vehicles. Moreover, a vehicle tax exemption for the first 5 years is provided, followed by the reduction of the vehicle tax to 22.5% after five years. There is also a reduction of 30% up to € 1,000 for the purchase of electric motorcycles or mopeds, and of 30% up to € 1,500 for the purchase of electric bikes with a total minimum load of 150 kg. Finally, contributions are envisaged for installing private charging stations.

Further information:

- https://www.provincia.bz.it/it/servizi-a-z.asp?bnsv_svid=1035484

Best Practice 25

Alto Adige Pedala

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Transport

Dimension(s): Information, leadership

A practical example of effective communication campaign is '*Alto Adige Pedala*' (Alto Adige pedals), where the use of bicycles is encouraged as a way to reduce GHG emissions. This is part of several initiatives to nudge the general population in the right direction in terms of green mobility. Bikers are rewarded with prizes awarded to whoever participates by cycling at least 150 km by the 31st of December of every year, and submits their distance on the appropriate website. Until 12 July 2022, there have been 1.597.622,40 km cycled overall, saving 281.820,59kg of CO₂ only in 2022.

Further information:

- <https://www.altoadigepedala.bz.it>

Best Practice 26

E-Drive Days, eTestDays and charging stations for electric vehicles

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Transport

Dimension(s): Information

Big informative events at the Safety Park (center for safe driving) have been organized to let the general public test electric cars. This initiative, under the umbrella of the Green Mobility strategy, is called E-Drive day and aims to show to the broad public that electric is a real and convenient possibility. The last edition had around 700 participants. In addition, companies (concessionaries and vendors) can take part in eTestDays. These entail the possibility to test electric vehicles for as long as month. Moreover, charging stations were made available in whole South Tyrol (see map in the links below) and in Merano it is possible to use the very first Hypercharger of Alto Adige.

Further information:

- <https://www.greenmobility.bz.it/it/>
- <https://www.greenmobility.bz.it/it/green-mobility/colonnine/> (map)
- <https://www.safety-park.com/it/news/e-drive-day-700-visitatori-vivono-la-mobilita-elettrica>

Best Practice 27

Provincial initiatives on SDGs

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Coordination, leadership, information

Following the framework set up by the United Nations, the provincial administration has committed to realize the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by adopting the Strategy for Sustainable Development (*Strategia per lo sviluppo sostenibile*) in 2021. The strategy was communicated to the public through a series of informative public events. In addition, the *Giunta* (Provincial Government) created the figure of a ‘sustainability officer’, tasked with the coordination and overseeing of the sustainable strategy of the Province. Specifically, this figure provides strategic support to all administrative processes, as well as to other bodies external to the administration, in an interdisciplinary way. The provincial officer will be assisted by municipal sustainability officers, since every municipality will have to nominate a local person of reference for matters concerning sustainability. An additional initiative is the creation by ASTAT (*Istituto provinciale di statistica* – Provincial Institute of Statistics) of a specific provincial barometer to monitor SDGs, modeled on the national barometer set up by ISTAT (*Istituto nazionale di statistica* – National Institute of Statistics). All provincial data are available on a dedicated website, where each goal is examined, and it is possible to monitor the ongoing progress towards the achievement of SDGs in the Province. Detailed information is combined with interactive maps and graphs.

Further information:

- DGP No. 973 of 21 November 2021
- <https://news.provincia.bz.it/it/news/in-ogni-comune-verra-nominato-un-responsabile-della-sostenibilita>
- <https://astat.provinz.bz.it/barometro/upload/sdg/html/en/index.html>

Best Practice 28

Long-term municipality plans

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Provincial

Policy Sector(s): Spatial planning

Dimension(s): Coordination, information, leadership

Pursuant to articles 51 and 53 of provincial law No. 9 of 2018, each municipality in South Tyrol, preferably in cooperation with others, is obliged to design a Municipal Development Program for the Territory and Landscape (*Programma di sviluppo comunale per il territorio e il paesaggio* – PSCTP), that is a 10-year planning instrument focusing on long-term development objectives. The long-term objectives concern issues regarding services, the use of soil, the use of existing buildings, mobility issues, tourism and agriculture. Therefore, it is an important instrument of coordination in fields that are closely related to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change. It is also interesting that the program should be developed with the participation of citizens, associations and stakeholders. Although the participatory processes are currently under development, and depending on how it will be implemented, this aspect looks promising with a view to favoring more participation in climate related matters.

Further information:

- IntBZ_10

Best Practice 29

RIE index

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Spatial planning

Dimension(s): Information

The RIE (*Riduzione Impatto Edilizio* – Reduction of the impact of buildings) index measures the impact of any type of building on the permeability of soil to avoid soil sealing. Ensuring an adequate level of soil permeability and green coverage contributes to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, since it may contribute to decreased CO₂ emissions and to contrast extreme weather events, such as flooding and abundant precipitations. The Municipality of Bolzano, pursuant to articles 3 and further of the '*Regolamento Edilizio Comunale, Allegato 3 - Riduzione Impatto Edilizio RIE*' (Building regulation, Attachment 3 – Reducing the impact of buildings), requires all new buildings to respect the value of the RIE index corresponding to the area where the building project is going to be realized. The admissible values of RIE per area are established in municipal plans.

Further information:

- <https://opencity.comune.bolzano.it/Servizi/Richiedere-la-certificazione-preventiva-R.I.E.-Riduzione-dell-Impatto-Edilizio#>
- https://www.comune.bolzano.it/UploadDocs/9758_Allegato_3_Anlage_3.pdf

Best Practice 30

Adjusting the scope of IDM

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information, coordination

IDM (Innovators. Developers. Marketers) *Südtirol-Alto Adige* is an agency of the Chamber of Commerce and the Autonomous Province of Bolzano overseeing the territorial marketing and the competitive development of companies that are either based or working in the territory of South Tyrol, in terms of innovation and internationalization. Acknowledging the seriousness of the climate crisis, IDM announced a shift of focus to a sustainability-centered approach. To this end, a new vision and mission were implemented, and IDM committed to act as prime promoter of a sustainable economic development in South Tyrol. With the support of NOI Techpark, the scientific and technological park of the Autonomous Province of Bolzano, IDM committed to work alongside local companies to turn this project into reality.

Further information:

- <https://www.altoadigeinnovazione.it/idm-nuovo-orientamento/>
- <https://www.idm-suedtirol.com/it/>

Best Practice 31

Meetings with EU contact persons

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information, funding

The meetings with EU contact persons (*incontri delle persone di contatto UE*) are informal and regular information meetings, organized by the Autonomous Province of Bolzano, in collaboration with NOI Techpark and the Chamber of Commerce of Bolzano, to inform whoever is interested on available EU funding opportunities, including structural funds. Meetings take place twice a year online. Since most of these funding opportunities have climate priorities at their core, this information initiative contributes to raising awareness on how to activate projects and programs that may contribute to climate protection.

Further information:

- <https://www.provincia.bz.it/politica-diritto-relazioni-estere/europa/europe-direct/1024.asp>

Best Practice 32

Green Event certification

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information

The Provincial Environmental Agency (APPA Bolzano) certifies public events as green events if these fulfil a specific set of standards included in a checklist. These standards are included in the following categories: use of resources, managing of waste, mobility options to reach the event, catering, energy consumption, communication, acoustics, and social responsibility. Organizers of events need to contact the administration and participate in an informative event. After that, they evaluate which criteria included in the checklist can be met. If the event is certified as green for the first time and respects at least half of the criteria included in the checklist, it is awarded the 'going Green Event' mention. Only events that fulfil 3/4 of the criteria and that have already taken part in the program once can be certified as 'Green Events'. The evaluation on the respect of criteria is made by *Ufficio Rifiuti*, the office in charge of waste management within APPA Bolzano.

Further information:

- <https://ambiente.provincia.bz.it/servizi/green-event.asp>

Best Practice 33

Klimahouse fair

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Leadership, information

'*Klimahouse*' is an international fair hosting events and exhibitions that focus mainly on energy efficiency and retrofitting in buildings, but also on sustainable lifestyles. *Klimahouse* positioned itself as the leading trade show on sustainable construction in Italy. It displays annually around 450 stands, welcomes 36,000 visitors and organizes an average of over 150 events in four days. Events of 2022 were recorded and are now publicly shared online through the *Klimahouse* website. Among the initiatives, every year the *Klimahouse* prize is assigned to the most innovative companies in the field of sustainable building. A newly introduced prize is the Wood Architecture Prize 2023, the first national prize for wood architecture, which aims to promote knowledge on building techniques that use wood, and therefore natural, materials.

Further information:

- <https://www.fierabolzano.it/it/klimahouse/home>

Best Practice 34

Environmental education in schools – ScuolaAmbiente

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information

The Province of Bolzano organizes every year a series of activities, info sessions, laboratories, courses aimed at informing students about the many issues related to climate change. Every year, the Provincial Environmental Agency (APPA Bolzano) creates a list of available activities, with sessions tailored to school classes of all ages. School teachers may choose from this list and ask their students to enrol in the activities through an online enrolling system. Examples of 2022 offer include workshops on sustainable waste management, air quality in schools and tips on how to reduce individual energy consumption.

Further information:

- <https://ambiente.provincia.bz.it/progetti/educazione-ambientale.asp>
- <https://ambiente.provincia.bz.it/progetti/iscrizioni.asp#formulari-online>

Best Practice 35

ScuolaClima program

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information

The ScuolaClima program, created in 2020 and directed by the agency CasaClima (*supra* [best practice 18](#)), aims to inform school students (from primary to high school), their families and teachers on topics related to climate change in order to suggest more sustainable individual behaviors that can be concretely adopted in daily life. The Sacro Cuore di Rio Pusteria middle school has been awarded the 2020/2021 ScuolaClima award, being the first one to receive it. The following initiatives were considered particularly worthy: the energy consumption of the winning school was analyzed; air quality in school classes was monitored and improved by introducing plants in classrooms; workshops and conferences on upcycling (reuse and upgrade of products), the reuse of raw materials, and the impact of plastic products have taken place all year long; students paid a visit to the exhibition dedicated to climate protection titled Officina del clima (climate laboratory).

Further information:

- <https://www.klimaland.bz/it/initiative/scuolaclima/>

Best Practice 36

LIFEalps project

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Transport

Dimension(s): Information, funding

The LIFEalps project (Zero Emission Services for a Decarbonised Alpine Economy), funded by the EU Commission's LIFE program, aims to make South Tyrol a role model Alpine region with zero emissions in the transport sector. To this end, it wishes to contribute to 1) enlarge the zero-emission mobility infrastructure in the Province of Bolzano (expansion of charging points for electric and hydrogen cars), 2) create a "pilot fleet" comprising electric vehicles to monitor the demand in terms of type of electric vehicles and understand the most suitable types, and 3) develop zero-emission services for residents and tourists. One practical example of the initiatives of this project is the purchasing of more than 50 zero-emission vehicles, to be then made available for renting at very advantageous terms, to push people to green their carbon footprint in terms of mobility.

Further information:

- <https://www.life-alps.eu/progetto/>

Best Practice 37

Save the Air campaign

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Transport, cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information

The informative campaign 'Save the Air - Insieme per un'aria migliore' (Together for a better air quality) aims to inform the general population about both the cruciality of preserving clean air and the means to achieve that, including a thoughtful use of means of transport. While the original initiative was launched in 2007 when the air quality was at an alarmingly low level, continuing to pursue this battle is still at the forefront of the provincial agenda. The website of the campaign contains advertising videos that were aired also on local TV news broadcasts, as well as links to the websites of Alto Adige Pass (*supra* [best practice 22](#)), Green mobility fund (*supra* [best practice 23](#)) and other local initiatives.

Further information:

- <https://ambiente.provincia.bz.it/aria/missione-aria-pulita.asp#:~:text=%E2%80%9CSave%20the%20Air%20%2D%20Insieme%20per,vita%20ed%20il%20nostro%20benessere>

Best Practice 38

Merano: Climate-stress resistant trees

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Spatial Planning

Dimension(s): Leadership

The municipality of Merano decided to adapt the routine removal of plants in the city for safety/health reasons to the challenges posed by climate change. The replaced plants consist of more than 60 trees specifically chosen for their ability to withstand the stress caused by climate change to ensure as much durability as possible. Features such as humidity retention have been discriminant factors in the choice of the plants. Moreover, parallel to installation of the new plants, a wood fiber-based net has been installed to aid the water and humidity retention of the soil, to help the plants survive better. Additionally, specific types of fungi have been introduced in the soil, because of their positive symbiotic relationship with the plant and roots, consisting of a mutual exchange of water for nutrients. Such practice is widespread in forests, but it was thought to be applicable in an urban environment as well. This pilot will be extended to the rest of the city and other areas have already been identified. In this way the municipality is providing the ideal support for the improvement of the green spaces in the city.

Further information:

- <https://www.altoadige.it/cronaca/merano/a-merano-nuovi-alberi-pi%C3%B9-resistenti-allo-stress-climatico-1.3243816>

3 Vorarlberg

Best Practice 39

Climate Change Coordinator and Climate Change Coordination Unit

Where: Austria, *Land* Vorarlberg

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Coordination, information

Part of the General Economic Affairs Division is the Climate Coordination Unit (*Abteilung für Klimakoordination*), which is responsible for implementing the federal and provincial programs of measures to achieve the GHG targets in Vorarlberg. In addition, it advises the provincial government on energy-related climate protection issues and represents Vorarlberg in the National Climate Protection Committee (*Nationales Klimaschutzkomitee*). It is also entrusted with the implementation of the Energy Autonomy + strategy (*Energieautonomie +*) and the electromobility strategy (*Elektromobilitätsstrategie*). Furthermore, a climate coordinator (*Klimakoordinator*) is specifically managing climate adaptation aspects. The climate coordinator and the coordination unit oversee the sectoral integration of climate change and are responsible for cyclic monitoring, also in order to identify critical areas. For these purposes, they engage in regular (bilateral) exchange with the single departments. The coordination efforts often result in information exchange and data collection.

Further information:

- IntV_02; IntV_05
- <https://vorarlberg.at/-/abteilung-allgemeine-wirtschaftsangelegenheiten>

Best Practice 40

Declaration of the state of climate emergency and climate check

Where: Austria, *Land* Vorarlberg

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Leadership

Vorarlberg was the first *Land* in Austria to declare a climate emergency (*Klimanotstand*) in 2019, through a motion that was unanimously adopted. The declaration on the climate emergency is, in the strict sense, merely a political statement with a self-commitment to take the necessary measures immediately, but it is considered to be practically applicable. The package of measures against the climate emergency includes a further reduction of greenhouse gases, the promotion of renewable energy sources, the development of public transport and cycling, awareness-raising initiatives and the objective of achieving climate neutrality. The most important aspect of the measures is that all laws, regulations and subsidies have to be checked for their compatibility with energy autonomy and climate protection ('climate check'). The concrete implementation of the climate check is currently being worked out within the framework of the government program.

Further information:

- https://www.klimabuendnis.org/fileadmin/Inhalte/2_Municipalities/Climate_Emergency/Bundesland_Vorarlberg_Klimanotstand_Beschluss.pdf
- IntV_06

Best Practice 41

Mission Zero V

Where: Austria, *Land* Vorarlberg

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting; Transport; Energy

Dimension(s): Leadership

In Vorarlberg, the 'Mission Zero V' program for a climate-neutral administration was passed by the *Land* parliament (*Landtag*) in December 2018. This was the first such decision by an Austrian *Land*. The program targets public buildings through renovation and conversion to renewable energy sources, the vehicle pool through conversion to e-mobility and all business trips made by *Land* officers. The remaining emissions, which are hardly avoidable, are neutralized through investments in climate protection projects. Further packages of measures are decided every year to reduce emissions within the *Land's* own sphere of influence (*eigener Wirkungsbereich*). The program not only sets comprehensive measures for achieving climate neutrality, but also has a role model function for companies and private individuals on how CO₂ neutrality can be achieved. Moreover, the Mission Zero Pilot Municipality program was launched in 2021 with the aim of organizing the municipal administration of the e5 municipalities (*infra* [best practice 51](#)) in a climate-neutral way, following the example of the Vorarlberg *Land* government.

Further information:

- <https://www.energieautonomie-vorarlberg.at/de/mzv/>
- https://www.energieinstitut.at/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Produktdatenblatt_MissionZeroV_Pilotgemeinden_CI_EIV_v2.pdf

Best Practice 42

Citizens' Council on the Climate Future

Where: Austria, *Land Vorarlberg*

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Participation

The Citizens' Council (*Bürgererrat*) is a multi-stage participation procedure pursuant to article 1(4) of the *Land* Constitution. In July 2021, a Citizens' Council on the Climate Future (*Bürgererrat Klima-Zukunft*) was initiated with over 1,000 signatures. The 21 randomly selected citizens met over one weekend (1.5 days) to work out recommendations to politicians concerning climate protection. As an outcome, participants wished for a stronger engagement with the topic, for example through the establishment of a permanent climate panel or climate advocacy. Based on the results, the following implementation measures were or will be pursued by *Land Vorarlberg*: the adoption of the results at a government meeting in October 2021; the implementation of measures within the framework of the Energy Autonomy Strategy+ and the development of citizen participation measures on climate protection topics by the Office for Voluntary Engagement and Participation (*Büro für Freiwilliges Engagement und Beteiligung*) and the Energy Institute (*Energieinstitut*).

Further information:

- <https://vorarlberg.at/-/b%C3%BCrgerrat-klima-zukunft>
- <https://vorarlberg.mitdenken.online/projects/0849e217-6b1d-419c-9302-c82e9f028eb4/view/answers>
- <https://vorarlberg.at/documents/302033/472141/Richtlinie+B%C3%BCrgerrat.pdf/4d1dc47a-d15e-18ad-e65f-11baa9b8624e?t=1620229041400>

Best Practice 43

Vorarlberg MOBIL

Where: Austria, *Land* Vorarlberg

Government Levels: *Land*, local

Policy Sector(s): Transport

Dimension(s): Coordination, information

Comprehensive marketing and effective awareness raising for the possibilities of soft mobility in Vorarlberg - this is the joint task of the *Land*, municipalities and institutions within the framework of mobility management. *Land* Vorarlberg bundles various measures for soft mobility through its own coordination office (*Koordinationsstelle für Mobilitätsmanagement*) within the framework of the Vorarlberg MOBIL initiative. Representatives of the *Land*, the municipalities and other institutions meet three to four times a year to discuss mobility-related topics and to inform and be informed about planned activities from the other entities. The meeting in February 2022 focused on parking space management, improvements in cycling and campaigns to promote sustainable mobility. The minutes and reports from the individual information platforms are available online.

Further information:

- <https://vorarlberg.at/-/vorarlberg-mobil-gemeindeplattform>
- <https://vorarlberg.at/-/vorarlberg-mobil-koordinationsstelle-fuer-mobilitaetsmanagement>

Best Practice 44

Climate-friendly buildings program

Where: Austria, *Land* Vorarlberg

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Energy

Dimension(s): Information, funding

On the basis of the Action Plan 2021/22 in connection with the Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (*Strategie zur Anpassung an den Klimawandel*) in Vorarlberg, several measures on the topic of climate-friendly buildings were implemented:

- In the Municipal Building Certificate (*Kommunalgebäudeausweis* – KGA), the criterion ‘climate impact adaptation’ has been in place since January 2021. Projects with a good rating in the KGA receive increased subsidies.
- A guideline on climate-friendly building for energy advisors, training of energy advisors and renovation pilots is being prepared. An information flyer on climate-friendly building will be produced for the general public.
- Trained energy consultants give free advice to private individuals on the topic of climate-friendly private buildings.
- Climate change workshops, in which the topic of climate-friendly municipal buildings and infrastructure was addressed, were carried out in seven e5 municipalities (*infra* [best practice 51](#)).
- A training program for consultants was developed on the topic of green roofs and photovoltaics on the basis of an existing guideline.

Further information:

- <https://vorarlberg.at/documents/302033/0/Vorarlberger+Aktionsplan+Klimawandelanpassung+2021-22.pdf/e34e2fd0-c427-9b09-adb3-ce19351dcf70?t=1628852989571>

Best Practice 45

Climate experiment “Paris amKumma”

Where: Austria, *Land* Vorarlberg

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting, transport, energy

Dimension(s): Information, funding, coordination

Twelve pre-identified households in the Vorarlberger association (*Verein*) amKumma (three in each of the municipalities of Altach, Götzis, Koblach und Mäder) engaged in a climate experiment: living as the Paris climate target dictates. The region provided various support measures for the twelve households. The participants were able to test electric cars, electric scooters, use car sharing, receive public transport tickets for themselves and their bikes and have a box of vegetables delivered to their homes once a week. In addition, six households received personalized advice about how to reduce household energy consumption from experts. Despite the target not being met, this experiment offers remarkable insights in how behavioral change can be successfully initiated. The project participants were supervised by the Vorarlberg Energy Institute (*Energieinstitut Vorarlberg*) and it was operated under the umbrella of the Energy Autonomie + Strategy.

Further information:

- <https://amkumma.at/region/verein-region-amkumma/verein-region-amkumma/>
- <https://www.energieautonomie-vorarlberg.at/de/klimaexperiment-paris-amkumma-gesamtgesellschaftliches-umdenken-noetig>

Best Practice 46

IMWALGAU project

Where: Austria, *Land Vorarlberg*

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Coordination, information

The Walgau region consists of 21 municipalities and towns and has joined forces with the project 'IMWALGAU Regional Development' to implement various activities in cooperation. Although the project does not have climate protection as a priority goal, various initiatives have been implemented in the area of citizen participation, transport and nature conservation. Examples of cooperation in the field of transport are:

- In Walgau, cycle route concepts for the regional parts Feldkirch-Frastanz-Satteins, Walgau-Mitte as well as Bludenz-Bürs-Nüziders are in progress within the framework of the 'Vorarlberg Regional Cycle Route Strategy' (*Landesradwege-Strategie Vorarlberg*). Within the framework of regional development in the Walgau, the three partial concepts will be brought together, and variants publicly discussed.
- In cooperation with the Walgau - Großes Walsertal transport association (*Verkehrsverbund Walgau – Großes Walsertal*), a potential analysis is carried out for public transport. The role of the municipalities in public transport in the future is discussed with the municipalities (complaint management, needs assessment, marketing, etc.). The issue of company transport is also being addressed together with large companies.

Further information:

- <https://imwalgau.at/pilotphase/imwalgau/startseite/projekt.html>

Best Practice 47

Vorarlberg Mitdenken

Where: Austria, *Land* Vorarlberg

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information, participation

With the ‘*Vorarlberg Mitdenken*’ (think through) platform, a new form of citizen participation and involvement between citizens, administration and municipalities was created in 2016. With the interactive online participation platform (e-participation), citizens can quickly and easily contribute to important topics and municipal policy decisions and developments in their municipality. Participants are kept informed during the process and updated on insights and decisions. The results and opinions of the participation processes are published on the platform and taken into account in the decision-making process, such as in the context of the Citizens' Council Climate Future, the Koblach roads and paths concept and Energy Autonomy+ 2030. The possibility of active and digital participation of the population on various policy issues or by specific stakeholders not only enables targeted decisions to be made, but also allows the design of broadly supported measures, which is why they can be implemented more efficiently in practice. Up to May 2022, 28 projects, 5,525 contributors and 3,915 contributions can be found on the platform *Vorarlberg Mitdenken*.

Further information:

- <https://vorarlberg.at/-/online-beteiligung-in-vorarlberg>
- IntV_01; IntV_02; IntV_03; IntV_05; IntV_06

Best Practice 48

Energy Autonomy + website

Where: Austria, *Land* Vorarlberg

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Energy

Dimension(s): Information

The Energy Autonomy + (*Energieautonomie +*) website bundles all climate change related news, projects and information, and the main policy-documents are directly available for download. The website not only gives an overview of the current Energy Autonomy + Strategy and the individual steps, the presentation of already implemented projects, stories and experience reports and a summary of newly available funding in the field of energy autonomy, but it also provides training opportunities, links and downloads and best practice examples (from companies). News and events within the framework of the Energy Autonomy + Strategy are also published there. Therefore, the website gives an overview of the status of energy autonomy in Vorarlberg and provides centralized information on this topic.

Further information:

- <https://www.energieautonomie-vorarlberg.at/de/>

Best Practice 49

LaNaPa – long night of participation

Where: Austria, *Land* Vorarlberg

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information

The long night of participation is an event that focuses entirely on the topic of citizen participation. In several rounds of the evening, projects are presented and discussed, inputs are given by experts and the exchange of participants is promoted. The 2022 event took place on 22 June in Dornbirn. One project that was presented is a forum theatre project of the Vorderwald-Egg region to develop a play about the challenges of the climate crisis with the involvement of the village and amateur theater companies of the region. During interactive performances, ideas on sustainable behaviors from the audience were brought to the stage. In 5 performances, about 450 people came and got involved.

Further information:

- <https://www.langenachtderpartizipation.at/>

Best Practice 50

KlimaKarma

Where: Austria, *Land Vorarlberg*

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Energy

Dimension(s): Information

‘KlimaKarma’ is an initiative of *Land Vorarlberg* as part of the *Energieautonomie+* (Energy Autonomy+) campaign. Information in the areas of energy autonomy, energy saving, e-mobility, climate and environmental protection is shared in short videos (vlogs) on YouTube, in posts on social media (Instagram, Facebook) and on Whatsapp. Examples of episodes of the KlimaKarma vlogs deal with the topics of resource-saving production in local companies, solar energy, e-mobility and the work at the Vorarlberg Energy Institute (*Energieinstitut*). The aim is to address and educate young people in particular.

Further information:

- <https://www.energieautonomie-vorarlberg.at/de/klimakarma/>
- https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=klimakarma

Best Practice 51

e5 program

Where: Austria, *Länder* Tyrol and Vorarlberg

Government Levels: National, *Land*, local

Policy Sector(s): Energy

Dimension(s): Leadership, information, coordination

The e5 program (*'e5-Programm für energieeffiziente Gemeinden'*) encourages and supports Austrian municipalities to modernize their energy and climate protection policies, to save energy and thus costs, and to use renewable energy sources. The e5 program is based on a quality management system and includes several steps: uncovering weak points and identifying potential for improvement, initiating the improvement process, planning concrete measures, setting up and/or strengthening structures and processes for the successful implementation of energy projects, enabling the participation of the population and other actors in the municipality in energy policy decisions and activities, and regular internal and external success monitoring as well as certifying the municipalities according to their success. In addition to the support in the implementation of various projects in the municipalities and the financial benefits from the cost savings due to the increase in energy efficiency, the long-term structures (ex. e5 coordinators) and working methods established in the municipalities are essential for the future integration of climate protection measures. The e5 provincial program has been in place in Vorarlberg since 1998. Around 500 e5 team members in 51 e5 municipalities are engaged and already 86% of the citizens of Vorarlberg live in an e5 municipality. In Tyrol, 50 municipalities are part of the program.

Further information:

- <https://www.e5-gemeinden.at/>
- <https://www.energie-gemeinde.at/> (Tyrol)
- <https://www.energieinstitut.at/gemeinden/das-e5-landesprogramm/e5-gemeinden-in-vorarlberg/> (Vorarlberg)

Best Practice 52

Bregenz: Climate change initiatives

Where: Austria, *Land Vorarlberg*

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting, transport, energy

Dimension(s): Leadership, information, coordination

The city of Bregenz is active in the integration of climate change in local policies and initiatives. 3 examples deserve particular attention:

- ‘*Gut Geh Raum* - Schendlingen School’: together with the *Land Vorarlberg*, the School Board, the ‘Safe Vorarlberg’ initiative and plan-b mobility management, the *Land Capital City* of Bregenz has implemented a project that focuses on safe walking to school to reduce cars in front of the teaching facilities.
- Environmentally friendly pool facilities: in a project that lasted about two years, the energy supply in the public pool facilities in Bregenz were optimized. At the beginning of 2016, a natural gas-powered combining heat and power plant was put into operation. The heat generated is used entirely in the baths, just like most of the electricity produced. In the future, 100% biogas from a local company will be used as fuel and the electricity will be fed into the grid as green electricity. By operating with biogas, more than 700 tonnes of CO₂ emissions are eliminated annually.
- Energy and Climate Strategy 2030 (*Klima- und Energiestrategie 2030*): The Climate and Energy Strategy of the *Land Capital City* of Bregenz was adopted in 2021. The aim of the strategy is to drive the existing energy system towards energy autonomy, and the strategy defines key milestones and measures to achieve this. Measures include, for example, the energy autonomy of the city administration and its subsidiaries by 2030, a climate relevance check local decisions and the development of projects for greenhouse gas reduction. For the implementation, a climate advisory board (*Klimabeirat*) will be established, consisting of administrative staff and technical experts. In addition, the e5 team (see [best practice 51](#)) as a cross-disciplinary body is in charge of steering the planning and implementation of the strategy.

Further information:

- <https://www.e5-gemeinden.at/e5-gemeinden/best-practice-beispiele/detail/bregenz-v-gut-geh-raum-schule-schendlingen-234>
- <https://www.e5-gemeinden.at/e5-gemeinden/best-practice-beispiele/detail/bregenz-v-umweltfreundliche-baederanlagen-246>
- https://www.bregenz.gv.at/fileadmin/user_upload/magazine/klima-und-energiestrategie-2030/index.html#0

Best Practice 53

Bludenz and Nüziders: Climate neutrality of the administration

Where: Austria, *Land* Vorarlberg

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting, energy

Dimension(s): Leadership, funding

As pilot municipalities, Bludenz wants to achieve climate neutrality of the administration by 2035, Nüziders by 2030. From now on, high compensation payments will be made in Bludenz for climate-damaging emissions from the electricity and heat supply of municipal buildings and facilities, the vehicle pool of the municipality and employee mobility. For every tonne of CO₂ emitted, 50 Euros will be invested in climate-relevant projects in the city. Both municipalities follow the Mission Zero V (*supra* [best practice 41](#)) initiative which aims to reach energy autonomy for the *Land* administration.

Further information:

- <https://www.vol.at/mission-zero-bludenz/7142424>
- https://www.nueziders.at/fileadmin/user_upload/Gemeinde-Info/2021-07_Info_Nueziders_Juli_web.pdf

Best Practice 54

Dornbirn: Climate related initiatives

Where: Austria, *Land Vorarlberg*

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Energy, transport

Dimension(s): Information, coordination

Two initiatives in Dornbirn are relevant with regard to awareness raising and coordination in the field of climate change:

- Cooperation with educational institutions: The 'Energy Technology and Energy Management' degree program at Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences (*FH Vorarlberg*) has been inviting applications for master's theses and energy projects since 2014. Cooperation with the city of Dornbirn has been an important component ever since. A total of four master's theses have already been assigned to students. In addition to investigating the waste heat potential on the city's territory and the profitability of a small hydropower plant, the energy efficiency and alternative digester gas use of the wastewater treatment plant were examined by the students.
- Corporate mobility management & Eco-Points: The City of Dornbirn's company mobility management was already introduced in 2011 with a large-scale campaign. Employees who use a parking space must pay a minimum contribution per day, so there are no more free parking spaces for staff members. Related to this, there is an incentive system called Eco-Points, according to which those who come to work on foot, by bicycle, by public transport or in a carpool receive bonus points. The bonus points are collected and, as soon as there are enough points in the personal account, can be exchanged for attractive offers to support the use of sustainable means of transportation (for example, vouchers for bicycle services, public transport tickets, etc.). In addition, the mayor uses the bicycle as a company vehicle.

Further information:

- <https://www.e5-gemeinden.at/e5-gemeinden/best-practice-beispiele/detail/dornbirn-v-kooperationen-mit-bildungseinrichtungen-250>
- <https://www.e5-gemeinden.at/e5-gemeinden/best-practice-beispiele/detail/dornbirn-v-betriebliches-mobiliaetsmanagement-eco-points-238>

Best Practice 55

Hittisau: Participation in the creation of the Energy Model

Where: Austria, *Land Vorarlberg*

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Energy, cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Participation, leadership, information

The municipality of Hittisau developed its own "*Leitbild Energiestrategie*" (Energy Model), which, in addition to the expansion of renewable energies and soft mobility, includes initiatives also in the fields of sustainable consumption, nutrition, regionality and organic farming. The definition of guiding principles and goals involved the population, which was invited by the municipality for the development of the energy mission statement. 23 people took part in the drafting process, and their input was taken into account in the guiding principles. In addition, the mission statement was coordinated with important stakeholders. The finalized mission statement was then sent to all households in the municipality.

Further information:

- <https://www.e5-gemeinden.at/e5-gemeinden/best-practice-beispiele/detail/hittisau-v-energieleitbild-195>

Best Practice 56

Feldkirch: GIS-based Energy Master Plan

Where: Austria, *Land Vorarlberg*

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Energy

Dimension(s): Leadership, information

Feldkirch has already committed itself to reach energy autonomy by 2050 and to be in line with the 2000-Watt Society concept. With the Feldkirch Energy Master Plan (*Energiemasterplan Feldkirch – EMP*), a strategic instrument for planning, decision-making support and long-term goal achievement has been developed. The basis of the EMP is the analysis of the current energy situation of the city of Feldkirch carried out through a geodatabase in which existing data and studies are centrally stored. With the help of the database, energy sinks (existing buildings, mobility, infrastructure), energy sources and potentials of renewable energy sources can be mapped holistically. For this purpose, 160 properties of 7,500 buildings were recorded and 14 databases were merged.

Further information:

- <https://www.e5-gemeinden.at/e5-gemeinden/best-practice-beispiele/detail/feldkirch-v-gis-basierter-energiemasterplan-19>
- <https://www.2000watt.swiss/english.html>

Best Practice 57

Lustenau: Lustenau mobil

Where: Austria, *Land* Vorarlberg

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Transport

Dimension(s): Information, funding

For years, the municipality has been specifically promoting environmentally friendly and conscious mobility. With the project '*Lustenau mobil*', the market town has put together a comprehensive package of over 70 individual measures, including 25 for the promotion of cycling alone, such as construction measures for an improved cycling infrastructure, incentives and subsidies to switch to cycling, flanked by a communication that wants to inspire more Lustenau residents to cycle.

Further information:

- <https://www.e5-gemeinden.at/e5-gemeinden/best-practice-beispiele/detail/lustenau-v-lustenau-mobil-1-243>

Best Practice 58

Zwischenwasser: Sustainable transport project for pupils

Where: Austria, *Land* Vorarlberg

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Transport

Dimension(s): Information

Since the transport of pupils from remote areas in the municipality of Zwischenwasser was previously managed by taxis or private cars, an electric school bus was purchased that now takes the children to school free of charge. On weekends and holidays, the electric bus does not remain unused. Via an online platform, the minibuss can be rented by all citizens as well as by the municipal administration.

Further information:

- <https://www.e5-gemeinden.at/e5-gemeinden/best-practice-beispiele/detail/zwischenwasser-v-mit-dem-elektrobus-zur-schule-248>

4 Tyrol

Best Practice 59

Climate Change Coordinator and Climate Change Coordination Unit

Where: Austria, *Land Tyrol*

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Coordination, information

The Sustainability and Climate Coordination Unit and the Climate Coordinator (*Nachhaltigkeits- und Klimakoordination* and *Klimakoordinator*) are administrative organizational units within the *Land* administration specifically entrusted with the facilitation and coordination of sustainable development processes at departmental level. Innovative approaches to sustainability are supported and promoted and departmental initiatives are coordinated with one another to ensure consistency. Ensuring that climate protection interests are taken into account in administrative decisions, the coordination of departments entrusted with climate change and the organization of awareness raising and communication campaigns for the public are additional focal points of this department. Furthermore, the Sustainability and Climate Coordination Unit is responsible for recurring reporting on progress with climate-change mainstreaming in *Land* policies to the government (*Landesregierung*) and the general public. To this end, it produces a report that is available online on the homepage of *Land Tyrol*. The different departments are requested, in turn, to provide updates on the status of the implementation of the planned sectoral climate change integration measures, also for the purpose of identifying possible overlaps between units.

Further information:

- IntT_03; IntT_05
- <https://www.tirol.gv.at/landesentwicklung/nachhaltigkeits-und-klimakoordination/>

Best Practice 60

Coordination mechanism within the Sustainability and Climate Strategy 2021

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Leadership, coordination

One goal of the new Climate and Sustainability Strategy 2021 (*Nachhaltigkeits- und Klimastrategie*) is to bundle and systematize coordination between departments at *Land* level. The development of the strategy, as well as the implementation is based on two complementary levels of coordination (1) within the administration and (2) between the administration and political representatives. The core working group, consisting of the climate coordination (*supra* [best practice 59](#)), the energy coordination (*infra* [best practice 62](#)) and the head of the relevant departments in the administration, meets regularly and focuses on priorities, targets and sectoral measures. In parallel, there is a steering group with political representatives, which sets priorities, and a core group, which acts as an operative branch of the steering group. This governance system was originally conceived for the development of the Sustainability Strategy in 2019 but remained as a permanent process. The added value of this mechanism is that it provides for institutionalized coordination between departments and between the political and the administrative leadership with the specific purpose of integrating climate change at sectoral level. This coordination mechanism is not only limited to the strategic phase of policy-making but is intended to be activated throughout the whole policy cycle, including the implementation.

Further information:

- https://www.tirol.gv.at/fileadmin/themen/landesentwicklung/raumordnung/Nachhaltigkeit/Nachhaltigkeits-und_Klimakoordination/Publikationen/Nachhaltigkeits-und-Klimastrategie_2021.pdf
- https://www.tirol.gv.at/fileadmin/landtag/landesrechnungshof/downloads/berichte/2022/Klimaschutz-und_Klimawandelanpassungsstrategie.pdf
- IntT_06; IntT_07

Best Practice 61

Landesverwaltung als Vorbild

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting, transport, energy

Dimension(s): Leadership, coordination

In Tirol, climate neutrality of the administration was anchored in the Climate and Sustainability Strategy (*Tiroler Nachhaltigkeits- und Klimastrategie*) of 2021. Measures within the scope of the project '*Landesverwaltung als Vorbild*' (Administration as a Role Model) concern renovation of public buildings, use of highly efficient heating systems, replacement of fossil fuels, thermal renovation of existing buildings, use of alternative energy sources, energy-related upgrading/retrofitting of provincial buildings, and the conversion of the vehicle fleet to electric vehicles, e-bikes and e-scooters. So far, 21 electric cars - that is 7% of the total fleet, 21 electric bicycles and 3 electric scooters have been purchased. In addition to measures concerning public buildings and transport, the switch to sustainable and climate-friendly procurement is a central element. Furthermore, all events organized by *Land* Tirol have to comply with the criteria of Green Event Tyrol. The initiative is not only essential for adaptation to climate protection and energy efficiency in the administration itself but can also be seen as a model for achieving CO₂ neutrality for private individuals and companies.

Further information:

- https://www.tirol.gv.at/fileadmin/themen/landesentwicklung/raumordnung/Nachhaltigkeit/Nachhaltigkeits-und_Klimakoordination/Publikationen/Nachhaltigkeits-und-Klimastrategie_2021.pdf
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fh-UYvdWNN4>

Best Practice 62

Energy coordinator

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Energy

Dimension(s): Coordination, funding, participation

The energy coordinator (*Energiekoordinator*) is an institutionalized horizontal coordination mechanism with the mandate to coordinate initiatives by different departments or sub-divisions and to act as an information-exchange hotspot within the administration on energy issues. An example of coordination is the development and implementation of the packages of measures within the framework of the climate and sustainability strategy (*Tiroler Nachhaltigkeits- und Klimastrategie*). The budgeting of the planned measures also falls within the remit of the energy coordinator. In addition, the energy coordinator makes suggestions to the political representatives, analyses comments or suggestions received from the population or representatives of the administration and identifies – in light of the comments – necessary measures in the field of energy. If necessary for such measures, small ad-hoc groups that have representatives from other departments are set up for elaboration and implementation.

Further information:

- IntT_02

Best Practice 63

Reduction of costs for public transportation and intermodality

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Transport

Dimension(s): Funding

With a further tariff reduction by the VVT (*Verkehrsverbund Tirol* – Transport Association Tyrol), in collaboration with the *Land*, public transport in Tyrol became more attractive, making it easier for more people to switch from car to public transport. From 1 March 2022, the new ‘Climate Ticket Tyrol U26’ and the ‘Plus One-Bonus’ for frequent traveler households apply in Tyrol. The Climate Ticket Tyrol U26, purchasable for €265, is valid for all persons up to 26 years of age, for one year for all public transport in the whole of Tyrol – including long-distance and local transport as well as the city of Innsbruck. Previously, only the annual regional ticket was available, at a price of €509.40. The Plus One-Bonus is a reduction for all persons in Tyrol who live in the same household and are holders of a Climate Ticket. The bonus reduces the annual ticket by 30% for each additional person in the shared household.

Further information:

- <https://www.tirol.gv.at/meldungen/meldung/tirol-fuehrt-neues-klimaticket-tirol-u26-und-pluseins-bonus-ein/>

Best Practice 64

Awareness raising initiatives by Klimabündnis Tirol

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information

Climate Alliance (*Klimabündnis Tirol*) organizes awareness raising initiatives for different target groups by supporting schools, day nurseries and kindergartens in raising awareness on climate change through the Climate Alliance School project which is funded by the Land. The aim of the initiative is to address climate-relevant issues in a holistic manner, to learn how to act in a climate-friendly way and to implement concrete measures, especially in the areas of mobility and energy. In addition, the intention is to work with the municipalities to make them more sustainable and to ensure the exchange of information between educational institutions via an annual report. Moreover, the Climate Alliance is not only active in the field of educational institutions (schools, kindergartens) but also in adult education by holding a training course for municipal climate protection officers twice a year. In addition, the Climate Alliance Tyrol offers several times a year events, training courses, cycling courses and workshops for interested parties, whose topics range from mobility to climate change adaptation to corporate sustainability.

Further information:

- <https://tirol.klimabuendnis.at/schule-kiga>
- https://www.umweltzeichen.at/de/bildung/bildungseinrichtungen?cert_number=BE+043
- IntT_06; IntT_07

Best Practice 65

Climate, Energy and Circular Economy Platform

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting, energy

Dimension(s): Coordination, information

The Climate, Energy and Circular Economy Platform (*Plattform Klima, Energie und Kreislaufwirtschaft* - KEK) pursues the goal of stronger cross-sectoral networking of Tyrolean regions and companies, and it serves as a central contact and service provider for the implementation of projects and initiatives in the areas of climate protection, climate change adaptation, renewable energy, mobility and resource efficiency. Tyrolean companies are supported in promoting resource-saving management in cooperation with science, in improving energy efficiency and in taking climate protection measures (ex. company mobility management, climate reporting). Furthermore, Tyrolean municipalities are supported in the elaboration of local development strategies to integrate the topics of the platform (renewable energy, mobility etc.) at the municipal and regional level. Projects developed within the framework of the platform are, for example the 'Customer Journey', which aims to develop a service to support municipalities and companies in the area of climate protection, and the project 'Scope 3 - Corporate Carbon Footprint', which is intended to help companies to implement climate neutrality as a corporate goal in a transparent and comprehensible way. The platform is coordinated by the Office of the Tyrolean Provincial Government (Department of Provincial Development; *Abteilung Landesentwicklung*) in cooperation with the Location Agency Tyrol (*Standortagentur*), Energy Tyrol (*Energie Tirol*) and Climate Alliance Tyrol (*Klimabündnis Tirol*).

Further information:

- <https://www.standort-tirol.at/unternehmen/klima-energie-und-kreislaufwirtschaft>
- https://www.tirol.gv.at/fileadmin/themen/landesentwicklung/raumordnung/Nachhaltigkeit/Nachhaltigkeits-_und_Klimakoordination/Publikationen/Nachhaltigkeits-und-Klimastrategie_2021.pdf

Best Practice 66

Klimabündnis Betrieb

Where: Austria, *Land Tyrol*

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information

In the Climate Alliance Business Program (*Klimabündnis Betrieb*), any Tyrolean businesses may ask to be subjected to an overall check ('KlimaCheck') with regard to energy, mobility, procurement, catering, waste, internal organization and awareness raising. A first check of these parameters is followed by the elaboration of a full report. Based on this report, company-specific climate and sustainability targets are set and admission to the Climate Alliance is confirmed. The first evaluation of the implementation takes place after two years, then always after three years. The KlimaCheck is supported by Land Tyrol and carried out by Climate Alliance Tyrol (*Klimabündnis Tirol*). This is an example of the central role of peripheral agents in the implementation of climate protection measures. So far, there are 76 Climate Alliance businesses in Tyrol.

Further information:

- <https://tirol.klimabuendnis.at/betriebe>
- https://tirol.klimabuendnis.at/images/doku/KB_Betriebe_Folder_160x160mm_web_2020.pdf

Best Practice 67

Verwaltungsakademie

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting, spatial planning

Dimension(s): Information, coordination

On behalf of the Department of Human Resources Development of *Land* Tyrol, the *Verwaltungsakademie* (administrative academy) is organized, planned and implemented by the Tyrolean Educational Institute Grillhof (*Tiroler Bildungsinstitut-Grillhof*) to provide training to mayors. Examples of current seminars and courses are a practical seminar for municipal councilors on the basics of the Tyrolean Municipal Code and Building and Spatial Planning Law, or a seminar on the planning, organization, implementation and financing of youth projects. These trainings not only lead to a harmonization of implementation at the municipal level but also serve to educate mayors about new developments, such as the integration of climate protection as a new spatial planning objective. The special advantages of such seminars and courses are not only to impart theoretical knowledge, but also to influence practice and exchange information and experiences between the mayors and municipal councils.

Further information:

- <https://www.tirol.gv.at/bildung/bildungsinstitut-grillhof/bildungsprogramm/verwaltungsakademie/>
- IntT_03

Best Practice 68

Energy Academy

Where: Austria, *Land Tyrol*

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Energy

Dimension(s): Information, coordination

The Energy Academy (*Energie Akademie Tirol*) offers comprehensive courses for a wide variety of target groups (private individuals, municipalities, companies). The courses focus specifically on energy matters, in particular renewable energies, energy efficiency and building technology. The courses offer further education opportunities for private individuals, such as the training to become an energy advisor, special training courses for municipalities and companies and information evenings for builders. Some of the courses are also conducted online. The Energy Academy is an initiative of Energy Tyrol (*Energie Tirol*) and the *Land Tyrol* in cooperation with various partner organizations.

Further information:

- <https://www.energie-tirol.at/energie-akademie/die-tiroler-energie-akademie/>

Best Practice 69

CLAR - Clear Alpine Region

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information, funding

The '*Clean Alpine Region – CLAR*' project supports Tyrolean touristic regions in implementing measures in the areas of climate protection, sustainability and energy and in further developing themselves as climate-friendly regions. Examples of concrete activities are the organization of events as green events, the support of tourism businesses in the conversion of heating systems to renewable energies, e-mobility offers, a guide for guests and locals on climate-friendly behavior, the establishment of structures for the marketing of regional products and training of businesses on the topic of sustainability. The project was initiated by the Living Space Tyrol Holding Group (*Lebensraum Tirol*). The participating pilot regions (Kaunergrat, Kufsteinerland, Pitztal and St. Johann) are advised and supported in the implementation of their measures by the Location Agency Tyrol (*Standortagentur*); they are also supported with EU funds from the IWB ERDF Austria 2014 - 2020 program with up to 200,000 euros each.

Further information:

- <https://www.standort-tirol.at/cluster/internationale-projekte/clar-clean-alpine-region#clar-kaunergrat>

Best Practice 70

Double Plus 2.0 – Energy and climate coaching

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol

Government Level: *Land*

Policy Sector(s): Cross-Cutting, energy

Dimension(s): Information, funding

The ‘Doppel Plus 2.0’ program is a Tyrol-wide initiative which aims to support low-income households in their efforts to protect the climate. The project partners are Energy Tyrol (*Energie Tirol*) and the Climate Alliance (*Klimabündnis Tirol*), as well as Public Utility Wörgl (*Stadtwerke Wörgl*). One third of the funding for the project comes from *Land* Tyrol, while the EU provides two thirds (LIFE). Double plus indicates a plus for one's own purse and a plus for the climate. The program consists of two actions: (1) networking and training volunteers as climate coaches, and (2) helping households with regard to operating cost arrears through the reduction of energy consumption. Since the climate coaches come from the same or a similar social class as the households to be advised, they can reach the low-income families more easily. This new approach directly involves parts of civil society (disadvantaged households) that are often not taken into account in many other measures. As of April 2021, 650 household consultations were carried out and 91 volunteer coaches trained. Households were able to save an average of 2091 kWh, which represents a reduction of 667 kg CO₂ equivalent and an average saving of about 209€ per year. A continuation of the project until May 2022 was decided by the Tyrolean government in spring 2021.

Further information:

- <https://www.doppelplus.tirol/de/was-ist-doppelplus/energie-und-klimacoaching/>
- https://www.doppelplus.tirol/uploads/tx_bh/doppelplus_laypersons_report_ger_web.pdf?mod=1623050167
- https://www.tirol.gv.at/fileadmin/themen/landesentwicklung/raumordnung/Nachhaltigkeit/Nachhaltigkeits-und_Klimakoordination/Publikationen/Nachhaltigkeits-und-Klimastrategie_2021.pdf
- IntT_06

Best Practice 71

Kufstein: Climate Protection and Sustainability Officer

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Leadership, coordination, funding, information

After the declaration of a climate emergency (*Klimanotstand*) in 2019, the city of Kufstein created a position to adequately address the complexity of climate and environment-related issues. A Climate Protection and Sustainability Officer (*Nachhaltigkeitsbeauftragte*) was hired for sustainable urban development and cross-sectoral cooperation. The sustainability officer builds networks with and give advice to citizens, politicians, associations, companies, educational institutions and *Land* institutions. The sustainability officer processes environmentally relevant applications, obtains funding at provincial and EU level for projects in the municipality, initiates climate protection projects, provides technical input and coordinates the implementation of the projects. Past projects concerned the organization of green events, a mobility week, the provision of e-bikes to the population, the 'Repair Café' and many more. The creation of this position was pioneering work and could serve as a model for other municipalities.

Further information:

- <https://www.kufstein.at/media/Nachhaltigkeitsbeauftragte-Bericht-2020-2021.pdf>

Best Practice 72

Zirl: Climate change year 2017

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information

The climate protection year 2017 kicked off with an exchange meeting of all the associations in Zirl, where the participants gained an insight into climate change, CO₂ emissions and global warming as well as the vision of energy autonomy by the year 2050. In total, more than 40 people took part in the workshop. More projects were implemented in the course of 2017: for example, more than 80 people from Zirl took part in the bicycle competition of the *Land* Tyrol. Children were the focus of the first Tyrolean Children's Climate Conference, where about 400 pupils presented their visions for an energy-autonomous Tyrol 2050 to the political representatives. The e5 community of Zirl (*supra* [best practice 51](#)) also took part in the Mobility Week, which had the motto “Make your streets bloom!”. The aim was to transform street space into living spaces.

Further information:

- <https://www.e5-gemeinden.at/e5-gemeinden/best-practice-beispiele/detail/zirl-t-klimaschutzjahr-2017-253>

Best Practice 73

Virgen: Virger mobil

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Transport

Dimension(s): Leadership, funding

The municipality of Virgen in East Tyrol achieved the highest score in the Tyrolean Mobility Award in the period 2013-2020. Virgen is not only particularly active in the area of municipal energy policy and climate protection, but above all in the area of transport, where innovative projects are being implemented. Virgen was one of the first municipalities in Austria to set up a micro public transport service with volunteer drivers, the 'Virger Mobil'. The Virger Mobil is an electric car with a chauffeur that is available to the citizens of the municipality during the day from Monday to Friday as a call bus. Passengers can order the car for destinations within the municipality for 1 euro per trip. The coordination of the Virger Mobil is up to the Mobility Centre of the municipality. By 2020, 70,000 rides (about 25 rides per day) were made and about 320,000 kilometers driven. There are currently 26 drivers, mainly pensioners who want to make a contribution to the common good. Another example taken in the mobility sector is the car-free redesign of Virgen's village square, which was carried out in the context of a review of the village's measures to reduce traffic and pedestrian-friendly design as part of the *Begegnungszonen-Check* (encounter zone check).

Further information:

- https://www.tirol.gv.at/fileadmin/themen/verkehr/verkehrsplanung/Carole/Dokumente/Bericht_Mobilitaetsprogramm.pdf
- <https://www.virgen.at/energie-umwelt/virgen-mobil/das-virger-mobil/>

Best Practice 74

Kundl: Climate change initiatives

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting; Energy

Dimension(s): Information, funding

The municipality of Kundl has been implementing various measures in the area of climate protection for several years. The municipality joined the e5 program (*supra* [best practice 51](#)) in 2011. So far, an energy advice center has been set up at the Kundl municipal office, which is open for consultations of the population every first Thursday of the month. In addition, there are extensive energy-saving subsidies, for instance for the use of ecological insulation materials or for energy-efficient renovations. Furthermore, the district heating system of the municipality has been continuously expanded since 1995. Other measures include: an energy mission statement and waste concept, e-car sharing offers, a person responsible for energy and the environment in the administration and various cooperation projects with neighboring municipalities.

Further information:

- <https://www.energie-gemeinde.at/gemeinden-und-regionen/unsere-tiroler-e5-gemeinden/gemeindedetail/kundl/>
- https://www.kundl.tirol.gv.at/e5_energie_service/unsere_e5_gemeinde

Best Practice 75

Volders: Use of solar energy

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Energy

Dimension(s): Leadership, information

The municipality of Volders is an energy, climate alliance, mobility and e5 municipality (see [best practice 51](#)). As an e5-municipality, numerous projects have been realized. In 2019, Volders was rewarded with the highest award level ('e5' / 5 es) in the e5 program, and it was also awarded the European Energy Award in gold. Volders is thus the first municipality in the district of Innsbruck *Land* to achieve this highest level. Showcase projects include, in particular, the use of solar energy through photovoltaic systems on four of six municipal buildings (fire brigade, secondary school, primary school, "House of Generations"). The amount of electricity generated already covers more than one third of the electricity demand of the municipal buildings and the street lighting. The two charging stations for e-cars in the municipality are supplied with electricity also from the photovoltaic systems. In addition, there is a push for subsidies for private photovoltaic systems, which leads to an annual expansion. In 2019, photovoltaics with a total output of 212 kWp were newly installed on private roofs. Other measures taken in Volders concern: an energy and environmental mission statement, which was already adopted by the municipal council in 2015. Since 2021, all new buildings of the municipality must be constructed as low-energy buildings. Furthermore, there is an energy consultation for the population in the area of energy-efficient construction, the use of which is a prerequisite for municipal funding.

Further information:

- <https://www.volders.tirol.gv.at/umwelt-energie-klima-und-mobilitaet--59240151-de.html>
- <https://www.volders.tirol.gv.at/e5-gemeinde--59241104-de.html>

Best Practice 76

Angerberg: Biomass microgrid

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol

Government Level: Local

Policy Sector(s): Energy

Dimension(s): Leadership

In the Tyrolean municipality of Angerberg, a biomass microgrid was created, thus achieving a sustainable energy source and procurement. The microgrid was implemented in the context of the new construction of the primary school, where in addition to the primary school itself, the municipal office, the kindergarten and the old primary school are also supplied with heat from sustainable wood management. The HEGA (*Hackschnitzelerzeugungsgesellschaft Angerberg*) consists of 23 Angerberg farmers. Wood chips are sold to the municipality of Angerberg and other customers and supply the biomass micro-grid of the municipality of Angerberg with a local, renewable CO₂-neutral energy source. The heat demand covered is about 290,000 kWh per year. The municipality saves 31,000 liters of heating oil and 95,000 kg of CO₂ annually. In addition, the municipality was able to halve the costs for the energy source for heat provision.

Further information:

- <https://www.e5-gemeinden.at/e5-gemeinden/best-practice-beispiele/detail/angerberg-t-biomasse-mikronetz-37>

5 Joint projects

Best Practice 77

Course for municipal climate protection officers

Where: Austria, *Länder* Vorarlberg and Tyrol; Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Levels: *Land*, Province, local

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting

Dimension(s): Information, leadership, funding

The course for municipal climate protection officers is organized by Climate Alliance Tyrol (*Klimabündnis Tirol*) in cooperation with the Energy Institute Vorarlberg (*Energieinstitut*) and Climate Alliance Italy (*Alleanza per il Clima*) and is funded by *Länder* Tyrol and Vorarlberg. Further cooperation partners are the Diocese of Innsbruck and Energy Tyrol (*Energie Tirol*). The course offers interested officers in municipalities a holistic and practice-oriented approach to the topics of climate protection, climate change adaptation and sustainability. The course is primarily aimed at municipal representatives, managers of climate relevant municipality programs ([e5](#), [KEM](#), [CLAR](#) and KLAR-teams *supra* and *infra*) and all others who are interested in climate protection. The course consists of four modules, each taking two days, where the latest scientific knowledge in the field of climate change and climate protection and numerous measures that can be implemented in the municipality are presented and, in addition, a concrete project is worked out for implementation in the respective municipality. Half of the costs of the course is provided by *Länder* Tyrol and Vorarlberg.

Further information:

- <https://tirol.klimabuendnis.at/aktuelles/kommunaler-klimaschutzlehrgang-stmk-2022>

Best Practice 78

SOLAR TIROL project

Where: Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano; Austria, *Land Tyrol*

Government Level: Province

Policy Sector(s): Energy

Dimension(s): Information, coordination, funding

In the Interreg project SOLAR TIROL, implemented from 2012 to 2015, the administrations of the Province of Bolzano and *Land Tyrol*, in close cooperation with scientific agencies of the University of Innsbruck and Eurac Research in Bolzano, created a freely accessible georeferenced database (so called solar cadaster) able to calculate where and when to place a specific type of sun power related technology, the solar potential on roof surfaces and the optimal technology for use. The project also developed concrete recommendations on the importance of solar energy and its potential for expansion in the *Land Tyrol* and the Province of Bolzano. The generated data, reports and maps are publicly accessible.

Further information:

- <https://www.eurac.edu/it/institutes-centers/istituto-per-osservazione-della-terra/projects/solar-tirol>
- <http://webgis.eurac.edu/solartiroi/>
- <https://www.tirol.gv.at/statistik-budget/tiris/tiris-anwendungen/solar-tirol/>

Best Practice 79

Municipality mobile

Where: Austria, *Land* Tyrol; Italy, Autonomous Province of Bolzano

Government Levels: *Land*, Province, local

Policy Sector(s): Transport

Dimension(s): Coordination, information, funding

Municipality mobile (*'Gemeinden mobil'*) is an Interreg project of the Autonomous Province of Bolzano-South Tyrol and Climate Alliance Tyrol (*Klimabündnis Tirol*), supported with national funds from the *Land* Tyrol and co-financed with funds from the European Regional Development Fund - INTERREG IV A. The project started in 2006 with 10 pilot communities and was then increasingly expanded. In 2007, the project was awarded the VCÖ (*Verkehrsclub Österreich*) Mobility Prize Tyrol. Currently, 51 municipalities from Tyrol and South Tyrol are participating in the Interreg project and are jointly seeking ways to reduce traffic pollution. The focus of the activities is to intensively inform citizens about the advantages of the various environmentally friendly mobility options. The aim is to remove access barriers and to make the use of bus and rail, cycling and walking more attractive among the population. *Gemeinden mobil* furthermore offers numerous networking opportunities for municipalities.

Further information:

- <https://www.klimabuendnis.at/gemeinden-mobil-in-tirol>

Best Practice 80

KEM - Climate and Energy Model Regions

Where: Austria, *Länder* Tyrol and Vorarlberg

Government Levels: National, *Land*, local

Policy Sector(s): Cross-cutting, energy

Dimension(s): Information, funding, coordination

Climate and Energy Model Regions ('*Klima- und Energiemodellregionen*') is a program of the Climate and Energy Fund (*Klima- und Energiefond*, created at the *Bund* level) which targets touristic regions. The program co-finances regional climate protection projects and regional model region management. Being a climate and energy model region offers access to a broad network as well as exclusive training, support and funding. A wide variety of projects are implemented in the areas of renewable energy, reduction of energy consumption, sustainable construction, mobility, agriculture and awareness raising. Examples of implemented measures include the introduction of an e-car sharing model in the Stubai valley (Tyrol), an awareness-raising campaign on plastic consumption targeted to schoolchildren, cycling promotions, an annual awareness-raising event and an e-bike campaign. The long-term goal is to phase out 100% of fossil energy and to serve as a role model for other regions. In Tyrol, 11 regions are participating and in Vorarlberg 3. Throughout Austria, there are 120 climate and energy model regions in 1060 municipalities.

Further information:

- <https://www.klimaundenergiemodellregionen.at/>