

**Batumi Initiative on Green Economy (BIG-E)
Actions by Austria**

Country: Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management

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| <p>Title: Growth in Transition (Wachstum im Wandel) (Overarching actions)</p> |
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Description of the action: The “Growth in Transition”-initiative brings together transformation activists and decision makers from politics, science, the economy and civil society and promotes dialogue and exchange on growth, prosperity and quality of life. It provides an international platform addressing questions of growth and an alternative, sustainable economy. The initiative is jointly organised by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (BMLFUW) and 25 partner organisations.

Action’s time frame/milestones, for the action, as appropriate: 3rd international conference “How Constraints Make Us Grow – A Society in Transition” took place 22nd – 24th February 2016. The next international conference is planned for end of 2018.

Type of action: Information, capacity-building and voluntary instruments such as newsletter, regular meeting of partner organisations, conferences, website. Furthermore, Policy Papers have been issued, discussing major growth relevant issues such as the future of labour, fiscal policy, quality of life, resilience or energy.

Economic sectors: economy-wide, especially examine sustainable social and economic models

Reference instruments and sources, as appropriate: www.growthintransition.eu

Expected co-benefits and impact of the outcome: “How should we grow?” is the question, we currently have to tackle. How can we achieve a good life for all – today and tomorrow – in the light of the numerous crises. The aim is to suggest concrete political and administrative measures. At the last conference, a 12-thesis-resolution has been presented. A follow-up of this resolution is expected.

SDGs target(s) that the action may contribute to implement: 8.4, 9.4 (eventually 8.2)

Implementation of Environmental Performance Review (EPR) recommendations, as appropriate: ----

Objectively verifiable indicators, as appropriate: increase of number of partner organisations

Partners: Austrian Ministries (Federal Chancellery, Finance, Economy, Science, Innovation and Infrastructure), federal states (Wien, Niederösterreich, Steiermark, Vorarlberg), European Environment Agency, international companies (REWE), chambers (Landwirtschaftskammer, Wirtschaftskammer) and NGOs (Ökosoziales Forum, Environment Agency Austria, Federal Institute for Agricultural Economics)

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