

Brainpower Austria and other Mobility Programmes that increase the Outreach of JOANNEUM RESEARCH Climate Change Research

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Impacts
Solutions

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Forschung Austria Workshop

Franz Pretenthaler, Daniel Steiner
Alpbach, August 20, 2008

Overview

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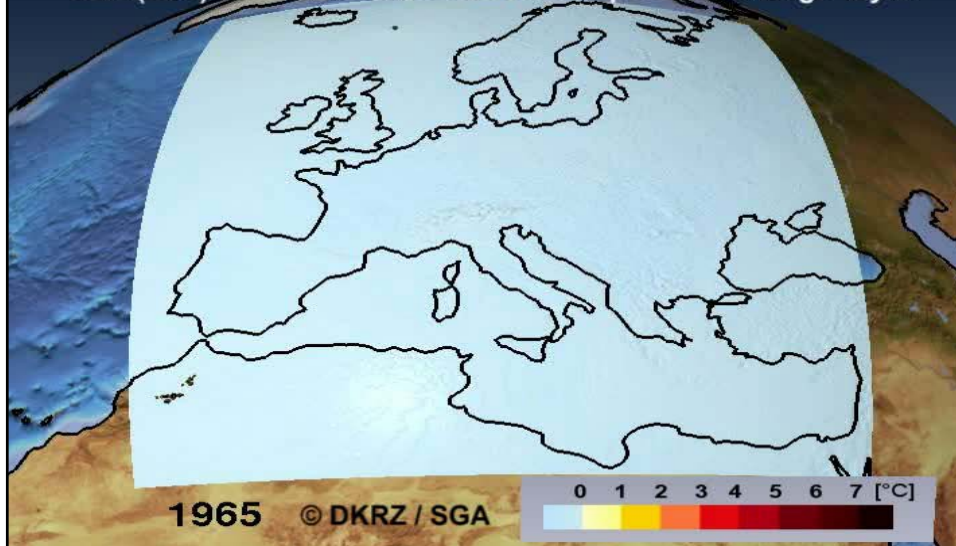
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- Why focus on SEEC in Climate Change Research?
- Strategic goals of JOANNEUM RESEARCH Climate Change (JRCC) Working Group in SEEC
- Instruments to reach the goals
- Building institutional cooperation by internships
- Why Mobility Programmes are excellent instruments

Why focus on SEEC?

CLM (DS2): IPCC Scenario A1B / 2m-Temperature Change 10yrm



Why focus on SEEC?

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- SEEC exposed to CC as much as the Alps
- Some SEEC are particularly vulnerable because of
 - Heat
 - Drought
 - High Share of Agriculture
 - Missing Adaptive Capacities
- Regional scale missing in many global studies
- The regional/local scale is the key to serious economic impact studies
- Local data/knowledge indispensable

Strategic goals for SEE

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- Be a one-stop-shop for our international partners and Austrian stakeholders looking for
 - SEE specific CC related know how
 - well established working relationships
- Be the obvious place for SEE partners looking for
 - Internationally embedded CC related know how
 - Competence, in which Austria has comparative strengths in research
 - Complementary disciplines in multidisciplinary approaches
- -> Be an attractive, vibrant place where young scholars want to go to, to do multidisciplinary applied climate change research

Instruments

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- a good network with SEE research institutions is key to achieve our strategic goals
- THUS WE RELY ON...**
- -> Conferences / Workshops
 - Generation of projects
 - Screening of research potential of partner institutions, identify brilliant scholars, because persons matter
 - -> Intensive multidisciplinary project cooperation
 - Including face to face project work, because working culture needs to match, too.
 - -> Internship programme
 - Stable networks need stable partnerships
 - project independence -> mobility programmes

Conferences / Workshops

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- Workshops „Climate Change in SEE Countries“
Graz, March 2007 Belgrade, November 2007



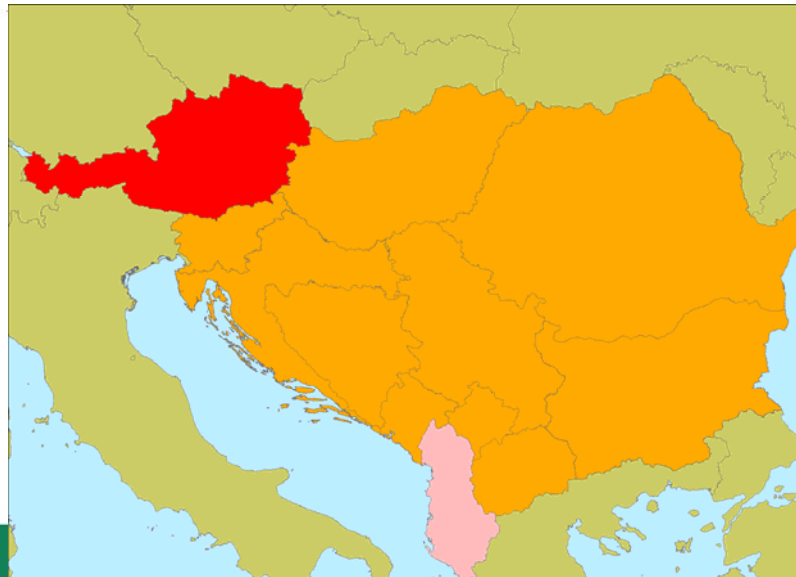
- 3rd Workshop, September 18/19 2008, Graz

Where our workshop participants come from

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Internship programme

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„VIBRANT PLACE“ IS ENSURED BY

- They all come at the same time

MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH OF RESEARCH IS ENSURED BY...

- Guest researchers get informed about activities of other (guest) researchers in other JR departments

SUSTAINABILITY OF RESEARCHERS EXCHANGES IS ENSURED BY...

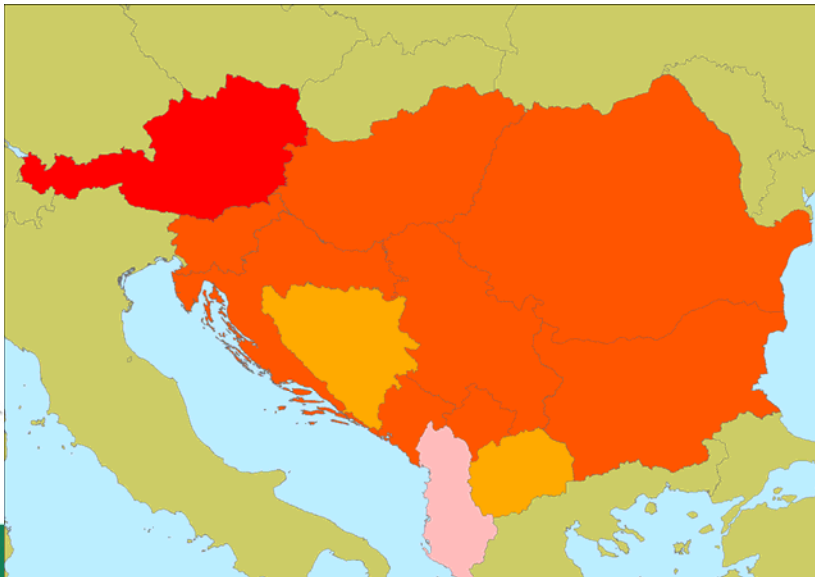
- Meetings for brainstorming about joint future activities

Where our interns come from

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JRCC Internships

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- 11 guest researchers participated so far
 - Jelena Stanković (Serbia)
 - Desislava Tomova (Bulgaria)
 - Milkana Mochurova (Bulgaria)
 - Eszter Pačs (Hungary)
 - Nevena Alexandrova (Bulgaria)
 - Gal Kušar (Slovenia)
 - Danijela Stešević (Montenegro)
 - Viorel Blujdea (Romania)
 - Ana Irina Dinca (Romania)
 - Robert Pašicko (Croatia)
 - Boroka Biro (Romania)

Mobility Programmes that match our needs

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- Brainpower Austria Initiative of Forschung Austria
- Leonardo Scholarships
- Short exchanges financed by research projects

Building institutional cooperation by internships

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- Tasks of interns
- Benefits
- Experiences
- Future Cooperation

Example: University of Nis

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Jelena Stanković (Forschung Austria financed)

TASKS

- Survey of CDM opportunities in Serbia
- Organisation of networking activities in Austria

SUBSEQUENT COOPERATION

- Cooperation in networking activities in the SEE region
- Build-up of contracts to UNDP Belgrade (interested in consulting for CDM projects)

BENEFITS FOR JOANNEUM RESEARCH (JR)

- "Door opener" for contacts in Serbia

Example: University of Podgorica; Montenegro

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Danijela Stešević (Forschung Austria financed)

TASKS

- Exchange of experiences regarding “alien species” (=plants not growing in a specific area) in Southeast- and Central-Europe
- Research about which “alien species” are anticipated to grow in Austria due to climate change

BENEFITS FOR JOANNEUM RESEARCH (JR)

- Awareness raising for the topic “alien species” at JR

Example: University of National and World Economy (Bulgaria)

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Milkana Mochurova (Forschung Austria financed)

TASKS

- review of literature tackling vulnerability to climate change
- Case study “Vulnerability of the agricultural sector in Bulgaria”
- Assistance to creating a methodology to further CC impact studies

FUTURE COOPERATION

- Planned cooperation in FP 7 projects
- Active contribution to workshop series organisation

Case studies in the CLAVIER-Region (HU,ROM,BUL)

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ISO 9001:2000 zertifiziert

INNOVATION aus TRADITION

Example: Institute of Geography of the Romanian Academy

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Ana Irina Dinca (Forschung Austria financed, second term research project financed)

TASKS

- literature review for case study about vulnerability of the public sector (incl. insurance companies) in Romania
- Research about institutional and legal frameworks in Romania regarding risk transfer
- Case study about vulnerability of tourism sector in R.

BENEFITS FOR JOANNEUM RESEARCH (JR)

- Review of corresponding Romanian databases
- IG and JR share databases now

ISO 9001:2000 zertifiziert

INNOVATION aus TRADITION

Example: Slovenian Forest Institute

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Gal Kušar (Forschung Austria financed)

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TASKS

- Improving, harmonizing and developing of new methods for data collection in the field of forest inventory and remote sensing

SUBSEQUENT COOPERATION

- Wald und Wasser 2 (Interreg)

BENEFITS FOR JOANNEUM RESEARCH (JR)

- Build-up of contacts to Slov. Forest Institute
- Contact to Joint Research Center (Ispra)

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Example: Future Camp

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Desislava Tomova (Leonardo scholarship financed)

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TASKS

- Research of potentials of biomass sector to contribute to Kyoto-eligible GHG abatements

BENEFITS FOR JOANNEUM RESEARCH (JR)

- Cooperation with Future Camp also in climate policy related issues as Domestic Offset Projects

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Conclusions – Why Mobility Programmes are excellent instruments

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- Brainpower Austria Initiative is an attractive scheme for researcher mobility because it
 - allows to stabilize project induced cooperation
 - helps to build institutional partnership
 - is suitable also for the exchange of more than one researcher at the same time – allows for “group feeling”
 - financially suited to also attract more experienced researchers
 - has a relatively unbureaucratic application procedure
 - has high flexibility
- Fast treatment of applications is desirable and would increase its flexible appeal

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Thank you for your attention