

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

Table 3: Overview of main reform commitments for the next 12 months			
Main (new or updated) commitments in the NRP for the next 12 months	Foreseen main measures and indication on whether they are CSR relevant	Timetable or other details on implementation	The estimated impacts of the measures (qualitative and/or quantitative)
<b>Labour Market</b>			
Increasing the effective retirement age – second step 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Part-time scheme for older workers - (gradual increase of minimum age from 53/58 to 55/60): the minimum age was already increased in 2019, a further increase will take place in 2020 <i>[relevant for CSR 1]</i></li> </ul>	the minimum age was already increased in 2019, a further increase will take place in 2020	Increasing the effective retirement age.
Reform of the unemployment insurance system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tightening of the rules of unemployment insurance regarding mobility</li> <li>- review the regulation regarding income and occupation protection as well as sanctions</li> <li>- Reform of the unemployment insurance: “unemployment benefit NEW”</li> <li>- Abolish the prolongation of the UB entitlement due to sickness (except in-patient stay)</li> <li>- Restrict the duration of marginal employment during receipt of UB</li> </ul>		Reducing long-term unemployment; tightening sanctions
Reforming PES and active labour market policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>“Personalisierte Arbeitsmarktbetreuung” – “Personalized Labour Market Supervision – personalized service and support provided by PES”</i>: Computer based assessment of employment opportunities for each registered unemployed person aiming at increasing the efficiency of labour market programs and at the improvement of service quality for each customer. According to the calculated probability for reentering the labour market people are assigned either to the group with high, average or low employment opportunities.</li> </ul>	Test phase 2019 – gathering experience, revision of processes, implementation and evaluation of adapted and/or new programs	Increasing efficiency of labour market programs and customer satisfaction.

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

	<p>PES consultants can finally reassign people according to their personal assessment as the applied algorithm does not include certain personal characteristics like motivation and personal appearance in its calculation. It is planned that PES offer special and personalized programs, subsidies and support for each group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Evaluate and design a more effective management of the PES (revising objectives etc.)</li> <li>- Review and revise all PES instruments for efficiency and effective reintegration into the labour market</li> <li>- Increasing job specific training and qualification in co-operation with companies</li> <li>- Increasing employment incentives as e.g. Wage top-up scheme (Kombilohn)</li> <li>- More transparency in the budget of labour market promotion in order to optimise the management by objectives</li> </ul>		<p>Reducing unemployment and increasing effectiveness of labour market policy.</p>
<p>Increasing the labour supply of skilled workers and reform of apprenticeships/supra-company training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Skilled workers initiative (Fachkräfteoffensive)</li> <li>- Strengthen the apprenticeship system [relevant for CSR 2]:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o focus on the dual system: e.g. increase the opportunities to start an apprenticeship for adults (via PES subsidies), acquire a larger number of apprenticeships position through the PES, increase supra-regional placement</li> <li>o improve supra-company apprenticeships with a stronger focus on placement in companies</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prolongation of the ‚works scholarships‘ until the end of 2020.</li> <li>- Ongoing implementation. Focus to be put on company based apprenticeships also through faster placements out of supra company based apprenticeship program.</li> <li>- Increase of apprenticeship subsidy budget to € 227 million (initially € 200 million) whereof up to € 20 million dedicated to projects supporting faster integration into apprenticeship and labor market.</li> </ul>	<p>Increasing placements into apprenticeships.</p>

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

<p>Developing a strategy for (high-skilled) immigration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Well-defined distinction between different forms of migration</li> <li>- Strategy for needs-based qualified immigration</li> <li>- Further Reform of the Act Governing the Employment of Foreign Nationals</li> <li>- Establishment of a residence permit for apprentices</li> </ul>		
<p>Introduction of an increased equalisation supplement (“Ausgleichszulage”) for pensioners with long contribution periods</p>	<p>Retirees with a contribution period of at least 480 months (=40 years) in the pension system will receive a higher monthly payment due to an increase of the means tested equalisation supplement (“Ausgleichszulagenrichtsatz”). The respective amount will be € 1.200 for single retirees and € 1.500 for married retirees (or unmarried couples).</p>	<p>Implementation is planned due to the government program</p>	<p>This measure will contribute to the adequacy of pensions by improving the income situation of retirees with lower pension payments.</p>
<p>Harmonization of “special pension” regulations</p>	<p>Some “Special pension” regulations will be made consistent with the pension system.</p>	<p>Implementation is planned due to the government program</p>	<p>Ensure the adequacy and sustainability of the pension system</p>
<p>EU-co-funded REC-project “TRAPEZ – Transparente Pensionszukunft – Sicherung der ökonomischen Unabhängigkeit von Frauen im Alter” (transparent pension future – securing women’s economic independence in old age) Coordinated by the Federal Chancellery; Partners are the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Protection, the Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO) and the Working Life Research Centre Vienna (FORBA).</p>	<p>4 subprojects will be carried out:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Quantitative and qualitative analysis of the Gender Gap in Pensions (GGP) in Austria</li> <li>2) Evaluation and adaptation of the advance pension calculation notification</li> <li>3) Development of a toolbox for companies to increase awareness on the GGP and possibilities to secure pensions for employees, esp. women</li> <li>4) Awareness raising initiatives</li> </ol> <p>The project’s target groups include employees and aims at improving labour market outcomes for women.</p>	<p>Project period: 1 February 2019 – 31 July 2020.</p>	<p>The analysis report will identify options for further awareness raising and information measures. The toolbox will identify company internal means to inform and support their employees in order to reduce gender gaps during working life and retirement. Awareness raising initiatives will target the broader public, employees and other relevant stakeholders to increase their knowledge about the GGP as well as possibilities to reduce it.</p>

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

Long-term Care			
<p>Increase of care allowance</p> <p>Among other things, the current government program and the Master Plan include an increase of the care allowance from the 4th level. An increase in the long-term care allowance by 1% (from care allowance level 4) leads to a budgetary additional expenditure of around € 16 million per year.</p>	<p>Caring for the elderly is a central topic in Austrian social policy. Currently, around 460,000 women and men are entitled to long-term care allowances, which is more than 5% of the Austrian population. It is important to offer these people the greatest possible support.</p>	<p>Implementation 1.1.2020</p>	<p>Long-term care benefit is an earmarked benefit which is independent of a person's income and is solely for the purpose of covering care-related additional expenditure, and is therefore not intended to provide a general increase in income. As the actual cost of care in most cases exceed the long-term care benefit paid, long-term care benefit can be seen as a lump-sum contribution towards the costs of necessary care. It enables people in need of care to enjoy a certain level of independence and to remain at home for longer.</p>
<p>Image and information campaign for the appreciation of caregiving relatives</p> <p>Caring relatives and other caregivers take great care of their family members and are therefore indispensable in home care. For this reason, due to its importance to society as a whole, the section "Sustainable quality enhancement in care and support" plays a major role in the government program. According to the study "Relatives care in Austria ..." (2018) around 950,000 people are involved in the care and support of the family.</p>	<p>One of the recommendations of the study is that relatives want to be perceived, valued and strengthened as a central group. In order to implement this recommendation, the Master Plan has defined an image campaign for the esteem of family carers.</p>	<p>Start 1.1.2020</p>	<p>In Austria, around 80% of people in need of care are cared for at home in different nursing settings. For this reason, it is important to offer these people the greatest possible support in their valuable work.</p>
<p>Harmonization measures for social services.</p>	<p>In cooperation with the federal states the Master Plan intends further harmonization measures in the field of social services (e.g. to achieve the cost contributions for mobile services)</p>	<p>Development of a concept until the end of 2019.</p>	<p>Standardized cost contributions in the mobile sector.</p>

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

Improve data situation and controlling.	For this purpose, measures for controlling in coordination with the states are to be developed.	Development of a concept until the end of 2019.	Collection of data and its provision in order to derive future staffing and funding needs. The goal is standardized care supervision with standardized criteria and simplified structures. For this purpose, a structured and comprehensible reporting system is to be sought.
Divisibility of 24-hour care	As part of 24-hour care, currently only one supervised person per supervisor and per month will be supported. With the housing form assisted living, there may be the possibility that the caregiver could look after two or more people in need of 24-hour care.	Development of a concept until the end of 2019.	A divisibility of 24-hour care is to be examined in connection with funding.
Nationwide image campaign to make nursing professions more attractive. In 2019 the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Health Care and Consumer Protection will conduct a nationwide image campaign to make nursing and health-care professions more attractive, in order to make an essential contribution to counteract against a lack of nursing and health-care staff.	Counteracting against the lack of nursing and health-care staff. Ensuring the sustainability of the long-term care system by making enough personnel available.	January – March 2019: Consultations with various stakeholders April- July 2019: contract award procedure From September 2019: Implementation of the campaign by the agency chosen	
Austrian Quality Certificate for recruitment agencies in 24-hour care („Österreichisches Qualitätszertifikat für Vermittlungsagenturen in der 24-Stunden Betreuung - ÖQZ 24“) This quality certificate represents a significant step towards the sustainable safeguarding of high-quality care and is intended in particular to strengthen the situation of people in need of care and their families. The first certification are	Ensuring the sustainability of the long-term care system by improving the quality of care.	February 2019: Introduction of the certificate to the public March – May 2019: Pilot phase in which 5 agencies may apply for a certificate June/July 2019: awarding of the successful agencies by Minister of Labour, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Protection August - December 2019: Evaluation of the results; Preparation of the Quality Certificate for caregivers in 24-hour care.	

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

<p>planned to be started at the beginning of 2019.</p>			
<p>Study on the shortage of nursing staff Due to the demographic development challenges in the future, especially in the care of elderly people who are in need of care are to be expected. Austrian long-term care facilities are confronted with a shortage of staff. This trend may have major consequences for the quality of care and generally the sustainability of the long-term care system. On behalf of Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Protection Gesundheit Österreich GmbH (Austrian Public Health Institute) will carry out a study on the shortage of nursing staff in 2019. The study will provide valid figures and forecasts and a set of measures for the personnel for the future.</p>	<p>The number of nursing staff employed in long-term care is declining. It is therefore important to make provisions at an early stage counteract the problem. The measure addresses the ensuring of the sustainability of the long-term care system.</p>	<p>January 2019: start of the study First results are expected in summer 2019</p>	
<p>Pilot project “Unannounced home visits by certified healthcare and nursing professionals” So far the home visits regarding the quality assurance were announced to the persons concerned. This procedure has been criticized as the announcement may influence the results. To respond to this criticism the pilot project “Unannounced home visits” is to be started in 2019. The pilot project is carried out in the federal states of Vienna and Tyrol.</p>	<p>Improving the quality of care by extending the home visits carried out by certified healthcare and nursing professionals. Ensuring the sustainability of the long-term care system by ensuring the quality of care.</p>	<p>The pilot project started in January 2019. In the next 3 to 5 months 500 unannounced home visits are supposed to take place. May 2019: final figures expected. July until December 2019: evaluation of the project. Depending on the results changes in legal provisions are to be considered (Federal long-term care allowance act; Bundespflegegeldgesetz)</p>	

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

Education			
Strengthening basic skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Project "Ensuring basic skills": Intensification of support for pupils at schools with low performance results</li> <li>- Standardised German language proficiency surveys at the beginning of the educational career and after each semester in German language support classes</li> <li>- Modernisation of primary and lower secondary curricula (including definition of basic competences and corresponding teaching objectives)</li> <li>- Design of a curriculum for German language support courses</li> <li>- Implementation of the curriculum for German language support classes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It is planned to involve around 400 schools in 2019 (elementary, primary and secondary level, including 9th grade).</li> <li>- 01.09.2019: The standardised procedure is available in final form and is applied nationwide.</li> <li>- Depending on the results of the standardised language proficiency assessment, the ex-matricular students are assigned to a German language support class or a German language support course. Both variants are implemented in the system. Starting in school year 2019/20, all German language support classes will be taught according to the new curriculum.</li> <li>- 31.12.2019: Selected curriculum concepts are available and have been quality-assured in a review process in order to serve as models for further curriculum development.</li> </ul>	Improved basic skills and educational outcomes.
Improvement of educational transitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Standardisation and improved design of the school entry phase in cooperation with the kindergarten: "Schulreife Kriterien" (criteria for school entry / school readiness)</li> <li>- Collaboration between kindergarten and school by transferring data on the child's development and promoting of skills, especially German language skills</li> <li>- Development of specific instruments to support the individual (career) orientation process of children at grade 3 ("Entwicklungsportfolio" as one component</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 31.12.2019: Final version of "Schulreife Kriterien" is available.</li> <li>- Data protection regulations for the data transfer are in development.</li> <li>- 31.12.2019: Pilot versions of the "Entwicklungsportfolio" and "BO-tool" are available.</li> </ul>	<p>The guidance and counselling instruments developed as part of the iKPM will help to facilitate students' choices regarding their educational or professional pathways.</p> <p>Improved transition pathways, improved career decisions</p>

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

	of iKPM 3) and grade 7 (IT-based guidance tool “BO-Tool” as one component of iKPM 7) as part of the individual assessment of competences and potential (iKPM).		
Qualitative expansion and strengthening of demand and result orientation taking into account the gender equality aspect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Demand-oriented expansion of all-day schooling and care forms</li> <li>- Specifying the criteria for inclusion</li> <li>- Development and implementation of a talent promotion strategy</li> <li>- Development of gender competence in schools and higher education institutions for the targeted promotion of boys and girls</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 31.12.2019: Criteria for inclusion have been specified, an overall strategic concept regarding inclusive education is available.</li> <li>- A Federal Centre for Gender Education and Research has been established at the PH Salzburg by the end of 2018. In 2019, a further 400 people will have participated in various formats for the development of Gender competence.</li> </ul>	
Improved quality assurance and mandatory quality management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pedagogical target control and standardised documentation of results for each school</li> <li>- Reduction of compulsory school attendance violations</li> <li>- Development and establishment of a national educational monitoring system that provides data relevant to governance and control and that develops analytical models for cause–and-effect relationships between measures and normative goal/ reference systems (quality management, quality framework, impact-oriented governance..)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 31.12.2019: The key cornerstones of education controlling have been established. An implementation plan has been drawn up.</li> <li>- Mid-2021: The monitoring system is to be programmed and implemented, IT-solutions are to be established and data sets developed.</li> </ul>	A comprehensive educational monitoring system will provide controlling-relevant information and data and will develop analytical models for cause and effect relationships between measures and normative target- / reference-systems (quality management, quality framework, impact-oriented governance..)
Compulsory education up to 18 (“Bildungspflicht”)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Definition auf basic skills students should have acquired by the end of their compulsory schooling</li> <li>- Development of compensatory measures for students who have not acquired the required basic skills by the end of their compulsory schooling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 31.12.2019: New curriculum for pre-vocational school, including a branch focusing on basic skills, has been developed and is submitted for nation-wide review (date of implementation: September 2020)</li> </ul>	Reduction of the number of young adults lacking basic skills Improved transition to vocational education and training and/or the labour market



Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development of a monitoring system to ensure that students who lack certain basic skills attend suitable compensatory measures up to an age of 18</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 31.03.2020: Draft law on compulsory education until the age of 18 has been submitted to the National Parliament.</li> </ul>	
Pedagogical package	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation/piloting of mandated changes in Primary and New Secondary Schools by Federal Law Gazette I, No 101 /2018</li> <li>- The development of the “individual assessment of competences and potential (iKPM)” to inform teaching, pedagogic support, orientation and counselling, and quality development at system level at grade 3, 4, 7 and 8 (iKPM3, iKPM4, iKPM7, iKPM8).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 02.09.2019: Assessment grids of basic, indispensable competences for all subjects in Primary Schools and for German, maths, foreign language in New Secondary Schools are available</li> <li>- Increased school autonomy: Primary Schools decide autonomously to use alternative forms of grading in the first year / first semester of the second year;</li> <li>- New Secondary Schools decide autonomously on how to manage teaching in heterogeneous classes from grades 6-8</li> <li>- The iKPM will first be implemented at grade 3 (iKPM3) and 7 (iKPM7) in the academic year 2021/22; at grade 4 (iKPM4) and 8 (iKPM8) in the academic year 2022/23.</li> </ul>	<p>School marks together with increased formative assessment and an increase in schools’ autonomy improve educational outcomes</p> <p>Educational careers after Primary School and New Secondary Schools are in accordance with the pupils’ talents and potentials.</p> <p>The iKPM will expand the evidence base available for developing the quality of teaching, orientation and individual support, and quality development at the regional and system level.</p>
Improving the management and reorganisation of school administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establishment of education directorates as of 2019</li> <li>- Further development of quality management and reorganization of BIFIE in its current organisational form</li> <li>- Uniform accounting of teaching staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 31.12.2019: The quality framework for schools, which represents a key content orientation for development processes at all level of the school system, is in place. An implementation concept of the quality framework in connection with the further developed school quality management system from 2020 has been elaborated. The reorganisation process is completed and BIFIE is reorganised in its existing legal form.</li> </ul>	

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 31.12.2019: Technical and implementation including data migration of all active employees and pensioners (1st tranche) completed</li> </ul>	
School autonomy measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schools can be organized in so called “clusters” comprising different types of schools</li> <li>- School leaders enjoy greater freedom in selecting new teachers and are responsible for human resources development.</li> <li>- Enhanced flexibility of opening hours, duration of class hours as well as class sizes and sizes of learning groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Q3 2018: First generation of “clusters” will commence in the school year 2018/19</li> <li>- Q1/2 2018: New teacher recruitment online platform for federal schools available for school year 2018/19.</li> <li>- Q3 2018: School autonomy measures concerning school organisation and instruction available to schools.</li> <li>- Q4 2019: Implementation of test regions of the new teacher recruitment online platform for compulsory schools.</li> </ul>	<p>More efficiency in school administration. More flexibility for schools to tailor the organisation of the school day and instruction to their students’ needs.</p>
Digitalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation and kick off for implementation of the strategy and work programme “Master plan for Digitization in Education”</li> <li>- Integration of digital learning in the curricula of the subjects</li> <li>- ITE: Integration of digital teaching und digital competencies in the new curricula Further improvement of internet connectivity and high-speed WIFI for educational institutions.</li> <li>- Digital teaching and learning materials are made available via a central portal. The use of interactive learning materials and digital textbooks is being expanded.</li> </ul>	<p>2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation of the new strategy and work programme “Master plan for Digitization in Education” Kick off for implementation of the Master plan</li> <li>- Integration of digital competencies and digital learning in the curricula of the various subjects</li> <li>- Promoting digital skills and qualifications in VET schools</li> <li>- Fostering new innovative models of teacher training through the eEducation Schoolnetwork</li> <li>- Focus on the internet connection of compulsory schools within the context of the “Broadband initiative” (together with the Ministry for</li> </ul>	<p>Improved digital competences of all pupils . Strengthened digital competences of teachers. Creation of the best possible infrastructure conditions at schools and quality-assured content for effective digital education.</p>

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

		<p>Transport, Innovation and Technology).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development of models for optimizing IT equipment and broadband connection/WLAN</li> <li>- Realization of the metadata-based portal for digital teaching/learning materials.</li> <li>- Nationwide availability of interactive digital textbooks at secondary level I and II (eBook+), fostering the use of interactive digital textbooks in schools</li> </ul>	
Further developing of Austrian adult education system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation of the Agreement according to Section 15a of the Constitution between the Federal Government and the provinces (Bundesländer) in order to continue the Initiative for Adult Education from 2018-2021.</li> <li>- Development of a curriculum for basic skills education courses in order to make non-formal and informal skills validation possible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A third programme period from 2018 to 2021 has begun.</li> <li>- Implementation of a quality assurance and evaluation system for the period 2018 – 2021 has begun</li> <li>- Development of the the curriculum until April 2019. Implementation of the Curriculum starting in September 2019.</li> </ul>	Reduction of the number of persons without basic education, increase of the number of persons with basic educational qualifications, increase in the permeability of the education system
<p>New apprenticeships with a focus on digitisation in the course of 2019 (six new occupations introduced in 2018)</p> <p>Ongoing evaluation and modernisation of apprenticeship job profiles</p>	CSR 2 (partially)	2019	Maintain knowledge transfer in apprenticeship system at a high level, adapt apprenticeships to constantly changing qualification requirements
Planned amendment of the Vocational and Educational Training Act (BAG), e.g. focus on easing of apprenticeship in combination with counselling obligations	CSR 2 (partially)	2019	Constant development of the Austrian apprenticeship system
<b>Higher Education</b>			

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

Raising the public budget for university funding	Period 2019-2021: additional € 1.3 billion for the implementation of the “three-pillar-funding model” through the performance agreements.	Allocated to 22 universities with the signing of performance agreements in December 2018.	Positive effects on the quality of teaching and learning as well as on the study and research conditions at universities.
New model for financing universities – implementation of a capacity-oriented, student-based funding of universities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The new funding model was implemented.</li> <li>- Higher Education Area Structural Funds are now integrated into the three-pillar-funding-model. As a further competitive element beyond the indicators, a call for digitalisation and the social dimension in teaching will be prepared.</li> </ul>	2019-2021	The measure has positive effects on the quality of teaching and learning and the study and research conditions at universities.
Improving the quality of teaching, learning and the study conditions at universities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Allowing access restrictions in fields of study which are in especially high demand.</li> <li>- To further expand the range of fields of study allowing access restrictions (e.g. foreign language studies, law, educational sciences/pedagogy).</li> <li>- The implementation of a capacity-oriented, student-based funding model for universities contributes to the increase of teaching staff and to the improvement of teacher-student-ratios</li> </ul>	The revision of the Universities Act contains regulations to allow for access restrictions in additional fields of study and regulations for implementing a capacity-oriented, student-based funding model for universities.	Positive impact on the quality of teaching and learning and the study conditions. Impact on increasing the number of students who actively take examinations as well as the number of degrees awarded, on reducing the drop-out rate, on increasing the share of higher education graduates.
Reform of teacher training (PädagogInnenbildung NEU)	<p>Implementation of further measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation of joint curricula in line with the Bologna architecture and the national curricular framework</li> <li>- Cooperation of universities and university colleges of teacher education in four regional clusters</li> <li>- Supplementary funding of scientific staff, esp. in didactics</li> </ul>	Supplementary funding for cooperation projects through the third pillar of the new university funding model for 2019-21.	The measure has positive effects on the entire education system in Austria.
Improve the social dimension in higher education	Implementation of the “national strategy on the social dimension of higher education”: The quantitative goals and the action lines have been integrated into the Austrian University	Performance agreements with public universities for the period 2019-2021 were concluded by the end of 2018.	Improving the social dimension in higher education towards more participative equity (widening access for under-

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

	<p>Development Plan 2019-2024. They are also integrated into the new Development and Funding Plan for Universities of Applied Sciences.</p> <p>Relevant measures at public universities shall be implemented by the performance agreements 2019-2021, 2022-2024.</p> <p>Regulations concerning the new funding model for public universities also comprise regulations to guarantee the realisation of measures for underrepresented groups and measures on the social dimension. 0,5% of the allocated budget for each public university can be withheld towards the end of the performance agreement period if universities do not implement SD measures they have in their performance agreements.</p>	<p>Call for digitalisation and the social dimension in teaching to be prepared 2019/21</p>	<p>represented groups and students with specific needs).</p> <p>Reducing drop-out rates.</p> <p>Raising the share of graduates from under-represented groups and of students with specific needs.</p>
Qualitative and quantitative development of the Universities of Applied Sciences (UAS)	<p>450 new study places were financed in 2018/2019</p> <p>330 new study places will be financed in 2020/21</p>	<p>A new Development and Funding Plan for Universities of Applied Sciences has been adopted with the aim of further increasing the number of study places at Universities of Applied Sciences (UAS).</p>	<p>Further increase in the overall number of study places. As a consequence, the number of HE graduates increases. That is an important contribution to achieving the EU 2020 target.</p>
Implementation of the results of the project “Shaping HEIs for the Future” and implementation of the measures of the Austrian University Development Plan via performance agreements and the development of the universities of Applied Sciences	<p>Main objectives: Pronunciation of educational profiles of universities and Universities of Applied Sciences (UAS); foster complementary design of range of subjects; foster permeability within the higher education sector.</p>	<p>Implementation of results particularly by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- performance agreements with public universities for the period 2019-2021,</li> <li>- financing new study places in 2018-2019 (and beyond) at Universities of Applied Sciences (UAS)</li> <li>- the new Development and Funding Plan for Universities of Applied Sciences 2018/19-2022/23.</li> </ul>	<p>The measure has positive systemic effects on the higher education system in Austria.</p>
<b>Research and Development</b>			
Research Financing Act (RFA)	<p>The RFA is a federal law which shall establish a three year budget term for research expenditures (instead of yearly budgets), commit the federal government to financing its</p>	<p>proposal of legislation May 2019 government bill July 2019 parliamentary decision October 2019 entry into force January 2020</p>	<p>Streamlining of major strategic planning processes; reduction of administrative burden; stable financial perspectives through reliable recurrent procedures;</p>

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

	core research and research funding institutions, and provide for the conclusion of performance agreements with these institutions.		clear division of labour between ministries and agencies
Research, Technology and Innovation (RTI) Strategy 2030	New RTI strategy 2030 based on the OECD Review on Innovation Policy Austria 2018. The new strategy will be the main reference point for RTI policy over the next decade.	Official kick-off at Research Technology and Innovation Summit of the Austrian Government on 7 May 2019; Online consultation May/June 2019; Five different working groups on main topics (consulting with Federal States and stakeholders); Three stakeholder events (in Vienna and Federal States); Final RTI strategy 2030 to be presented in spring 2020	RTI policy based on the principles of excellence and competition; Enhanced focus on impact, output and openness; Strategic steering and increased efficiency and effectiveness of the Austrian RTI system in order to become innovation leader;
Excellence Initiative	In 2018, the Austrian Federal Government took the decision to start a process of launching a new excellence initiative to promote cutting-edge basic research at Austrian research organisations. The goal is to strengthen Austria as an internationally competitive research hub in the long term. In spring 2019, a group of experts will propose an initiative with the following aims: furthering scientific excellence in research, raising the profile of the Austrian research system and encouraging closer networking and cooperation among stakeholders in the science system. This new „excellence initiative“ aims at maintaining and expanding the positive developments of the Austrian research system of the last decade.	The decision on this initiative will be made in April or May 2019.	furthering scientific excellence in research, raising the profile of the Austrian research system and encouraging closer networking and cooperation among stakeholders in the science system
The merger of three existing advisory bodies: the Austrian Council for Research and Technology Development	The Austrian Federal Government targets the merger of three existing advisory bodies: the Austrian Council for Research and Technology	The next steps of the currently ongoing process are to work out a concept for the merger of the three Councils taking into	The procedure to revise the existing governance of the Austrian innovation system (including the advisory councils)

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

<p>(RFTE), the Austrian Science Board (ÖWR) and the ERA Council Forum Austria</p>	<p>Development (RFTE), the Austrian Science Board (ÖWR) and the ERA Council Forum Austria – into a new advisory body of the Federal Government, supplemented by economic expertise.</p>	<p>account their own ideas for the most meaningful and efficient consolidation. This concept for the merger of the councils will be presented by the Austrian government at the RTI-Summit of the Austrian Federal Government in 7 May 2019; finally the consolidation should take place in 2020.</p>	<p>towards more effective and efficient structures is carried out with the clear aim of developing a highly dynamic, future-oriented and clearly structured innovation system and Austria's rise from the group of Strong Innovators to the group of Innovation Leaders.</p>
<p>Public Procurement Promoting Innovation (PPPI)</p>	<p>Ongoing implementation of the Austrian Action on Public Procurement Promoting Innovation (PPPI), particularly via the PPPI Service Center that has been established within the Federal Procurement Agency (BBG). The PPPI Service Center will conduct a variety of measures, e.g. running a PPPI online platform for both demand-side and supply-side; community building events; initiation, implementation and support of pilot projects; trainings for public procurers etc. The Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) will provide funding for pilot projects using the new procedure “innovation partnership”. The “Austria Wirtschaftsservice” (aws) will provide financial support for public procurers via the new format “PPPI Toolbox”.</p>		<p>Through PPPI, industry is encouraged to deliver innovative goods and services, i.e. to invest in R&amp;D. Furthermore, the public sector is being modernized and thus able to provide advanced and (eco-) efficient goods and services to the Austrian citizens. In 2019, an evaluation of the impact of innovation procurement cases will be conducted - results are expected by the end of 2019.</p>
<p>“Flagship region Energy” (2018- 2025), a RTDI Initiative by the Climate and Energy Fund of the Austrian government</p>	<p>Three “flagship regions energy” develop model solutions with up to 100% renewable energy with focus on innovative energy technologies “made in Austria” in 3 thematic areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Project “Green Energy Lab” accelerates user-centric integrated solutions for the renewable energy system of tomorrow.</li> <li>- Project „New Energy for Industry“ (NEFI) works on a path towards</li> </ul>	<p>After the grant decision in 2018, the three “flagship regions energy” implement their work programs in 2019.</p>	<p>Flagship regions energy: Model solutions in 3 thematic focus areas to demonstrate by 2025, that a region can supply itself with focus on innovative energy technologies “made in Austria” up to 100% with regional renewable energy. Additional positive effects on energy efficiency and reduction of greenhouse gases are expected.</p>

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

	<p>complete decarbonisation for producing and energy intensive industry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Hydrogen initiative flagship region Austria Power &amp; Gas (WIVA P&amp;G) aims to demonstrate the transition of the Austrian economy and energy production to an energy system strongly based on renewable hydrogen.</li> </ul>		
Endowed professorship “Digitalisation and Automation in the Mobility System”	catalyst and knowledge hub to anticipate future development, impacts, side-effects of digitally enabled mobility solutions; develop new methods and tools in planning, evidence-based decision making and framework design for sustainable developments, utilizing utmost impacts of digitalisation and the avoidance of adverse effects. (not CSR relevant)	Appointment procedure for the professorship currently in progress, Launch of the operative work expected for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	This first-of-a-kind national initiative is geared to generate system (management) knowledge and qualified education for future engineers in a holistic systems approach, thus providing highly specialised graduates to the industry but also assuring valuable policy guidance for future regulation and implementation, considering promising pathways and rebounds also from a societal point of view.
Participation in the Era-net co-fund Call “Urban Accessibility and Connectivity”	Breaking up silo thinking and fostering of integrated solutions between spatial settings, mobility options/behaviour and ICT solutions; bundling transnational knowledge and skills in Europe and beyond, avoiding duplications (BMVIT cooperation between the mobility and the energy unit) (not CSR relevant)	Preparation of a 1 <sup>st</sup> coordinated call for proposal in 2019 (AT anticipated budgeted 2M€), 2 <sup>nd</sup> call envisaged for 2020 with partners also from beyond Europe	The national budget contribution of 3M€ (for two calls) is intended to stimulate the participation of Austrian partners in collaborative transnational consortia in order to upgrade the national knowledge base and generate further Smart City activities and implementations.
Participation in the H2020 Coordination and Support Action infra4Dfuture	for future demand-driven multimodal infrastructure innovation and implementation that will allow National Transport Infra-structure Authorities to align their efforts in modernizing the transport infrastructure network (not CSR relevant)	2019-2020 Consortium composed of National Transport Infrastructure Authorities; Initiative is innovation demand driven: Public Issue Owners and Innovation Programme Owners are in the lead.	More ready to implement, cost-effective innovative solutions Shorter time to market thanks to active involvement of industry, research and programme owners



Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

Austrian-Brazilian RTI cooperation in aeronautics	envisaged joint calls in industry sub-sectors, exchange of staff/students (not CSR relevant)	as from mid-2019	upgrading of RTI knowledge exchange and industrial cooperation
Action package Automated Mobility	Action fields and guiding principles for testing materialising in 34 concrete and concerted measures for mobility of persons and goods encompassing all modes (not CSR relevant), elaborated by more than 300 experts from research, industry SMEs and territorial authorities (not CSR relevant)	implementation 2019-2022, 65M€ budget for concerted RTI & implementation promotion	The Action package Automated Mobility shall accompany macro-economically worthwhile and efficient deployment measures whilst ensuring ecological relief and generating sustainable national value chains.
<p>- Publication of the “Broadband Strategy 2030”</p> <p>- Development of new funding programs to support the targets of the Strategy.</p>		<p>- 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2019: publication of the Strategy</p> <p>- 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2019: start of the notification process for implementing new funding programmes with the EC.</p>	<p>The “Broadband Strategy 2030” describes Austria’s way to a Gigabit-Society:</p> <p><u>Phase 1:</u> Full coverage of ultra-fast broadband connections (&gt; 100 Mbit/s) by 2020</p> <p><u>Phase 2:</u> Launch of 5G in all state capitals by 2020</p> <p><u>Phase 3:</u> 5G pilot county by 2021</p> <p><u>Phase 4:</u> All major terrestrial transport paths have uninterrupted 5G coverage by 2023</p> <p><u>Phase 4:</u> Nationwide 5G offers and Gigabit connections by 2025</p> <p><u>Vision 2030:</u> Full coverage of Gigabit connections by 2030</p>
5G – Research, Innovation and Technology	<p>a) Network stakeholders along the entire value chain – research, industry,...</p> <p>b) Define lighthouseprojects and testbeds</p>	<p>a) 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2019</p> <p>b) 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2019</p> <p>c) 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2019</p>	<p>a) Initiate cooperations; start to set up ecosystems; coordinate standardisation efforts</p> <p>b) Topics: Interoperability of radio technologies; its performance and system realisation</p>

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

	c) Explore the synergies of trustworthy (industrial) cloud and dataplattformen in order to handle the data generated by 5G		c) Considering expansion of Data Market Austria in regards to 5G and/or analysing possible synergies and set up of a trustworthy industrial cloud
Austrian strategy for Artificial Intelligence ( <i>Artificial Intelligence Mission Austria 2030 – AIM AT 2030</i> )	Creation of a trans-sectoral, coherent and comprehensive strategy with the aim of strengthening Artificial Intelligence research, industries and businesses in Austria acknowledging the specific requirements and circumstances of Austria. The strategy focusses on impact-oriented, workable and financially feasible actions covering all areas of life.	January to April 2019: Identification of trends, dynamics and opportunities concerning AI in Austria March to April 2019: Establishment of seven task forces and organisation of 14 expert workshops in order to identify possible action areas and options May 2019: Stakeholder conference June to August 2019: Drafting of strategy	The strategy aims at setting the framework for a responsible use of AI in all areas of life – taking into account the specific circumstances of and opportunities for Austria’s society and economy. The strategy shall strengthen the competitiveness of Austrian AI stakeholders and industries by at the same time taking into account risks possibly arising for society. The strategy shall also function as kick-off to further sectoral measures and actions.
Implementation of the national strategy on intellectual property (IP strategy)	Currently the focus is to further advance the service “discover.IP” offered in cooperation of “Austria Wirtschaftsservice” (aws) and APO which eventually contributes to the improvement of the framework for investing in R&D and for start-ups. Some more measures such as IP on universities and other educational organisations or extension of the data base for sample contracts contributing to the same CSRs laying in the competence of other ministries and are in progress.	The IP strategy defines short term (until 2019), medium term (until 2022) and long term goals (until 2025) to be implemented and sets priorities among these goals.  All prioritized goals but one has already been implemented and work on the rest of the measures is under way.	The overall aim of the package of measures is to increase the innovative capacity of the innovation system and the deployment of the potential in the field of IP.
Excellent R&D, basic and applied research and innovation	e.g. Programme Research Capacity in Industry	Increase the quality of corporate research to level up the innovational strength.	- Concept development

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

	Increase of aws Guarantees for SMEs	Start: January 2019	increase of existing guarantee schemes to facilitate access to (debt)finance for SMEs
	aws Digitalization and Growth Fund	Expected: implementation 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester 2019	Venture Capital for startups and scaleups to finance innovative projects in the early and growth stages
Promoting the next generation of highly qualified young researchers	In July 2017 39 projects started, which were funded under the 6 <sup>th</sup> call of the programme “Sparkling Science” ( <a href="http://www.sparklingscience.at">www.sparklingscience.at</a> ). These 39 projects involve 47 scientific institutions, 39 partner institutions from society and economy and 93 schools.	39 projects started in summer 2017 and will finish no later than December 2019.	The budget (€ 6.5 million) of the call allowed funding for 39 projects, involving around 6,500 students from 93 schools.
Promoting the application of modern crowd sourcing methods R&D	The Austrian Center for Citizen Science at the OeAD launched in cooperation with the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) and the BMBWF three calls of a funding initiative entitled “Top Citizen Science” (TCS). This initiative invited project leaders of ongoing research projects (which were funded by the programme Sparkling Science or by the Austrian Science Fund) to apply for a citizen science expansion project. The applications were peer-reviewed by a panel of international citizen science experts.	Between 2015 and 2018 three calls have been launched. The last TCS projects will finish in 2020.	The OeAD funded 14 TCS projects with a budget of almost € 700,000 (overall TCS budget: more than € 1.5 million). 6 out of 14 projects have been completed. The Austrian Science funded 17 projects with more than € 800,000.  For 2020 the Austrian Science fund is planning a 4 <sup>th</sup> call.
Further development of the Joint Programming Initiative, esp. the Project JPI CLIMATE	Evaluation and selection of projects of the ERANET Climate Services (ERA4CS and AXIS) call (Horizon 2020); Start of 4 year CSA in February 2018 2018: Creation of an International Networking platform in climate change research through the Climate Change Centre Austria to maximise JPI impact nationally	Budget for Call ERA4CS is € 450 000 from the BMBWF plus “in-kind Funds” and potential EU-Top up Funds (up to 100%) depending on the results of the evaluation  Budget for Call AXIS is € 400 000 from the BMBWF plus “in-kind Funds” and potential EU-Top up Funds (up to 100%) depending on the results of the evaluation	Promotion of the interdisciplinary field “Climate Services”, which connects scientists, society and industry.

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

		Call on "Enabling Societal Transformation", planned for 2018/19	
Strengthening of basic research and research infrastructure in Environmental Sciences in order to enable Austrian scientists to collaborate internationally and to provide solutions to existing and emerging societal needs.	<p>ABOL ("Austrian Barcode of Life"-Initiative) is a national collaboration of numerous, renowned scientific institutions and experts, engaged in biodiversity research of Austria. In the long-term it aims to generate DNA-Barcodes from all Austrian species of animals, plants and fungi.</p> <p>The Earth System Science Research Programme (ESS), an inter- and transdisciplinary research programme is jointly run by the BMBWF and the Austrian Academy of Sciences.</p> <p>The initiative "Austrian Geological Survey Research (GBA) Partnerships on Mineral Raw Materials" which started in 2015 combines resource policy with research policy.</p>	<p>Succeeding the pilot phase (2014–2017) that set up the structures, the overall project started in October 2017 and is designed as a long-term project over a period of at least 10 years. DNA barcodes will be generated in subprojects assigned to group-specific ABOL clusters.</p> <p>In 2018, the ESS launched the third call for proposals and awarded the projects that will be launched and implemented in 2019.</p> <p>In 2018 the "Austrian Geological Survey (GBA) Research Partnerships on Mineral Raw Materials" in the first instance will be restructured according to the results of the interim evaluation thereafter it will continue developing new, which are to be implemented and expanded in 2019.</p>	<p>The infrastructure of the barcodes will allow an open-access database thus free available for all applications.</p> <p>The ESS programme will support interdisciplinary and long-term environmental research.</p> <p>The GBA Mineral Raw Materials Initiative aims at establishing new research networks of the relevant research institutions in order to strengthen the expertise which is supposed to support the sustainable supply of mineral raw materials.</p>
Implementation of the Open Innovation Strategy for Austria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation of the measures listed in the Austrian Open Innovation Strategy</li> <li>- Monitoring of the implementation progress</li> </ul>	<p>Monitoring-report concerning the current implementation status of the Open Innovation Strategy for Austria in the Austrian Research and Technology Report (June 2019)</p> <p>Stakeholder-roundtable by the end of 2019 to assess the implementation</p>	<p>Involvement of wider public in innovation activities</p> <p>Increase of the innovation potential of Austria by using Open Innovation</p>

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

		progress of the Open Innovation Strategy for Austria	
Promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in science and research	Ongoing implementation of the 50% female quota in university boards and annual reporting on progress made; reduction of the gender pay gap at universities;	Annual reporting on progress made	More creative and innovative university boards through higher diversity. Women in rectorate positions (university management) are shaping the university development and are visible as role models. Higher incentives for young scientists to start an academic career through the closure of the gender pay gap.
Promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in science and research - Analysis of the Gender Equality plans to promote a non-discriminatory science and research landscape	Development and adoption of Equal Opportunity Plans by universities (compatibility of study/work with family obligations and 6 non-discrimination areas).  If all 22 Equal opportunity plans are adopted and published and implementation has been started, the BMBWF will commission an in-depth analysis of the measures and make recommendations on how to measure progress.	By the end of 2018 not all public Universities had adopted a GE-Plan. Therefore, the BMBWF will continue further activities to ensure that in 2019 all universities will adopt their Gender Equality Plan.	22 universities have adopted their Gender Equality Plan and started implementation.
Promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in science and research - development of an action-oriented cross-sectoral action plan to strengthen institutional/cultural change in HE-, Research and Research Funding Institutions	Preparation of an action-oriented cross-sectoral action plan based on the results of a follow up cultural change study 2017 and recommendations from the working group within the Austrian Higher Education Conference on “gender competence”.	First semester of 2019: Development of an action plan based on a participation process with experts and practitioners. Second semester 2019: Adoption by the Federal Minister and start of implementation.	Acceleration of the cultural change; identification of the main issues; using the developed pool of ideas for further measures/activities Action Plan implementation
Promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in science and research - Possanner Awards to promote the integration of the gender dimension in teaching and research content	The Gabriele Possanner Awards (state, appreciation and promotion prizes) have been awarded every two years since 1997. They promote the continuous presence of the gender perspective in fields of research and studies. Due to the continuous qualitative	Public Award ceremony of the Gabriele Possanner Awards 2019	The awards contribute to the implementation of the gender equality objective concerning the integration of the gender dimension in research content and teaching.

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

	development, their endowment and their high status in the research landscape, they rank among the most attractive awards in the field of gender research.		
Promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in science and research - implementation of recommendations for the dissemination of gender competence in higher education processes	An ad hoc working group of the Austrian Higher Education Conference developed 36 recommendations for implementation within the Austrian HE-institutions and the Federal Ministry. These were adopted by the Austrian Higher Education Conference. This is a first step so that future implementation can take place at the university and research institutions.	First Semester 2019: Distribution and discussions of the recommendations within professional networks and institutions.  Second Semester 2019: Start of implementation within HE-institutions and the Federal Ministry.	A ML-Workshop focusing on stock taking of implementation carried out with the HE-institutions and the Federal Ministry.
Promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in science and research - implementation Gender equality and Diversity Management objectives, measures within the performance agreements of public universities	Universities have undertaken a variety of projects and objectives in the 2019-2021 performance agreements on gender equality and diversity. This starts with concrete training programs for gaining competencies through gender professorships to the creation of diversity strategies. These processes will be supported.	Implementation starts 2019.	The objectives and measures strengthen the European gender equality goals through diversity-oriented equality policy.
Promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in science and research – Diversity Management Award	Diversity Management Award	Diversitas Award Ceremony 2018. The submissions of 2018 will be published in an English brochure in order to make visible the achievements of the Higher-Education Institutions and Research Institutions in the field of diversity management.	Diversitas is awarded every two years. The next Ceremony will be in 2020.
Promotion of Knowledge Transfer between universities, other research organisations and the private sector	The funding Programme “Knowledge Transfer Centres and IPR Commercialisation” 2014-2018 ended in 2018. Knowledge Transfer between universities, other research organisations and the private sector was promoted within three virtual regional Knowledge Transfer Centres.	2014-2018	Strengthening collaboration in R&D between academia and industry has been a major point in Austria's STI policy for decades. The Austrian RTI strategy aims at improving and stimulating the level of collaboration between universities, public research organisations and the economic sector.

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

	<p>A virtual thematic Knowledge Transfer Centre in the field of life sciences operated from 2014 to 2017. Its function shall be enhanced through the set-up of a Translational Research Center (TRC, see next line).</p> <p>The above programme was analysed and rendered very positive results. It is therefore intended to prolong the programme for another period starting in 2019.</p> <p>As one of the measures of the Life Sciences Strategy another thematic Knowledge Transfer Centre in the field of medical devices is planned to run for 3 years starting in 2018/2019.</p> <p>The funding programme “Spin off fellowships” started in 2017.</p>	<p>2018-2022</p> <p>2019-2021</p> <p>2017-2020</p> <p>2017-2021</p> <p>Three calls have been launched in 2017 and 2018, the resulting projects started in summer 2018 and in the beginning of 2019.</p>	<p>For this purpose the Austrian RTI strategy promotes the establishment of knowledge transfer centres. The programme provides incentives for universities to collaborate with other universities and Public Research Organisations in the region and also the pooling of resources between universities at a regional level shall be promoted.</p> <p>Fellowships programme: Scientists and students with innovative ideas should be supported in their efforts to establish their own companies. The fellowship can ensure the financing of salary costs and access to the academic infrastructure. The fellowships will be granted within the context of a competition via the knowledge transfer centers. This measure is funded to the amount of € 5 million per year.</p>
<p>Implementation of the measures of the Strategy for improving conditions for Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) in Austria</p>		<p>Monitoring-Group and Stakeholder-Roundtable at least once a year to assess the implementation of the 41 measures of the Strategy for improving conditions for SSH in Austria</p>	<p>Strengthen research conditions in the Social Sciences and Humanities by using instruments more efficiently.</p>
	<p>Increase of aws Guarantees for SMEs</p>	<p>Start: January 2019</p>	<p>increase of existing guarantee schemes to facilitate access to (debt)finance for SMEs</p>

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

	aws Digitalization and Growth Fund	Expected: implementation 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester 2019	Venture Capital for start-ups and scale-ups to finance innovative projects in the early and growth stages
<b>Business Environment</b>			
Further steps in digitalization of public procurement; improved access to procurement information	Introduction of an obligation to publish procurement information in an Open Government Data format	Obligation from 1. March 2019 onward	The information to be published is specified in Annexes to the Federal Law on Public Procurement (Bundesvergabegesetz 2018) as well as the Federal Law on Procurement of Concessions (Bundesvergabegesetz Konzessionen 2018). This information (ex ante on planned procurement as well as information on awarded contracts) will guarantee easy and free access to procurement information as well as improved statistics in the field of public procurement. Furthermore it will be possible to have an in-depth analysis of procurement data (for example price differences, price developments, anti competitive market behaviour of undertakings).
Electronic delivery (see Table 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• digitizing communication between companies, citizens and public authorities</li> <li>• Further development of electronic delivery in Austria</li> <li>• Increase in number of participants (companies &amp; citizens)</li> </ul> Increase in number of public authorities which send their documents electronically		
SME.DIGITAL (see Table 1)	In order to strengthen the SME sector and in particular to support small and medium-sized enterprises in their digital transformation, this project was developed in 09/2017. Due to the great success, the program will be further expanded and, in the future, will not only		



Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

	provide SMEs with advice, but also finance concrete implementation measures.		
Increase of awa Guarantees for SMEs (see Table 1)	facilitate access to (debt)finance for SMEs		
<b>Energy and Climate</b>			
Sustainability	Austria's „SUSTAINABILITY ACTION DAYS“ is an annual country-wide Initiative to promote and visualize the manifold multi-stakeholder engagement and their scope of action for sustainability in Austria. Its aim is to increase awareness for sustainable development/ the Agenda 2030 and foster networking in the SD community. Jointly organized and managed by the “Sustainability Coordinators” of the 9 Austrian federal provinces and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Sustainability and Tourism the Initiative commonly contributes to the goals and Initiatives of the EU2020 Strategy and the implementation of the Agenda2030.	In 2019, the sustainable action days will take place from May to June.	It strengthens the visibility of bottom – up approaches within all mayor stakeholder groups to contribute to sustainable development across the 3 dimensions, addressing a total of 15 thematic fields of actions.
Climate and Energy Strategy 2030	Implementation of the government's Climate and Energy Strategy 2030	Focus on 12 flagship projects	Fulfilment of the 2030 energy and climate goals.
	Finalisation of the National Energy and Climate Plan for 2030	Impact Assessment in first half 2019; Involvement of public and stakeholders in second half 2019; Political endorsement by end of the year.	Fulfilment of the 2030 energy and climate goals.
Development of a national hydrogen strategy		Development until autumn 2019; implementation from 2020	Regulatory adjustments in order to promote sector integration and the application of renewable hydrogen technology in Austria
Development of a supporting mechanism for renewable gases		Implementation through renewable deployment act in 2020	Incremental increase of domestic produced renewable gases in the Austrian gas grid until 2030

Annex 1 Table 3: Reporting on main reform plans for the next 10 months

<p>Development of the Renewable Deployment Act</p>		<p>Development until first half of 2019; implementation in 2020</p>	<p>Expand all renewable energy sources, infrastructure and storage          Foster the long-term funding and financing of investments          Energy system that ensures the balance between sustainability, competitiveness and security of supply now and in the future.          Austria will make greater use of its innovative power and processes of change, such as digitization, in order to modernize the energy system with new key technologies.          A need to reduce bureaucracy, facilitate investments and simplify licensing procedures in line with environmental standards and EU requirements.          Innovation and investment need suitable framework conditions.</p>
--	--	---	---

**Explanatory notes to Reporting Table 3:**

Apart from measures relevant for the achievement of the national Europe 2020 target, only key reform commitments for the next 12 months should be included. The reporting table should cover in more detail measures not yet reported in Table 1 or 2 or cross-references to Table 1 or 2 otherwise. Information on impacts should be provided to the extent available.