

EVALUATION OF RTI POLICIES IN AUSTRIA (2017-2018)

In the field of RTI policy evaluation the following important events happened in Austria during the last year:

- 1) The **Austrian Platform for Research and Technology Policy Evaluation** launched a new website in German and English and a repository which contains most RTI policy evaluations as well as a number of RTI relevant study reports. The **English homepage** can be accessed here: <https://www.fteval.at/content/home/news/index.jsp?langId=2>

The **repository** can be accessed here: <https://repository.fteval.at/>

- 2) **OECD Review of the Austrian R&I system** is currently running. Results of it will be publicly announced mid December 2018. The review is an important evidence base for shaping the post-2020 national R&I strategy of Austria.
- 3) **Evaluation of the Implementation of HORIZON 2020, EUREKA, COSME, EEN and ERA in Austria** concluded in May 2018. The evaluation focused on three key areas:
 - a. 1. Evaluation of Austrian Research Promotion Agency's (FFG) advisory and support services for HORIZON 2020, EUREKA, COSME, EEN and ERA
 - b. 2. EU performance monitoring of FFG
 - c. 3. The ERA Observatory Austria, which forms an overarching framework for the integration of the individual tasks in the field of governance for EU-RTI policy in Austria on the part of the BMBWF (Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research).

The evaluation design was based on the triangulation of complementary quantitative and qualitative methods to confirm findings from at least two sources.

The evaluation can be downloaded from the repository of the Austrian Platform for Research and Technology Policy Evaluation: <https://doi.org/10.22163/fteval.2018.291>

An English summary is available on pages xxiv ff (p24-pp43).

- 4) **Portfolio evaluation of the international programmes of the Austrian Science Fund** concluded in spring 2018. The evaluation addressed the following questions:
 - a. Is the international funding portfolio of FWF appropriate?
 - b. Are the design and the management of the programmes appropriate?
 - c. What are the impacts of the international programmes of FWF?
 - d. Should/could the programmes under discussion be continued, improved or restructured?

The evaluation can be downloaded from the repository of the Austrian Platform for Research and Technology Policy Evaluation: <https://doi.org/10.22163/fteval.2017.277>

The evaluation report is in English.

- 5) **Evaluation of the funding agencies Förderungsgesellschaften Austria Wirtschaftsservice GmbH (aws) and the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)** concluded in December 2017. The evaluation addressed the following questions:

- a. (1) How the internal structure and organization of the agencies can be characterized
- b. (2) which corporate cultures have evolved in the agencies;
- c. (3) the agencies' position within the Austrian innovation system; and
- d. (4) how the agencies are governed by the owners, i.e. the ministries.

In addition, the evaluation team developed three future options of how to structure relations between owners and agencies in the future.

The study's main result can be summed up as follows: The structural reform's objectives have been partially achieved. With the FFG and the aws, Austria now has two highly professional funding agencies at its disposal. However, the agencies are not able to develop their full productive capacity due to the framework conditions in place.

The evaluation can be downloaded from the repository of the Austrian Platform for Research and Technology Policy Evaluation: 10.22163/fteval.2017.279

A summary in English is available (page 7-12).

6) Every year the **Research and Technology Report** is published in Austrian. It is a report by the Federal Government to the National Council acc. § 8 (2) FOG on the situation and needs of research, technology and innovation in Austria and was commissioned by the Federal Ministries of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF), Transport, Innovation and Technology (BMVIT) and Digitization and Business Location (BMDW) Developed. On the basis of current data, analyses and findings, relevant development trends and selected topics of the Austrian innovation system are described and reflected in an international context. The report includes a presentation of the most recent global estimate of the development of R&D expenditure in Austria for 2018, Austria's position in international rankings and a description of recent developments in the implementation of the federal RTI strategy and other strategic initiatives in the FTI Politics. In addition, current developments in the field of universities and in the corporate sector are presented.

An English version of the report can be downloaded from here:

https://www.bmvit.gv.at/en/service/publications/downloads/...ftb/ftb_2018_en.pdf

The report also contains a summary of several important evaluations carried recently out in Austria including

- Combined programme evaluation of the Christian Doppler laboratories and Josef Ressel Centres
- Evaluation of the BRIDGE programme for the 2009-2016 period
- Evaluation of the Austrian security research programme KIRAS
- Evaluation of the public procurement promoting innovation (PPPI)

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