

Main results of the Action Plan implementation

Action 1: Re-Use-Map and -Autumn 2022:

The re-use map was expanded from approx. 60 re-use shops in Jan. 2022 to currently 93 entries. They are spread across all 13 Styrian districts. The range of goods includes electrical appliances, furniture, bicycles, textiles, books, all kinds of household goods, toys, and sports equipment. Many re-use shops also offer repair services in their workshops, e.g. for bicycles. In 2022 the online map had approximately 2000 visitors. To make it easier for new shops to register, an online form was designed and implemented. It was promoted at the Waste Advisor Forum, Environmental Fair, Re-Use Autumn, Waste Coach training, seminar "Circular Economy and Procurement" of the Forum for Science and Environment, and on the waste & resource management information web portals.

The Re-Use-Autumn was organized in close collaboration with the Styrian Waste Management Associations and the local re-use shops. There were 17 events in 10 Styrian districts. Approximately 4,000 persons visited the exhibitions/events of ca. 50 re-use-organizations. The region of Styria has provided extra € ~30,000 for the Re-Use-Autumn. The reach of the media reports was estimated at > 400,000 people in total. On 22.11.2022, re-use-autumn and re-use-map were evaluated in a stakeholder workshop.

The re-use autumn 2023 and the continuation of the Re-Use-Map have been included in the working program of the Directorate 14, Office of the Regional Government of Styria, for 2023 and allocated with the appropriate resources. **Action 1** has been fully implemented and evaluated.

Action 2: Re-use guide for re-use operators & workshop:

The drafting of the guide took place in March 2022 in consultation with the legal experts of the Office of the Regional Government of Styria. Already then, the contents were tested in an online training for re-use-operators in collaboration with the Austrian-wide re-use-network RepaNet, which frequently offers online trainings for this sector. In addition, the guide was supplemented by a contribution from the Styrian Chamber of Commerce on the information offered by the Chamber's Start-Up Service. The written draft of the guide was introduced at the re-use-stakeholder workshop on 22.11.2022. Applicability and completeness were discussed there. Currently, the final approval by the legal department of the Province of Styria is still pending. This will be followed by the final layout and publication on our re-use-website. Delays have occurred due to prolonged sick leaves in both Directorates involved.





There has been a slight delay in **Action 2** due to sickness leaves within the involved staff. Final approval, final layout and publication of the draft version of the guideline are planned for January 2023

Policy change

Due to the successful implementation of the action plan, the new projects Re-use autumn 2023, continuation of the re-use map and coordination of the new Styrian re-use network were included in the working programme 2023 of Directorate 14. Strong focus on re-use will also be continued in the Styrian Waste Management Plan 2023 (planning period 2024 – 2029).

In addition, SUBTRACT inspired the pilot project “reuse bag” as pre-collection aid, which will be implemented also in 2023 in cooperation with selected re-use shops.

The policy instrument “Styrian Climate and Energy Strategy 2030+: Action Plan 2022-2024” (passed by the Styrian state parliament in Sep. 2022) includes 2 (out of 120) actions for improved implementation of re-use: W-01 – “Increase the reuse and recycling rates in the construction sector” and W-03 – “Increase the useful life of products”.

Impact on the Austrian Waste Prevention Programme 2023: SUBTRACT is mentioned in the evaluation of the previous program; therefore, an impact can also be assumed in the update.

The Re-Use Autumn Styria 2022 was inspired by the interregional learning (staff exchange and good practice examples) within SUBTRACT. Styria was particularly inspired by the re-use scene in Finland and Sweden, where re-use has already an excellent image and has reached the society in general. It is reflected in the financial situation of re-use centres and increased access to re-use goods in these countries. Their strategy is to increase value of the re-use products by ensuring that their quality is perceived as equal to new products. Styria pursues a similar strategy. The new format Re-Use Autumn should help to establish a new quality image for re-use and to attract additional customers, thus ensuring an increased flow of re-use goods in the long term.

The Styrian Re-Use guide was inspired by the report of the Waste Agency Catalonia on a similar guideline already available in Catalonia and by the Styrian SUBTRACT stakeholders, who expressed their uncertainty regarding legal requirements for re-use.

The implementation of action 1 resulted in very positive feedback of the involved re-use organizations, a high interest of the general public and considerable media coverage. The success of both formats (online map and re-use autumn) formed the basis for the allocation of resources for the continuation in the following year and for a longer-term strategic anchoring of re-use in the policy instruments.

To ensure the collaboration of our stakeholders in actions to be continued after the project period, we organised a final SUBTRACT stakeholder workshop in November 2022. Beside the evaluation of the action plan implementation, we focused on the planning of common actions resulting from the policy change in 2023. The willingness of the re-use stakeholders to participate in follow-up actions is very high and a workshop is scheduled for March 2023. The date of the Re-Use Autumn 2023 is already fixed in cooperation with the Styrian stakeholders. It will take place from 20th to 26th September 2023.