1. General Feedback to the Austrian Mineral Resources Plan!

What is your impression of the presented Policy instrument?

The Austrian Minerals Resources Plan (AMRP) appears to have been drafted in order a) to mainly avoid the overprint of raw material deposits and occurrences by regional planning and b) to cadastre the potential of spars and ores as well as of aggregates.

The AMRP has no linkage to the Austrian Innovation strategy and doesn´t refer to the RIS3 documentation of the nut 0 region of Austria.

Interestingly the AMRP doesn´t mention the wording of „smart" nor „specialisation" and „innovation", except in the preface (reference is made to European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials). In the same way the Austrian Innovation Strategy doesn´t incorporate mining or raw material related sectors of the raw material value chain in context of innovation and innovation driving approaches.

The AMRP shows a strong focus on aggregates. The question is how much "innovation potential" can be deduced from aggregate mining in a European economy that is knowledge based and requires high-tech to compete with the global markets?

Is there something missing in your opinion?

Yes, the relation to the topic "smart specialisation" either by incorporating it into the AMRP in close connection with the mining sector related issues including "downstream" but also "upstream" in terms of research and start-ups from the exploitation of results, such as:

- *Valorisation of R&D results (patenting, start-up, JV)*

- *Public spending on raw material value chain (research, industry, administration)*

- *Clustering in generating value out of initiatives like EIT Raw Matters*

- *Maintaining metallurgical knowledge in the region as bridge-builder and prerequisite for a future circular economy*

The policy should give an outlook on measures of high priorities for the implementation of the policy (compare to: "Leitlinien" of the Saxon Raw Materials Strategy). These Leitlinien (focus areas) should be underlined by a budget and a time schedule according to the political empowering of a regional administration and – in the best case – exceeding this governance period in order to make the policy more "untouchable" at a change in the political landscape.

The regional Innovation Strategies of the nine Austrian states should be involved in the process of Peer Review and here especially those, closest to mining (see: Styria)

Is it really a best practice example?

In terms of the aim of the REMIX project: no

In terms of the cadastral evaluation of the mineral wealth and as a prerequisite to land planning: yes!

The last open question is: "what is the target group of a policy"

2. How can the area of conflict between different authorities be handled?

Horizontal: Mining vs conflicting land use

In my understanding this is not the principle issue of a reviewing of a policy with regard to "smart specialisation"

Vertical: Federal State vs Provinces Area these conflicts really the major problem?

See above

3. How can the results of the project be implemented?

- *As a recommendation to the responsible authorities how to further develop the AMRP and to link it with a Austrian Innovation strategy (revised the same way, see comments above)*

4. How can political decisions be influenced?

By influencing the voter´s attitude towards mining and exhibiting the attitude and behaviour of global investment managers as well as the meaning of global socio-economic challenges.

Raise of raw material awareness from bottom up (civil society to professionals)

5. What needs to be done, to guarantee success of REMIX project in relation to the Austrian Mineral Resources Plan?

To transfer our recommendations to the potential responsible administrative bodies of the AMRP and to finally carry out a final workshop during the second phase of the project to resume how these recommendations have been committed.

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Dr. Wolfgang Reimer