

A child in a blue shirt and dark pants is riding a scooter on a road. The road is marked with numerous white, wavy lines that curve across the frame, creating a sense of movement and depth. The child is positioned on the left side of the image, moving towards the right. The background is a clear, bright sky.

OEAD ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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The OeAD is a non-profit limited liability company (GmbH) of the federal government. Its activities are financed by the Republic of Austria, in particular by the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF), the Federal Chancellery, the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), and by the European Commission. The OeAD is Austria's agency for the implementation of Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps.





Preface

Education and Science 2020: still going strong despite COVID

Funded mobility programmes enhance the qualifications of young people. They open the door to the world for them – regardless of their parents' income. They bring an international dimension to the education system and contribute significantly to the internationalisation of the Austrian educational institutions. For me, transnational cooperation in education and science is the key to competitiveness, adaptability and innovation. For many people stays abroad are the gateway by which they immerse themselves in other cultures, educational systems and ways of working. The demand for funded mobility increased every year – until the “annus horribilis”, the COVID-19 year 2020.

Hardly any other year in the last few decades has had such a drastic impact on us as the year 2020. The immobility that unfortunately had to be imposed naturally lowered the international mobility figures. From today's perspective, however, all this also had a good side: the Corona crisis initiated action in education and science that was previously considered impossible at this speed and with such professionalism: many people are no longer strangers to terms such as MOOCs and Moodle. On the contrary: schools and higher education institutions converted their teaching, examinations and research to

digital in no time at all and in an extremely flexible manner and have thus been able to keep the education, teaching and science sector running. New forms of (virtual) mobility have emerged and blended learning has become part of teaching. Even if personal discourse was not always feasible, an exchange was nevertheless made possible thanks to all those involved. What is particularly pleasing: last year around 60 percent of the planned Erasmus+ stays of students took place. In accordance with the Higher Education Mobility and Internationalisation Strategy (HMIS 2030) published in 2020 it is important to build on these experiences with digitisation for internationalisation in the coming years.

The OeAD has contributed greatly to addressing the corona crisis in education and internationalisation. I would like to thank all the OeAD staff for their excellent consultation services and their flexibility in supporting transnational partnerships and guiding outgoings and incomings. The OeAD also took over the coordination of the school events cancellation fund for cancelled school events in no time at all and showed a lot of flexibility and dedication here, too. With so much dedication, ideas and overarching cooperation I look to the future with confidence.



Univ.-Prof. Dr. Heinz Faßmann
Federal Minister for Education, Science and Research



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The measures related to COVID-19 have shaped our working lives, our education and our leisure time.

2020 was an extremely challenging year for everyone. COVID-19 had an impact on all aspects of our society. And, of course, the OeAD as an organisation and funding agency was also greatly affected – especially because international travel was very limited.



Jakob Calice, PhD
Managing director,
OeAD – Agency for
Education and
Internationalisation

An interim assessment of the year 2020 – and that's all it can be in June 2021 – shows that above all enormous flexibility and creativity in the use of digitisation have brought us through this crisis well. In addition to quick and comprehensive advice flexible options for project implementation were created: Postponed project starts, extended implementation periods, changes in target countries, participants or project partner institutions meant that a large number of projects and also stays abroad could take place despite COVID-19. At the same time the OeAD, together with its partners and clients in the European Commission and the federal ministries, endeavoured to enable continuity by extending projects, postponing activities to a later date and replacing/continuing physical mobilities and project activities with virtual stays, meetings or learning, teaching and training activities and to create

a framework so that projects could be carried out in any case. The extent to which the number of stays abroad in 2020 has decreased as a result of Corona can only be determined at a later date due to the extension options. What is already clear is that approximately 60 percent of the planned student stays took place despite Corona. In other areas, such as adult education or internships abroad, we expect significantly lower figures. However, it is still possible to carry out study or training periods abroad that have not yet taken place at a later date. This is important because the pandemic makes measures to enhance 21st century skills more important than ever!

In addition to the enormous flexibility of the OeAD's programmes we were also able to contribute to the crisis management in another way: in April 2020 the Federal

Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF) commissioned the OeAD to implement the school events hardship fund. This enabled us to fulfil our function as an agency for education by taking over the cancellation costs of cancelled school events on behalf of the Republic of Austria. Finally, important preparatory measures for 2021 took place last year despite Corona.

I am pleased that together with the European Commission and the other member countries we also planned ahead and worked tirelessly behind the scenes in 2020 on the implementation of the new programme generation Erasmus+ 2021-2027. As of 2021 the OeAD will also be responsible for the implementation of the Erasmus+ youth activities and the European Solidarity Corps (ESC) on the recommendation of the Court of Auditors. The OeAD ensures the greatest possible

continuity in the programme implementation in the youth sector, especially during the transition period. A lot of preparatory work has also been carried out to make the OeAD the Austrian Agency for Education and Internationalisation as of 1 January 2021 – from corporate design and wording to brand architecture and the launch of the new positioning.

I would like to thank all OeAD employees especially for their commitment and flexibility in all the challenges that home office and home schooling have brought. I am proud that, despite this year of crisis, we have continued to move forward so steadfastly with our combined forces. I would also like to thank all our funding providers, clients and cooperation partners for their trust in us.





The foundation of our work: Our corporate strategy

As an agency of the Republic of Austria the OeAD contributes to inclusive, equal and high-quality education.

The OeAD acts in Austria, Europe and internationally in priority countries. With our future-oriented programmes we advise, support and connect people and institutions in education, science, research and culture.



Our Goals



Implementation in three strategic fields of action

- + Advancing the internationalisation of science and research, formal, non-formal and informal education
- + Strengthening education and society
- + Expanding quality and transparency in education

The OeAD's activities

- + Implementing national and international funding programmes
- + Strengthening networking in education, science and research
- + Contributing expertise to the shaping of the education sector

Key OeAD topics until 2026

- + Digitisation
- + Sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda
- + Geographical focus: EU and Europe, South Caucasus, China and South-east Asia, Africa
- + Diversity and equal opportunities
- + Self-perception as European citizens
- + Promoting a contemporary image of Austria
- + Internationalisation in school education, vocational education and training, higher education and adult education
- + Innovation and transfer to the education system
- + Global cooperation

Support of:

- + National Higher Education Mobility and Internationalisation Strategy 2030
- + European Education Area 2025
- + Digital Education Action Plan 2021–2027
- + European Youth Strategy “Engage-Connect-Empower”
- + National Strategy for Research, Technology and Innovation 2030
- + EU Work Plan for Sports
- + European Higher Education Area 2021–2027
- + Development Cooperation Regional Strategy for the Western Balkans and relevant country strategies

FACT #02

The OeAD is obliged to apply the Federal Public Corporate Governance Code and prepares a Corporate Governance Report every year in the course of the annual financial statements, which confirms compliance with the provisions of the Federal Public Corporate Governance Code.

FACT #03

The OeAD has been certified according to the international quality standard ISO 9001 since 2006. The certification maturity was last confirmed by TÜV Nord in December 2020. The OeAD was particularly praised for its high level of customer and service orientation, which is reflected in the quality indicators, even in the exceptional year caused by the pandemic, as well as for its exemplary approach and communication with its employees with regard to operational safety precautions and measures in the context of the pandemic.

FACT #01

The Supervisory Board met four times in 2020.

The OeAD stands for internationalisation, education, quality and transparency



Internationalisation – the key to knowledge and exchange of experience

Internationalisation and support for transnational cooperation and mobility are valuable keys in education, science and research.

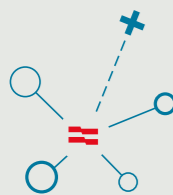
Stays abroad contribute to the development of personal skills and strengthen the innovative capacity of institutions and entire education systems.



Education – shaping the future together

Get out of the theory – come into the exciting world of research and creativity: With different funding schemes (vocational) schools are supported in enabling children and young people to conduct their own research, engage in artistic activities and become skilled in the

use of new digital tools. Education is the capital for the future: with customised offers and a high level of expertise we are committed to supporting the development of the education sector.



Convincing with quality and transparency

Reliability and quality form the framework that enables innovation. Recognition and comparability of educational qualifications in Austria and Europe. The basis for sustainable knowledge transfer is the expansion of

quality and transparency. The focus is on the continuous development and assurance of the quality of Austrian educational offers and the quality management tools.

COVID-19 and digitisation in education

This “special” year 2020 has served as a driver for digitisation in education and has brought about innovations that would not have happened at this speed under other circumstances.

The COVID pandemic has changed the way we teach, learn and research, and changed it permanently. New teaching and learning modules, interactive teaching and learning platforms as well as new evaluation formats and manuals have quickly developed.

Of course virtual mobility cannot replace personal conversation, getting to know other cultures and working or living environments. A common European identity always thrives on direct exchange. However, many digital mobility formats were advanced after schools and higher education institutions had to switch to distance learning for the first time in Europe and worldwide in the spring of 2020. And this shift to digital mobility has worked well. COVID-19 has created an opportunity to include more “online components” in the stays abroad – such as online workshops before a stay.

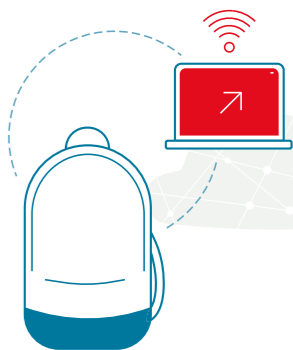
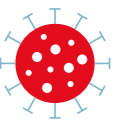
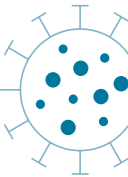
For example, the European Commission granted Erasmus+ the possibility for the winter semester 2020/21 and the summer semester 2021 to start a mobility measure in a virtual way and – if possible – to continue it physically at a later point in time. What is new is virtual cooperation: faster, simpler, more sustainable. A 6 o'clock flight to a 9 o'clock project meeting in another city is history. Why blow CO₂ into the air when it is

possible to do it in a much easier, cheaper and more environmentally friendly way?

What the crisis showed was how quickly and in partnership the European Commission and education agencies such as the OeAD react(ed): In addition to rapid and comprehensive advice flexible options for project implementation were created. “Force majeure” was the keyword to provide the best possible support in the current situation. By extending the term of projects, postponing activities to a later date and replacing/continuing physical mobility and project activities with virtual stays, meetings or learning, teaching and training activities projects and mobility measures are to be continued and successful completed.

The OeAD has set up a Corona Infopoint at <https://oead.at/de/der-oead/informationen-zum-coronavirus> with information about the programmes, up-to-date information about entry to and residence in Austria as well as informative links.

All in all, COVID-19 has made it clear that access to education is more than ever an essential prerequisite for equal opportunities and inclusion. The programmes and funding provided by the OeAD make a significant contribution to this in Austria.



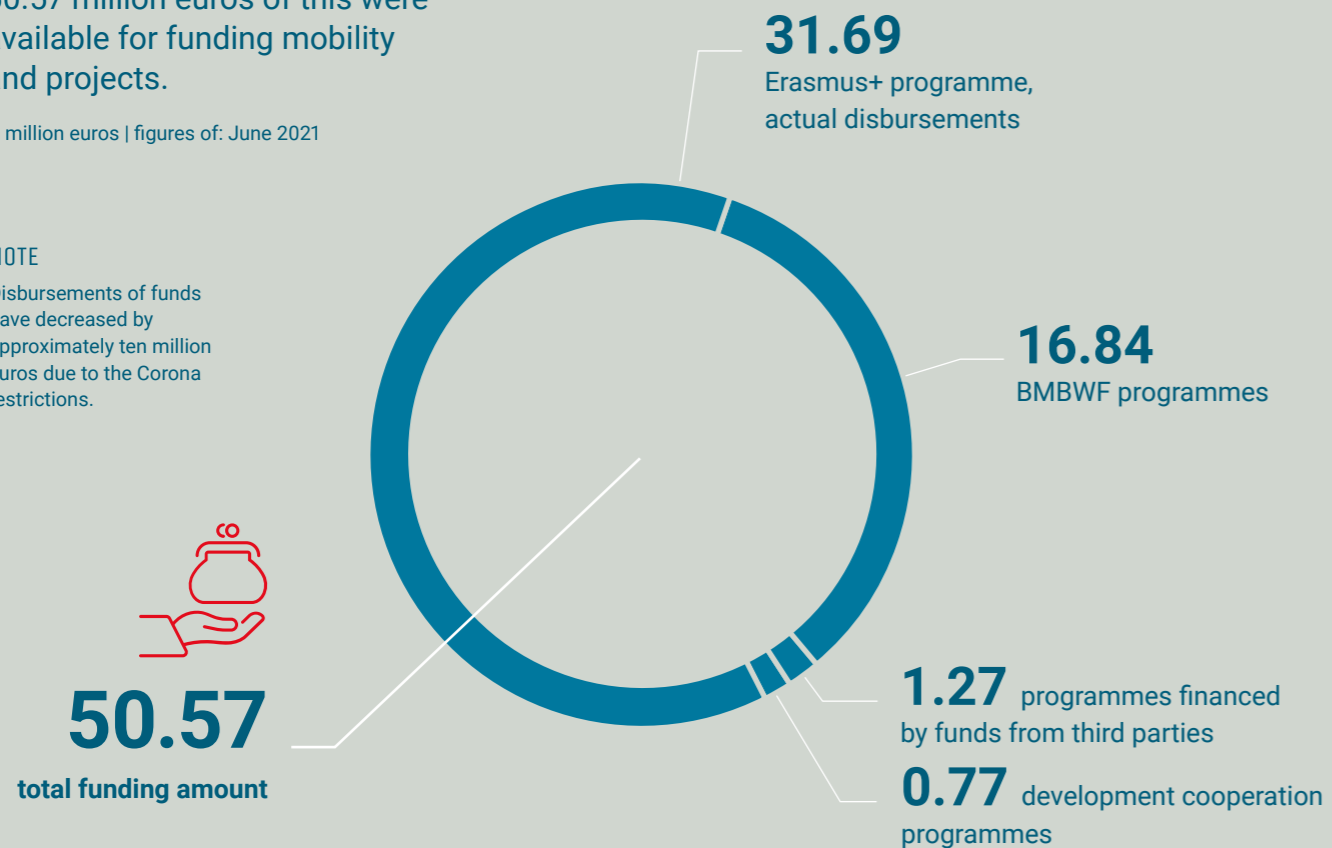
The OeAD in figures

The total budget amounted to 70.77 million euros. 50.57 million euros of this were available for funding mobility and projects.

in million euros | figures of: June 2021

NOTE

Disbursements of funds have decreased by approximately ten million euros due to the Corona restrictions.



50.57
total funding amount

12
University Preparation Programmes (not including teachers)

259
OeAD



271
Members of staff advise project managers and outgoings, provide support for incomings and accompany the projects.



Headquarters: Vienna

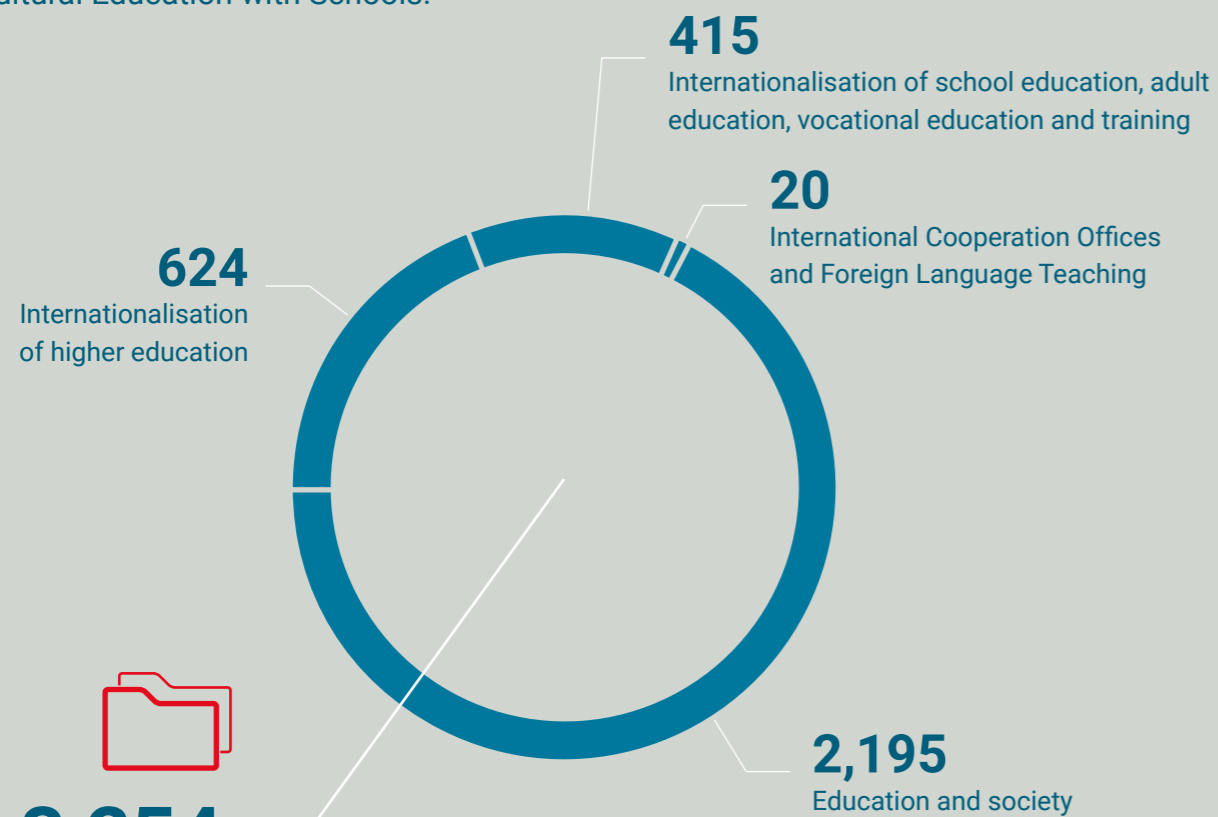
7 OeAD Regional Offices in Graz, Innsbruck, Klagenfurt, Leoben, Linz, Salzburg and Vienna.

Focus: Scientific Cooperation
OeAD Cooperation Offices in L'viv (Ukraine) and Shanghai (China)

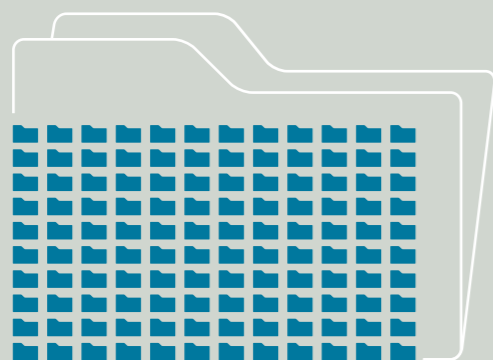
Focus: Educational Cooperation
Regional Cooperation Offices in Tirana (responsible for Albania, Kosovo and North Macedonia) and Sarajevo (responsible for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro) as well as cooperation offices in Chişinău, Odessa and St. Petersburg, headed by Austrian educational coordinators directly seconded by the BMBWF.

Projects

3,254 projects were funded by the OeAD in 2020. 2,195 of them were national projects in Public Science and Cultural Education with Schools.



3,254 projects by sector



Moreover, Austria's higher education institutions have been involved in 113 Erasmus+ higher education projects.

3,254 projects by project type

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES

Projects Erasmus+	543
Aktion Austria-Czech Republic	19
Aktion Austria-Slovakia	5
Aktion Austria-Hungary	26
ASEA-UNINET projects	16
Eurasia-Pacific UNINET	135
APPEAR	20
WTZ	261
EU Third Country Programmes	14
Pre-university educational cooperation with Eastern and South Eastern Europe	20

NATIONAL INITIATIVES

Cultural education with schools	2,174
Public Science: Top Citizen Science*	8
Public Science: digital teaching and learning materials	13

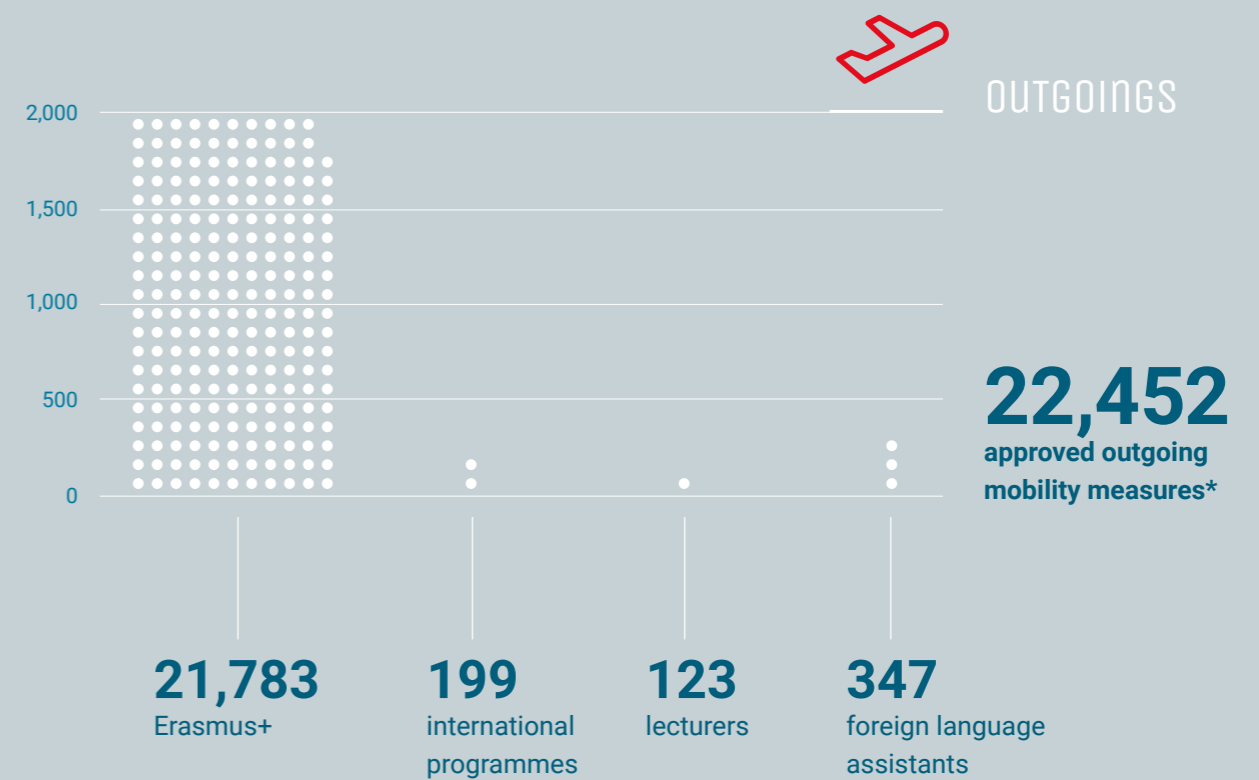
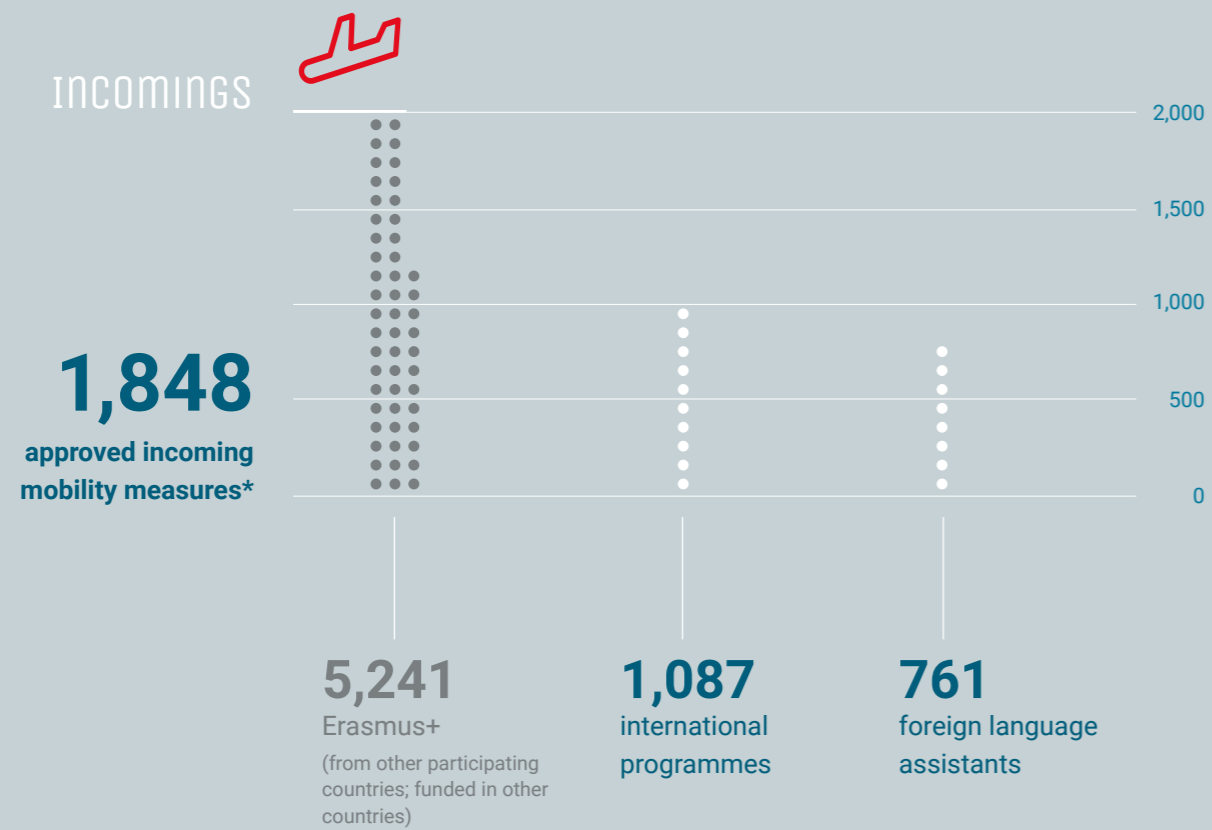
*The third and final call for proposals took place in 2017. Eight projects were still running in 2020.



Incomings & Outgoings

In 2020 1,848 incoming scholarships were funded. Moreover, 5,241 Erasmus+ grant recipients from other countries came to Austria.

Moreover, there were 238 recipients of funding within the framework of Scientific and Technological Cooperation projects, 107 incomings and 131 outgoings.



GOALS

- + PROMOTION OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH IN THE CONTEXT OF DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION PROCESS
- + PRESENTATION OF AUSTRIA AS AN ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY FOR EDUCATION, HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENCE
- + INNOVATION AND TRANSFER TO THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

- + PROMOTION OF GLOBAL COOPERATION
- + ENABLING HIGH-QUALITY STAYS ABROAD
- + SUPPORTING THE EUROPEAN EDUCATION AREA (EEA) AND THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA (ERA)

• = 100

* approved stays (some of them have not yet taken place)

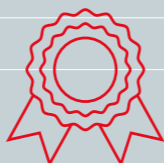
Incomings

The majority of the incomings came to Austria via the Central European Exchange Programme for University Studies (CEEPUS). In second place comes the Ernst Mach programme.

SCHOLARSHIP

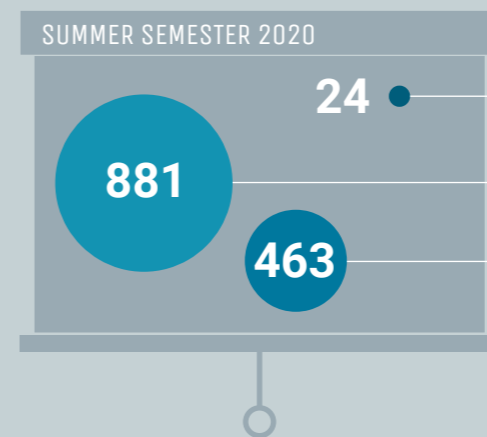
Aktion Austria-Czech Republic	65
Aktion Austria-Slovakia	11
Aktion Austria-Hungary	4
APPEAR	39
CEEPUS	381
Ernst Mach Scholarships	283
Franz Werfel Scholarship	15
HERAS Scholarships	11
Indonesia Postgraduate Scholarship Programme	27
Cooperation TU Vienna-TU L'viv	4
Cultural Agreement with Japan (Monbukagakusho)	14
OeAD Special Scholarships	11
Oman Scholarship Programme	102
OSS-II/HEC Overseas Scholarships	20
Richard Plaschka Scholarship	16
Scholarships from ASEAN-Uninet funds	36
Scholarships of the Scholarship Foundation of the Republic of Austria	30
Scholarships L'viv	1
Talent Austria	1
University of Klagenfurt Technology Grants	13
Vietnam-Austria Scholarship Programme	3

1,087 incoming scholarships

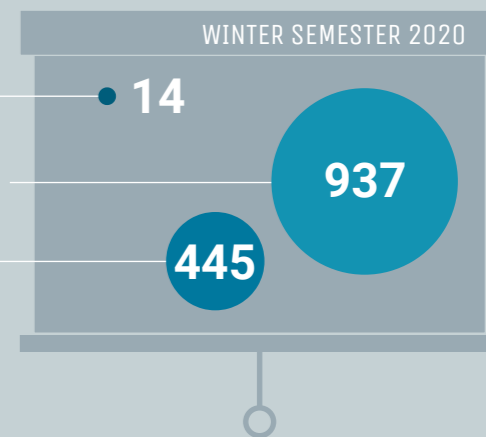


University Preparation Programmes

1,368 students in the summer semester – plus 1,085 students via the cooperation partners in Vienna



1,396 students in the winter semester – plus 780 students via the cooperation partners in Vienna



The University Preparation Programmes in Graz, Leoben and Vienna prepare international students who have been admitted to study by an Austrian university for supplementary examinations.

Being a University of Klagenfurt Technology Grant holder was a great privilege as it opened a lot of doors for my future success. OeAD service and staff was very helpful with all the paperwork needed for my stay in Austria. The advisor at AAU assigned to me was Julius Koepke who helped me choose the right courses for my specialisation in Data Science and Engineering. He is now a mentor for my Master thesis "Imple-

menting Privacy requirements of Business Processes on Hyperledger Fabric". University of Klagenfurt International Relations Office organised the event where Technology Grant holders had an opportunity to meet the local companies. At such an event I met my present employer, Florian Thurner, in whose company, GmbH Network Dimension Projects, I now work as a software developer.

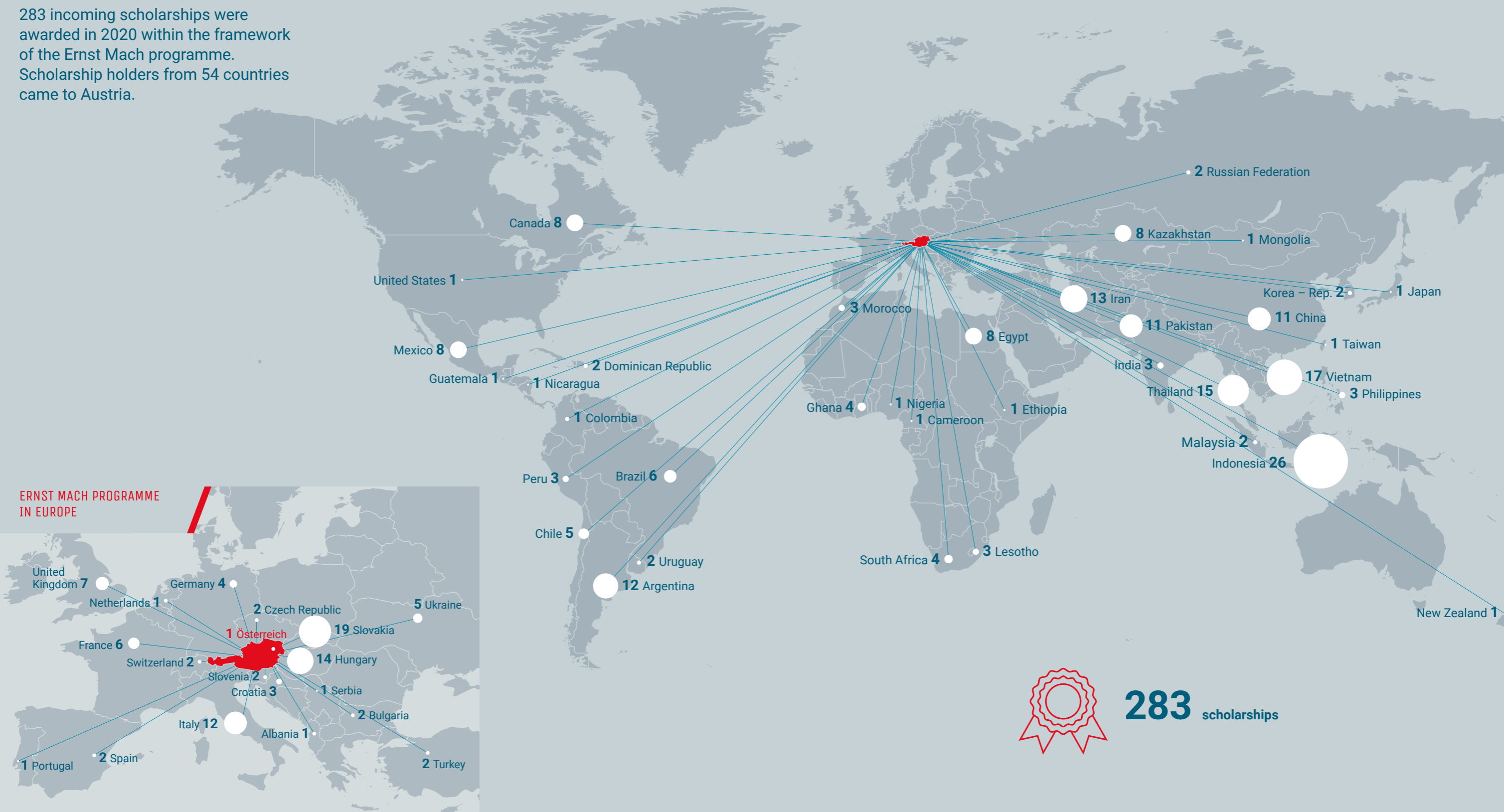


Nadja Dardagan
former incoming student

Ernst Mach Programme

for students and university lecturers of all disciplines who would like to complete a study or research period in Austria.

283 incoming scholarships were awarded in 2020 within the framework of the Ernst Mach programme. Scholarship holders from 54 countries came to Austria.



 **283** scholarships



Erasmus+ Education in Austria

Projects, mobilities, financial flows
(total 2020)



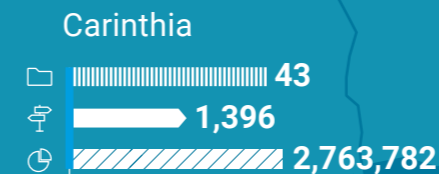
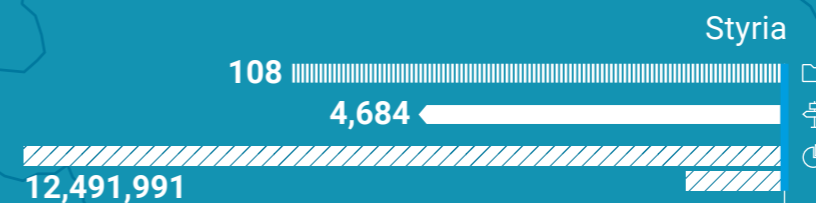
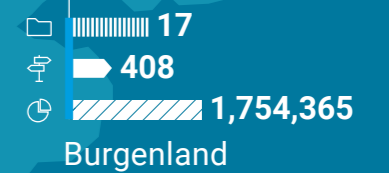
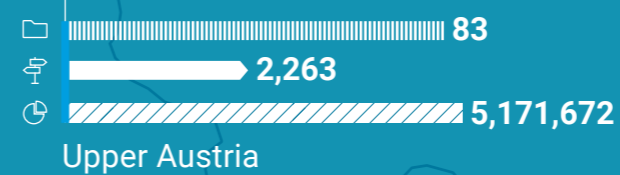
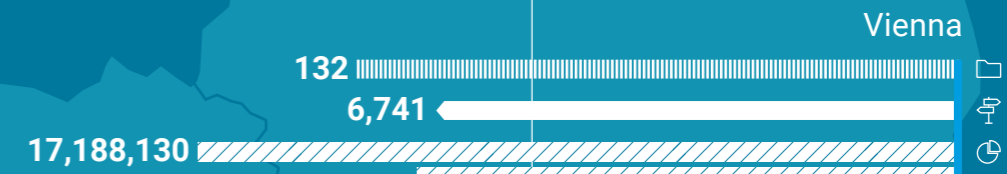
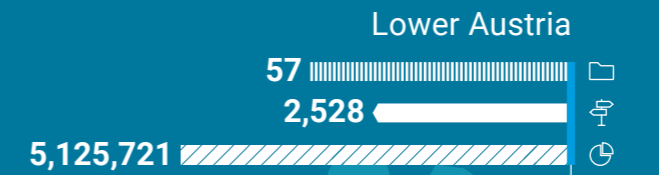
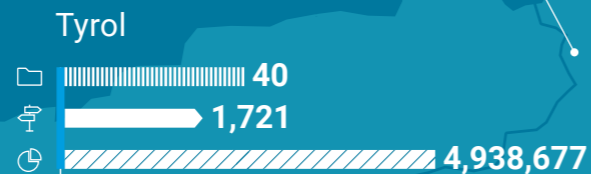
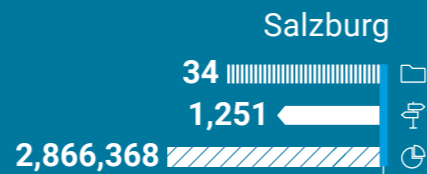
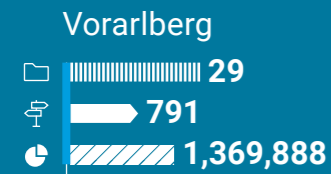
543
approved projects



21,783
approved outgoing-mobilities



53,670,593
financial flows



Max Schachner
IMC FH Krams, deputy head
of International Relations and
Erasmus+ ambassador 2020

The past year was an enormous challenge. Flexible, tireless personal commitment and quality-oriented cooperation led the OeAD and IMC FH Krams to a wonderful joint success in enabling cosmopolitan education and internationalisation even in challenging times.

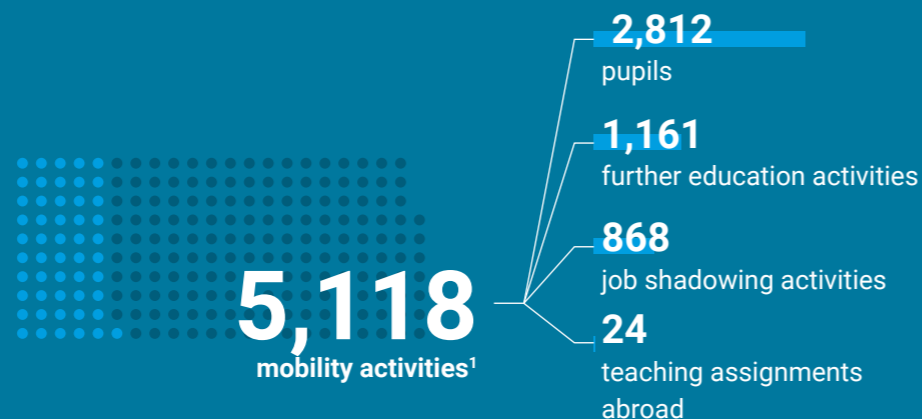
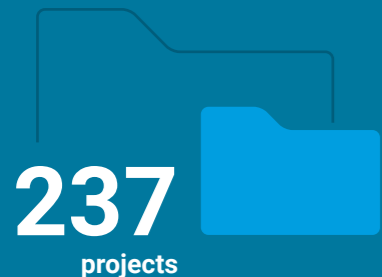
Since 2021 the OeAD has also been responsible for the implementation of the Erasmus+ youth activities and the European Solidarity Corps (ESC).

Erasmus+ Total figures

of the four education areas

School education

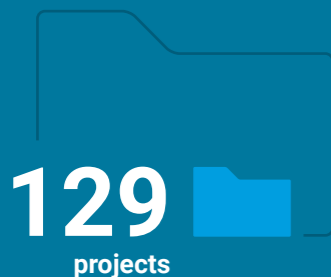
237 Erasmus+ school projects were carried out in 2020. 5,118 pupils and teachers went abroad.



¹ additionally includes KA1 accompanying persons and KA2 staff

Vocational education and training

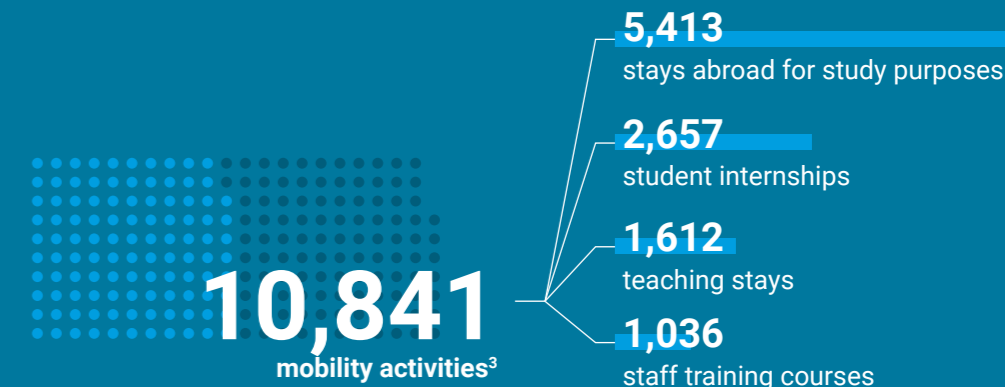
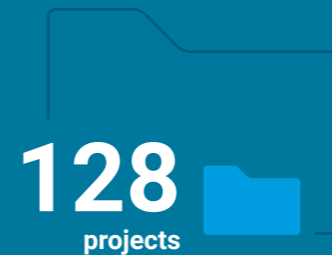
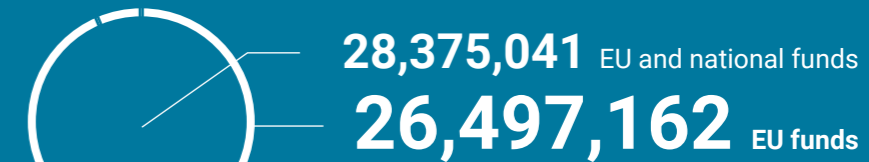
5,365 apprentices, pupils and trainers worked and learned abroad with Erasmus+ in 2020. 129 Erasmus+ projects were carried out in vocational education and training in 2020.



² additionally includes KA1 Preparatory Visits and Accompanying Persons as well as KA2 Mobilities Learner & Staff

Higher education

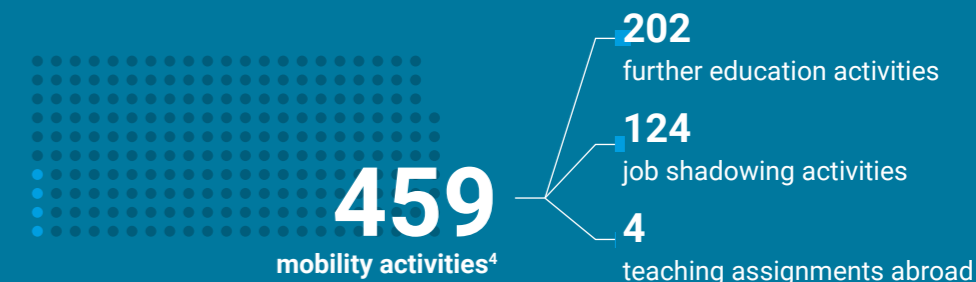
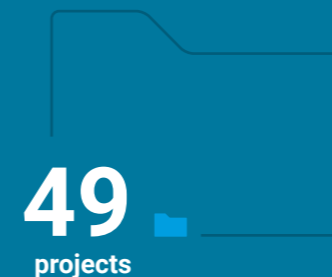
In higher education 128 Erasmus+ projects were carried out in 2020 and 10,841 students, lecturers and other higher education staff travelled abroad within this programme.



³ additionally includes KA2 mobilities Learner & Staff

Adult education

In adult education 49 Erasmus+ projects and 459 stays abroad were funded in 2020.



⁴ additionally includes KA2 mobilities Learner & Staff

Approved stays abroad (mobility) can also be carried out at a later date.

Erasmus+ Top 5

2,297
United Kingdom

1,655
Spain

2,907
Germany

TOP 5 target countries

1,394
Ireland

1,207
Italy

Hello!

1,494
English

Hallo!

621
German

Bonjour!

273
French

¡Hola!

217
Spanish

Ciao!

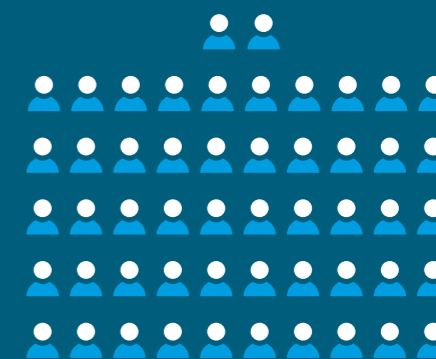
146
Italian

TOP 5 most widely spoken languages



1,407
host institutions abroad

🏠 = 100



5,241
incomings

👤 = 100

GOALS

STRENGTHENING EUROPE

USING EDUCATION AS A DRIVER FOR THE FUTURE

PROVIDING IMPULSES FOR THE AUSTRIAN EDUCATIONAL POLICY

SUPPORTING EU INSTRUMENTS TO PROMOTE TRANSPARENCY AND RECOGNITION OF SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

PROMOTING MOBILITY

Let's talk Erasmus+

ERASMUS+ SCHOOL EDUCATION



It was a great experience for me to get to know everyday life at our partner school in Italy, really cool!

Simon Falkner, pupil of the secondary school (Mittelschule) Haiming/Tyrol



I really enjoyed the project weeks, both the guest visit and the online week! We were able to make friends and are still in touch!

Erik Toth, pupil of the secondary school (Mittelschule) Haiming/Tyrol



I learned a lot about different countries and cultures, live and not just from books or films!

David Langoth, pupil of the secondary school (Mittelschule) Haiming/Tyrol



Experiencing the pupils in exchange with the partner pupils and thus enabling them to experience Europe first hand – this is what makes every effort in the organisation of Erasmus+ projects worthwhile!

Cornelia Tschuggnall, coordinator at the secondary school (Mittelschule) Haiming/Tyrol and Erasmus+ ambassador 2019

ERASMUS+ VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

I would recommend everyone who gets the opportunity to do an internship or semester abroad to take the chance and do it. I would definitely do it again! I am now 18 years old and live in the Mühlviertel region.

Romana Zeitlhofer, HLBLA St. Florian near Linz/Upper Austria



ERASMUS+ ADULT EDUCATION

Education thrives on exchange and communication with others. This is why stays abroad are so important for further education. Other world views and cultural horizons of meaning are put into perspective, skills are developed and one's own horizons are broadened. Exchange and networking with others are an essential criterion for personal and professional success.

Gaby Filzmoser, ARGE Bildungshäuser Österreich and Erasmus+ ambassador 2020



ERASMUS+ HIGHER EDUCATION

I made many friends around the world and even learned the Swedish language very well. My favourite was a trip to Lapland, where we saw the northern lights at minus 27 degrees C, went on a husky sleigh ride and got to feed reindeer. I would recommend everyone who has the chance to go abroad for a longer period of time to go for it.

Luna Bas, FH Wien University of Applied Sciences





Multilingualism as a key skill in the globalised world

- + TEACHING GERMAN AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE ABROAD
- + CONVEYING A CONTEMPORARY IMAGE OF AUSTRIA
- + PROMOTING THE ACQUISITION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE SKILLS AT AUSTRIAN SCHOOLS



Verena Walzl
Lecturer at the University of Prishtina, Kosovo

I find it exciting to have the possibility to teach abroad, which gives me a lot of pleasure. Kosovo is a very young country with an average age of 28, which is especially noticeable in the capital and leads to a high-energy vibe in the city. And I am also happy that such an intensive experience allows me to bring my acquired knowledge back home with me.

For example, many people in Austria have completely different ideas about Kosovo, which usually do not correspond to reality, while people in Kosovo have a much more accurate picture because of their many relatives in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The role of an educator works both ways, which makes the job even more special.

OeAD lectureship programme

In 2020 123 people gained teaching experience as Austrian lecturers at 101 host universities in 31 countries, teaching German

as a foreign language as well as Austrian literature and regional studies.

Language assistance programme

Promoting language teaching at schools through lessons with native speakers: 347 language assistants gained experience in teaching German as a foreign language at

schools in 10 countries in 2020 and took advantage of the opportunity to get to know a different education system and to enhance their intercultural skills.

In 2020 761 incoming students from twelve countries supported foreign language teaching at around 400 Austrian schools as "Native Speakers".



Languages connect people and promote understanding of other cultures and values.



Eden Golob
Foreign language assistant in Birmingham, UK, school year 2019/2020

I was able to gain many new impressions this year and tried out many new methods. I was also able to get involved in the lessons and to teach myself. My expectations were clearly exceeded. It was the best decision of my life.

Promoting German as a foreign language – “Kultur und Sprache” programme

In 2020 the “Kultur und Sprache” (Culture and Language) programme supported German language teachers worldwide in developing pluricentric “German as a Foreign Language” lessons in 15 further education courses.

Conception of an Open Educational Resources (OER) platform for teaching materials for teaching German as a foreign language

worldwide: As of the autumn of 2021 an Open Educational Resources (OER) platform will offer digitally available materials free of charge that are innovative both in terms of methodology and content. The low-threshold teaching sequences for German teachers open up contemporary perspectives on Austria and put the goals of culturally reflexive learning and the DACH principle into practice.

OeAD Cooperation Offices abroad

The OeAD has a network of seven international cooperation offices in priority regions of the Austrian educational and scientific cooperation, namely in the EU's neighbouring countries to the east (Russia, Ukraine, Republic of Moldova), the Western Balkan countries (regional offices in Tirana and Sarajevo) and in China (Shanghai).

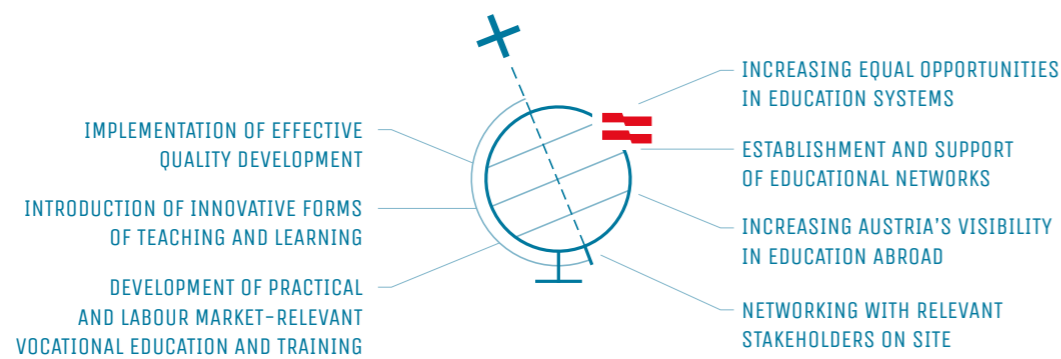


Focus on educational cooperation with Eastern and South Eastern Europe in the pre-university sector

Branch offices with a focus on educational cooperation
The projects are implemented through five OeAD cooperation offices in Chisinau, Odessa, St. Petersburg, Sarajevo (responsible for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia) and Tirana (responsible for Albania, Kosovo, North Macedonia), which are headed by Austrian educational coordinators.

Within the framework of 20 projects to support sustainable education reforms in our nine partner countries 270 events were held in 2020 to strengthen the innovation capacity of more than 500 educational institutions, such as schools, education and vocational education and training agencies, local education authorities, institutions for continuous professional development of

teachers, etc. in various areas of education reforms. The OeAD promotes innovative forms of learning from one another within and between education systems for targeted change management. National education systems differ from one another. However, in an increasingly globalised world they face similar challenges.



Focus on scientific cooperation in the university sector

The OeAD cooperation offices in L'viv and Shanghai focus on supporting mobility, networking and cooperation in higher education. In cooperation with the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs (BMEIA) the L'viv office also implements foreign culture projects. The aim is to promote

strategic networking in the respective partner countries in order to support strategic partnerships with Austria and Austrian institutions. To this end Austrian stakeholders in higher education in particular are made aware of the possibilities of cooperation with the offices in China and L'viv.



The Department of Vocational Education and Training of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research greatly appreciates the contribution of the OeAD, the Austrian Agency for Education and Internationalisation, to the development of vocational education and training in the Republic of Moldova. Thanks in particular to the project "I-VET – Inclusive Vocational

Education and Training in the Republic of Moldova" the quality of vocational education and training for students with SEN has been improved. We would like to intensify our cooperation with the OeAD in the future to support the integration of students with SEN into the labour market and to support the national centre for psycho-pedagogical assistance.

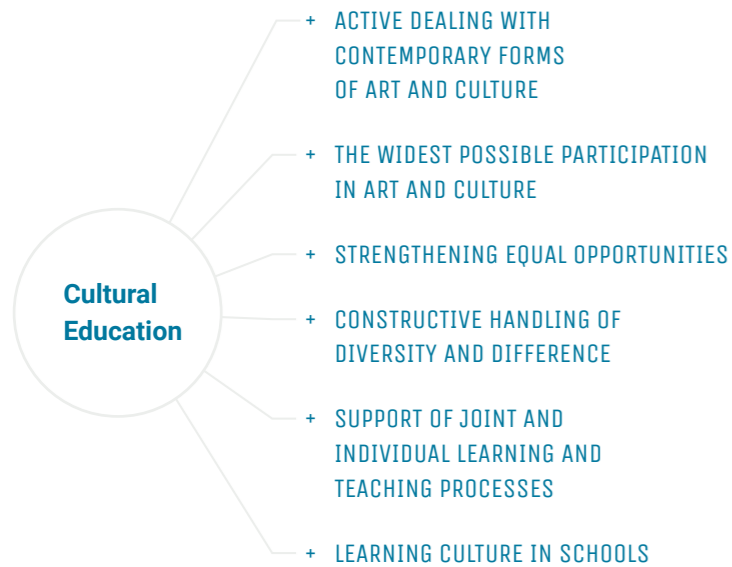


Silviu Gincu
Head of Department for Vocational Education and Training, Moldovan Ministry of Education, Culture and Research



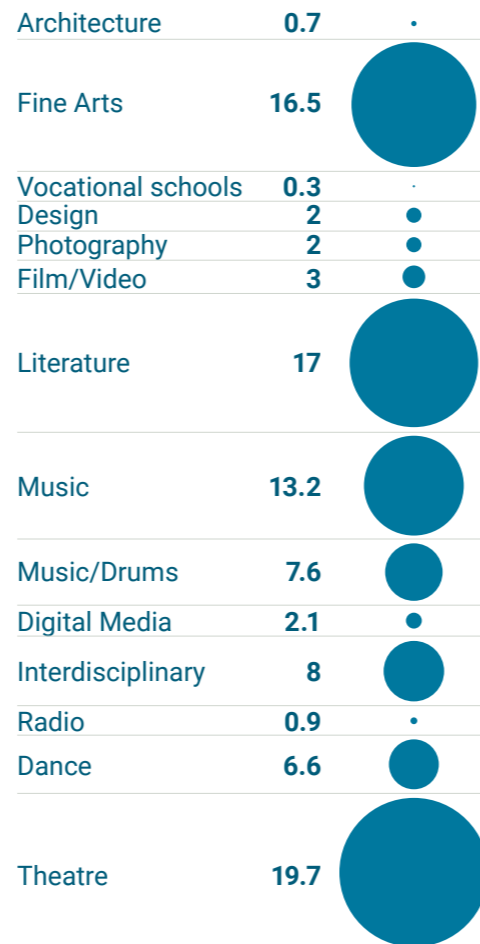
Cultural education with schools in Austria

The OeAD works at the interface between schools, art and culture. Participatory cultural education projects and activities with schools throughout Austria are conceived and supported in an advisory and organisational manner.



DIALOGUE EVENTS 2020 BY ART FORM

in per cent | without TKS (Tiroler Kulturservice) and VKS (Vorarlberger Kulturservice); as at: April 2021



CULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMES 2020

	PROJECTS	SCHOOLS	PUPILS	TEACHERS	CULTURAL PROFESSIONALS/EXPERTS	CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS
Culture Connected 2019/20	170	208	8,498	336	501	219
Dialogue events ¹⁺² 2020	1,282	813	48,432	1,051	556	-
History education through cultural education (VIEL(GE)SCHICHTIG) 2019/20	4	4	101	12	12	3
K3 programme 2020	38	23	964	13	59	11
projekteuropa 2019/20	92	79	3,131	78	40	31
Raum Gestalten 2019/20	7	8	340	12	11	3
School culture budget 2019/20 for federal schools and agricultural and forestry schools	581	294	23,972	499	542	65
TOTAL	2,174	1,429	85,438	2,001	1,721	332

¹ as on 13 April 2021: 843 dialogue events, for which 974 vouchers (start date between 1 January and 31 December 2020) were issued.
² including Tyrolean Cultural Service (Tiroler Kulturservice) and Vorarlberg Cultural Service (Vorarlberger Kulturservice)



Dagmar Höfferer-Brunthaler
Headmistress BG/BRG
Franklinstraße 21, 1210 Vienna

Cultural education is more important than ever, both analogue and digital. Pupils engage with art and culture and enter into dialogue with artists. The key to cultural education is personal encounter. Cultural educators make this possible.



It was really something new for all of us. You should always try something new in life.

Jahongir

Dancing is a great thing. You don't often see art videos like these.

Gabriel

It was a great experience to do something together again as a whole class. During Corona there was hardly any opportunity for this.

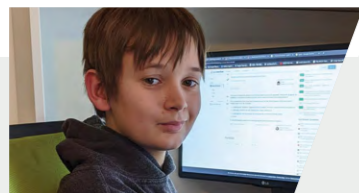
Teo



Jahongir, Gabriel, Teo
participants in the dance workshop with Sanja Frühwald

Public Science: Connecting science, schools and society

Under “Public Science” the OeAD bundles measures at the interface between science, schools and society. Pupils and other citizens are given a variety of opportunities to participate in science and to get to know higher education institutions and research institutions. The OeAD Centre for Citizen Science also supports researchers with its expertise in citizen science.



Matthias Pleschinger came to the University of Salzburg through “Go4IT”

I taught myself programming when I was at primary school and as soon as I could read the whole Internet was available to me. Then, in my second year at grammar school, at the age of 11, I heard about Go4IT through a contact at my school. This is a university programme that Wolfgang Pree from the University of Salzburg initiated. It enables pupils of academic secondary schools to attend a few university courses in addition to school, which can later be credited towards their studies. And a year later Go4IT was over and I continued my degree programme studies at the University of Salzburg.

The initiative “Pupils at universities”, coordinated by the OeAD, enables learners of all ages to attend lectures at Austrian universities and universities of applied sciences and to take exams while still at school. These are officially credited towards later university studies, thus shortening the study time.



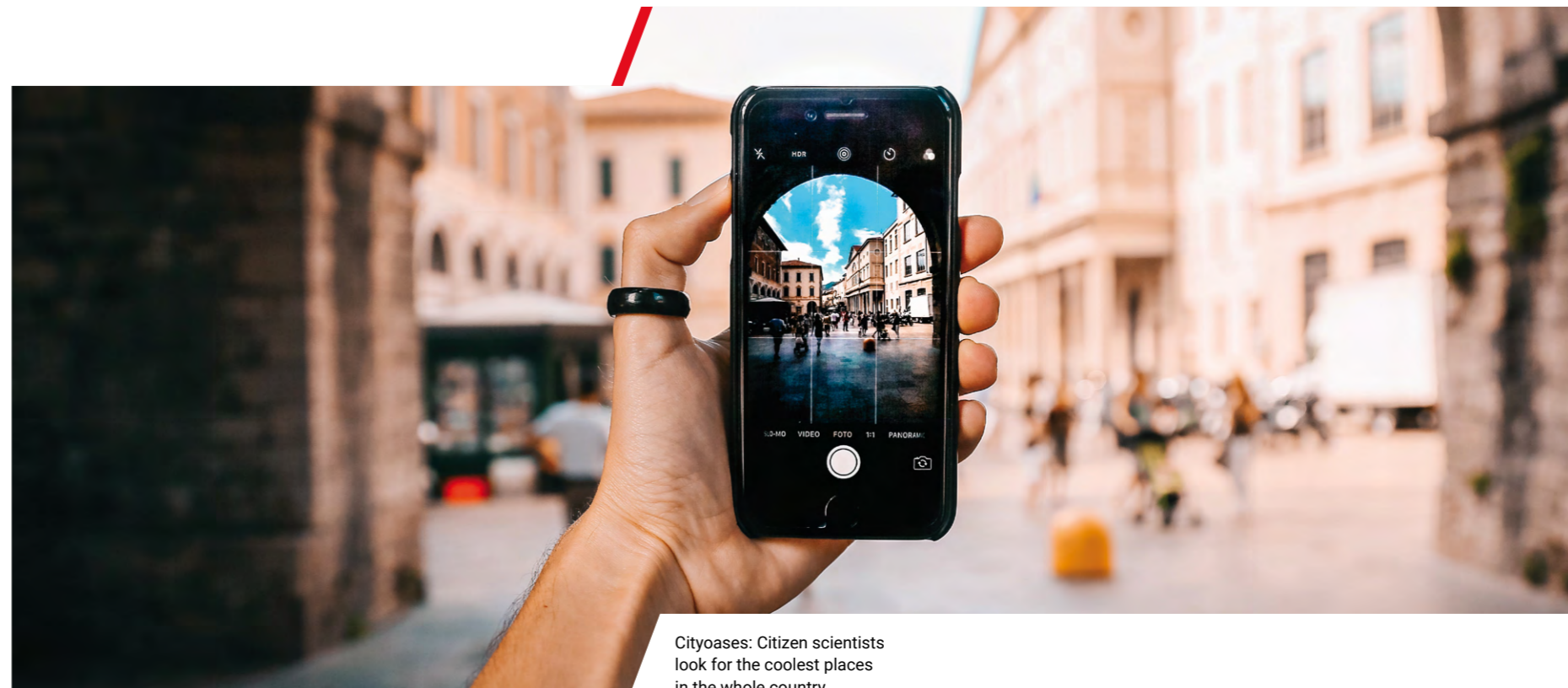
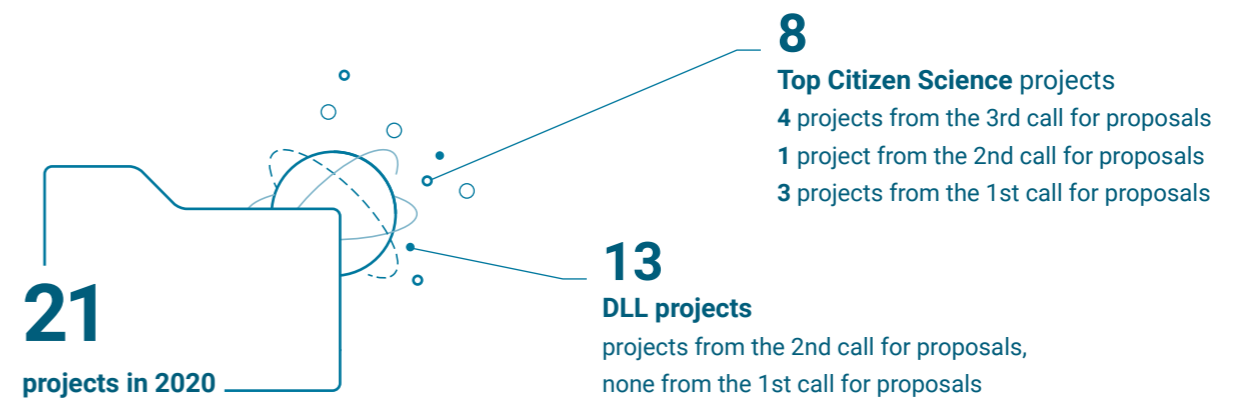
“Science meets school – school meets science” in a hybrid format in 2020.



Top Citizen Science’s “INTERACT”: researchers and pupils working together.



Sparkling Science project “The Year of the Greylag Geese”



Cityoases: Citizen scientists look for the coolest places in the whole country

Enhancing quality and transparency

The aim is to ensure and increase the transparency and quality of both educational offers and education providers. The OeAD supports educational institutions and those who request these services in the medium to long term.

ARQA-VET becomes RQE

With ARQA-VET, the Austrian Reference Point for Quality Assurance in Vocational Education and Training, the OeAD has played a major part in shaping the quality management of the 700 schools of vocational education and training. The area of responsibility has

been successively expanded and now covers all 5,700 Austrian schools – as of 1 January 2021 this has been reflected in a new name for the reference point: RQE – Reference Point for Quality Assurance in General and Vocational Education and Training.

NQF – what counts is the (learning) outcome: making training and qualifications comparable across Europe

As the NQF Coordination Point (NCP) the OeAD is the central administrative, coordination and information centre for the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) in Austria.

In Europe there are different, historically grown education systems and a multitude of qualifications. The National Qualifications Frameworks (NQF) in the respective EU member countries and 11 non-member countries and the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) can provide clarity and comparability in this respect.

In a European comparison the NQF can show Austrian peculiarities such as the HAK (commercial college) graduation certificate or the new engineering title. Now a look at the certificate suffices and with the help of the NQF or EQF level shown on it everyone can quickly get an idea. This is a great advantage that is used more and more often not only in Europe but also beyond. Whether it is Australia, or New Zealand – more than 150 national qualifications frameworks are currently developed worldwide, making it easier to compare qualifications – also outside Europe.

2020 – a milestone in youth work:
With the inclusion of three courses of the Austrian Alpine Club's Youth Section in the qualifications framework at the end of 2020 non-formal education in the youth sector was included in the NQF for the first time and thus can be compared with different national and international educational offerings. With the help of the NQF Austrian companies can also present the knowledge and skills of their employees better in international tenders and thus increase their competitiveness.

OeAD International Testing Services

OeAD International Testing Services conducts admission tests for university studies, career-related exams, GMAT and TOEFL.

Feedback from participants:

"Thank you very much for your extremely competent advice. The last few days have been extremely chaotic for me due to my master's application and it is very pleasing that this part of the process runs so conveniently and smoothly."

"We can't believe it, S. has been accepted to his dream university, the University of Chicago! I wanted to let you know this because you were our first point of contact when we started to make our dream come true. Thank you again for your guidance and help!"



In 2020

1,394

tests were carried out.



The National Qualifications Framework allows to compare qualifications at eight levels.



Ö-CERT – the quality framework for adult education in Austria

Ö-Cert – Quality Framework for Adult Education

Ö-Cert is an Austrian quality award for providers of adult education, which is awarded by the federal government and the federal provinces. The legal basis is an agreement pursuant to Art. 15a of the Federal Constitutional Act (BGBl 269/2012).

Ö-Cert is a role model throughout Europe and contributes to setting quality assurance measures and further advancing the professionalisation of adult education.

With the introduction of Ö-Cert in 2012 it has been possible to establish uniform quality standards for education providers throughout Austria and to ensure a high-quality provider structure.

Currently around 1,300 providers (including branches) in adult education have been certified by Ö-Cert.

Initiative for Adult Education

stands for the initiative of the federal provinces and the federal government for the promotion of basic educational qualifications, which has been in place since 2012. The legal basis is an agreement pursuant to Art. 15a of the Federal Constitutional Act (BGBl 160/2017).

Young people and adults living in Austria are enabled to acquire basic skills and educational qualifications free of charge within the framework of the Initiative for

Adult Education. Regardless of their origin, their first language and any school-leaving qualifications they may have, interested people can catch up on education to complete compulsory education or attend basic education courses at educational institutions accredited for this purpose.

In 2020 the federal government and the federal provinces provided funding to 133 adult education institutions.

Quality and transparency

The topics of quality and transparency are cross-cutting topics that are central themes in most of the OeAD's areas of responsibility. Since 2020 they have also been organisationally located at the OeAD. In the field of adult education the OeAD prepares the accreditation of providers and courses.

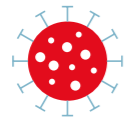
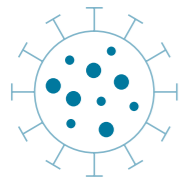
This covers a broad spectrum of the Austrian educational landscape, which receives support from the OeAD through quality development and quality assurance, through comparability and transparency and through the determination of services and standards.

This spectrum and at the same time the target group include primary education, general education, vocational education and training and adult education.



COVID-19-School Events Cancellation Hardship Fund

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic school events have been repeatedly affected by cancellations. To relieve schools and parents/legal guardians of these costs the Austrian Federal Government has set up the COVID-19 School Events Cancellation Hardship Fund.



The fund steps in quickly and unbureaucratically if a skiing trip or a language trip cannot be cancelled free of charge. Schools can obtain reimbursement of non-refunded expenses such as travel expenses, overnight costs, meals and admissions from the fund managed by the OeAD.

A total of 2,503 applications were approved and 7,829,652 euros were disbursed by the school events cancellation fund for the school year 2019/20. This concerned 3,617 school events and 113,029 pupils.

www.oead.at/schulstornofonds

On average, each pupil was reimbursed approximately 70 euros in cancellation costs.

The submission deadline for the new edition for the school year 2020/21 is 30 July 2021. The requirements for the second round have been adapted and this school year the payment covers between 70 and 80 percent of the recognised cancellation costs. The school events cancellation fund will be in force until 31 December 2021.





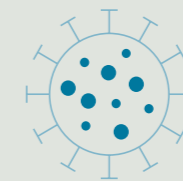
OeAD student housing

In 2020 OeAD student housing accommodated a total of 5,912 people; 2,454 of them in passive houses.

5,912
persons



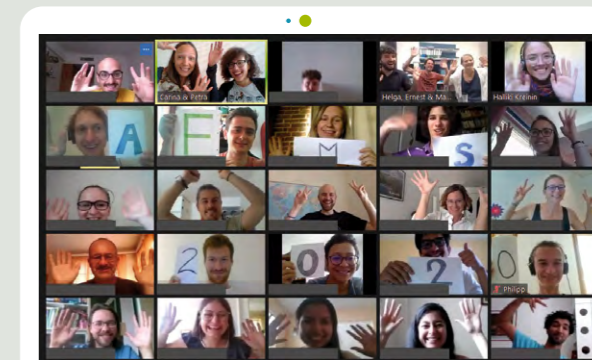
2,454
persons in passive houses



The global COVID-19 crisis has hit OeAD student housing hard in terms of accommodating international students.

The 5,912 people accommodated by OeAD student housing in 2020 were approximately half as many as in the year before (around 11,800).

Thanks to financial support from the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research OeAD student housing was able to cover the losses incurred and refund partial amounts to the affected students and waive outstanding costs.



Also possible online: the summer universities 2020

www.oeadstudenthousing.at



excellent place to live: the GreenHouse

AWARDS

European Property Award

The OeAD guest house mineroom was awarded the Best Social Housing Europe award.

Austrian Solar Prize

The OeAD guest house GreenHouse was awarded the Austrian Solar Prize for Solar Construction.









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