

Sustainable building in Austria (Austria)

The Austrian case study on sustainable building linked domains of sustainable housing, energy, mobility and ambient assisted living. Major actors were identified at the EU- and national level, cities, municipalities, architects, planners and developers. In a collaborative effort, they try to reduce CO2-emissions and minimise their dependence on international energy suppliers. Although the term system innovation is largely unknown to most stakeholders, various initiatives are congruent with the idea behind the concept. Key barriers to system change are legal challenges, supply side capacity problems, non-transparent information, social values and poor spatial planning. National innovation policy is providing a technology push with specifically targeted programs. There are, however, divergent rationales by different public institutions, which impede a coordinated effort. Measurements for system innovation could potentially target attitude changes. Indicators should reflect various rationalities, i.e. innovation, environmental and urban policy orientations.

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