

**INTERSESSIONAL PANEL OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION
ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)**

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Contribution by Austria

to the CSTD 2022-2023 priority theme on “Technology and innovation for cleaner
and more productive and competitive production”

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PRIORITY THEME 1: Technology and innovation for cleaner and more productive and competitive production

United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)

1. What are some specific examples (from the public and private sectors) of green technology and innovation for cleaner and more productive and competitive production in your country? Please include contact, website, link to reports and any other relevant information concerning these projects and initiatives.

The R&D Activities of Universities address the topic of green technology and innovation for cleaner and more productive and competitive production in your country.

Examples on ongoing projects:

TU Graz: **Research Center HyCentA Reserach GmbH** (COMET): The object of the company is research and development in the field of alternative energy sources, in particular on the basis of hydrogen and natural gas.

Montanuniversität Leoben: **HY-CARE Center**: Hydrogen and Carbon Research Center (Hy-Ca-Re): The objective is to bundle and expand innovation activities dedicated to the production of high-quality carbon, CO₂-neutral hydrogen, and other synthetic, renewable energy sources (especially natural gas and fuels).

Research focus:

TU Graz: FSP Mobiltiy and Production: Potential area of energy storage (focus on batteries), third-party funded projects e.g. for optimizing hydrogen refueling field of expertise mobility and production

TU Wien: FSP Sustainable Production and Technologies: This research field covers many different aspects, which fit together like puzzle pieces, with the aim of making our economy and industry more environmentally friendly as a whole. Research Field Technologies | TU Wien

Montanuniversität Leoben: FSP Sustainable Processing: The core competencies, which extend along the entire value cycle from raw material to finished product to recycling, enable these technological challenges to be addressed holistically. Sustainable Processing (unileoben.ac.at)

hydrogen cluster:

To strengthen hydrogen research in Austria and as a contribution to the national hydrogen strategy currently being developed, Graz University of Technology and the Montanuniversität Leoben are intensifying their activities in the field of hydrogen within the framework of a hydrogen cluster. The jointly acquired infrastructure is intended to strengthen the synergies.

2. What are the national strategies, policies, and laws concerning green technology and innovation for cleaner and more productive and competitive production in your country?

Austrian Hydrogen Strategy: The Austrian federal government has set itself the goal of achieving climate neutrality in Austria by 2040. An energy transition with a significant reduction in energy consumption and a sustainable supply based on renewable energy sources plays a central role across all sectors - from electricity and heat supply to industry and mobility. Climate-neutral hydrogen is an important enabler for this major challenge, which can ensure climate neutrality in sectors that are difficult to decarbonize and significantly support the path to a renewable energy system through various technologies and possible applications.

[BMK Wasserstoffstrategie DE UA final.pdf \(noc-science.at\)](#) (German version only)

3. What are the key industries that are pioneering green innovation in the country? List the key actors in the national ecosystem of innovation related to green innovation in your country (firms,

universities, financial institutions, regulators)? What are the key networks of the ecosystem in your country (including online networks, innovation hubs, forums, etc.)?

Technische Universität Wien: <https://www.tuwien.at/en/>

Technische Universität Graz: <https://www.tugraz.at/en/home/>

Montanuniversität Leoben: <https://www.unileoben.ac.at/en/>

Allianz nachhaltige Universitäten: <https://nachhaltigeuniversitaeten.at/>

4. What are the challenges that your government have faced or may face in promoting green technology and innovation in your country to contribute to national development priorities and accelerate the progress towards the SDGs?
5. What should governments, the private sector, organized civil society, and other stakeholders do so that developing countries can benefit from these technologies?
6. What are some examples of international cooperation mechanisms, projects, programmes or strategies, including triangular and South-South cooperation, in green technology and innovation that your country is part of?

The EURECA-PRO Alliance consists of the Montanuniversität Leoben (Austria), the Technischen Universität Bergakademie Freiberg (Germany), the Technical University of Crete (Greece), the University of León (Spain), the Silesian Technical University (Poland), the University of Petrosani (Romania), the Hochschule Mittweida University of Applied Sciences (Germany) and the Hasselt University (Belgium).

These eight partners have joined forces to provide students and staff with the opportunity to study, teach and research in the field of responsible consumption and production. The long-term goal is a joint virtual and integrated European campus by 2040.

EURECA-PRO has a two-fold societal and planetary mission. Through its novel approach, on the one hand, it holistically contributes to the highly topical issue of Sustainable Consumption and Production under the umbrella of Sustainable Development Goal 12, and on the other hand it effectively contributes to the development of the European Higher Education Area complementarily to Sustainable Development Goal 4.

<https://www.eurecapro.eu/>

7. What actions can the international community, including the CSTD, take to help your country take advantage of green technology and innovation for cleaner and more productive and competitive production?
8. Could you suggest some contact persons of the nodal agency responsible for projects/policies and international collaboration in this context as well as any experts (from academia, private sector, civil society or government) dealing with projects in this area? We might contact them directly for further input or invite some of them as speakers for the CSTD inter-sessional panel and annual session.

Please see question 1

9. Do you have any documentation, references, technological assessments, future studies or reports on the priority theme in your country or region?