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**TOP-MARD
Towards a Policy Model of Multifunctional Agriculture
and Rural Development**

Literature review Austria (study area Pinzgau – Pongau)

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Short review

In addition to the study area report and the literature review (long version), a summary of relevant literature for the situation in the Austrian study area is provided here. This reflects particularly the main concern of the national debate on multifunctionality, dealing with issues of development of farming systems in mountain areas and linkages to multifunctionality (issue 1), the threat of land abandonment in remote areas and effects on multifunctionality aspects (issue 2), a particular focus on landscape development (issue 3), the rising concern for evaluation of policies, including the agri-environmental scheme (issue 4), more general analyses on the assessment of non-commodities in the Austrian agriculture (issue 5), and the role of pluriactivity and the regional context with regard to multifunctional tasks of farm management systems (issue 6).

(1) Mountain agriculture and multifunctionality

The relationship of mountain farming, relevant policies and the provision of multifunctionality has been analysed in various national studies. A recent presentation of the evolution of mountain farming is available in Dax et al. (2004). It focuses on the uneven regional development within mountain areas, the objectives and outcomes of mountain farming policies. The situation of Austrian mountain areas has been also analysed as an input to the report by Crabtree et al. (2002) on non-market benefits associated with mountain regions. A series of assessment studies is listed there and the Austrian experiences are referred.

Crabtree, B. MacDonald, D. and Hanley, N. (2002) Non-market benefits associated with mountain regions. Report for Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Scottish Natural Heritage. CJC Consulting, Aberdeen.

Dax, T. and Hovorka, G. (2004) Integrated rural development in mountain areas, in Brouwer, F. (ed.) *Sustaining Agriculture and the Rural Environment. Governance, Policy and Multifunctionality*, Cheltenham.

(2) Threat of land abandonment

The development of specific policy measures in remote and less-favoured areas has been established due to the threat of land abandonment and socio-economic effects in those regions. In Austria this issue has been seen of high priority. It is related to environmental performance and the opportunities of the integration of environmental concerns into relevant mountain policies are addressed very early.

Dax, T. and Wiesinger, G. (1998), *Mountain Farming and the Environment: Towards Integration, Perspectives for mountain policies in Central and Eastern Alps*, report 44, Bundesanstalt für Bergbauernfragen, Wien.

Wiesinger, G. and Dax, T. (2004) Status of Marginalisation in Austria: Agriculture and Land Use. EUROLAN report 2004/1, Wien.

(3) *Landscape development*

An other characteristic of literature in Austria is the central role of landscape development. The evolution of the discussion and policy on cultural landscape development was analysed for OECD as the core perspective of Austrian policy integrating aspects on valuation of non-commodities of agriculture in mountain areas.

Hovorka, G. (1998) *Die Kulturlandschaft im Berggebiet in Österreich. OECD-Fallstudie*. Report 43, Bundesanstalt fuer Bergbauernfragen, Vienna.

OECD (1998) *Rural Amenities in Austria, A Case Study of Cultural Landscape*, Paris.

(4) *Policy assessment*

Due to the long history of relevant policies, there is a particular need for assessment. But major studies were only carried out on application of EU policies. The examples provided here include work on the comprehensive and intensively funded agri-environmental scheme, the CAP application and effects in mountain areas of the Alps and a specific evaluation study for the support measures in the study area.

Groier, M. (2004) *Sozioökonomische Effekte im Rahmen des Österreichischen Programms für die Entwicklung des Ländlichen Raums (Mid Term Evaluierung)*, F&F 27, Bundesanstalt für Bergbauernfragen, Wien.

Bundesanstalt für Bergbauernfragen and Bundesanstalt für Agrarwirtschaft (2003): *Evaluierung von Förderungsmaßnahmen der Landwirtschaft im Bundesland Salzburg*. Salzburg. (http://salzburg.gv.at/Pdf_evaluierung_foe-massn_anhang.pdf)

Tappeiner, U., Tappeiner, G., Hilbert, A. and Mattanovich, E. (eds.) (2003), *The EU Agricultural Policy and the Environment, Evaluation of the Alpine Region*, Europäische Akademie Bozen, Blackwell, Berlin and Wien.

(5) *Methodological studies on non-commodities*

With establishing national support measures for mountain farming which were based on the acknowledgement of multifunctional tasks of agriculture, research work should support this perspective. Theoretical considerations were intensified by a first quantification of the valuation of agricultural functions beyond food production in tourism areas. The review of relevant literature for OECD has both addressed positive and negative effects (see case study report). Pevetz' summarizing study collects work on the issue over the last two decades.

Dissemond, H. et al. (2003), *Quantitative Analyse der Multifunktionalität der Land- und Forstwirtschaft an ausgewählten Regionen Österreichs*, ÖVAF, Wien.

Pevetz, W. (1998) *Die Multifunktionalität der Österreichischen Land- und Forstwirtschaft*, report No. 82, Bundesanstalt für Agrarwirtschaft, Wien.

Pruckner, G. (1993), *Quantifizierung natürlicher Ressourcen. Eine Bewertung überbetrieblicher Leistungen der österreichischen Landwirtschaft*, Linz.

Sinabell, F. (2001), *Multifunctionality: Applying the OECD framework. A review of literature in Austria*, Wien.

(6) *Role of regional integration*

In the Austrian context pluriactivity and the inclusion of the regional context has been an issue since long. The high level of pluriactivity in the case study area is addressed in Dax et al. (1995) and various regional perspectives for the region are presented in Glanzer et al. (2005). Wiesinger et al. (2005) focus on the specific role of social capital in rural development and discuss the potential of fostering multifunctional action to cope with marginalisation threats. This regional analysis is an important source to rural development policy issues and diversification approaches which are largely applied in Austrian regions.

Glanzer, M., Freyer, B., Muhar, A., Schuppenlehner, T. and Vilsmaier, U. (eds) (2005) *Leben 2014. Perspektiven der Regionalentwicklung in der Nationalparkregion Hohe Tauern/Oberpinzgau. Dokumentation der Ergebnisse*. Neukirchen.

Dax, T., Loibl, E. and Oedl-Wieser, T. (1995) *Pluriactivity and Rural Development, Theoretical Framework*, report no.34, Bundesanstalt für Bergbauernfragen, Wien.

Wiesinger, G., Vihinen, H., Tapio-Bistrom, M., and; Fagarazzi, L. (2005) *The role of social capital in rural development - Conclusions from a European project on marginalisation and multifunctional land use*, paper submitted to the XXI ESRS Congress in Keszthely, Hungary 22-26 August 2005.