

# The Austrian Case 2014 – 2020

## Challenges – Targets - Priorities

Supporting investments in Austrian  
agriculture and rural areas

Seminar, 1 October 2015, Vienna

Austrian Chamber of Agriculture



**Current Situation**

**Austrian Agriculture / Forestry**

# Agriculture in Austria

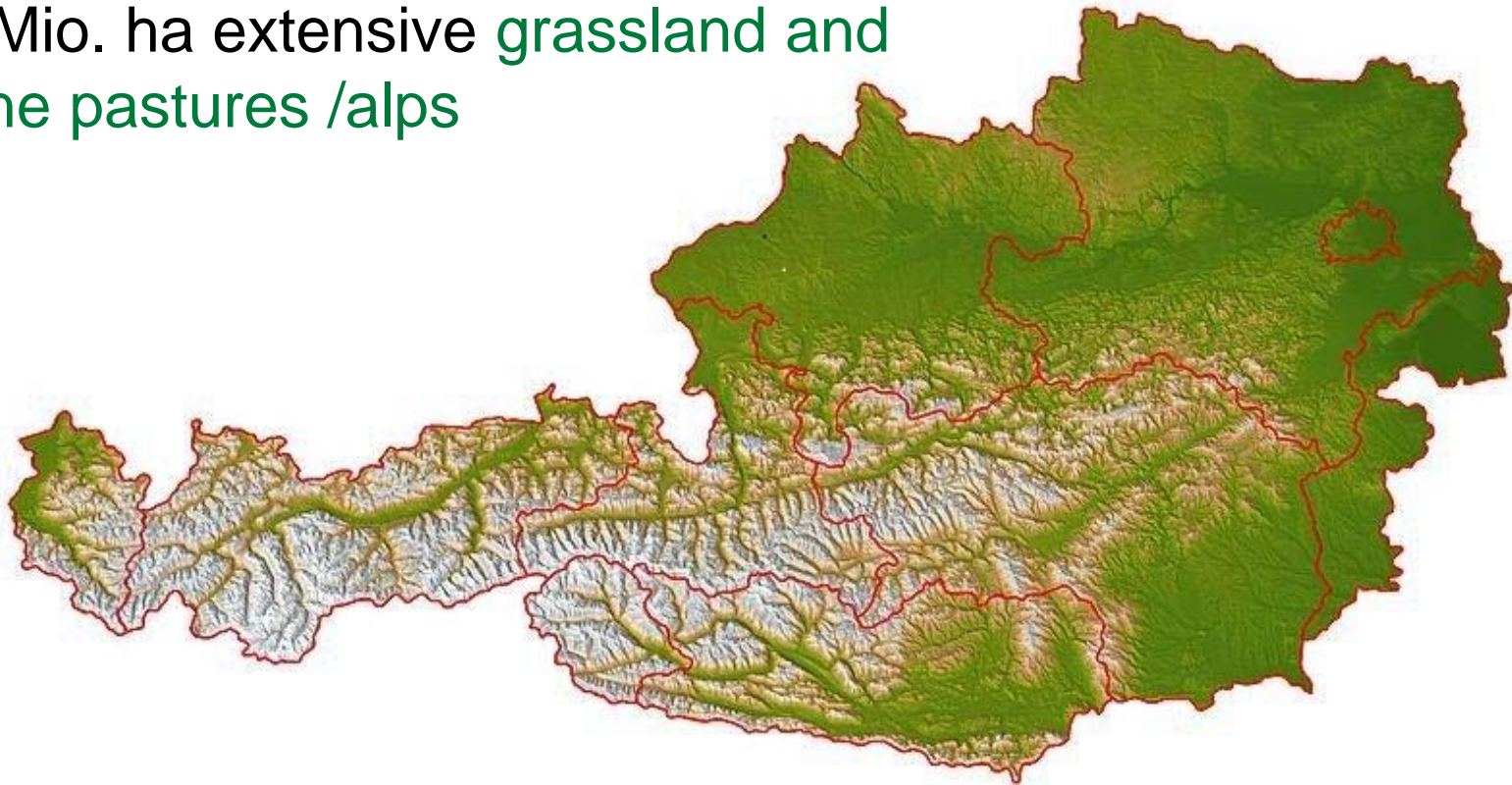
- Small structured, farm-based agriculture – linked to forestry
- From medium-size to competitive, larger farms
- High proportion of less-favoured areas (3/4 of the area)
- Production of high-quality food → regional food is important for consumers
- 2/3 of agricultural expenditure for rural development
- High proportion of organic farming (1/5 of the area under organic management )
- ~ 90 % of the area under agri-environment schemes (RDP)
- 60 % part-time farmers - Relatively low intensity of production
- Prime goal: Comprehensive Agriculture and Forestry

# Land use in Austria

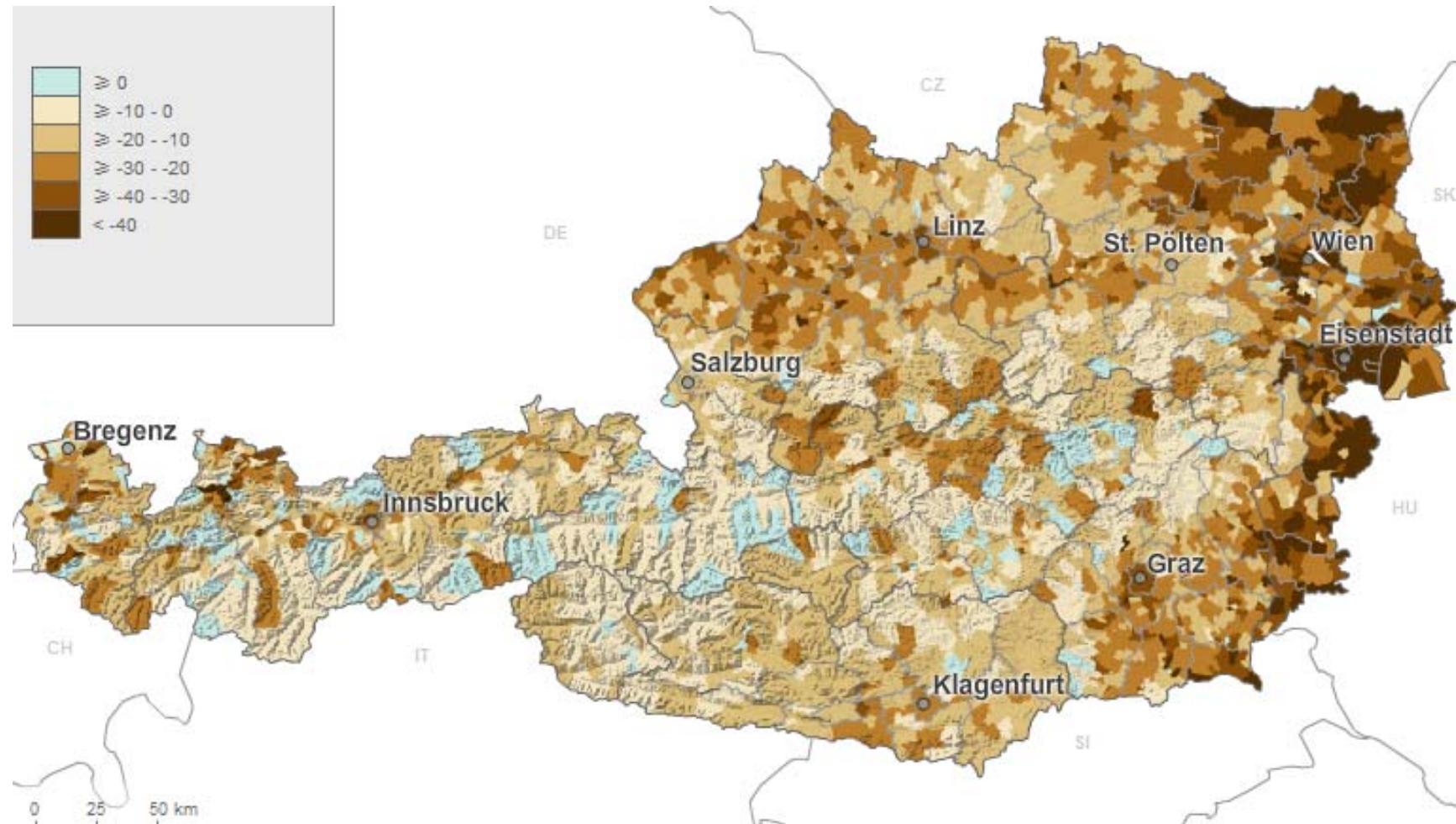
1,4 Mio. ha arable land

1,3 Mio. ha grassland

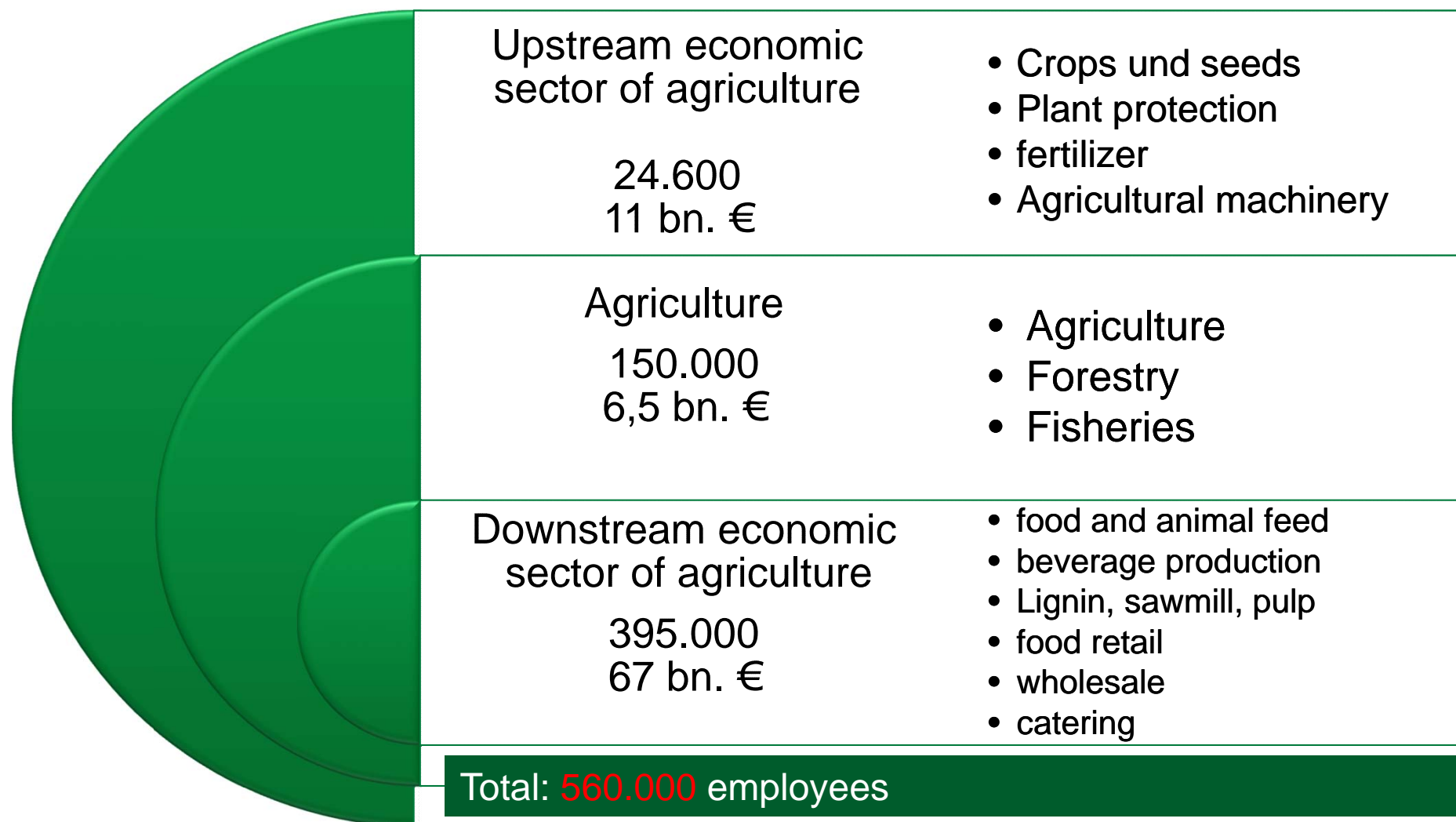
0,5 Mio. ha extensive grassland and  
alpine pastures /alps



# High decrease of agricultural holdings in the last 10 years



# Food supply chain: Number of employees / Revenues



# Challenges

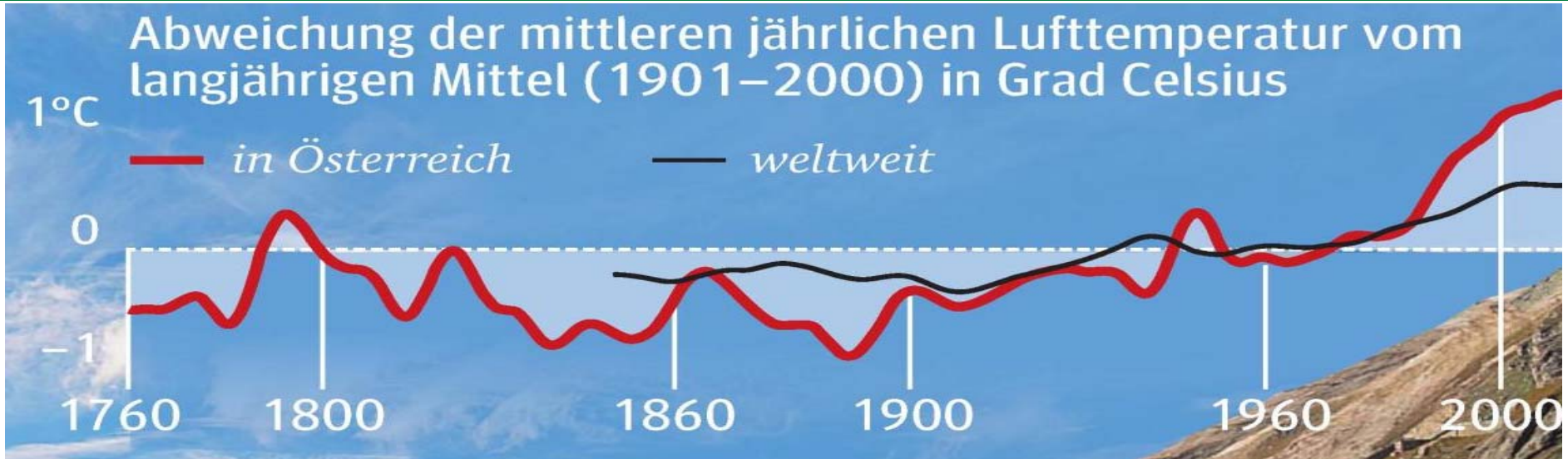
## Austrian Agriculture / Forestry

# Basic conditions and challenges

- Concentration in food trade (Austrian consumer - regional origin)
- Austria's agriculture exports – high value
- Dependency: export food – positive – but external influence (Russia)
- Climate change – very powerful effects in Austria
- Farms: high dependency on common agricultural policy payments (CAP)
- High demands of society – agriculture
- Positive income effects: energy and biomass



# Very strong impacts on climate change in Austria (Central Europe)

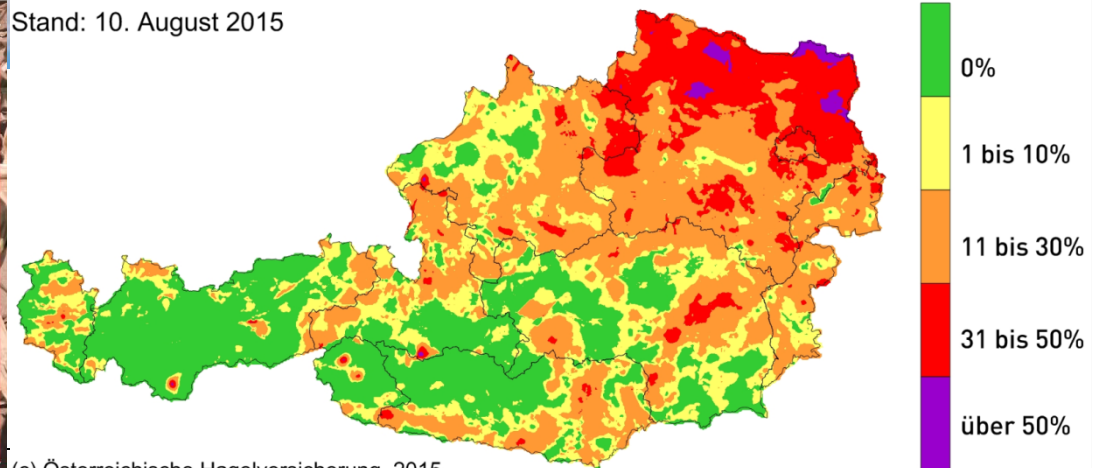


Neuer Rekord an **Wüstentagen** (= über 35°C)  
für Wien Hohe Warte (Stand 10.8.2015)



Niederschlagsdefizit seit 15.4. 2015

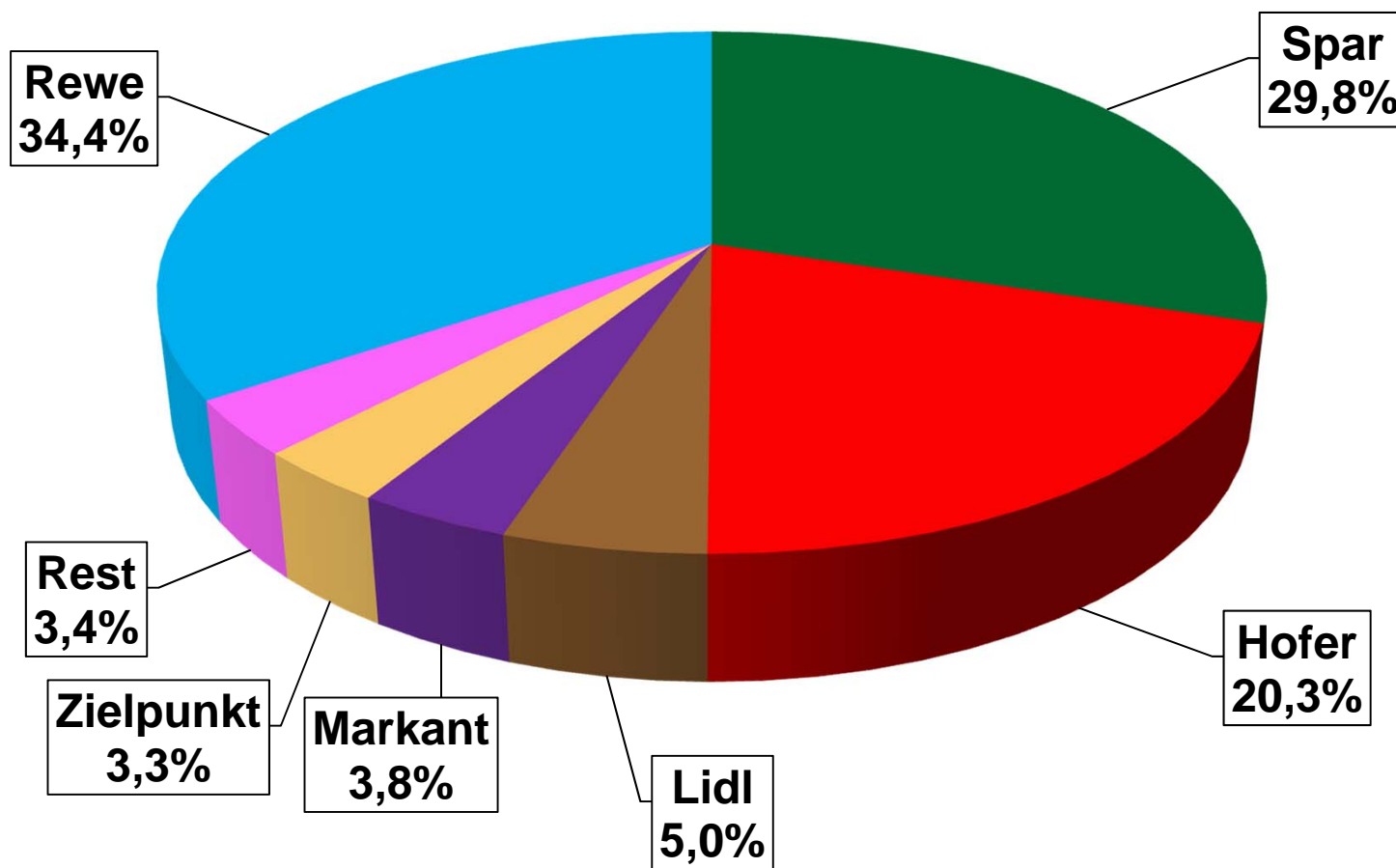
Stand: 10. August 2015



(c) Österreichische Hagelversicherung, 2015

# Structure of the Austrian food retailing sector

## High Concentration – “Three Big Player”



Source:  
Handelszeitung

# Agriculture under pressure of Civil Society

## Animal Welfare / Environmental Protection

### Low Input farming, etc.

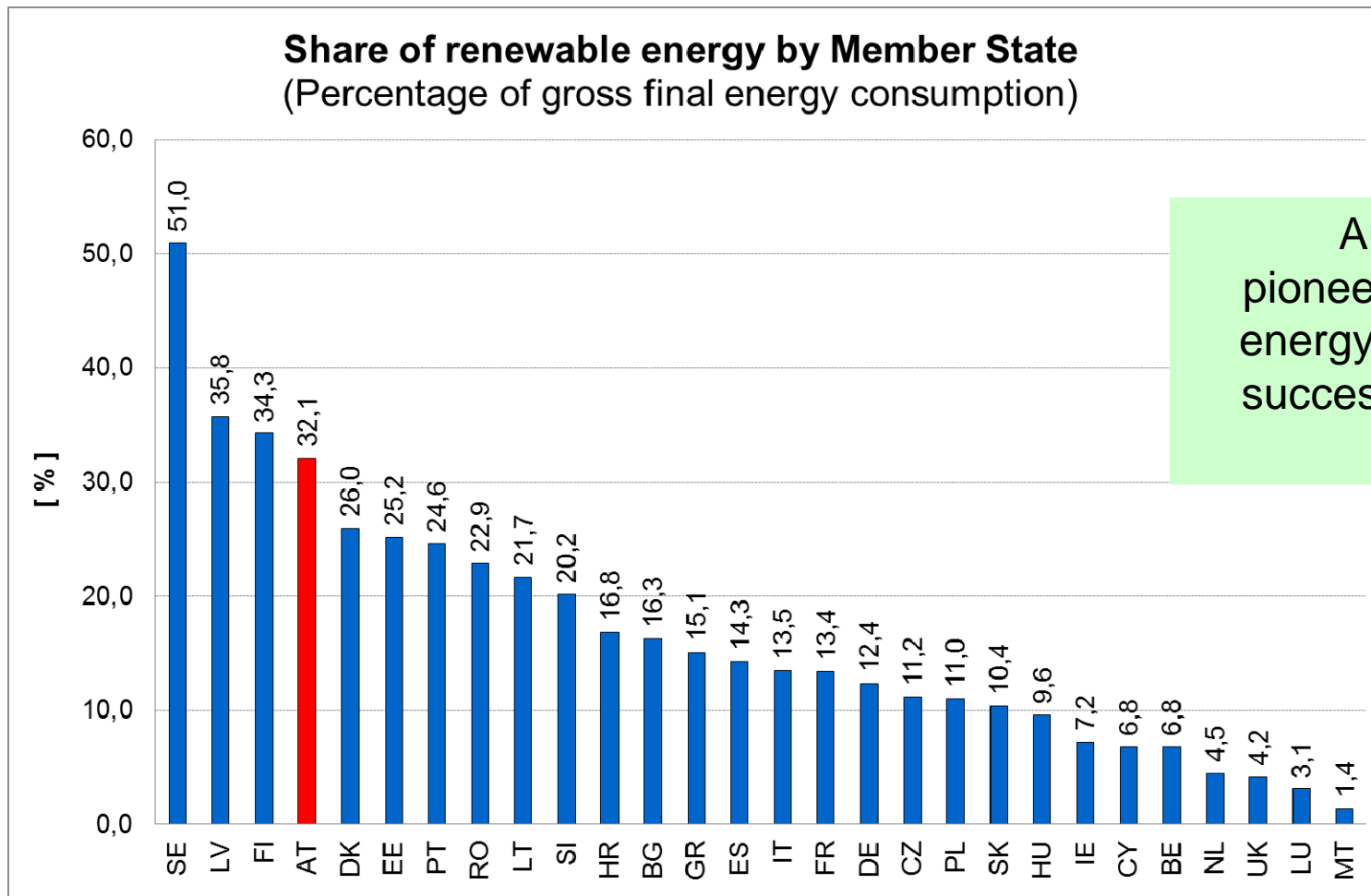


**„Showcase Sector“**

**Austrian**

**Biomass / Bioenergy**

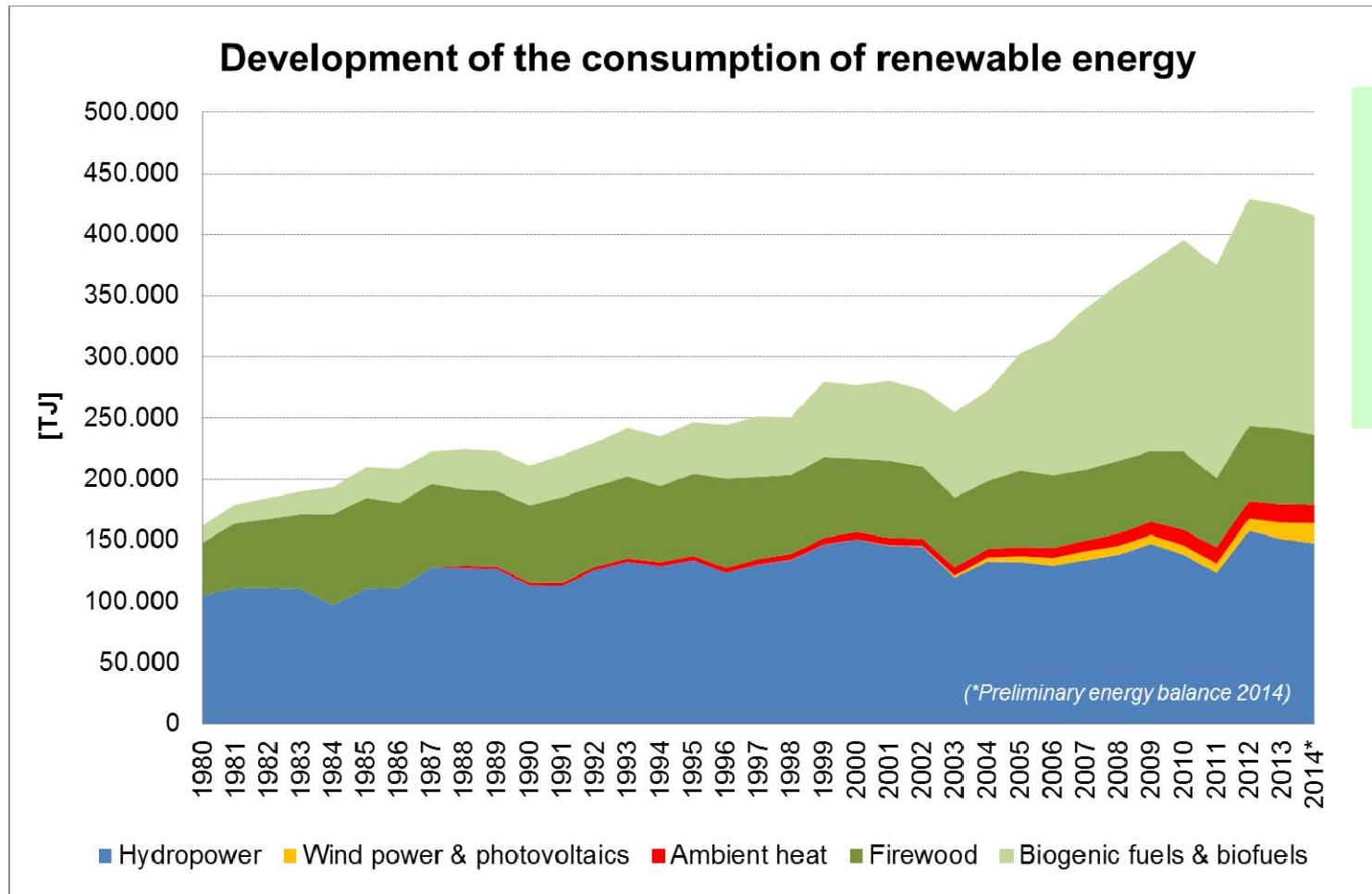
# Share of renewable energy in the EU28 (Percentage of gross final energy consumption)



Austria is a pioneer in renewable energy and created a successful bioenergy cluster

Source: Eurostat (data for 2012)

# Development of gross domestic energy consumption of renewable energy from 1980 to 2014 in TJ



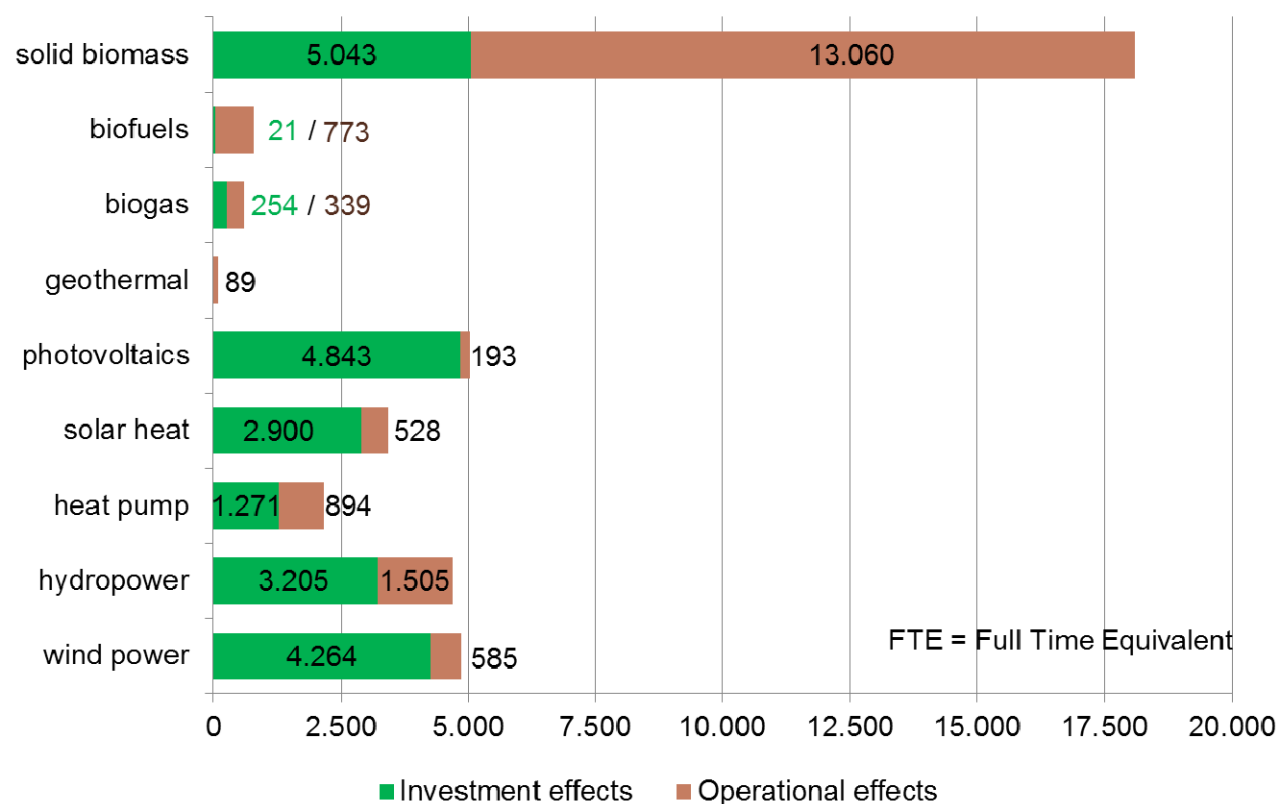
Positive long-term development of bioenergy since 1980 by creating a successful "Bioenergy Cluster"

Data source: Statistics Austria

# Employment generated by renewable energy in 2013

## Main contribution by bioenergy: approx. 20.000 FTE/a

Employment generated by renewable energy in 2013



Employment generated by renewables amounts to 40.000 in 2013

50% or 20.000 FTE by bioenergy technologies (solid, liquid & gaseous)

Source: BMLFUW, ÖBMV, 2014

**Research & Development**

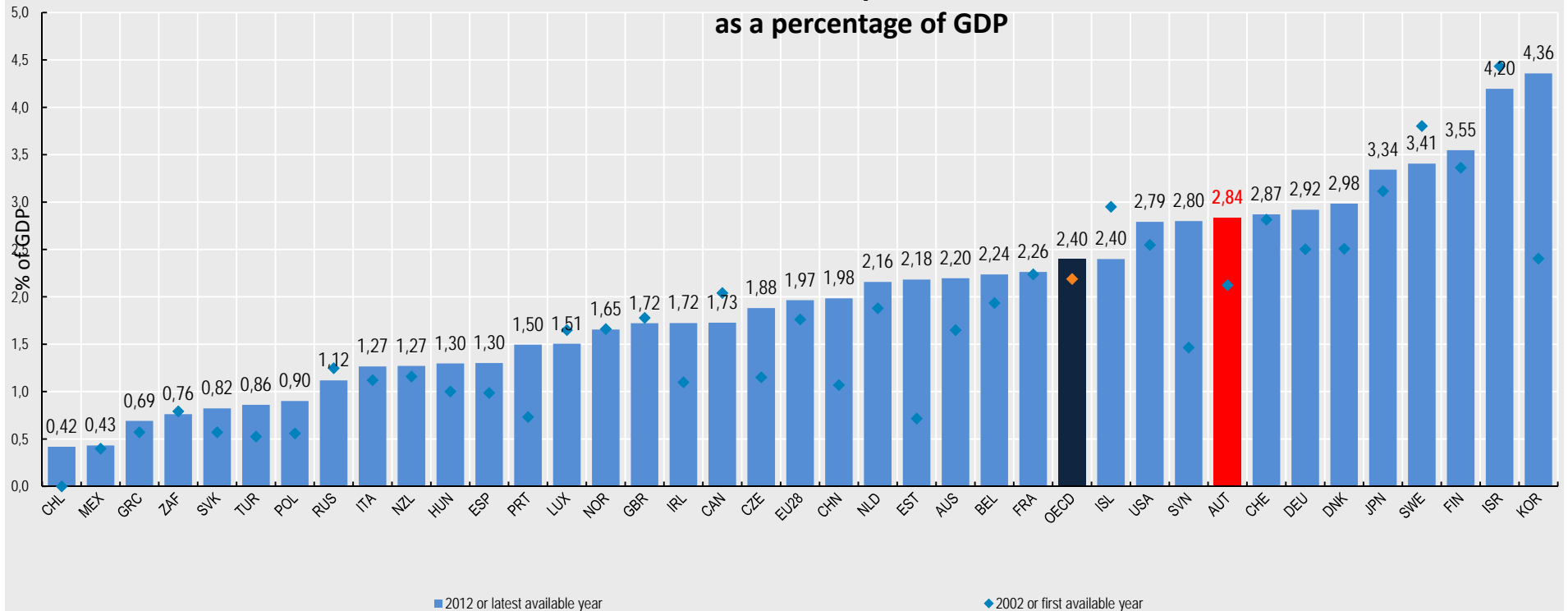
**Investments**

**Austrian Agriculture / Forestry**



# Austria: high expenditures on Research & Development

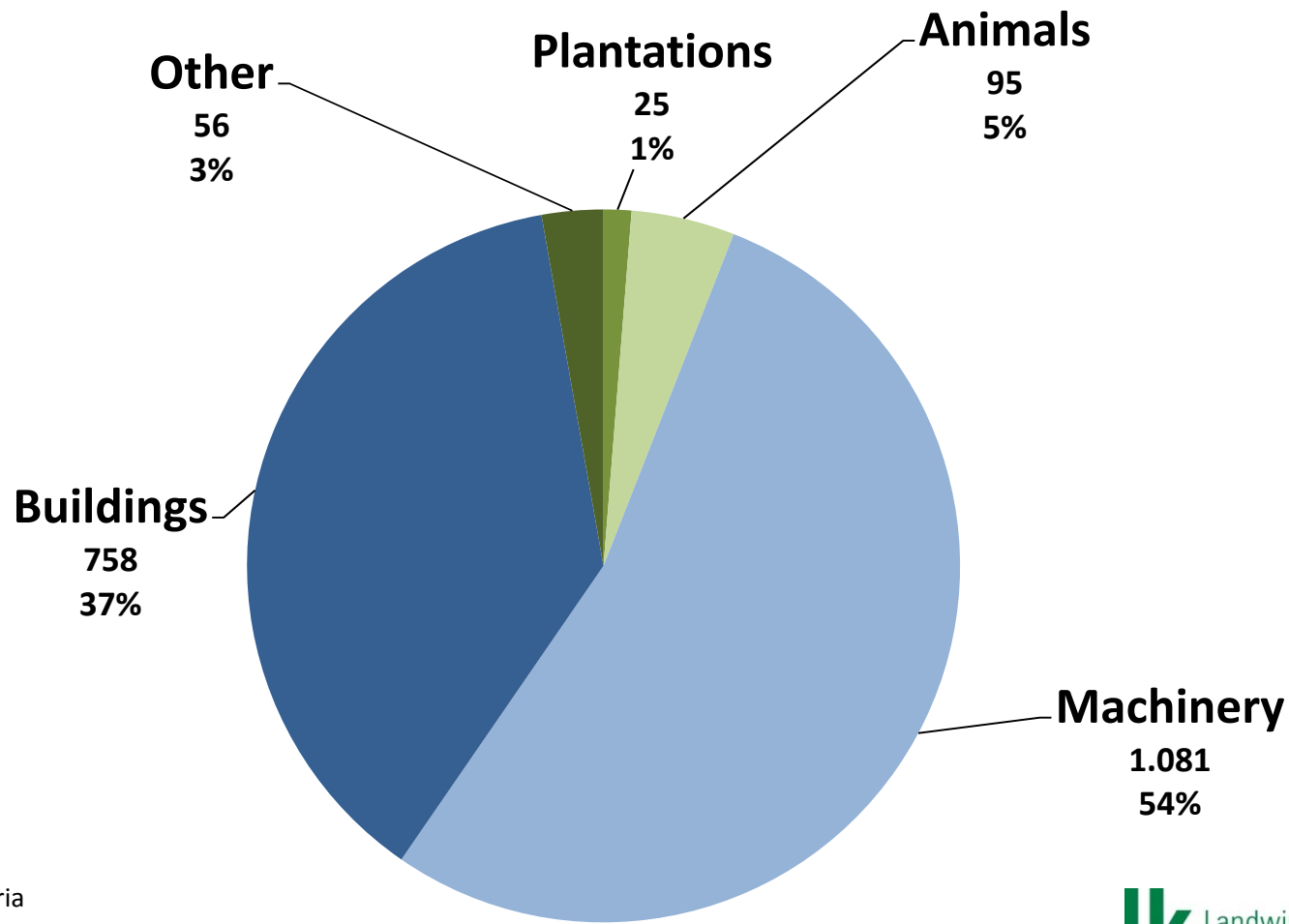
Gross domestic expenditure on R&D  
as a percentage of GDP



Quelle: OECD

# Share of Investments for Agriculture in Austria

## Elements of the capital account 2010-2014



source: Statistik Austria

# **Targets – Requirements – Priorities**

## **Austrian Agriculture / Forestry**

# Strengths of Austrian agriculture and forestry

- Good interconnectedness organisations
- High standards in education and training
- Diversity in production - diversity is our strength
- Efficient partnership in the value chain
- Strong development of renewable resources

## We are working on ...

- Transparency in agricultural markets and of costs → dialog with producers is necessary
- To maintain our position towards the final consumer – Which story do we impart with the product?
- Easy access to direct payments as an important income factor for the rural structure and production
- Equipment, regional planning, road construction, logistics – to save the production bases
- Push the work on risk- and income insurances

# Future of Austria's agriculture and forestry „Investment needs“

- Education: Improving communication and linguistic skills (training courses) of farmers & expanding professional media work
- Cooperation in marketing → strengthening position
- Pushing and initiating innovations → education and guidance offers
- Force practical research → Agricultural research & integrated sciences
- Advancement of renewable resources (income opportunity)
- Support the energy independence of the farms

**Best Practice**

**Austrian Agriculture / Forestry**

# Dairy farm „Madlstatthof“, Wildschönau





# Dairy farm „Madlstatthof“, Wildschönau



# Meat-processing company Schirnhofer, in Kaindorf – a transparent factory



# Direct marketing and Adaptation and Extension at Pöllauer „Farmer-store“ (Naturpark Pöllauertal)



# Agrotourism Farm Holidays on „Bike-Farm“ Moser



# Examples for Biomass Heatings Plants





**Quality is our force,  
diversity is our strength!**

**Thank you!**

