

# CLIP-IN

## Climate Policy Integration in Federal States



This project is funded by the Austrian Climate and Energy Fund and conducted within the framework of the ACRP programme.



## Objectives of CLIP-IN

CLIP-IN is a research project that aims **to facilitate the integration of climate change mitigation policies** horizontally across sectors and vertically across levels of government in federal European countries.

More specifically, the disciplinary political science research conducted in CLIP-IN aims to

- **Analyse how the Austrian, German and Swiss governments integrate (or “clip-in”) climate change mitigation policies horizontally across policy sectors, and vertically across levels of government**, by means of integrated strategies and framework laws;
- **Learn from good practices and challenges** that have been encountered in the implementation of these policy instruments, in particular with regards to policy coordination and integration;
- **Focus on the fields of building and small-space heating policy and two regional case studies per country**, by analysing a policy field at the very centre of climate change mitigation policy and its implementation in selected *Länder* and *Kantone*;
- **Transfer lessons from the implementation of ‘older’ integrated strategies** on climate change mitigation **to ‘newer’ climate change adaptation strategies**.

Besides pursuing these directly policy-relevant goals, CLIP-IN also aims to **advance the scholarly work on environmental federalism and environmental policy integration**, e.g. by highlighting the specifics of climate policy integration in federal settings.

## Innovations of CLIP-IN

### **Environmental policy integration:**

Status quo: Studies on environmental/climate policy integration often focus on horizontal aspects and ignore differences between federal and unitary countries.

Innovation: CLIP-IN explores both horizontal and vertical aspects of environmental/climate policy integration in selected federal states.

### **Climate strategies and laws:**

Status quo: Studies on integrated strategies are numerous but they rarely focus upon climate change mitigation policy. Even fewer studies consider climate change mitigation laws.

Innovation: By studying climate change mitigation integrated strategies and laws, CLIP-IN will be able to document this policy field and draw lessons on good practices and pitfalls.

### **Focused case studies:**

Status quo: Because strategies and laws usually address various issues, the impact of individual measures is often unknown. Regional-level developments are equally understudied.

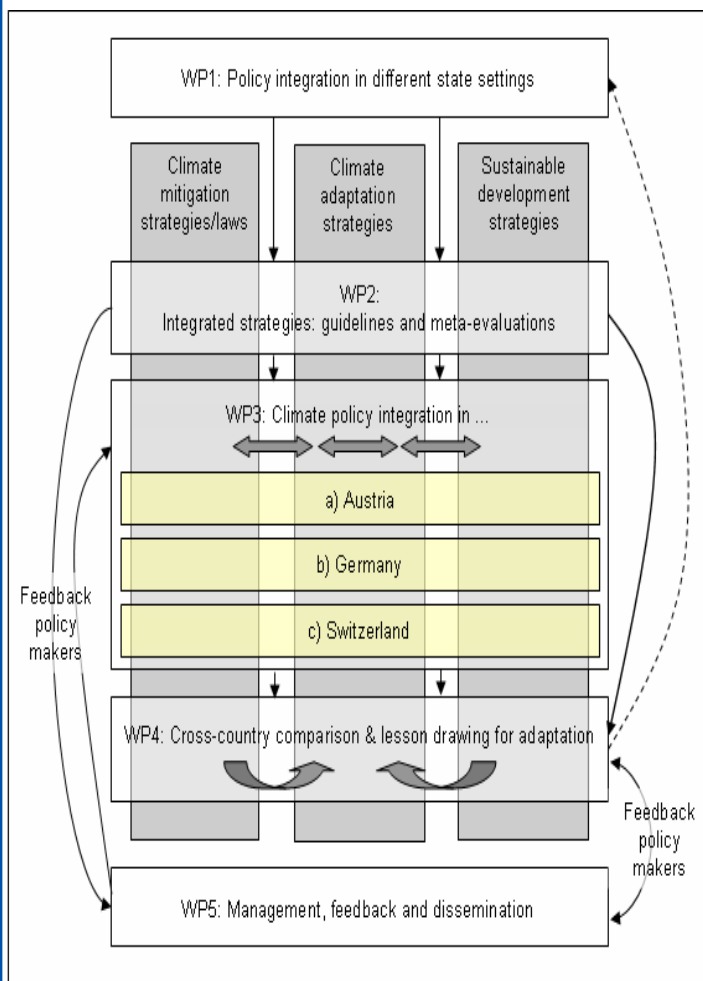
Innovation: In CLIP-IN, the study of climate-related building and small-space heating in two Austrian and German *Länder* and two *Kantone*, helps fill these gaps.

### **Diagonal policy integration:**

Status quo: Although scholars recognise that horizontal and vertical aspects of policy integration are strongly interconnected, the issue is underdeveloped in empirical research.

Innovation: CLIP-IN will substantiate the concept of ‘diagonal policy integration’ by analysing empirically if and how climate policies are integrated horizontally and vertically at the same time.

## Research steps and ...



## ... work package outlines

**WP1 will review the literature on federalism, multi-level governance and environmental policy integration** in different state settings. The theoretical/ conceptual part of the analytical framework developed here will guide all subsequent research steps.

**WP2 will review and analyse normative guidelines and existing evaluations of the three integrated strategies.** It assures that the empirical research in WP3 builds on existing knowledge on integrated strategies. WP2 concludes with a journal article.

**WP3 is the empirical core of CLIP-IN. Here, the three country studies will be conducted** in parallel based on an analytical framework to be discussed with Austrian policy makers. The empirical research will analyse the functioning of climate mitigation strategies and laws, in particular for the building and small-space heating and two *Länder* or *Kantone* per case study. Each country study will be documented in a policy memo and a journal article.

**By comparing the three country studies, WP4 will draw lessons on how to set up effective integrated strategies in federal settings** The comparison will be documented in a policy memo and two journal articles (discussed with policy makers in WP5).

## Project Team



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For more detailed information on the project and its deliverables visit the CLIP-IN website at

<http://www.wiso.boku.ac.at/clip-in.html>