

Recommendation regarding the Platform RTI Austria

The co-ordination of research, technology and innovation policy between the provinces and the federal government is essential for the efficient and effective functioning of the Austrian innovation system. The recommendation aims to secure an institutionalised form of regular interaction between representatives of the federal government and the agencies in the provinces. The new initiative will supplement and upgrade existing bilateral and multi-lateral patterns of co-operation. The systematic and open exchange of information made possible in this manner and the related accumulation of knowledge and experience should improve the basis for decision-making by all those involved with a view to structuring the national funding system more efficiently. Co-ordinating the use of funds between the federal government and the provinces will make it easier to focus on key areas and help avoid overlapping and duplication. A greater leverage effect can be achieved by addressing critical masses when implementing funding measures. At the international level the development of clear joint RTI concepts will strengthen Austria's competitiveness, also in respect to its position in the European Research Area.

The Austrian Council recommends

the establishment of the Platform RTI Austria as a permanent communication platform which meets regularly to support co-operation between the provinces and the federal government in the area of technology policy. This platform should comprise representatives of the RTI funding agencies from each of the provinces as well as one representative from each of the relevant federal agencies who are to be nominated for an indefinite period by the responsible political decision-makers.