LEARNING REGIONS are instruments to enhance lifelong learning and to establish knowledge management in rural areas: central stakeholders and institutions of a region form a **network** that focuses on learning, then draw up a regional **strategy** and cooperate to implement it in individual **projects**. In the network, the demands, potential and synergy of the corresponding region are reflected.

LEARNING REGIONS provide learning opportunities across geographical distances, and they are oriented towards the specific demand for education and training of the local population. The region’s participation in E&T is enhanced by means of providing adequate E&T programmes, transparency, flexibility and good access to the programmes, as well as individual advisory services. In a LEARNING REGION both the population and the institutions in the network as well as the entire region will profit from learning.

The **goals** of the LEARNING REGIONS are:
- to establish learning as a strategic regional focus;
- to develop and implement attractive education and training projects;
- to raise public awareness of learning;
- ... and thus to open up new prospects for the region.

### REGIONS

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<tr>
<th>Tyrol</th>
<th>Carinthia</th>
<th>Salzburg</th>
<th>Upper Austria</th>
<th>Lower Austria</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 East Tyrol</td>
<td>2 Hermagor</td>
<td>3 Upper Pinzgau</td>
<td>6 Pramtal</td>
<td>20 Waldviertler Grenzland</td>
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<td>5 Salzburger Lake District</td>
<td>8 Attersee-Attergau (REGATTA)</td>
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<td>9 Traunstein Region</td>
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<td>10 Wels Land (LEWEL)</td>
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- **Tyrol**
- **Carinthia**
- **Salzburg**
- **Upper Austria**
- **Styria**
- **Lower Austria**

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<td>11 Eferding</td>
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<td>21 Southern Waldviertel- Nibelungengau</td>
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<td>12 Urnfahr West (uwe)</td>
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<td>22 Tourismusverband Moststrasse</td>
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<td>13 Danube/Bohemian Forest</td>
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<td>23 Kulturpark Eisenstrasse-Ötsherland</td>
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<td>14 Mühlviertler Alm</td>
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<td>24 Wachau-Dunkelsteinwald</td>
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<td>37 Upper Innviertel/Mattigtal*</td>
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<td>25 Donauland-Traisental-Tullnerfeld</td>
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<td>38 Salzkammergut Cultural Heritage*</td>
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<td>26 Central Mostviertel</td>
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<td>39 Vöckla-Ager*</td>
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<td>27 Southern Lower Niederösterreich</td>
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<td>29 Bucklige Welt-Wechselland</td>
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<td>17 Holzworld Murau</td>
<td>30 Weinviertel-Manhartsberg</td>
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<td>18 Zirbenland</td>
<td>31 Eastern Weinviertel</td>
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<td>32 Weinviertel-Donaurama</td>
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<td>33 Römerland Carnuntum</td>
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- **Styria**

### Learning Regions

- ... 39 regional initiatives
- ... several hundred network partners
- ... more than 140 projects, oriented towards regional strategies
- ... a wide range of themes
  - interculturality
  - regional knowhow
  - agriculture
  - educational marketing

* New regions of 2011
Fact Sheet - Learning Regions

POSITIVE EFFECTS

• Learning as well as education and training are established as strategic focuses of regional development.
• New links and cooperation networks (across sectors) are built between schools, enterprises, private associations and clubs, caterers, etc.
• Education and training initiatives will encourage new stakeholders to take part in regional development.
• Innovative projects contribute to the positive connotation of education and training.
• LEARNING REGIONS provide opportunities to explore new ideas (‘test beds’ for innovation).
• A regional centre and hub for E&T matters is established.
• The advantages of the cooperation become apparent to providers of E&T.
• LEARNING REGIONS permit a better coordination of education and training programmes, and the relevance of high quality is appreciated by providers of E&T.
• LEARNING REGIONS focus on issues that are often neglected in rural areas: low educational levels, immigration-related problems, young people without vocational training, etc.
• In LEARNING REGIONS small investments will yield high returns.

PROJECT EXAMPLES

- Weinviertel-Manhartsberg (Lower Austria): Interactive, creative presentation of E&T programmes in the relaxed atmosphere of a regional learning festival.
- Bucklige Welt-Wechselland (Lower Austria): Establishment as a Fair Trade region in the context of the Faire Welt – Bucklige Welt project.
- Wels LEWEL (Upper Austria): Awareness-raising in the agricultural sector in the project Wir ernten was wir säen – Miteinander in der Vielfalt [Bringing in the harvest: Joining forces in diversity].
- Attersee-Attergau (Upper Austria): Gathering of regional knowhow in the AtterWiki.
- Zirbenland (Styria): Regional qualification initiatives of Zirbenland Academy.
- Hermagor (Carinthia): Promotion of science and technology for all age groups.
- Northern Burgenland plus (Burgenland): Higher education advisory services for pupils in the context of the Move Your Future project.
- Upper Pinzgau (Salzburg): Rediscovering traditional knowledge and inter-generational exchange.

The joint website of the learning regions

www.lernende-regionen.at

• introducing the learning regions;
• background information and news;
• good practices and new ideas for projects;
• calendar of events, past events;
• information materials;
• contacts and support.