The Goal of “KliP II”

The City of Vienna’s climate goal is a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions per capita of 21% when compared to 1990 by the year 2020. This shall be achieved through the measures of so-called KliP II (the Vienna Climate Protection Programme, Update 2009–2020).

The update of the 1999 KliP I consists of 37 sets of measures with a total of 385 individual measures in the following five fields of action:

- Energy production
- Use of energy
- Mobility and city structure
- Procurement, waste management, agriculture and forestry, nature conservation
- Public relations

The implementation of the planned measures will allow Vienna to prevent the annual emission of 1.4 million tons of greenhouse gases in the period from 2009 to 2020. When the 3.1 million tons of annual greenhouse gas emissions that have so far been avoided are taken into consideration, the emission of about 4.5 million tons of annual greenhouse gases will have been prevented. The planned measures, as well as those already implemented, target areas that can be influenced directly by the City or State of Vienna.

Climate Protection in Vienna: Precise Measures with Precise Targets

Increasing the share of district heating to 50%: This goal shall be reached by the continuous development plans of “Wien Energie District Heating” via the expansion of the heating network, as well as by increasing energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Further promotion of thermal rehabilitation of residential buildings: There is great potential in the field of thermal rehabilitation of residential buildings, especially concerning the subsidy programme “Theosan.” The subsidy guidelines shall be adapted and the statutory provisions (e.g., building codes) shall also be changed, further tightening prescriptive limits for new buildings and for the thermal rehabilitation of buildings.

Expansion of public transportation, reduction of passenger car traffic and promotion of public transport, bicycles, and walking. In future, particular attention will be paid to bicycle use. Efforts will also be made to make walking more attractive. This will provide a vital contribution in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, one may also expect that greenhouse gas emissions produced by Viennese passenger car traffic will significantly decrease due to advances in automotive technology and accompanying measures.

More than doubling of the amount of final energy produced by renewables compared to 1990.

All the different options available to the City of Vienna and its municipal enterprises shall be utilized to make use of the various kinds of renewables within the urban area as well as within.

Creation of a plan for the secure supply of energy: From the viewpoint of climate protection, the subject areas “energy efficiency” and “renewables” must be of the utmost importance when compiling this plan. In doing so, clearly defined measures for reducing energy demand by improving final energy efficiency, as well as increasing the use of renewable energy, are central. The current organizational and operational structure in the field of climate protection in Vienna shall be retained to reach the targets in the best manner possible.

Due to KliP I 3.1 Million Tons of Greenhouse Gases Saved

For the past 10 years, KliP I has been a success story and, as a result of ambitious measures all over the municipality, 3.1 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions have been saved. The original target of avoiding 3.1 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions by 2010 was already reached in 2006, as certified by the Austrian Energy Agency in its evaluation report. Vienna has the lowest per capita greenhouse gas emissions in Austria.

Reduction of Emissions in Vienna

With regard to the emissions that the City of Vienna can avoid on its own, greenhouse gas emissions in Vienna fell from 5.58 million tons to 5.25 million tons of CO2 equivalent in the period from 1990 to 2006 – a reduction of 6%.

For this calculation, the Austrian Energy Agency subtracted from the total emission those of the energy supply sector, which are subject to the EU emission trading
scheme, and vehicle emissions that are caused outside Vienna but are attributed to Vienna due to international conventions. These are removed from the equation because Viennese climate protection measures have no influence over these areas.

In order to phrase the goals of future Viennese climate protection policies it is appropriate to consider only emissions in those sectors that the City of Vienna can actually influence and change politically. These sectors are small-scale consumption, industries, waste and agriculture as a whole. With regard to transport and the energy supply sector, only the emissions generated by traffic using the Vienna road network, and emissions generated by energy supply installations that are not part of the emission trading scheme, respectively, shall be considered.

The current goals of KliP II have been broadly discussed along these lines, have been agreed upon and will allow the city to reach the overall goal of a 21% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions per capita by 2020 when compared with 1990.

In other words: whereas greenhouse gas emissions influenceable by Vienna amounted 3.73 tons per capita in 1990, these will only amount to 2.94 tons of greenhouse gas emissions per capita in 2020 as a result of the Viennese climate protection programme. In 2020 every Viennese will on average emit 790 kg fewer greenhouse gases when compared to 30 years before.

Field of Action A: “Energy Supply”

The main topics in this field are primarily supply-related projects that shall reduce CO₂ emissions produced by power generation and district heating and cooling that Vienna can influence directly. Furthermore, all measures that cause a shift in the use of different kinds of energy sources by the end-consumer are described in this field.

Field of Action B: “Use of Energy”

The focus in this field is to encourage end-consumers to use energy in the most efficient way, particularly with regard to measures taken for energy efficiency in buildings. This comprises all aspects of energy use that are necessary for constructing and maintaining buildings. In addition, there are also measures for public lighting, equipment using combustion engines and electric devices.

Field of Action C: “Mobility and Town-Structure”

The aim of this field of action is to reduce, both directly and indirectly, greenhouse gas emissions generated by transport. Thus there are measures to promote environmentally friendly modes of transportation like bicycling, walking, public transport, and car sharing. In addition, this demand-oriented strategy has been supplemented with restrictions on using modes of transportation that cause environmental and climatic damage. The Viennese population shall have the opportunity to better combine various types of transportation to best fit their mobility needs.

Field of Action D: “Procurement, Waste Management, Agriculture and Forestry, Nature Conservation”

Alongside energy and transport, public procurement and waste management are important topics for climate protection. Accordingly, the measures in this field of action pursue to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions generated by procurement operations of the City of Vienna, as well as by waste management operations for the entire city. This also includes measures to tackle greenhouse gas emissions in the fields of agriculture, forestry and nature protection.

Field of Action E: “Public Relations”

This field of action includes all public relations guidelines for the entire climate protection programme. The measures in this field aim to inform the Viennese population and other relevant stakeholders. They endeavor to induce climate-friendly behavior by raising awareness.

Adaptation to Global Climate Change

Finally, KliP II contains some considerations about Viennese climate adaptation measures. They will be elaborated more concretely in coming years.