



RUISNET – ROPA

Intermediate Report

September 2007



RUISNET is co-financed by the government of Lower Austria and is processed

in co-operation with

Results and foresights

The RUISNET-Virtual Community in Austria

The RUISNET Open Platform Austria / ROPA was founded as the regional part of the virtual community of RUISNET in Austria. The objective is to support the dynamization of the RUISNET-Project in Austria.

1st Meeting of the RUISNET Open Platform Austria “Call for Involvement”

The 1st meeting took place on April, 14th 2005 at the Danube University Krems. It was organized as a action to dynamize the RUISNET project by the TIM – Lab, which is the Austrian partner for RUISNET.

The 14 participants showed a large variety of sectors represented:

From the Lower Austria Government with institutions for planning the future university direction (NÖ Bildungsgesellschaft mbH für Fachhochschul- und Universitätswesen,) and incentives for innovative enterprise (TecNet and GTZ St. Pölten) and Ecoplus (networking and cluster promotion). Remarkable was also the participation of another INTERREG III A project called ECONET / www.econet-platform.at which intensifies the cooperation between SME's from Northeastern Austria (Krems, Vienna) and neighbouring Slovakia (Bratislava, Trnava). The university sector was also represented with BOKU Vienna (department for food bioscience and –technology) and ARC Austrian Systems Research Seibersdorf. The SME sector was also present with IIZ / International intercommunity Centre and 2 companies.

The participants and RUISNET project team gave a short presentation of their main goals to allow further contacts and networking. During the following discussion some interesting items appeared:

- * A model for best practises can be seen at Teeside / Dundee (Scotland).
- * The Innovation assistant in Lower Austria, where a university graduate is subsidized for the 1st year to support SME's .
- * Ease of operations: a) a multi level project proposal would save labour, b) what about the life cycle of the supported projects?
- * The Lower Austria Netzwerk Cluster consists of wood, plastics, ecology, wellness. The Cluster team acts as intermediary and uses institutes as service provider.
- * The A+B project (Academia meets Business)
- * Mrs. Heimpel from IIZ stressed the issue: what do the SME really want?
- * There exists a clear anxiety and language barriers between SMEs and university.
- * BOKU university Vienna wants to better promote the facilities (know-how and testing) of the institute for SME's.
- * ARC Systems Research Seibersdorf pointed to the internet platform www.hitrans-marketplace.at with topics on construction material, ceramics, catalysators.

The participants clearly showed their interest in further meetings. They received also a protocol afterwards.



2nd Meeting of the RUISNET Open Platform Austria

“Regional innovation provided by the cooperation of science and economy“

The meeting took place on April, 5th, 2006 at the Danube University Krems.

The aim of this meeting was

- to join up with the project UniRegion, presented by Mr. Univ. Prof. Dr. Gerhard Strohmeier, IFF - Faculty for Interdisciplinary Studies at the Alpen-Adria-University Klagenfurt, Departments „City, Region, and Spatial Development“ and „Higher Education Research“ where the Danube University Krems was a project partner
- to show the connection with the activities of "NÖ Netzwerkstatt" presented by Mr. Dr. Franz Delapina, Organisation for University Development and Controlling in Lower Austria Ltd., RUISNET member of the advisory council
- to show the current state of RUISNET project, presented by Mr. Dkfm. Wolfgang Haiss

A large variety of the sectors was represented by the participants:

ECOPLUS-Technopol Wr.Neustadt	the technopol for modern industrial technologies Technopols are combined technological and business centers specifically established around recognized educational and research institutes
Plattform Wissensmanagement	The leading community for knowledge management
Verband für Landes-, Regional- und Gemeindeentwicklung	Corporation for Provincial, Regional and Municipal Development
Junge Wirtschaft Krems	Corporation for Young Economy
Forschungsgesellschaft GIVE	GIVE is an organisation (Voluntary non-profit association under Austrian law, "GIVE Forschungsgesellschaft") that that does research and development on human settlements and social innovations linked to the potentials of telecommunication.
ARCS- Technologiemanagement	ARC systems research GmbH is one of nine subsidiaries of the ARC Group. It is organised into four business units and forms a consortium with the Centre for Innovation and Technology of the City of Vienna.
Wirtschaftskammer Niederösterreich	The Austrian Federal Economic Chamber is, by law, the representative of the entire Austrian business community.
IIZ-Internationales Interkommunales Zentrum – Projekt standort.aktiv	The International Inter-Communal Center develops the cooperation between municipal governments realistically and relative to cross border activities.
Amt der Niederösterreichischen Landesregierung Abteilung Raumordnung und Regionalpolitik Geschäftsst. des Landes für EU-Regionalpolitik	Office of the Provincial Government of Niederösterreich, Department of Spatial Planning, Office of the country for European Union regional policy

The participants and RUISNET project team gave a short presentation of their main goals to allow further contacts and networking. During the following discussion some interesting items appeared:

Based on a prepared list of topics the participants voted for the most interesting topic:

#	Region of Lower Austria	Topic	Votes
30	SME	The focus for all service activities	7
10	Cooperation		6
13		Intermediaires – Regional Development - Research	4
21		Cooperation of Universities, SMEs & regions	3
11		Focus: Region with universities/universities for applied sciences	3
23		Entrepreneurship & Technology orientation	2
22		Continuing Education & job market development	2
12		Focus : universities/universities for applied sciences with Region	2
40	ROPA Aim	Which positioning for the open Platform? What is to take it off?	1
50	Other Topics	Which Special Interests?	-

The choice for the Workshop SME - The focus for all service activities

<p>Of which SME do we speak (number of employees)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - mini and Micro-enterprises which are the majority of the enterprises in Austria, they have 0 - 25 employees
<p>SME-Cluster</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is the interface (partner) the cluster manager ? - Have an interest- & knowledge community with better transparency - have a "prequalification" of the cluster members - Should they also be interested on by-products of the research ? - Can also complementary enterprises be expected as members ?
<p>Actors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - who are they and over which interface do they communicate ? - SME are not yet conscious of the actors in Lower Austria - HOWEVER: there is also a competition between the actors, on questions of quality and the confidence for a trustworthy dialog with them - It does not seem possible to make the actors accessible under a common roof (metalevel of organisation) - HOWEVER: it appears desirable to have more transparency, but how can an overview of the contact persons be made possible? - SPECIAL RANGE: Continuous training - safe results are to be ensured by quality management - how can be achieved more transparency be achieved?by which modern ITC-supported tools?
<p>Cross-linking - for individuals, the specific company</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - which improvements can be reached ? - how is a higher degree of more effectiveness attainable ? - which Internet tools are available for support?

Concrete requests on the redevelopment of villages

- overview: who makes what?
- which are safe statements for the municipalities/representatives reflecting state of the art technology?
- from whom do clear statements for clearly defined goals come?
- is a round table of entrepreneurs a suitable forum?
- problematic relationship from the municipality to the residing enterprises (this is not atypical also for the so-called micro-regions!)
- It should always be humans in the focus of all activities, also with all technical issues !

Special SME requests

- which are the requests of SME to the universities?
- which expectations do they have?
- is there any study on this topic?
- what are the possibilities to interface as SME to the universities (WHERE, WHO, WHEN, WHAT, complete and concrete!)
- platforms often have an anonymous effect on the entrepreneurs

The Danube University Krems and its regional order

- the organization called "Junge Wirtschaft" / Young Enterprises contacted Mrs. Vice-rector Univ. Prof. Dr. Ada Pellert, she referred to Mr. Mag. Hubmeier as concrete contact person
- there is no "external relations institute" at the Krems UNI with defined contact persons for SME and region
- how becomes the Krems UNI visible for the SME in the region?
- When it comes to publications - how do such information reach the companies ?
- There is a need for more information on the homepage about the functions and possibilities of the different institutes
- There are quite some knowledge-based SME's with interest in the university library

Municipality and SME

- how do municipalities approach the SME's?
- the development concepts of local and regional levels are as interface possible and meaningful
- which companies are present in a municipality? Is there a complete overview, how is this updated ?
- who supports young entrepreneurs with information - except the organization called "Junge Wirtschaft?" Who contributes with genuine support packed into an interesting "starter package"?

Structure of network

- who promotes this really with valuable personal contacts?
- usually there are only some few key persons at the basis
- distinction to network as institution!
- continuation of cross-linking also in an on-line environment

Region and students

- How do I find the students in the region?
- "region looks for students" in the Yspertal for theses (diploma)
- idea of the science shops (Franz Nahrada)

Continuing training within the rural range

- absence of traditional roundtables reserved for regulars (give social proximity and obtain technical knowledge)
- possible with InterNet connection and video area around contents see and to hear being able, also individual to group, as well as from group to group
- spatial interfaces for Tele cross-linking
- continuation of cross-linking also naturally on-line - again!

Communication SMEs and Universities

- the Technopole offers general tools & specific communication tools
- the achievements of the external institutes should improve/simplify the existing communication SME with universities
- barrier exists between entrepreneurs and university graduates
- that could be a topic with the 3. Workshop (communication systems and structures!)
- the communication culture should be looked at with more precision (F. Nahrada), likewise the knowledge transfer
- when do the entrepreneurs have time for strategic thoughts?
How can I reach him on this subject?
- Presentation of SKYPE (DUK/IMB Gerhard Schwed, MAS) on the next young entrepreneur day
- again: more exact visibility of the DUK-institutes via homepage

The participants clearly showed their interest in further meetings. They received also a German protocol afterwards.



3rd Meeting of the RUISNET Open Platform Austria “Virtual Communities – culture of communication carried by innovative systems and structures of communication“

The 3rd Meeting of the RUISNET Open Platform Austria / ROPA has taken place on October 18th, 2006, at Danube University Krems.

The objective was to find out how science and economics can find to a common language and communication culture, particularly in the virtual area.



Mr. Professor Dr. Peter Baumgartner, Danube University Krems, department for interactive media and education technologies opened with the topic „Interactive media and education technologies in the context of the communication culture of Virtual Communities“

Mr. Professor Dr. phil. Johann Götschl, University of Graz, Institut for philosophy and Ludwig Boltzmann institute for science research reported on “scientific-technologic progress: Strategies for creativity and innovation”

Mr. Dr. Erwin Bratengeyer, Danube university Krems, department for interactive media and education technologies informed about the current state of RUISNET and about the RUISNET - Convention in Valencia

Mr. Dkfm. Wolfgang Haiss, @hpCONSULT, external expert in the project RUISNET, presented not only new knowledge made in the progress of RUISNET and relevant for Lower Austria but also resulting regional subprojects of Lower Austria: * the map of research and * the Austrian RUISNET Cooperation Award

The key-notes initiated a lively discussion process. New initiatives were analyzed as effective instruments for generating a new communication and co-operation culture between science and economy in regions regarding economic development by activation of the innovation potential:

The researchmap as a virtual platform and forum for the co-operation of science and economics

The Austrian RUISNET Cooperation Award for initiating a lasting co-operation between the SMEs and institutes of science and research

The goal of the Workshops was exceeded by discussions of developing a new communication culture in virtual Communities, in the special one at co-operation between universities/research - economics and regions.

The participants of the meeting were members of the ROPA, representing organizations of science and higher education, economics, regional development. Due to the participation of the government of Lower Austria - department of spatial planning and regional policy, the office of the country for European Union regional policy, the chamber of economics - technology and innovation partner - entrepreneur service, the platform of education and meeting, the Organisation for University Development and Controlling in Lower Austria Ltd. becomes the exzellente participant circle a profile of a elitist fashion.

4th Meeting of the RUISNET Open Platform Austria

29.5.2007, 14-18 Uhr, Danube University Krems

“The reality of the co-operation of science and economics “

The Workshop presented the reality of the co-operation of science and economics by projects which were submitted to „the I European Awards University INDUSTRY to Cooperation with regionally development“

Dipl. Ing. Johannes Haas, Head of Degree Programme PTO

Production Technology and Organisation at

FH JOANNEUM University of applied Sciences

FH JOANNEUM is an acknowledged, innovative partner for businesses and institutions in the fields of teaching and of research and development. In addition, FH JOANNEUM offers regular ongoing education events in which the university's know-how is made available to all who wish to participate.

PTO is not only the pioneer for cooperative education in Austria, it also distinguishes itself from predecessors (US, Germany) by focussing on the continuous knowhow transfer to regional SMEs

Mr. Dr. Franz Delapina, Organisation for University Development

and Controlling in Lower Austria Ltd., RUISNET, member of the advisory council

The Map of Science and Research

This will be a product of the Organisation for University Development and Controlling in Lower Austria Ltd and is a result of discussions in the workshops of the “Netzwerkstatt”

* Visibility (at the beginning only internally) of the reported internet access data on the individual technology fields and educational facilities (with possible analysis of the effects on future education contents and on needed number qualified specialists)

* Suggestions for additional co-operation between educational facilities and research establishments, in order to receive and develop existing specializations

* Suggestions for additional transnational co-operation (educational facilities and research establishments and SME's) - in particular, if the linguistic possibilities via the internet homepage makes translation easy and evident from German into English, Czech, Hungarian, etc.

* Use of the research Atlas as virtual platform and as a forum for the intensification of the co-operation of science and economics

The future development of the RUISNET - open Platform Austria under expansion the sphere of activity on the federal provinces of the Federal Republic and neighbour states was a further main topic for 4. ROPA Meeting.

Report on the 1st RUISNET AWARD 2007 in Lower Austria

This regional dynamization activity was launched by the Danube University Krems.

Two categories were defined:

Cat A for existing cooperation projects – meaning „Best Practices“

Cat B for transferable project ideas for new & creative forms of cooperations.

The deadline for applications was 31.5.2007.

Project partner was the NÖ Bildungsgesellschaft (Lower Austrian Society for Education).

A total of 13 applications were received, 10 in the category A and 3 in the category B.

The jury consisted of

Mag. Dieter BADER	Junge Wirtschaft NÖ
Dr. Erwin BRATENGEYER	Donau-Universität Krems
Dr. Alois ECKER	Kabelsignal
Prof. Dr. Johann GÜNTHER	Assoc. for European Integration
Dkfm. Wolfgang HAISS	ahpCONSULT
Mag. Wolfgang JUST	NÖ Sparkassen, St.Pölten
Prof. Ing. Peter KOTAUCZEK	BEKO, VÖSI
Univ.Prof. DDr. Herbert KRAUS	Universität Graz
Dr. Christian MANN	NÖ Bildungsgesellschaft
Dr. Boris NEMSIC	Telekom Austria
Ing. Romana OPPEL-STRAKA	Junge Wirtschaft NÖ
Dr. Richard PLITZKA	ECO PLUS
Dipl.Ing. Herbert PÖTTSCHACHER	EVN
Mag. Herbert SCHWEIGER	Microsoft Österreich
KR Monique WEINMANN	Frau in der Wirtschaft

The distribution of the project applications to the jury was done via the newly created project-subsite with the webaddress:

<http://www.donau-uni.ac.at/de/departement/imb/10006/index.php>

The process of qualifying the 13 projects was done in a simple mathematical manner, using the criteria of the Austrian school system.

As project sponsors were acting



The prize award took place at the Danube university of Krems on 28.6.2007.

All project applicants were participating and received a document. The 5 prize winners (in category A three, in category B two) received also their prizes from the sponsors. They were able to decide on their own which prize they took.

The program of the award ceremony was as follows:

- opening by Dr. Bratengeyer from the university Krems
- greetings from Dipl.Ing. Wollansky from the Lower Austrian Government / regional development
- project development for RUISNET, Open Platform, Award and future projects by Dkfm. Haiss
- presentation of all the projects by the applicants
- prize award by Prof. Dr. Günther
- Statement of the Jury by Mrs. Monique Weinmann (Association of Business Ladies)

The moderation of the ceremony was done by Dkfm. Haiss.

A number of photos were taken and will be displayed at the homepage. From several participants it was said that the event took place in a good atmosphere which they liked.



TechnoScope:Workshop “Usability”

This Event took place as a cooperative project in the sense of RUISNET at the Danube University Krems on March 1st, 2006.

It was organized in cooperation with the chamber of commerce in Lower Austria, Partner for Technology- and Innovations / TIP , and also with ECOPLUS-Technopol Krems, the technopol for biotechnology.

“TechnoScope” – provide enterprises in Lower-Austrian to reach a leading position by contact as early as possible to research and science.

The “TechnoScope:Workshops” understands itself as point of crystallization for new and existing ideas, for insideviews, for forsights and for the renewal of products. Target group are enterprises, which want to went over the border of their daily jobs and are open for new ideas and technologies. With these Workshops TIP offers a further possibility of meeting in informal circle to exchange experiences, hints and get in touch with potential partners.

Topics of TechnoScope:Workshops:

- current information about “trend and technologies” in research & development
- interactive climate of discussion, discussions, development of contents
- Insideviews of the laboratories of recognized research institutes

The Topic of the TechnoScope:Workshop which took place at the Danube University Krems was “Usability”.

Different topics, methods and tools was presented by scientists and practitioners.

Theoretical basics and applications was shown.



Activity-Report Number 01

Report-Start: 01.07.2004

Report-Ende: 31.12.2004

Activity & goal	Key institutions / persons
Kick OFF – Valencia	
“Languages of network”	ARS Electronica, Linz
Project analysis and creation of a German project profile	
Agreement with external expert on co-financing and project consultancy	Dkfm Wolfgang Haiss, @hpCONSULT, Management Consultancy
Co-Financing	Mag. Georg Bartmann, Government of Lower Austria, Leopold Strohmayr, MSc & Mag. Jürgen Ennöckl Tecnet Company
Involvement of an expert for Virtual Communities	Mag. Thomas N. Burg, Head of the Center for New Media at the University of Continuing Education Krems
Building up the Austrian Part of the Virtual Community and fund raising	EcoPlus, Mag. Michaela Roither, crossborder and interregional projects NÖ Landesakademie (Lower Austrian State Academy), Prof. Dr. Reinhold Christian FAS Research, Dr. Harald Katzmaier, Center for Social Network Analysis Innviertler Technologiezentren (Center for Technology Innviertel), Dipl.Ing. Kreilinger, Principal Wallenberger&Linhart, Josef Wallenberger, regional consultancy Telehaus NÖ GesmbH, Dipl.Ing. Karl Mayr, Principal Telehaus Eschenau, Franz Wögerer, Principal GTZ St. Pölten, Dr. R. Mitterbauer & Mag. D. Götzl, Chamber of commerce, Lower Austria
Inviting competent Austrian political responsible persons for the steering committee	
WORKSHOP MEETING LONDON, 14th & 15 th October 2004 Constitution of Workgroups Working session 1: VIRTUAL COMMUNITY Working session 2: OBSERVATORY	Project Partners present
STEERING COMMITTEE Brussels – 2nd December 2004	Project Partners and Austrian political responsible persons (.....)
2 nd WORKSHOP MEETING. Brussels – 3rd December 2004	Project Partners present
Investigation for software tool BibTechMon to process non-homogenous text documents on uni-SME cooperation projects	Austrian Research Center / ARC Seibersdorf, Dr. Schiebel, Mag. Hörlesberger

Activity-Report Number 02

Report-Start: 01.01.2005

Report-Ende: 30.06.2005

Participation on Project-Meetings

Toulouse	Seminar on Methodology Good Practices Cases . 1st Case Methodology Seminar “sme’s, innovation and territory” Toulouse, 14th & 15th March 2005
Bologna	1st Ruisnet Advisory Council Meeting Bologna, Italy, 18-19 april 2005
Dresden	RUISNET – 1st Seminar: Continuous Training and Job Market Dresden, 23rd – 24th May 2005
Tampere	Virtual Community: WG, State of the Art Report Tampere, 20 th -21 st June 2005

A1) Events of the *RUISNET – Open Platform Austria*:

Promotion-Event in Lower Austria

RUISNET – Open Platform Austria - “Call for Involvement”

University of Continuing Education Krems, April, 14th 2005

A2) Participation on other Events:

Networkshop: Need of education and qualification in Lower Austria

2nd Workshop for Representatives of Higher Education Lower Austria,

Topic: “Innovation, Research and Development”

May 4th , 2005

Activity-Report Number 03

Report-Start: 01.07.2005

Report-Ende: 31.12.2005

A) Participation on Project-Meetings

BRAGA, September 19th and 20th 2005	1st CASE METHODOLOGY SEMINAR: ENTREPRENEURSHIP SPIRIT & TECHNOLOGY BASED FIRMS
KREMS, October 24th and 25th 2005	2nd CASE METHODOLOGY SEMINAR on SME's, INNOVATION & TERRITORY & 3rd VIRTUAL COMMUNITY WORKSHOP
London, December 12th and 13th 2005	2nd STEERING COMMITTEE 3rd COORDINATION COMMITTEE

A1) Participation on other Events:

Netzwerkstatt Bildungs- und Qualifizierungsbedarf Niederösterreich 3. Bildungsträgerworkshop, Thema: Fachqualifikationen, 9. November 2005	Workshop Need of education and qualification in Lower Austria 3 rd Workshop for Representatives of Higher Education Lower Austria, topic: Specialized qualifications, November 9 th 2005
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Interactivity and Networking

IMC University of Applied Sciences Krems	http://www.imc-krems.ac.at/IMC/Uni/Content-en/uns-en
St. Pölten University of Applied Sciences	http://www.fh-stpoelten.ac.at:8080/english/content
Austrian Research Promotion Agency	http://www.ffg.at/index.php?version=2&cid=31
Upper Austrian University of Applied Sciences	http://www.fh-ooe.at/index.html
University Of Applied Sciences Wiener Neustadt	http://www.fhwn.ac.at/e_index.aspx
Kompetenzzentrum für Angewandte Elektrochemie GmbH	http://www.echem.at/
University of Applied Sciences FH JOANNEUM	http://www.fh-joanneum.at/fhj/start.asp?lan=EN
Organisation for University Development and Controlling in Lower Austria Ltd	http://www.noe-bildung.at/bildung/Default_english.htm

Activity-Report Number 04

Report-Start: 01.01.2006

Report-Ende: 30.06.2006

A) Participation on Project-Meetings

Bologna, 16-17th February 2006	2nd seminar on TRAINING AND LABOUR MARKET
Ostrava, 26-28th April 2006	2nd seminar on ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT AND NEW TECHNOLOGY BASED COMPANIES
Tampere, 12-13th June 2006	4th Virtual Community & 4th Coordination Committee

A1) Events of the RUISNET Open Platform Austria:

ROPA / RUISNET Open Platform Austria at the Danube University Krems	2nd meeting of ROPA / RUISNET Open Platform Austria Topic: "Regional innovation provided by the cooperation of science and economy"
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A2) Participation on other Events:

IFF - Faculty for Interdisciplinary Studies at the Alpen-Adria-University Klagenfurt	UNIREGIO "The role of universities in the regional development", international conference on this INTERREG project http://www.iff.ac.at/uniregio/docs/info_e.html
Company for University Development and Controlling in Lower Austria Ltd.,	Workshop for Realisation with the Topic „Research and Development for Innovation“

B) Interactivity and Networking

Zwettl Counselling Centre for Women telm@ - Frauen in Telekommunikation und Informatik	http://www.telma.at
Public Employment Service Austria (AMS)	http://www.ams.or.at
DANUBE - European Programmes for Training, Research and Technology	http://www.danube.or.at/
build! Gründerzentrum Kärnten GmbH	http://www.build.or.at/
Business Creation Center Salzburg - BCCS	http://www.bccs.at/
Science Park Graz	www.sciencepark.at
UPPER AUSTRIAN RESEARCH GMBH	http://www.uar.at/
Risk Assessment International RAI-AUSTRIA GmbH	http://www.rai-austria.com

Report Number 05

Report-Start: 01.07.2006
 Report-Ende: 31.12.2006

A) Participation on Project-Meetings

Valencia, 25-26th September 2006	I Convention RUISNET Advisory Council meeting and Steering Committee meeting
Guimarães, 9th-10th November 2006	2nd Methodology Seminar, 5th Coordination Committee & Virtual Community meetings

A1) Participation on other Events:

RUISNET was presented via contribution in discussion, personell talks and via the flyer and also by newsletter during the following events:

Company for University Development and Controlling in Lower Austria Ltd.	Workshop for Realisation with the Topic „Specialized qualifications” October 25th 2006
KNEWLEDGE initiative for support and development of life-accompanying learning	The Project RUISNET was presented in the context of the meeting “KNEWLEDGE-Dialog for Hidden Champions” on November 24th and also 25th, at the Danube University Krems
Young economy Krems	Involvement at the annual day of the "young economists Krems" - an event grounded on the cooperation between young entrepreneurs in the central region of Lower Austria and the Danube University Krems on November 27th, 2006
Institute for federalism	Participation on the symposium which had the goal to show the importance of socialcapital and federalism for cooperation in regions and the necessary basic conditions on December 7th, 2006
ROPA / RUISNET Open Platform Austria at the Danube University Krems	“Virtual Communities – a new culture of communication carried by innovative systems and structures of communication“ The 3rd Meeting of the RUISNET Open Platform Austria / ROPA has taken place on October 18th, 2006, at Danube University Krems. The objective was to find out how science and economics can find to a common language and communication culture, particularly in the virtual area.

B) Special Activities of Promotion and Dissemination

The information on the Awards opening has been sent out to participants of the ROPA / RUISNET Open Platform Austria with about 150 persons.

Via the FFG / Forschungsgesellschaft the AWARD information was also transmitted to the other Austrian universities.

Also the roll out of the ExpertRegister was announced via ROPA and the press

In a the daily newspaper "Der Standard" an information was published at the end of December. Also information about RUISNET was published due to a press release to APA / Austrian Press Agency.

C) Documents:

C1) Minutes

Minutes of the 3rd meeting of ROPA / RUISNET Open Platform Austria

Minutes of "KNEWLEDGE-Dialog for Hidden Champions"

C2) Specific Documents

State of the Art Report

Regional Dynamisation Plan

Research Pool

Regional Award

Virtual Communities - Sources on the web

SUGGESTIONS, HELPLINES AND ADDITIONAL REMARKS FOR A HUMANRELATED LIFE IN THE VIRTUAL COMMUNITY RUISNET

D) Interactivity

The intensification of the Interactivity was possible due to the Events with

Company for University Development and Controlling in Lower Austria Ltd.	http://www.noe-bildung.at
KNEWLEDGE initiative for support and development of life-accompanying learning	http://www.knowledge.at
Junge Wirtschaft (Young economy)	http://www.jungewirtschaft.at/noe/
Institute for federalism	http://www.foederalismus.at/

E) Implementation of the public Website RUISNET.NET

Active support by testing the functions and approving the userinterface.

Report Number 06

Report-Start: 01.01.2007
Report-Ende: 31.05.2007

A) Participation on Project-Meetings

Dresden, 8th & 9th February 2007	6th COORDINATION COMMITTEE & 6TH VIRTUAL COMMUNITY MEETINGS
Brussels, 25th April 2007	II Convention RUISNET Advisory Council meeting and Steering Committee meeting



The Austrians in Brussels, with Mrs Dipl.Ing. Ilse Wollansky, Government of Lower Austria, Rafael Escamilla, Head of the Department of European projects (IMPIVA) and Dipl. Ing. Johannes Haas, Head of Degree Programme PTO Production Technology and Organisation at FH JOANNEUM University of applied Sciences, Graz – winner of the special price at the first European RUISNET AWARD, Mr. Dr. Franz Delapina, Organisation for University Development and Controlling in Lower Austria Ltd., member of the advisory council of RUISNET.

B) Special Activities of Promotion and Dissemination

The NÖ RUISNET Award 2007 (the regionalized version of the EUROPEAN RUISNET AWARD of Lower Austria) is initiated. The information on the NÖ RUISNET Award 2007 has been sent out to participants of the ROPA / RUISNET Open Platform Austria with about 150 persons, via the chamber of Commerce to the enterprises of Lower Austria and via the Organisation for University Development and Controlling in Lower Austria Ltd. to the institutions of education, research and science in Lower Austria.

Also information about RUISNET was published due to press releases via APA / Austrian Press Agency.

C) Documents:

- 5th Activity Report with Indicator-table for the 5th semester
- 5th Financial Report
- Conception of the NOE RUISNET AWARD
- Call for participation at the NOE RUISNET AWARD

- Invitation for the 4th Meeting of RUISNET Open Platform Austria

D) Interactivity

The intensification of the Interactivity was possible due to the 4th Meeting of the RUISNET Open Platform Austria with

Company for University Development and Controlling in Lower Austria Ltd.	http://www.noe-bildung.at
Chamber of Commerce in Lower Austria	http://www.wko.at/noe
tecnet capital Technologiemanagement GmbH	http://www.tecnetag.co.at/
Technologietransfer Innovationsconsulting, F&E-Audits Austrian Research Centers GmbH - ARC	http://www.arcs.ac.at/
Amt der Niederösterreichischen Landesregierung Abteilung Raumordnung und Regionalpolitik Geschäftsstelle des Landes für EU-Regionalpolitik	http://www.noel.gv.at/
UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ	http://www.uni-graz.at/
accent Gründerservice GmbH	http://www.accent.at/
FH JOANNEUM / Production Technology and Organisation	http://www.fh-joanneum.at/pto