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OCCASION

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Final Report

Introduction:

In June 2002 (June 18 – June 20) a study tour to Lower Austria for participants from Slovakia, dealing in their regions with the problems of regional development, has been carried out. The whole tour was prepared by Benjamin Kuschner of Eco Plus. The main idea of this trip was the transfer of know-how about the different ways of regional development.

Aim:

The main task of this study trip was getting knowledge in investment service, industrial parks, business incubator and last but not least in cluster-management.

Participants:

This study trip was organised within the UNIDO project SLO/01/002. Thus most of the participants had their expertise in the field of regional development in Slovakia. The participants were employees of RDA's (Regional Development Agencies), City councils, ministries, governmental offices or investment agencies¹. The number of participants was together with Eco Plus and UNIDO 20.

The first day of the study tour concentrated on the subjects:

- **Organisation of RDA's**
- **Industrial Parks and**
- **Cluster Management**

During the first day the Slovak delegation had the chance to learn from presentations of Eco Plus departments „investor services“ and „EU-Enlargement“. Since Eco Plus co-operates very closely with the Vienna Business Agency, also a special presentation have been prepared by this development agency.

After these presentations in the Eco Plus Headquarter in Vienna best practice examples of business parks and industrial parks (Wiener Neudorf) have been shown to the Slovak delegation. Of special interest were the presentations about the organisation of industrial parks and cluster management.

¹ Find enclosed the list of participants

The second day concentrated on the subjects:

- **Cluster experience and**
- **Technology Centres**

This day started with a visit to a small sized enterprise, which participates in the Automotive Cluster of Eco Plus. There the participants got informed about advantages and disadvantages of clusters for a SME.

In the afternoon the trip concentrated on the organisation of technology centres. In the headquarter of the RDA of Burgenland the participants were offered presentations about other practical examples as the Business and Innovation Centre (BIC) Burgenland in Eisenstadt and numerous technology centres in the concerning region. Of special interest was the short history of this RDA, which showed some similarities to the agencies in Slovakia.

The third day concentrated on the subjects:

- **Technology and Research Centres and**
- **Business Incubators**

This day started with a very practical example, how a RDA in close co-operation with a city council is able to base numerous research institutions in a backward region. The second event of this day was placed in a business incubator where the participants got informed about different strategies to support start up companies.

A plenary session with a discussion about further activities marked the end of the study tour.

(Please find more details in the enclosed program of the study tour to Lower Austria)

Best regards

Benjamin Kuschner
project manager

Encl: List of Participants
Programme of Study Tour

UNIDO Project NC/SLO/01/002 – „Support to regional development in Slovakia: The role of international experience and networking“

Study Tour Lower Austria
Programme
June 18 – 20, 2002

Regional Development Agencies and Industrial Park
Tuesday, June 18, 2002:

- 10:00 Departure in Bratislava
- Arrival in Vienna,
- 11:00 – 11:30 Hotel Kärntnerhof
Grashofgasse 4 A-1010 Wien

- Eco Plus Headquarter, Vienna
Lugeck 1 A-1010 Wien

- 11:40 – 12:10: Welcome by UNIDO Mr. Yuri Akhvliany (UNIDO) and
Mr. Paul Hesp (UNIDO)

- 12:10 – 12:20: Welcome and Introduction to Eco Plus
Mr. Ilan Knapp (Managing Director)

- 12:20 – 12:40: Cross-border Co-operation Projects
Mr. Herwig Langthaler (Project Manager – Eco Plus)

- WWFF (VBA Vienna Business Agency) at Eco Plus Headquarter
12:40 – 13:00: „Presentation of Vienna Business Agency and CCC Vienna Office“

- Lunch-buffet at Eco Plus

- 13:45 – 14:00: „How to attract foreign investors?“
Ms. Petra Patzelt (Division Manager – Investor Service)

- 14:00 – 14:30: Questions and Discussion
- 15:00 Departure Vienna

- Industrial Park IZ NÖ South (Eco Plus Wiener Neudorf) Lower Austria
Straße 3, A-2355 Wiener Neudorf

- 15:45: „Introduction to Eco Plus Business Parks and to Eco Plus
Industrial Park IZ NÖ South“
Mr. August Wieland (Division Manager Business Parks)

- 16:20: Presentation of Automotive Cluster
Mr. Michael Sikora (Cluster-Manager Automotive Cluster)

- 17:00 Tour through Industrial Park
- 17:30: Return to Vienna
- 17:30: Hotel
- 19:30: Dinner in Bieradies
Judenplatz 1 A-1010 Wien
- Evening Programme

UNIDO Project NC/SLO/01/002 – „Support to regional development in Slovakia: The role of international experience and networking“

Cluster and Technology Centre
Wednesday, June 19, 2002

- 10:15: Meeting at Hotel
- 10:30: Departure to LFT
- 11:15: Tour through LFT Fahrzeugtechnik
IZ NÖ South Straße 2 Objekt 21/2
- 13:00 Lunch in the centre of Eisenstadt
Schloßkaffee Glorietteallee 1 A-7000 Eisenstadt
- 15:00 Departure
- 15:30 Technology Centre Eisenstadt (Largest Technology Centre in Austria)
Mr. Peter Scheich (Division Manager – Investor Service WIBAG Business
Service Burgenland)
Marktstraße 3 A-7000 Eisenstadt
- 17:00 Departure Eisenstadt
- 18:00 Hotel
- 19:30: Dinner: Palatschinken-Pfandl
Köllnerhofgasse 4 A-1010 Wien
- Evening Programme

Business Incubator and Plenary Session
Thursday, June 20, 2002

- 08:45: Meeting at Hotel
- 09:15: Departure Vienna
- 10:00 Technology and Research Centre Wiener Neustadt
Mr. Gerhard Schmid (Managing Director of Technology and Research Centre)
Viktor Kaplan Straße 2, A-2700 Wr. Neustadt
- 10:30 Project Echem
Ms. Trampert
- Research-Groups: OGMS and TBZM
DI. Gotsbacher
- 11:30 Departure
- 11:45 RIZ South Wiener Neustadt (Regional Innovation Centre)
Ms. Alexandra Tobler
Prof. Dr. Stephan Koren-Straße 10 A-2700 Wiener Neustadt
- 13:00 Lunch in the RIZ canteen
- 14:00 Departure
- 15:30 Eco Plus Office Vienna
- 15:30 Plenary session for conclusion in Vienna
Mr. Theodor Krendelsberger (Managing Director Eco Plus) and
Mr. Paul Hesp (UNIDO)
- 17:00 Departure from Vienna

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Mr Stanislav Dreisig , RDA Trenčín
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