Effectiveness by Accident? SEA in Austria’s High Level Transport Planning

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Success factors for SEA effectiveness

# 1 Legal Framework

# 2 Effective Guidelines

# 3 Devoted Protagonists
Success Factor #1: Legal Framework

One federal law – one process – one (environmental) report

Requirement for planning a high level transport network

Requirement for carrying out an SEA

Objectives for the high level transport network in the federal law

- Provision of high quality infrastructure
- Connection to international network
- Benefit from comparative advantages
- Economic and social cohesion
- Favourable cost-benefit ratio

Integrated network planning and SEA
Success Factor # 1: Legal Framework

“Plan“ according to law: Node-edges-model

Text

Folgende Eisenbahnen (Strecken bzw. Streckenteile einschließlich der notwendigen Eisenbahnanlagen) werden zu Hochleistungsstrecken erklärt:

1. Salzburg - Wörgl
2. St. Michael - Klagenfurt - Villach
4. Wien - Staatsgrenze bei Bernhardsthal
5. Parndorf - Staatsgrenze bei Kittsee
Success Factor # 2: Effective Guidelines

Guidelines require “strategic” alternatives assessment
Success Factor # 2: Effective Guidelines

Guidelines require an evaluation framework which is generated from plans and programmes.

Overall objectives

A. Strengthening metropolitan regions as centres for commerce and education / increasing competitiveness

B. Reducing regional disparities and strengthening economic and social cohesion / increasing territorial cohesion

C. Efficient use of financial resources

D. Careful stewardship and conservation of natural resources

E. Creating high quality living environments / securing social inclusion

Sub-objectives

A1. Integrating the transport network into a trans-European, multimodal transport system

A2. Economic competitiveness and high quality locations within a global, interconnected economic system

A3. Improving access to education, R&D and innovation centres

A4. Improving connections between states

B1. Improving access and accessibility for passenger transport and commercial locations

B2. Improving access to essential locations and central places

B3. Strengthening economic regions and local economic cycles

C1. Developing cost-efficient, high performance transport systems

C2. Providing needs-based transport infrastructure

C3. Optimizing total expenditures for transport services

C4. Securing systematic adequacy

D1. Climate protection and energy efficiency

D2. Conserving biodiversity

D3. Protecting soil and water and their function as basis of human livelihood / reducing barriers, avoiding habitat fragmentation and soil sealing

E1. Reducing harmful emissions and increasing traffic security

E2. Conserving cultural and natural heritage and preserving regional identity

E3. Promoting social security and equality
But from where do we get our devotion?
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