

# LEAP4SME - Energy Audits policy implementation

Experiences from Austria



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement No 893924.



# Best case

## Federal support programmes

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Federal support programmes of the 9 Austrian provinces

- Supporting energy audits in SMEs
- Voluntary basis with financial incentives for the audit/consulting services
- Subsidised audits have to be done by qualified auditor
- Different in financial incentives and detailed programmes



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NACHHALTIGKEIT

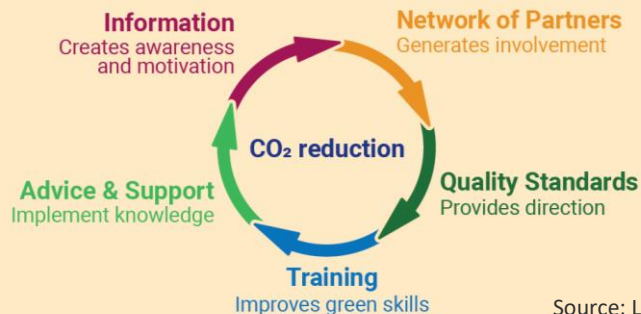


# Best case

## klimaaktiv programme for energy efficient SMEs

### Example of policy Programme for energy efficiency in SMEs in Austria

- ▶ klimaaktiv is the climate protection initiative set up by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Climate Action
- ▶ The programme klimaaktiv Energieeffiziente Betriebe is addressing energy efficient companies by following the transition cycle



Source: LEAP4SME, Revolve

Representatives from the federal support programmes, from klimaaktiv and from the Ministry of Climate Protection meet ~2x/year to discuss and evaluate the programmes and to identify need for adaption

# Article 8 EED implementation in Austria: Energy Efficiency Act - Status

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- Energy Efficiency Act is now under revision: Draft law not published yet
- Government program 2020 – 2024: **Expanding** the energy audit obligation to further companies

## §9 Energy Efficiency Act

Audit obligation for **non-SMEs**: External energy audit / management system with internal energy audit

Energy audits for **SMEs** are recommended by the Austrian EE law:

- National support schemes motivate SMEs to undergo energy audits = federal support programmes
- Only companies who are not under energy audit obligation of the energy efficiency law can get subsidies under the federal support programmes

# LEAP4SME Next steps - Interviews with the federal support programmes to discuss barriers and best cases



- How to address small and micro companies?
- Are there sufficiently well-qualified energy consultants?
- How to support the cooperation between the various experts (energy efficiency, renewable energy, resource efficiency, water, environment, Co2, etc.)?
- How to implement the *energy efficiency first* principle in the audits?
- How to increase investments?
- How to lower administrative burden for SMEs?
- Etc.



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