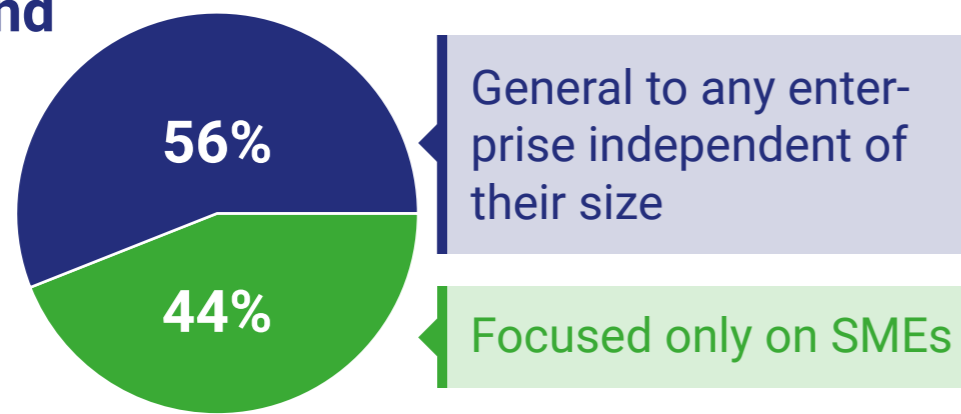


General overview of policies

151 policies and programmes have been considered in 9 European countries.

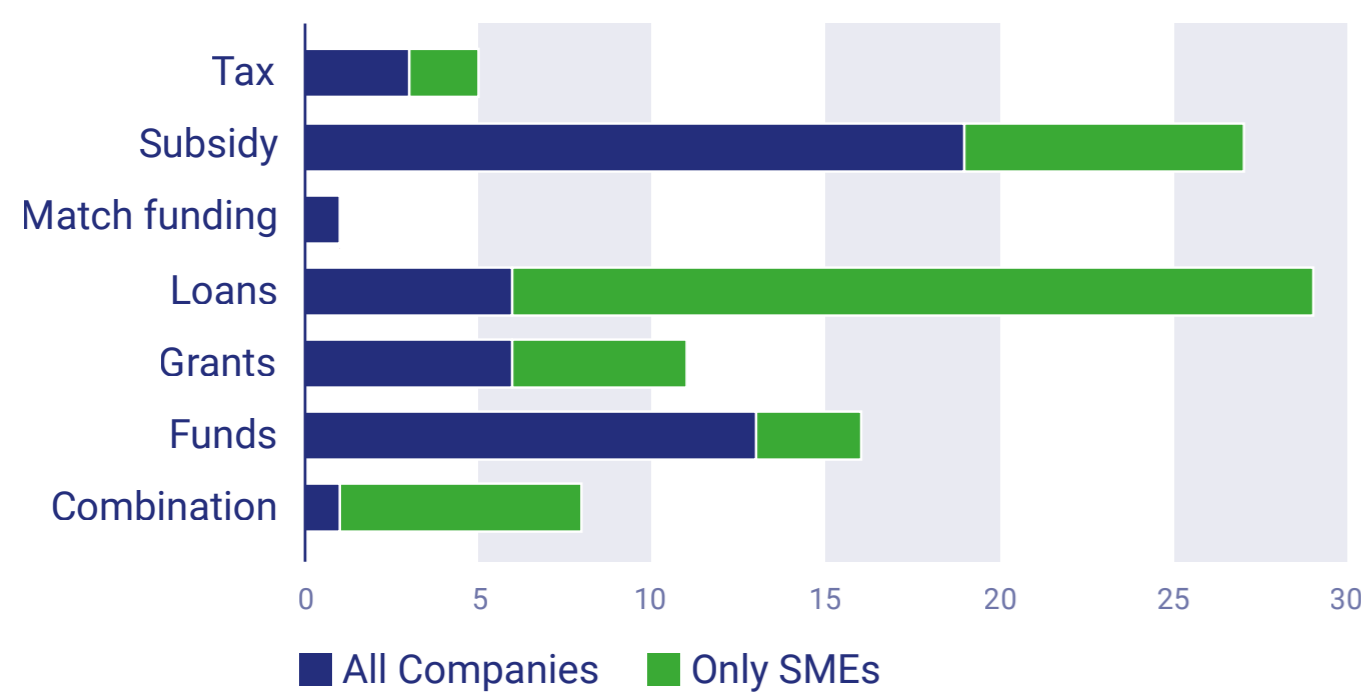


Economic policies present a different mix of approaches depending on the size of a company:

- ▶ **General programmes** (including SMEs and large companies) usually used specific funds, tailored subsidies and tax reductions.
- ▶ **SME-specific policies** are based on loans and combined financial instruments.

General supportive policies are observed in most of the analysed countries, and there are no prescriptive policies specifically for SMEs.

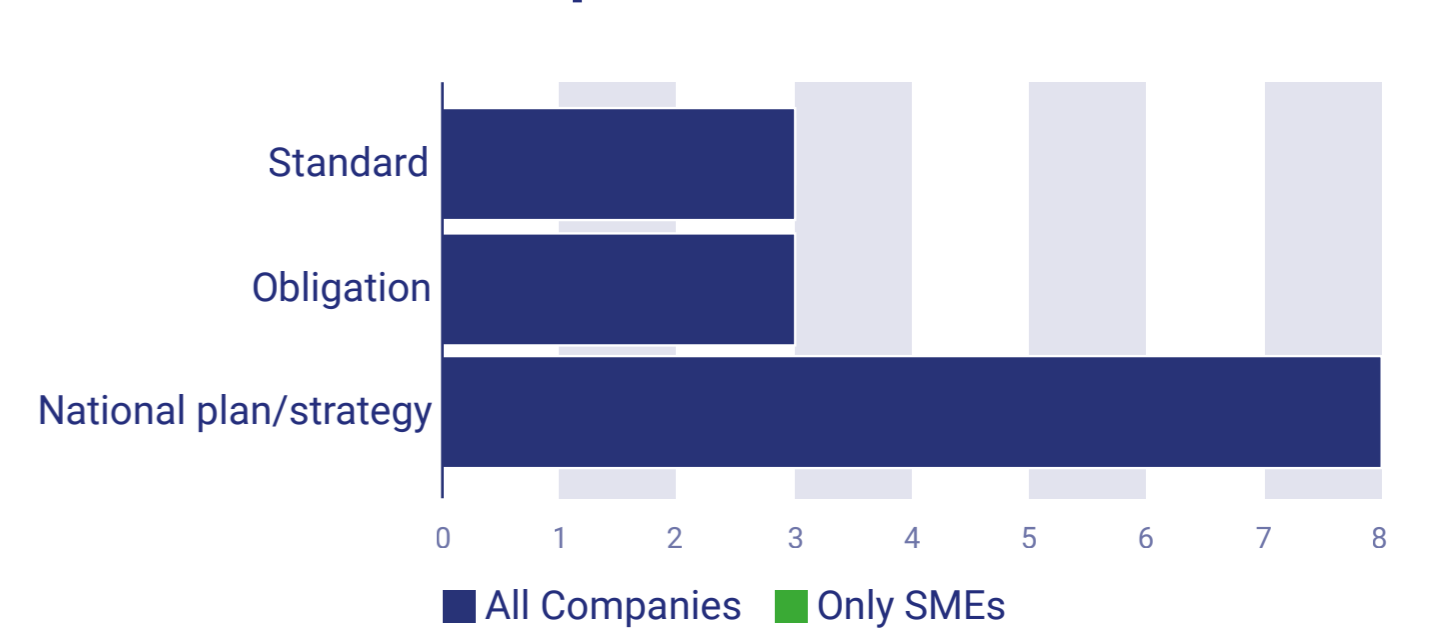
Economic Instruments



Supportive Instruments



Prescriptive Instruments



Half of 96 economic instruments are targeted at SME energy audits and/or energy efficiency:

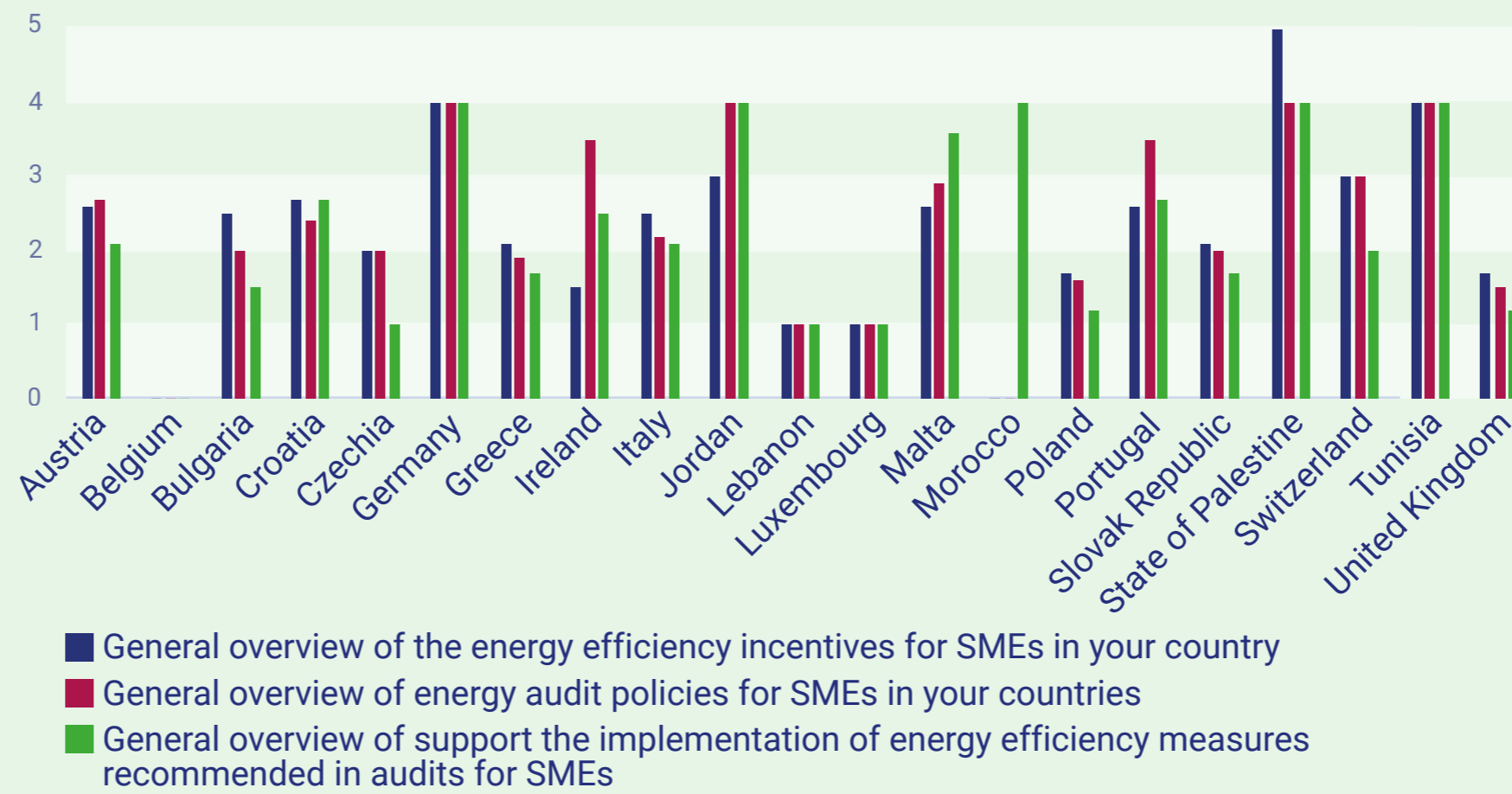
- ▶ Support growth and competitiveness in SMEs (mainly loans)
- ▶ Direct support to energy efficiency in multiple target groups inc. SMEs (subsidies and combination)

- ▶ 40 Information/advice policy instruments were identified.
- ▶ High number of combinations of different types of support in 'one-stop-shop' type policies.
- ▶ High relevance of stand-alone energy audits policies for SMEs.

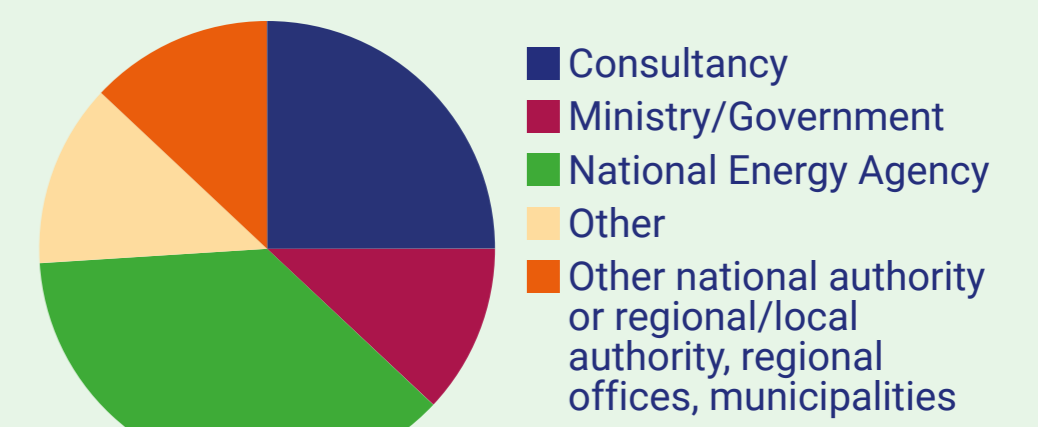
- ▶ No regulations or national plans/strategies identified which were directed solely at SMEs
- ▶ SMEs engagement based on voluntary programmes, instead of binding measures

Surveys to organisations about national energy efficiency policies for SMEs

- ▶ Both energy efficiency incentives and energy audit policies for SMEs appear to be inadequate
- ▶ Energy efficiency incentives and (particularly) energy audit policies for SMEs appear to be more negatively assessed by private than public organizations
- ▶ It would be useful to objectively categorize SMEs according to size, sector and consumption
- ▶ The opinion about policies for energy audits seems more negative at regional/local level than at national level



Austrian organisations



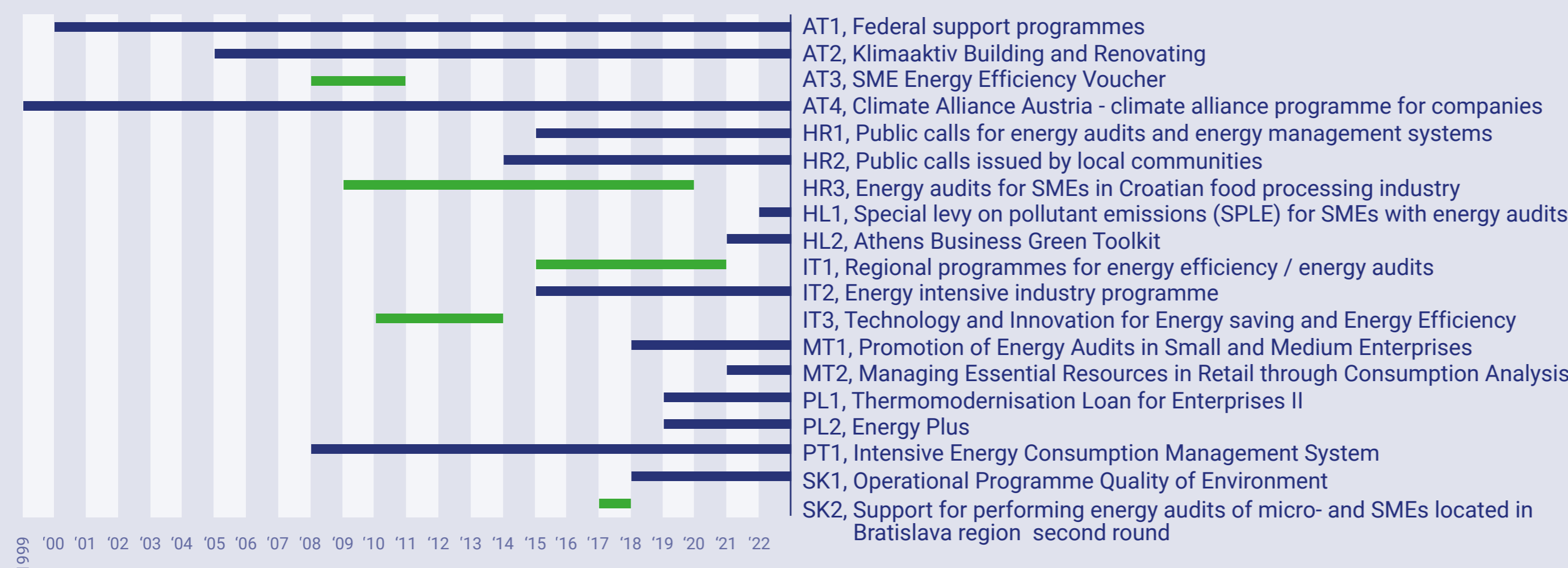
Survey Organisations



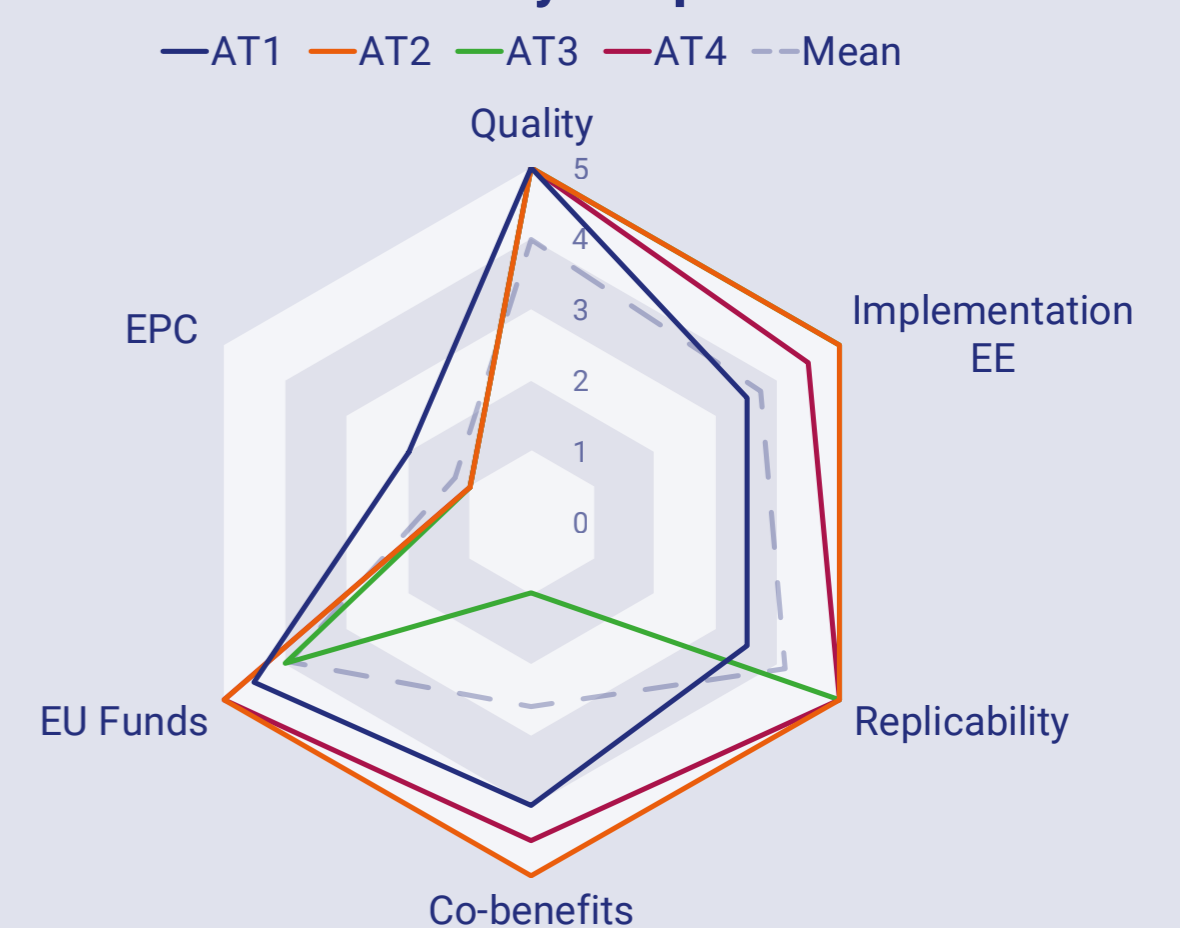
Survey SMEs

Analysis of good practices

- ▶ Quality energy audits are higher in EED policies than in the voluntary programmes
- ▶ High quality audits are linked to obligatory implementation of EPIAs
- ▶ Stand-alone audit programmes seem not to have restrictive quality standards
- ▶ Austrian programmes are more mature and present higher requirements in terms of certified auditors, obligation of implementation, and analysis of benefits than other countries



Austrian analysed policies



1999 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07 '08 '09 '10 '11 '12 '13 '14 '15 '16 '17 '18 '19 '20 '21 '22