

OUR VISION

World University Service (WUS) Austria is a politically independent, non-governmental organisation committed to academic freedom and the right to education. Our vision is to be *the* competent partner for the development of higher education as key factor for socio-economic and political advancement of societies.

OUR MISSION

World University Service (WUS) Austria increases quality in higher education in accordance with international standards through its activities and the provision of <u>project development</u>, <u>project management</u>, <u>networking</u> and <u>consulting services</u>. Our mission is to establish solid and sustainable structures for a strong role of universities in society.

OUR APPROACH

World University Service (WUS) Austria ensures a high level of sustainability by applying a systemic top-down and bottom-up approach in its activities from the policy level to the level of individuals.

Main Principles

- 1. Sustainability and local ownership
- 2. Partnership and co-operation
- 3. Capacity and institution building
- 4. Academic solidarity
- 5. Promotion of human rights, peace and stability

OUR AREAS OF ACTIVITY

Sustainable development of higher education goes beyond the university level. Responding to this, WUS Austria works with the public sector, economy and civil society, mainly in the fields of legislation, capacity and institution building, quality assurance, research and development, knowledge-and technology transfer, mobility, and culture.

World University Service (WUS) Austria focuses on four core areas:

- <u>Higher Education Development</u>
- Linking Higher Education & Economy
- Arts & Culture
- Higher Education & Human Rights

While higher education and South Eastern Europe remain at the centre of WUS Austria's work, the organisation is looking to extend the scope and geographic focus of its services.

OUR ORGANISATION

World University Service (WUS) Austria is a non-governmental organisation, based in Graz and founded as a <u>non-profit association</u> under Austrian law in 1983. Natural persons, legal entities and organisations can become members of WUS Austria. As a non-profit organisation, WUS Austria depends on funds and subsidies granted for its work in order to finance its activities and the necessary infrastructure. The bodies of the association are general assembly, board, advisory council, auditors and arbitration court.