



Competence Centers for
Excellent Technologies

COMET – The 2nd Generation Competence Research Centres Programme in Austria

**Knowledge-based Society in practice:
HI-TECH SLOVAKIA**

**3 April 2009
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Content

- Lessons learned from first programmes
- COMET – what's new?
- Programme lines & criteria
- Evaluation process for K1/K2 centres
- Results 1st Call; 2nd Call in progress

Experiences & results of 1st generation programmes



- **New culture / quality** of co-operative research established
- **building bridges** works, but it takes time, effort & money
- „Walls“ between academic disciplines **came down**
- **Mobility** between science and industry has increased
- Programmes successful, but **better use of synergies**
- **New type** of research **managers**
- Good regional and international linkages
- **Active** role of funding **agency** (MAP management)
- Uncertain future („**life after funding**“)

Portfolio of CRCs in 2006

17 *Kplus* centres

15 *K_ind* centres

13 *K_networks*

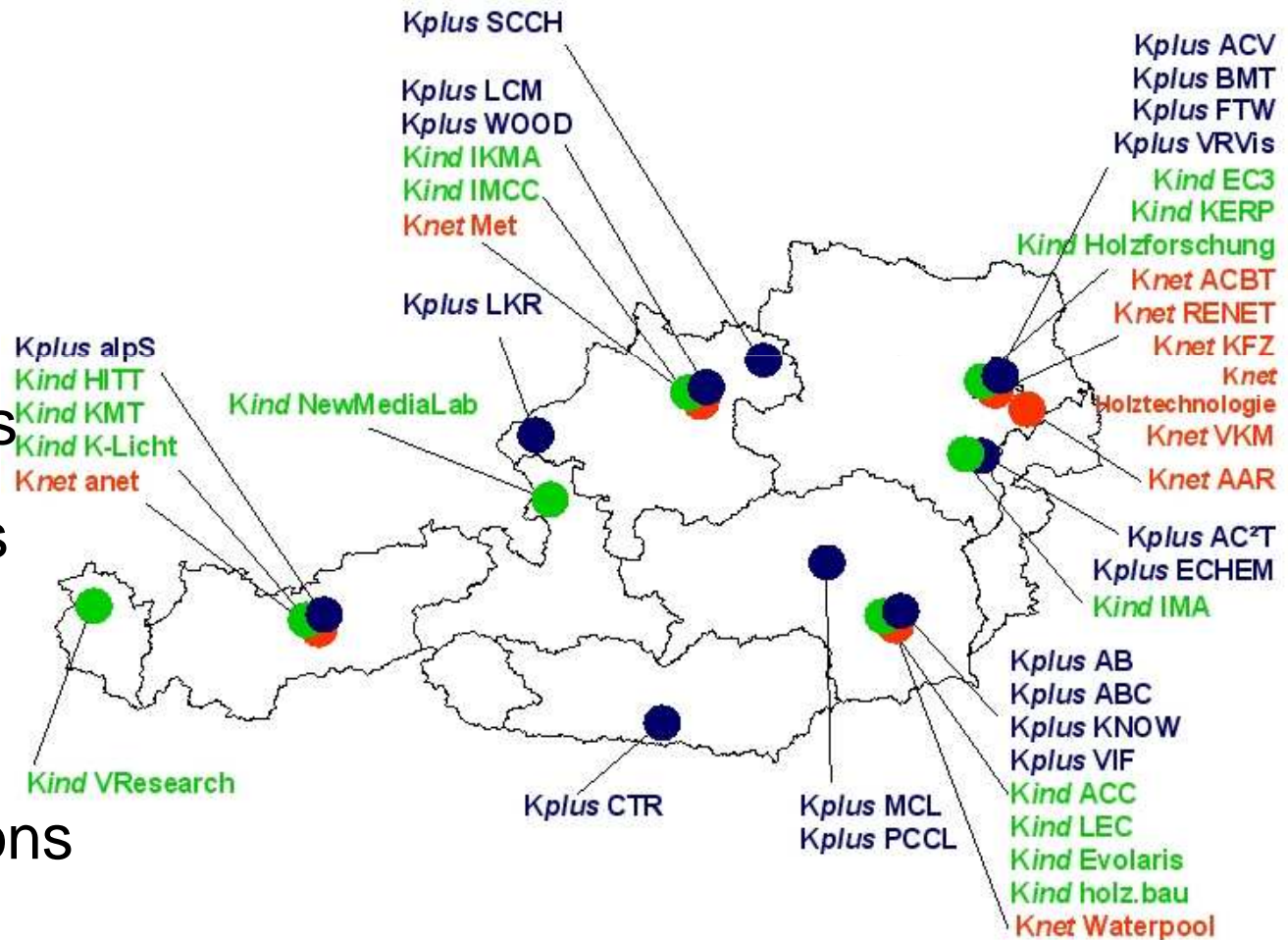
1.500 researchers

> 450 companies

Research volume

2005: 110 m€/a

Patents/publications





The new programme – COMET

Lessons learned

- Strengthening the co-operation between science and industry & the new quality of research
- **making improvements**
 - Implementing some “bigger” centres => breakthrough to **world-leading research** (excellence) & international visibility (K2)
 - **Going international**: active involvement of international firms and researchers
 - Strengthening of **human capital** (career advancement, attraction of top scientists)
 - Keeping the balance between new & existing competence
 - Opening up for **new/smaller initiatives** (K project)

Programme lines and criteria

target group: existing centres & new initiatives

K2 Centres

Number: maximum 5
Public financing: 45 - 60 %
Duration: 10 years

K2-Criteria

- International visibility and world-leading research
- Active integration of international industry, scientific partners and scientists

K1 Centres

Number: approximately 15
Public financing: 40- 55%
Duration: 7 years

Criteria for Centres

- Bundling of players to strengthen synergies
- Human resources development
- International integration

K-Projects

Number: approximately 20
Public financing : 40 - 50 %
Duration: 3 - 5 years

General Criteria

- Research programme defined jointly by science and industry
- Research competence and connection to science
- Relevance of implementation in industry
- Quality of collaboration between science and industry
- Management and implementation

Evaluation Process K1/K2 centres

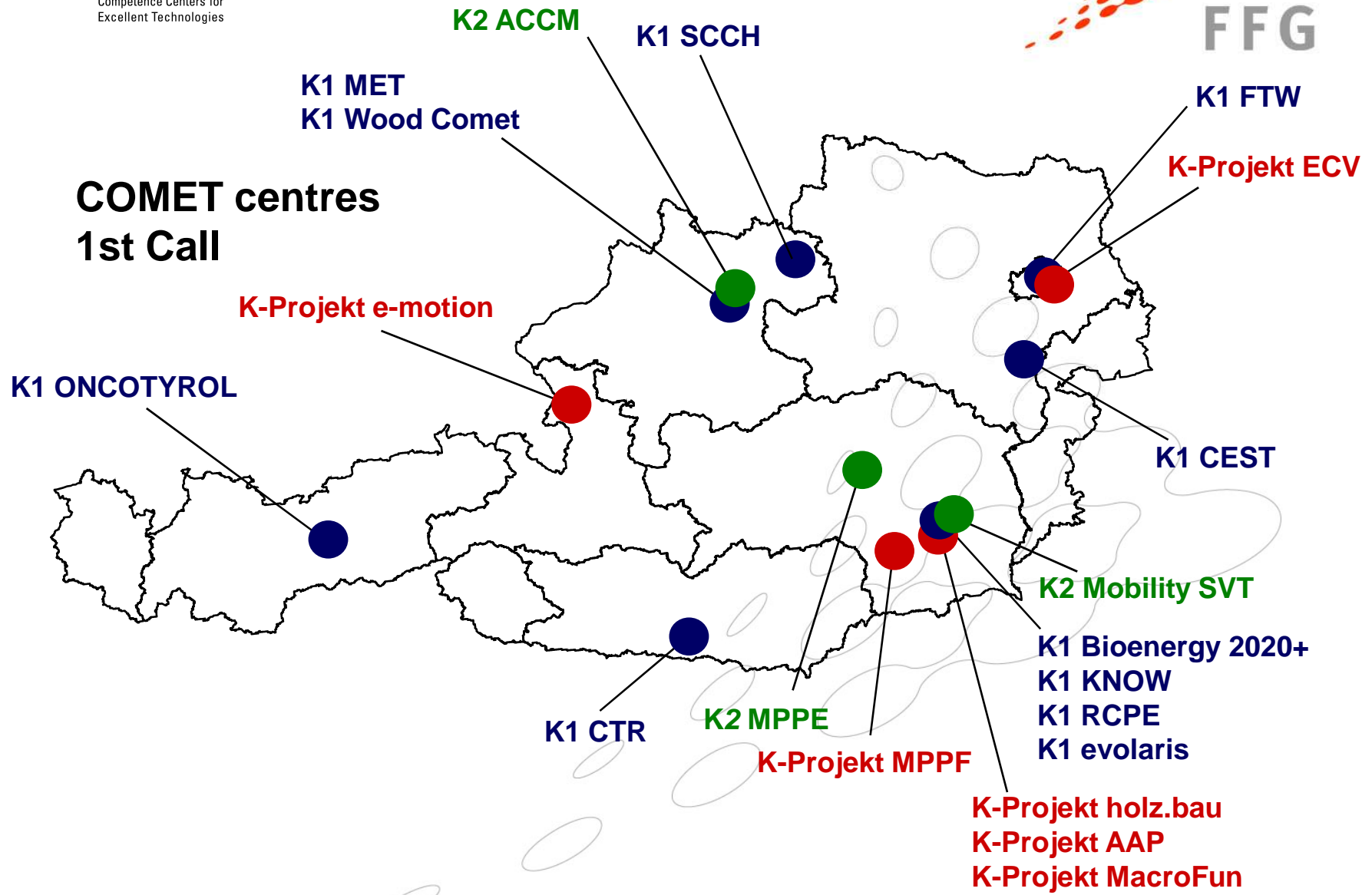
LEVEL 1 (short applications)	
Austrian Science Fund (FWF) / Christian Doppler Research Association (CDG) External evaluation	Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) Internal evaluation
Recommendation Level 1: Panel 1 Invitation to submit full application K1/K2	
LEVEL 2 (full applications)	
Austrian Science Fund (FWF) / Christian Doppler Research Association (CDG) External evaluation	Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) Internal evaluation
Hearings with members of the panel and experts with specific thematic expertise	
Funding recommendation Level 2: Panel 2 (K2, K1 centres)	
Decision on funding by the Federal Minister	

COMET Overview of Applications

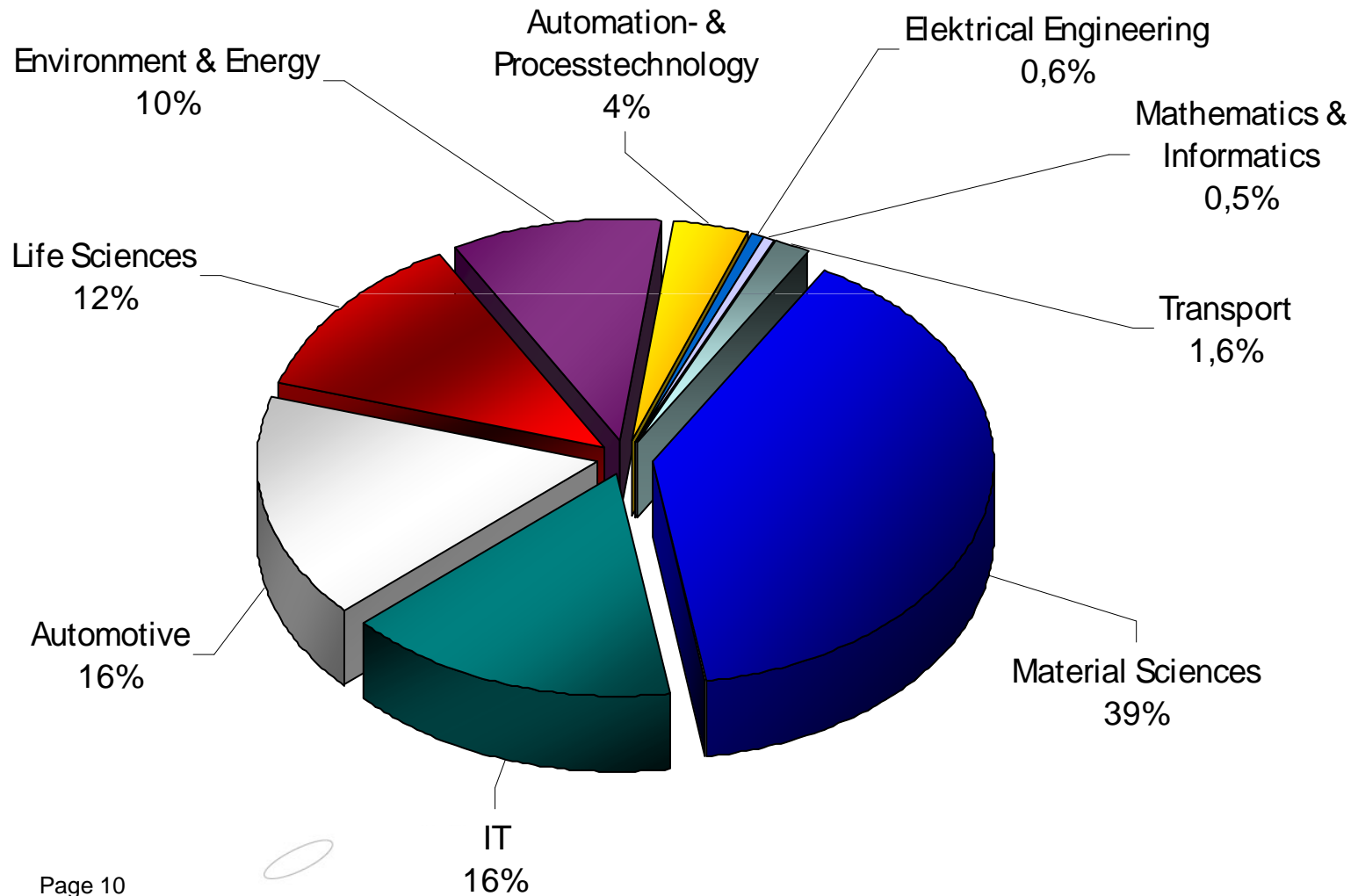
	K2	K1	K Projects
1. Call: applied / approved	7 / 3	19 / 11	15 / 6
2. Call: applied / 2nd level	3 (3)	11 (7)	13 / 4

Federal Funds approx. 250 Mio Euro (2 calls);

Regional Funds contribute 2:1



Results COMET 1st Call: by Industries



1. Call K2

COMET Programme line K2-Centres
ACCM Austrian Center of Competence of Mechatronics
K2-Mobility K2-Mobility SVT sustainable vehicle technologies
MPPE Integrated Research in Materials, Processing and Product Engineering

1st Call K1

COMET Programme line K1-Centres
ABC&RENET (Bioenergy 2020+)
RCPE Research Center Pharmaceutical Engineering
CEST Centre of Excellence in Electrochemical Surface Technology and Materials
CTR Carinthian Tech Research AG Competence Centre for Advanced Sensor Technologies
evolaris evolaris next level
FTW Forschungsz. Telekommunikation Wien

COMET Programme line K1-Centres
K1-MET Competence Center for excellent Technologies in Advanced Metallurgical and Environmental Process Development
KNOW Know-Center Graz competence centre for knowledge based applications and systems
ONCOTYROL Center for Personalized Cancer Medicine
SCCH Software Competence Center Hagenberg
Wood COMET Kompetenzzentrum für Holzverbundwerkstoffe und Holzchemie

1st Call K Projects

COMET Programme line K-Projects
AAP Advanced Audio Processing
ECV Embedded Computer Vision
e-motion e-Motion Research in ICT for the tourism, sport and leisure industries
holz.bau holz.bau forschungs gmbh Kompetenzzentrum für Holzbau & Holztechnologie
MacroFun BioEngineering of Macromolecules
MPPF Multifunctional Plug & Play Facade

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