

Tools for climate-adaptive urban development in Austria

REGARDING ADAPTATION OF URBAN AREAS TO THE PROGRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE IN YOUR NATIONAL CONTEXT

What solutions have been introduced to adapt cities to climate change?

In Austria

In 2021, the Austrian government adopted a strategy paper containing over 120 specific recommendations for action and guidelines as a holistic approach covering everything from the electricity industry to mobility and construction.

The paper's two-pillar climate policy principle involves –
addressing the causes and adapt to the consequences –

that means: reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to unavoidable impacts.
It also incorporates strategies for avoiding maladjustments.

In Vienna

The government of Vienna developed the so called “Klimafahrplan” (Climate Roadmap) for the urban development and the concept for climate strategies in the City.

An Overview about the strategies can be found on the website of the City of Vienna (also in english)

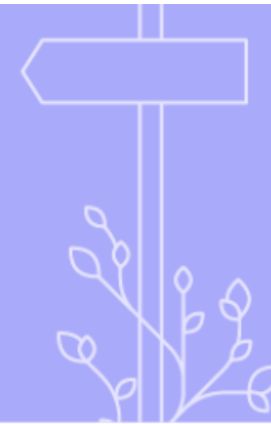
It's called “The Vienna Climate Roadmap - Our path to a climate-friendly city”

<https://www.wien.gv.at/spezial/klimafahrplan/>

The “Climate Roadmap”: describes the climate targets for 2040 to achieve climate neutrality and climate resilience

3. Mit dem Wiener Klimafahrplan zur klimagerechten Stadt

3.1 Klimafahrplan zur klimagerechten Stadt



Der Wiener Klimafahrplan beschreibt unseren gemeinsamen Weg zur Erreichung der Wiener Klimaziele bis 2040 im Sinne einer klimagerechten Stadt. Die Wiener Klimaziele wurden im Regierungsübereinkommen 2020 vereinbart bzw. in der aktualisierten Smart City Strategie Wien (2022) vom Gemeinderat beschlossen und umfassen sowohl Zielsetzungen für den **Klimaschutz** als auch für die **Klimaanpassung**. Durch deren Zusammenspiel soll die Lebensqualität für alle Wiener*innen sichergestellt sowie Klimaneutralität und Klimaresilienz erreicht werden.

Wiener Klimaziele 2040

Leitlinien Klimaschutz Wien wird klimaneutral

Wir senken und vermeiden Treibhausgasemissionen durch einen gesenkten Energieverbrauch, gesteigerte Effizienz im umfassenden Sinn sowie den Umstieg auf erneuerbare Energie und richten unsere Handlungen und Entscheidungen auf einen deutlich reduzierten Ressourcenverbrauch aus.

Leitlinien Klimaanpassung Wien wird klimaresilient

Wir begegnen den Folgen des Klimawandels, indem wir den urbanen Raum lebenswert gestalten, die städtische Infrastruktur leistungsstark anpassen und die lebenswichtigen Funktionen unserer Umwelt bewahren.



Die Wiener Klimagovernance

The Goals - The Strategie (Climate Roadmap) – The Measures



Festlegung
EU und Bund



DAS ZIEL



DER WEG



DIE MAßNAHMEN

Regierungsprogramm 2020 &
Smart City Strategie Wien 2022 (SCSW)

Wiener Klimaziele 2040

Die Ziele basieren auf dem Regierungsübereinkommen 2020 sowie der im Jahr 2022 aktualisierten SCSW und umfassen sowohl Zielsetzungen für den Klimaschutz als auch für die Klimaanpassung. Durch deren Zusammenspiel soll die Lebensqualität für alle Wiener*innen sichergestellt sowie Klimaneutralität und Klimaresilienz erreicht werden.

Climate neutrality and resilience

Wiener Klimafahrplan

Kompakte Umsetzungsstrategie, welche die wesentlichen Hebel, Instrumente und Maßnahmen zur Erreichung der Ziele benennt. Der Fokus liegt auf dem eigenen Wirkungsbereich der Stadt Wien aber auch auf dem Zusammenspiel von Bund und Ländern.

Cooperation between the federal and state governments

Klimabudget

Maßnahmensammlung

Im Rahmen des Klimabudget-Prozesses wird das verbliebene Treibhausgasbudget ausgewiesen, das noch bis 2040 emittiert werden darf. Bestehende Maßnahmen zur Erreichung der Klimaziele und Ideen für künftige Maßnahmen werden gesammelt und priorisiert. Der Fokus liegt auf dem eigenen Wirkungsbereich der Stadt Wien.

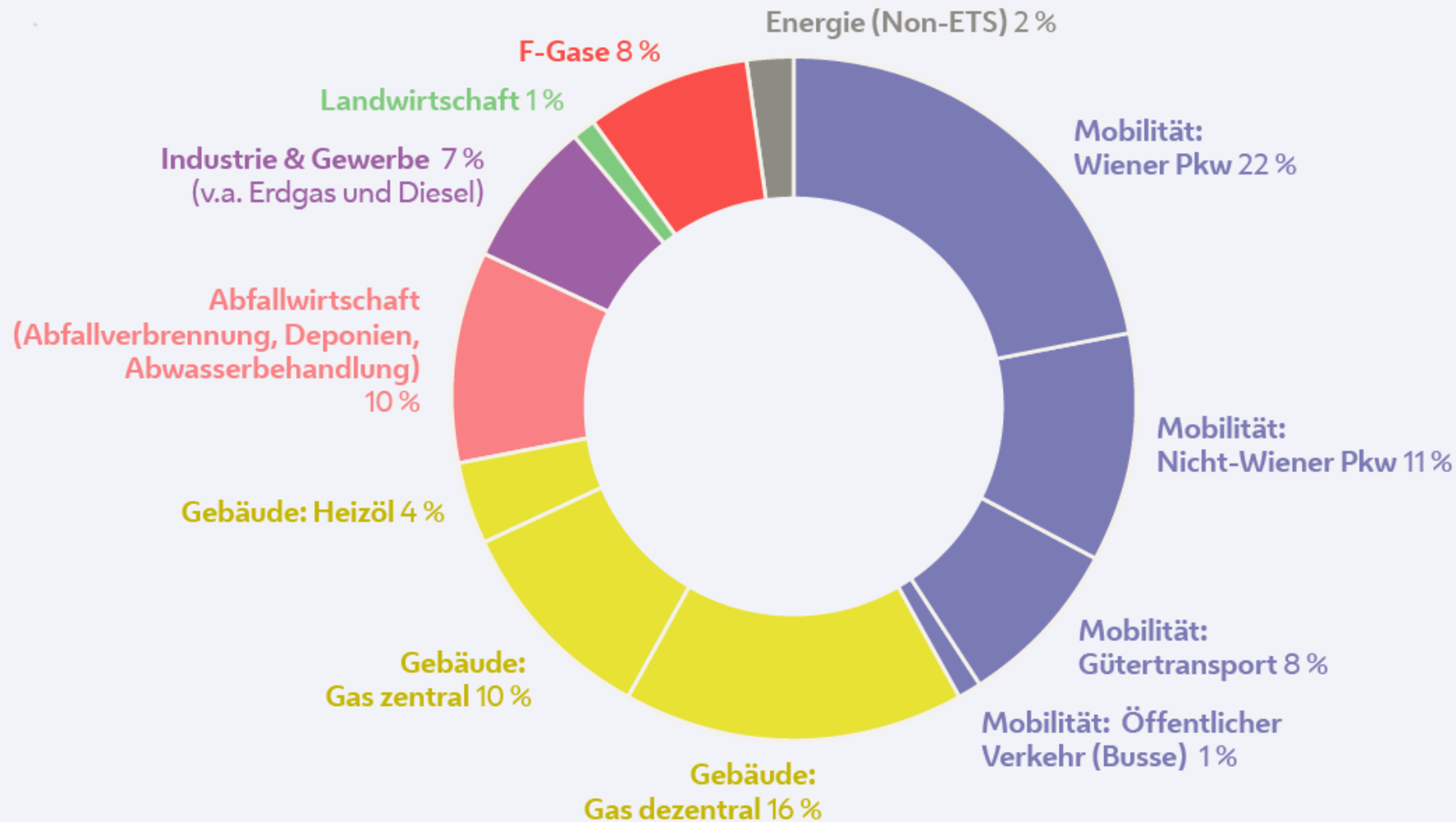


Initiativen

TOOLS

Monitoring – relevant CO2 Emissions in Vienna

Leitzielrelevante Treibhausgasemissionen in Wien im Jahr 2019

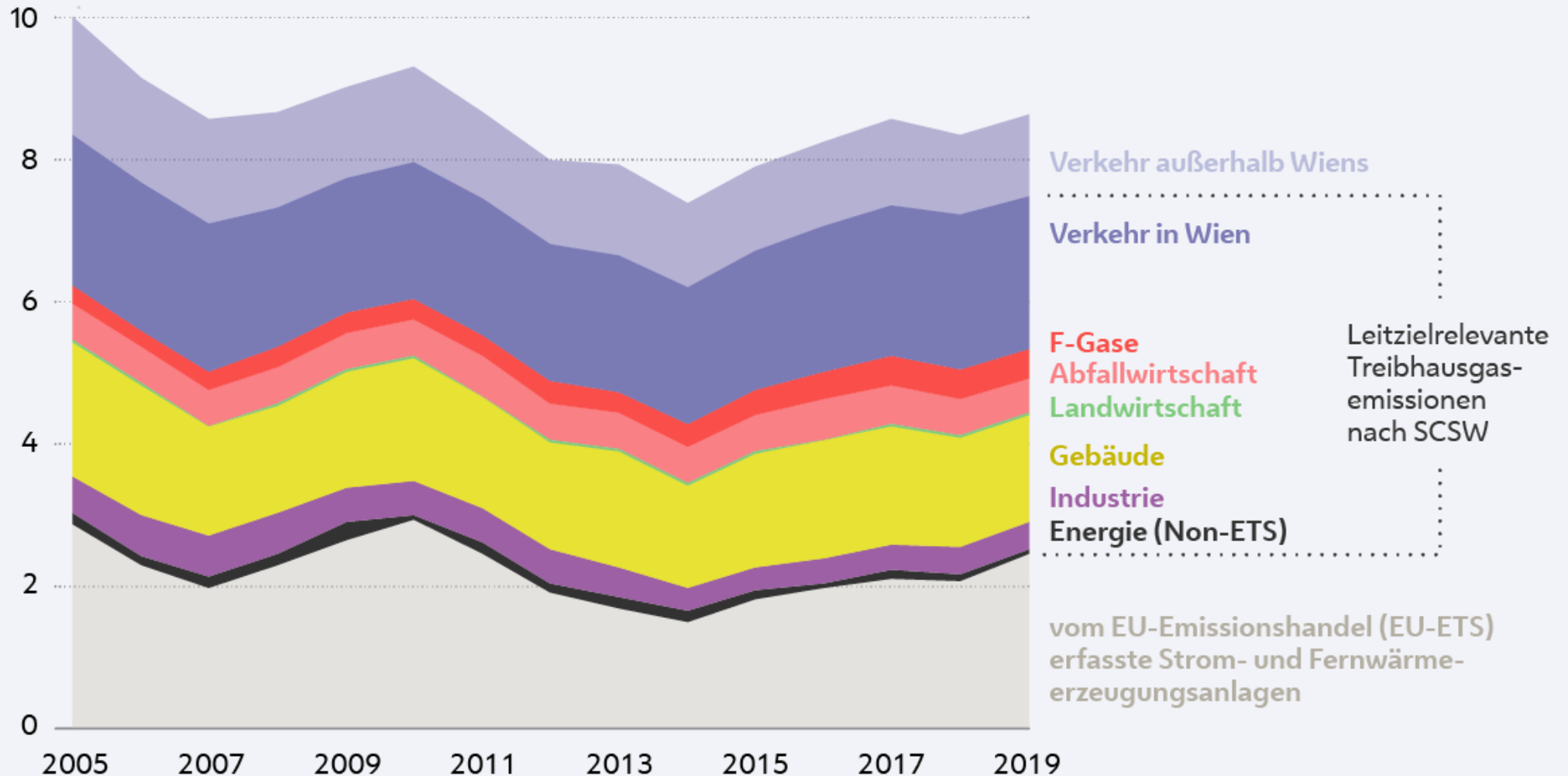


TOOLS

Monitoring CO2 Emissions in Vienna

Sektorale Darstellung der Treibhausgasemissionen in Wien 2005–2019

Treibhausgasemissionen in Mio. Tonnen CO₂-Äquivalent



TOOLS

Climate Council in Vienna – around 40 people (also at federal level and several other Austrian cities)



TOOLS

Climate Council in Vienna (also at federal level and in several other austrian cities)



TOOLS

Building Culture (Baukultur) Guidelines on climate protection and climate change adaptation approved by the City Council of Vienna in 2019

1. **Include climate change adaptation and climate protection systematically and across all departments in strategic planning** and in all planning and implementation processes and develop integrated concepts for urban climate, green infrastructure, water, surfaces, energy and greenhouse gas emissions.
2. In urban policy and administration, reassess and optimise the trade-off between climate change adaptation criteria and others (such as social, economic, durability, conservation), defining climate change adaptation as a new central objective.
3. Define and specify parameters for green and open spaces and unsealed areas, **taking social and health aspects into account.**
4. **Apply urban climatological knowledge** (wind, human comfort, water management, surfaces, green structures) in all planning processes from the outset.
5. Plan and implement compact urban structures and buildings in order to **keep areas free for green and blue infrastructure**, and take climate change adaptation and climate protection issues into account as early as possible in the planning of buildings and open spaces and when selecting and positioning them. Focus on particularly sensitive areas.

TOOLS

Building Culture (Baukultur) Guidelines on climate protection and climate change adaptation approved by the City Council of Vienna in 2019

6. Include climate change adaptation and climate protection issues as a standard topic for urban planning, architecture and open space competitions in selection criteria, tender documents, preliminary examination and adjudication.

7. Pay greater attention to ensuring agreed qualities in the realisation of urban planning and development, architecture and open space planning.

8. Expand the Viennese model of 'gentle urban renewal' with regard to climate change adaptation of buildings and (public and private) open spaces as well as climate protection and sustainable renewal of the energy supply in the existing city.

9. Create the necessary conditions to massively **increase the number of trees** in the urban space, especially in the streets.

10. Only seal open spaces where this is absolutely necessary. **Utilise existing sealed areas** to increase vertical density or **implement unsealing**.

Recent challenges.....

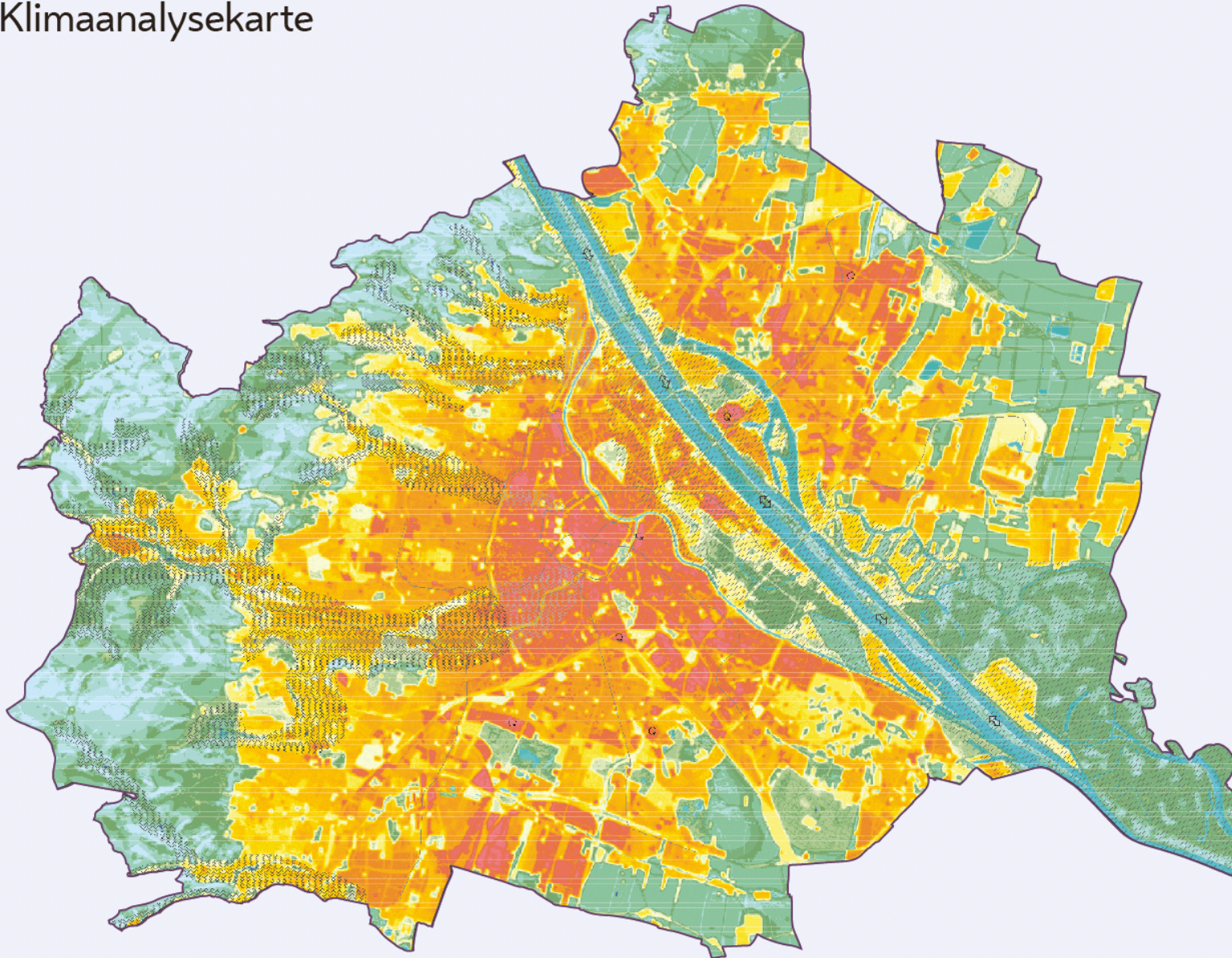
EXTREM WEATHER EVENTS

Floods in Vienna 2024:



Temperatures in Vienna (Yellow-Overheating, Orange: Strong Overheating)

Klimaanalysekarte





More than 260 Spray Showers





More than 1500 Drinking Fountains



MEASURES

Adaption to climate change – Map of the „green network“

Vienna already has a very high proportion of green spaces of over 50 per cent.

The new model identifies areas in which construction is not permitted. This creates a planning basis for neighbourhood planning and the creation of zoning and development plans.

Goal: Through a connected green network, every Viennese shall be able to reach the nearest section of the open space network within 250 metres.



TOOLS

Monitoring – here: possible areas for green roofs



MEASURES

Adaptions to Climate Change – Blue Green Infrastructure - Rainwater management

1. Renaturalisation of watercourses and near-natural shoreline design
2. Removing sealed surfaces and reduce new soil sealing.

Heat and drought due to global warming are affecting trees in the city. The sponge city principle also gives the roots more space under roads, car parks and pavements. Rainwater is also better stored.



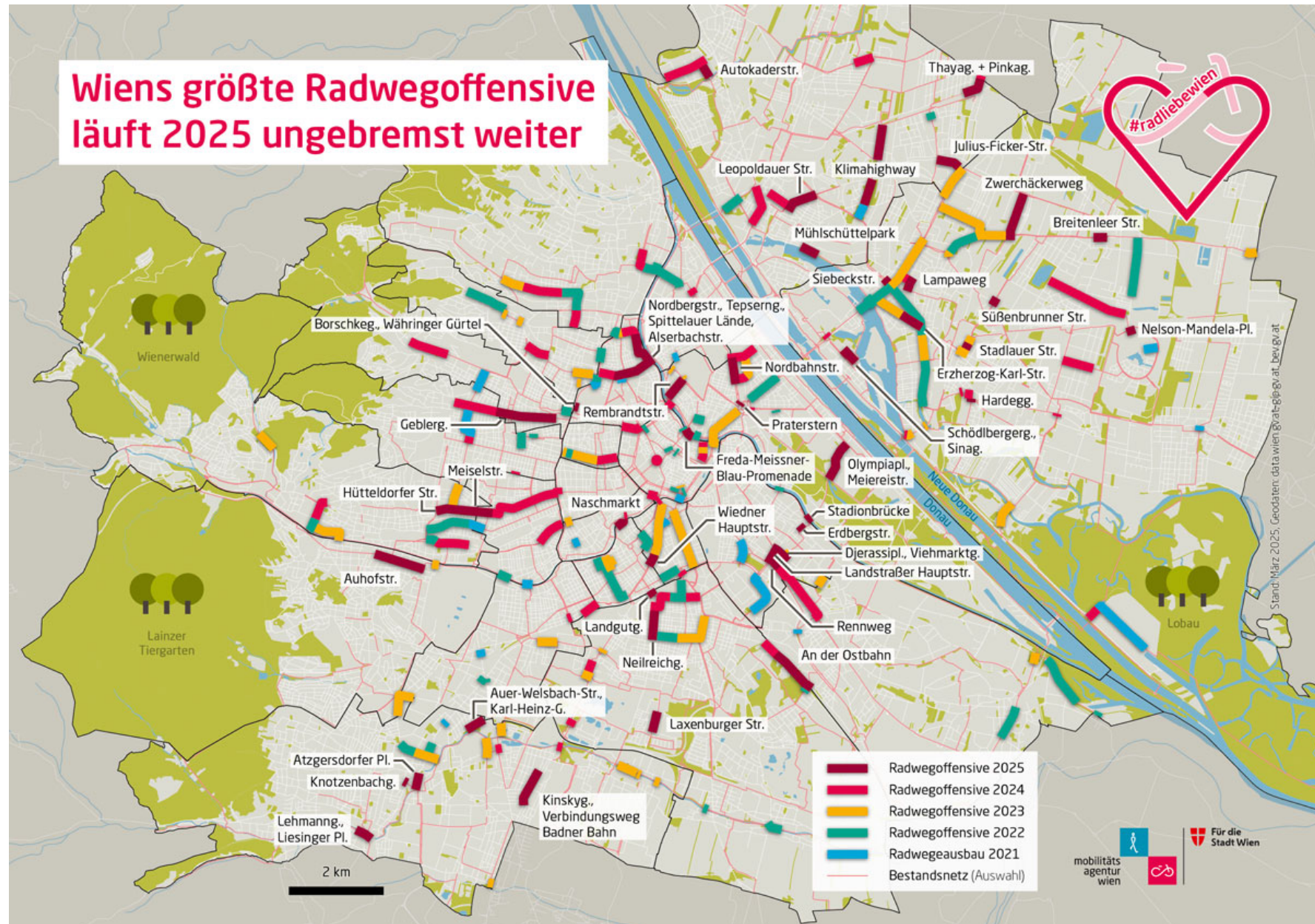
MEASURES

Cycle Path Campaign

Since 2021, 248 projects in the main cycle path network or 96 kilometres have been implemented or launched.

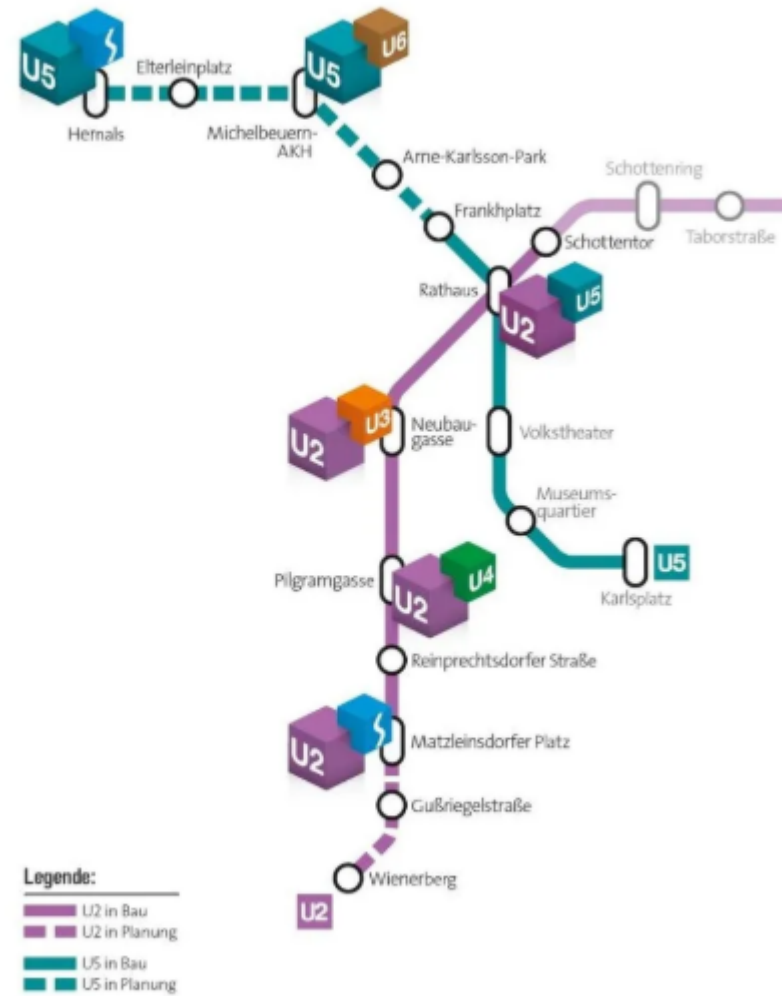
This means that almost 100 kilometres have been built or planned in the past 5 years.

For 2025 55 Projects with 24 km are under construction.



MEASURES

Local public transport to be expanded: Tramways, Busses and Underground



Which solutions do you consider the most promising/most limiting of climate change in cities?

CONCLUSION

It is evident that there is **no singular response** to the multifarious challenges posed by climate change.

A holistic strategy is needed, that should prioritise the tasks for the given context.

It needs a combination of:

Governance / Policy Strategies

An **interdisciplinary Network** of experts and stakeholders should work together.

The **Climate Council** is a perfect example of how this can be organised.

Residents should be involved to create a wide and efficient network.

Everyone can make a contribution and should be encouraged.

Fundings are a good tool to foster engagement.

REGARDING FUTURE OF EDAP

How can we ensure greater continuity and depth in the discussions between EU Presidencies, strengthening the long-term impact of EDAP meetings?

Suggestions: Good question!

The Presidents change but the members of the EDAP community have a certain continuity. It might be a solution to give the EDAP a kind of “enabling tool”, like fundings or grants to provide. That can foster the position of EDAP within the EU, between the members and despite the changing presidency.