

Sankt Veit low carbon daily mobility strategy

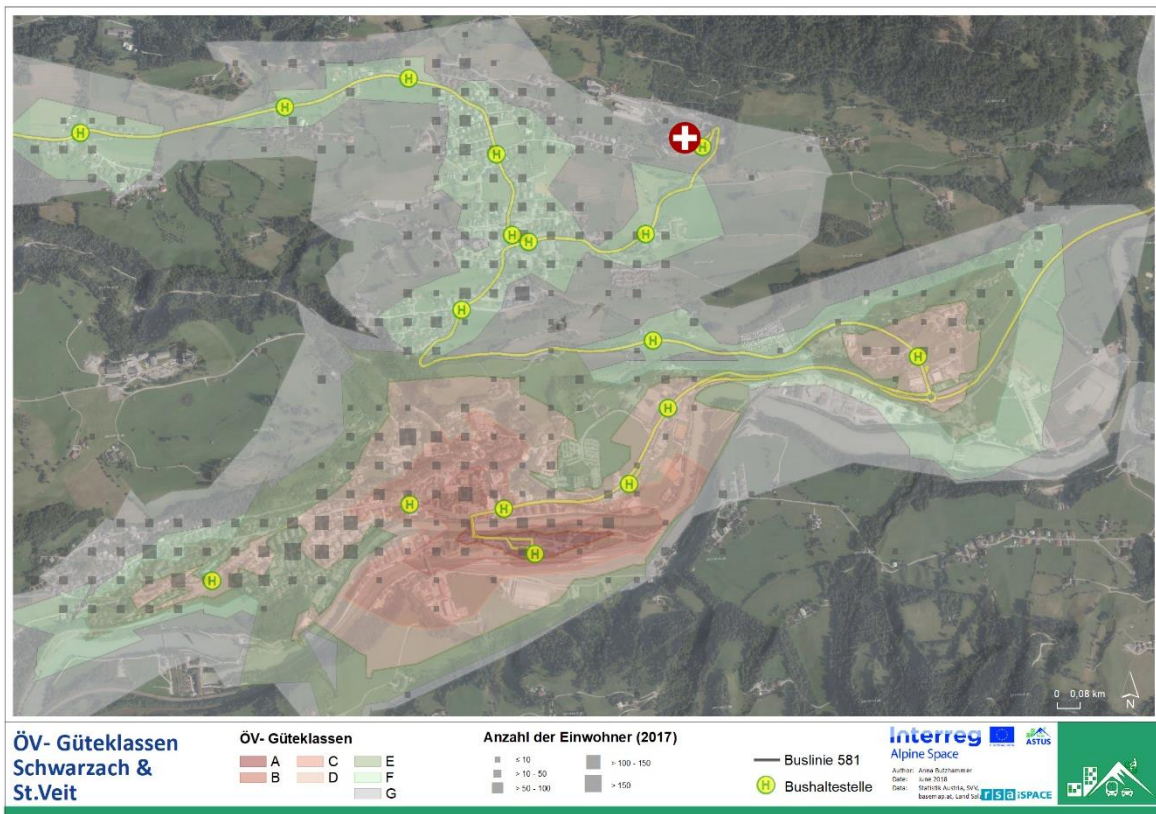
Sankt Veit im Pongau, Austria, is a village counting around 3,700 people. To decrease car dependency in the area and decongest roads, regional stakeholders designed and implemented a tailored made low-carbon transport strategy targeting the daily mobility of workers.

Car dependency in daily mobility

In the Region of Pongau most people have the habit to use their private car for daily mobility. In Sankt Veit, 25% of the 1,056 active people living in the municipality work in health and social services. The State Hospital Sankt Veit im Pongau is a major employer in the region of Pongau, with around 340 employees and a capacity of 170 beds.

Public transport offers exist in the area but are not always well connected. For instance, there is a train station in Sankt Veit (3km away from the hospital), with a high-quality offer of regional train lines. A bus line connects the station to the hospital in about 9 minutes, but the frequency of buses is poor. Moreover, due to the steepness of the slope (positive change in altitude of about 200m), active mobility such as biking to work, is not common. Consequently, employees, patients and visitors use their private car and contribute to the high daily traffic. For example, 90% of the hospital's employees use their car to get to work.

MORE INFO

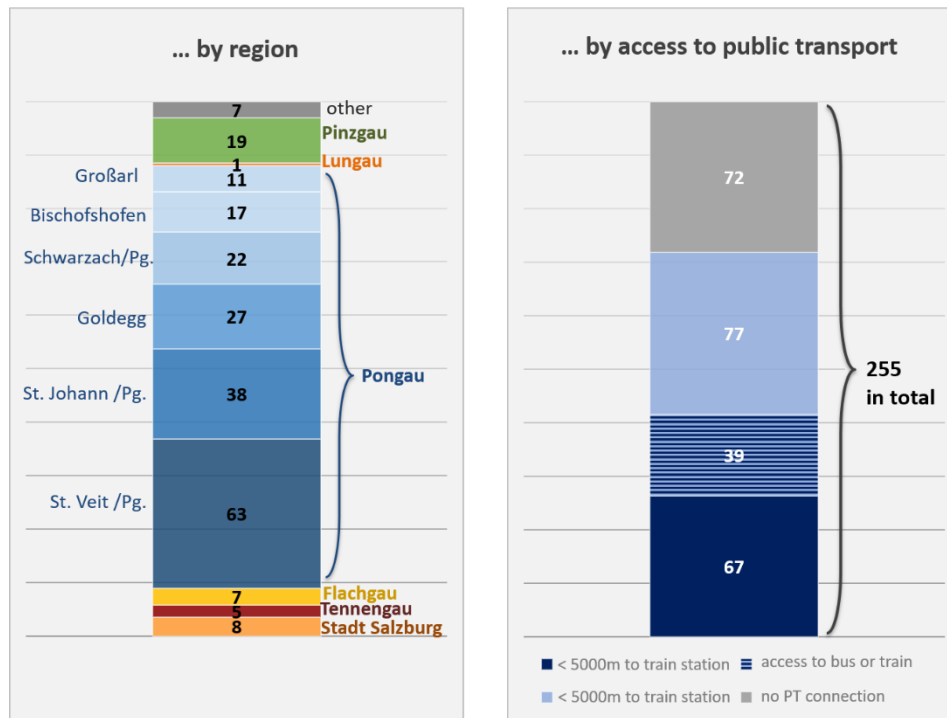


Credits ASTUS

This map shows the quality of public transport services in the investigated area, presented in form of quality categories from A (very high) to G (very low). Additionally, the location of the hospital, bus stops and the distribution of inhabitants are visualized.

At the same time, the below chart illustrate that most employees come from the region of Pongau and have access to public transport.

Number of commuters to the hospital St. Veit



Credits ASTUS

A tailor-made mobility strategy

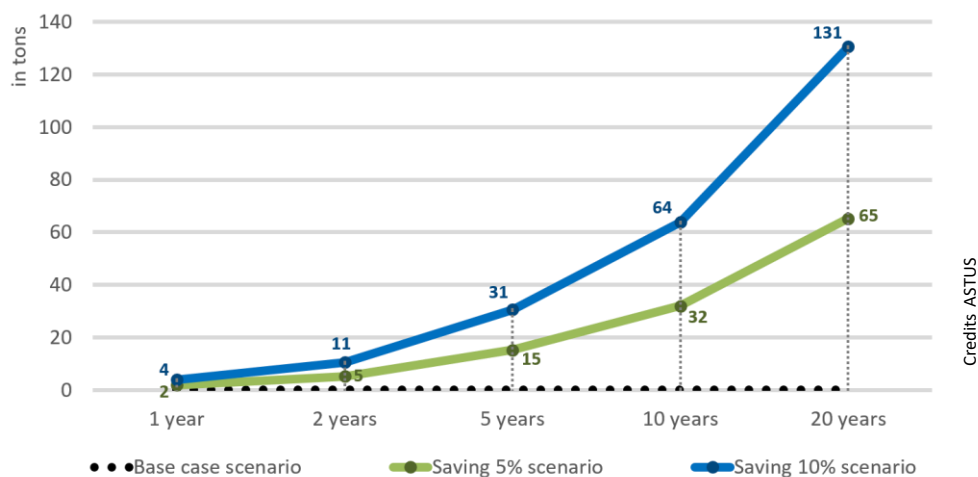
In the framework of the Interreg Alpine Space [ASTUS](#) project (2016-2019), the RSA FG Researchstudio iSPACE together with the Pongau Regional Association, the Salzburg Transport Association and the Salzburg Institute for Regional Planning and Housing (SIR) studied the key elements of mobility in the area. They found out that most employees at Sankt Veit hospital are coming from the Pongau region and that most of them have access to a public transport station but still use their private car due to the defaults of the transport offer.

Therefore, to decrease car dependency and CO2 emissions, they developed a [strategy](#) targeting the daily commutes to work at the hospital. The strategy aims to encourage low carbon mobility on daily basis, therefore promoting sustainable yet affordable mobility offers. During several workshops with local and regional stakeholders, alternative scenarios have been developed. Based on the analysis of a daily commuter to the hospital a high potential along the bus line has been identified. Therefore, actions have been developed to improve the offer of public transport, in particular:

- increasing the frequency of bus rides between the hospital and central station
- improving the coordination of mobility offers with shift work
- implementing awareness raising measures and incentives such as attractive ticketing (for instance, involving the administration of the hospital in the promotion of the bus line towards employees and in the future parking management to increase the parking pricing once the public transport offer is satisfying).

It is foreseen that the action can benefit 340 employees of the hospital, 180 employees living and working near the bus line 581 and 1100 inhabitants. Depending on the uptake of the offer by daily commuters of Sankt Veit hospital, the savings in terms of CO2 emissions could be significant. By 2025, between 10 and 20 tons of CO2 emissions could be avoided, raising to 50 to 100 tons in 25 years. And the benefits also go to workers, who can save money by using public transport compared to their private car (maintenance, gas etc.)

Potential savings of CO2-equ. emissions –
potential in-commuter with destination hospital St.Veit
and access to bus route 581 in the municipalities of Schwarzach and St.Veit



Governance and resources

The strategy was developed following ASTUS methodology, which is based on the assumption that mobility solution cannot be one-fits-all but place-based. ASTUS proposes [tools to analyse mobility issues](#) at local level in order to identify the main challenges and target groups and gather the relevant stakeholders to ensure a good mobility governance. The project also developed a [typology of Alpine territories](#), that other Alpine regions can use to look for inspiring sustainable mobility measures implemented.

The [action plan](#) implemented in Sankt Veit involves different levels of governance, from the municipality of Sankt Veit to the region of Pongau and the state of Salzburg. The increase of the bus interval was for instance implemented from 2020, with the support from local authorities from the region of Pongau. However, revising the ticketing pricing must be decided at the level of the state of Salzburg and will therefore be designed and implemented in the next few years.

The budget foreseen to increase the interval of bus rides to and from the hospital (also improving the coordination between bus timetables and work shifts) amounts 190.000€. It will be financed by local and regional authorities, indirectly national funding, and potentially through a co-financing by the hospital.

The mobility strategy extends to 2030, with additional accompanying measures to be implemented progressively, for example: improvement of infrastructure such as bus stops, renovation of pavements and cycle paths.

Innovative aspect

The mobility strategy implemented in Sankt Veit addresses the issues of daily mobility for permanent residents. Increasing the offer on a specific bus line is not innovative as such but by analysing the existing public transport offer and the main employment basin, stakeholders identified the weaknesses of the transport network and proposed tailor-made solutions to encourage more sustainable and affordable mobility on a daily basis.

For more information, please contact:

Blandine Camus, Communication & Policy Officer
communication@euromontana.org
 +32 2 280 42 83
www.euromontana.org

