Committee: UNDP

Topic: Achieving Sustainable Development Goals 8 and 9

Country: Austria

Ever since the end of World War II, Austria has achieved an important amount of sustained economic growth. In the 1950s, Austria achieved an average growth rate more than 5%. And through most of the 1960s, the Austrian economy averaged about 4.5%. Until the late 1990s, Austria’s GDP (Gross Domestic Product) also had a growth in an important amount, which had an important affect on building the economy. Austria became a member of the European Union in 1995. This membership also brought many benefits and challenges, and also helped Austrian economy to become a more well-known economy globally.

Austria is a well-developed market economy with skilled labour force and high standard of living. It is closely tied to other EU economies, especially Germany's, but also the US’, its third-largest trade partner. Its economy features a large service sector, a sound industrial sector, and a small, but highly developed agricultural sector.

Some of the recent data that we can share is that Austria’s economic growth was strengthened in 2017 with a 2.9% increase in GDP. Austrian exports, accounting for about 60% of the GDP, increased 8% in 2017. In 2020, the real GDP per capita was 51.900$, which is ranked as the 25th among the countries worldwide. The inflation rate in 2019 was 1.5%.

The largest industries in Austria are: construction, machinery, vehicles and parts, food, metals, chemicals, lumber and paper, electronics and tourism. The industrial production grew 6.5% in 2017, which was ranked as the 35th worldwide.

Austria has a population of 8.956 million people. The labour force in 2020 was 3.739 million people, which was ranked as the 94th country worldwide. According to the data of 2017, 0.7% of the labour force was working in agriculture, 25.2% was working in industry and 74.1% was working in services sector. The unemployment rate in 2019 was 7.35%, which was ranked as the 117th. Population below poverty rate was 13.3% according to the statistics of 2018.

In Austria, 100% of the population in both urban and rural places have access to improved drinkable water. Which means no one has to give an extra effort to reach clean water. 100% of the population have access to improved sanitation facilities. The telephone system is highly developed and efficient. Fibre-optic coverage is extensive, although it remains very expensive. A full range of telephone and Internet services are available via the network. There are 37 Internet service providers (ISPs), most of them organised in the local ISP association Internet Service Providers Austria, ISPA. There are 2,074,252 fixed broadband subscriptions. There are 50 airports, 5300 km railways, 137.039 km of roadways and 358 km of waterways in total. There are 1.888 km gas, 594 km oil and 157 km refined products pipelines according to the data of 2017.

As a proposal, we want to give our history as an example. Especially after the 2nd World War, we had become such an undeveloped country with its affects to us in many different ways. However, we could manage to recover and raise to a really high level with the usage of good administration. So, our recommendation to the undeveloped and developing countries is to analyse their situation and find the best way to rule their countries to give their citizens a higher living standard and have a good reputation among the world public opinion.

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