

Press Release

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AIT LOCATION SEIBERSDORF: ECOLOGIZATION AS A CONTRIBUTION TO THE PRESERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Because sustainability is to be lived, the green areas at the AIT site in Seibersdorf will be left almost entirely to nature in the future at the beginning of spring. All green areas, a total of around eight hectares, will become natural meadows, which will provide a habitat for many native plant and insect species in the future. They will be mowed only once a year. Next year, the blooms will already present a wonderful spectacle of nature. "With the 'Ecologization Seibersdorf' project, the first, essential steps towards more climate protection through biodiversity are being taken at the company sites themselves," explains AIT Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Alexander Svejkovsky.

The dry grass areas are intended to promote the well-being of employees and visitors. "We are creating a nature and recreation zone. In addition, the project reflects our commitment to sustainable development by doing something good for the environment," says project manager Philipp Käfinger. More information about the project can be obtained via QR codes on information boards. Visitors and employees thus also become a bit of a forget-me-not of nature conservation and ambassadors of the benefits of ecologized green spaces.

Every surface counts

With the green spaces in Seibersdorf, the AIT is part of a regional network of valuable natural areas (currently 144 hectares in 25 municipalities) in the region. The professional partner in the project implementation is the landscape conservation association Thermenlinie-Wienerwald-Wiener Becken. "The ecologization at the AIT Seibersdorf site can make a significant contribution to the preservation of native diversity and help to recolonize numerous animals such as wild bees and butterflies at the site," says Irene Drozdowski from the Landschaftspflegeverein.

Sustainability and the responsible use of resources are part of AIT's self-image and are reflected in all areas - from AIT's research focus on decarbonization solutions to sustainable procurement and environmentally and resource-friendly building and laboratory development.

Facts:

- Less mowing and no artificial watering is ideal for the region's typical stonefield dry grassland.
- Dry grasslands are very species-rich - and host many rare plants, including these 16: Carthusian carnation, heath dandelion, rock carnation, thyme species, beard grass, ox tongue, field manure, yellow resede, tumbleweed, meadow sage, brunelle, lesser pimpernel, cinquefoil species, true bedstraw, horned clover, variegated crown vetch
- Dry grasslands are ideal for attracting bees and butterflies to stay.
- Short, trimmed green spaces not only cause high costs, but are also biologically worthless. They provide no food or shelter for butterflies, wild bees and other insects.
- You can find more information here: <https://www.ait.ac.at/ueber-das-ait/oekologisierung-seibersdorf>

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