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Since 2012, Alois Leidwein is Head of Department, Research and Knowledge Transfer of AGES. AGES is a government owned agency with public mission and research organisation attached to the Federal Ministry for Health and to the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management.

AGES main departments are Food Security, Food Safety, Radiation Protection, Animal Health, Public Health, Medicines and Medical Devices and Integrated Risk Assessment. The department "Research and Knowledge Transfer" coordinates all research and capacity building activities of AGES.

AGES employs a staff of 1.400 persons, of whom more than 40% are scientists or experts with academic degrees in nearly all disciplines related to agriculture, food and health safety.