



# Alpine cooperation stories

Alpine Space programme and the EU strategy for the Alpine region - EUSALP

**64 PROJECTS FOR THE ALPS**



# INTERREG ALPINE SPACE PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

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**INNOVATIVE**  
Alpine Space



**LOW CARBON**  
Alpine Space



**LIVEABLE**  
Alpine Space



**WELL-GOVERNED**  
Alpine Space

## EUSALP ACTION GROUPS

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1

To develop an effective research and innovation ecosystem

2

To increase the economic potential of strategic sectors

3

To improve the adequacy of labour market, education and training in strategic sectors

4

To promote inter-modality and interoperability in passenger and freight transport

5

To connect people electronically and promote accessibility to public services

6

To preserve and valorise natural resources, including water and cultural resources

7

To develop ecological connectivity in the whole EUSALP territory

8

To improve risk management and to better manage climate change, including major natural risks prevention

9

To make the territory a model region for energy efficiency and renewable energy

**ALPINE SPACE**  
is a EU transnational cooperation programme that funds projects and provides a platform for exchanges across the Alps

**EUSALP**  
is an integrated framework between Alpine states and regions to address common challenges in the Alpine region

**ALPINE CONVENTION**  
is an international treaty between Alpine countries and the EU for the sustainable development and the protection of the Alps



34 NUTS 2 regions  
in 7 countries



40 NUTS 2 regions  
in 7 countries



8  
Alpine countries

**ALPINE CONVENTION**

**ALPINE SPACE**

**EUSALP**

1991



2000



2015



**NOTE**  
Région Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes\*: Ain, Ardèche, Drôme, Isère, Loire, Rhône, Savoie, Haute-Savoie  
Région Bourgogne-Franche-Comté\*: Doubs, Jura, Haute-Saône, Territoire de Belfort  
Région Grand Est\*: Bas-Rhin, Haut-Rhin  
NUTS 2: Second territorial level (often regional) of the European Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS).



## **Maria Patek**

Austrian Federal Minister for Sustainability and Tourism

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Austria is at the heart of the Alpine area. The joint development and implementation of new approaches, procedures, tools, technologies and applications enhance sustainable development. This is the basis for ensuring prosperous living conditions. Through many projects we have gained experience in the field of multilevel and transnational governance in the Alpine area. Alpine cooperation has always been an important topic for us and therefore Austria is very involved in Alpine cooperation initiatives

My personal “Alpine Space moment” was to lead the implementation of the SedAlp project, developed by PLANALP (Alpine Convention natural hazards working group) and financed by the Alpine Space programme. All partners were highly committed to the project in the Alpine area. Finally we developed guidelines for sediment management for Austria. This shows the long-term impact of such projects also on the national level.





## **Alenka Smerkolj**

Secretary General of the Alpine Convention

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28 years ago, the Alpine Convention was a pioneer of its kind, striving for the sustainable development of the Alps. Today, our goal is as relevant and demanding as it was then: it is our common duty to further keep a balance between development and protection in the Alpine region. To this end, the Alpine Space programme gives us access to an important communication and knowledge sharing platform, whereas within EUSALP we can apply cross-sectoral approaches on a transnational scale, reaching out also to the young generation. Progress is made when one is willing to cooperate and share experiences. Let us continue to work together for the sustainable development and protection of the Alps through open dialogue and joint action!

As former Slovenian Minister responsible for Strategic Projects and Cohesion, I oversaw the establishment of a National Development Strategy that draws on a well-being approach and is fully aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations. As Secretary General, I am pleased to continue my work on the SDGs within the Alpine region and the Convention, which is the first living example of the implementation of SDGs on a transnational level!





## **Silvia Jost**

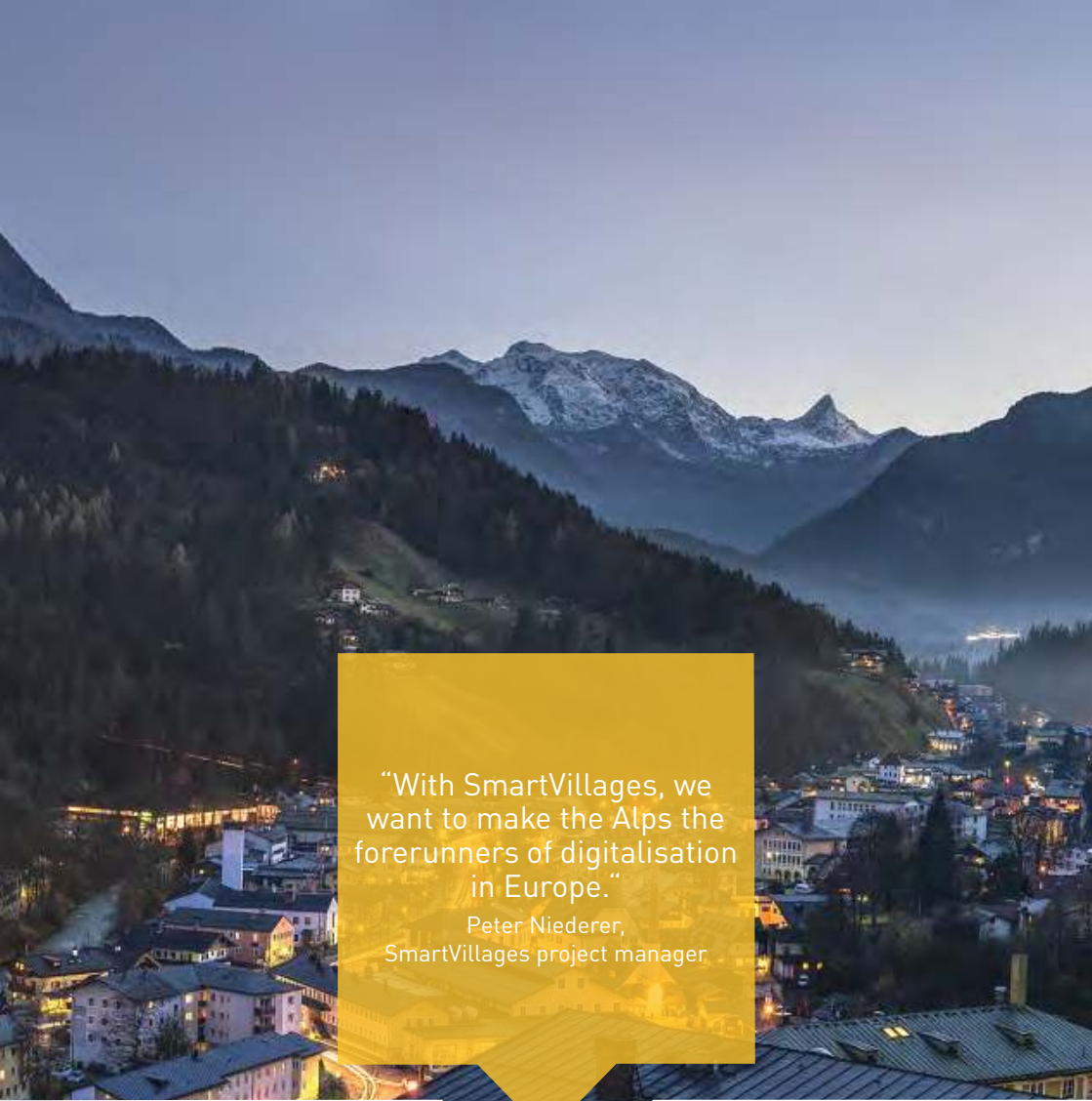
Swiss national coordinator of the Interreg Alpine Space programme

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I consider myself lucky: Switzerland has a small administration, so the ties between the different Alpine actors on national, regional and local level are short and cooperation is somehow refreshingly easy. This is why we can smoothly coordinate EUSALP with Interreg Alpine Space and the Alpine Convention. After all, even if each of these Alpine initiatives has its own rationale and structure, the goal is the same: to enhance the sustainable development of the Alpine area! Since 2015, we swiftly managed to profile Interreg Alpine Space projects as successful implementers of the EUSALP strategy and supported their integration within its action groups.

I invite you to shape the Interreg Alpine Space programme 2021-2027 that answers your needs! Discover how you can contribute to this process on page 34. I am passionate about Alpine cooperation, and look forward to even more inspiring and sparkling projects in the years to come!





“With SmartVillages, we want to make the Alps the forerunners of digitalisation in Europe.”

Peter Niederer,  
SmartVillages project manager



**INNOVATIVE**  
Alpine Space

Services of general interest  
Knowledge transfer  
Eco-innovation  
Smart businesses



## INNOVATIVE Alpine Space

# The digital transformation of villages at the core of the EUSALP strategy



Peter Niederer  
project manager

SmartVillages is a strategic project conceived within AG5 when elaborating the work plan for this action group. The project creates tools and policy recommendations that will enhance digitalisation in the Alps. It does so through a bottom-up approach, by involving policy-makers, businesses, academia and civil society in all project activities. In particular, project outputs are a knowledge-sharing open source website, a toolbox of methods for co-creating a smart village environment and a set of recommendations for policy-makers. SmartVillages lead partner (SAB - Swiss Centre for mountain regions) is at the same time co-leader of AG5, so project results flow directly into the work of AG5 and have therewith a strategic dimension. But SmartVillages is relevant to several aspects of the EUSALP, as the presence of representatives of other AGs among its observers shows.

Together with the other AG5 co-leader (Val d'Aosta) we will continue to develop strategic initiatives. In the coming years, we will put a strong accent on the capitalisation of what has already been achieved and on the transfer of the SmartVillages approach to an increasing number of mountain villages in the Alpine area.





## Alpine Space and EUSALP pioneers of digitalisation in the Alps



Carlo Vigna  
EUSALP AG5  
co-leader

The topic of SmartVillages is an important one within the AG5 and the related Alpine Space project was conceived as a strategic initiative with the direct involvement of some AG members. We have an interest in taking the results of SmartVillages to a strategic level where the smart assessment method and the bottom-up approach it developed can become real assets and where the SmartVillages toolbox and digital platform can benefit all Alpine communities. The policy recommendations the project is developing are especially interesting to us, as they combine technical and theoretical knowledge with the experience of 11 pilot actions in 6 countries.



Thomas Egger  
EUSALP AG5  
co-leader

AG5 collaboration with SmartVillages is ongoing. In 2019, AG5 organised an event in Courmayeur to capitalise on the first results of this project, define intervention priorities, embed digitalisation policies in a common administrative framework, involve stakeholders and enhance multi-level cooperation. For the future, our goal is to further disseminate strategic initiatives like this one to the whole Alpine region and foster contacts between AG members and projects in all the domains where digitalisation and ICT are critical success factors.



## INNOVATIVE Alpine Space

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	EUSALP ACTION GROUP
<b>AlpBioEco</b>	<p><b>Valorisation of innovative bio-economical potentials along bio-based food &amp; botanical extract value chains in the Alpine Space</b></p> <p>Bioeconomy offers great opportunities for the development of the Alpine area. AlpBioEco fosters the sustainability of local economies through the valorisation of bioeconomy along the bio-based food and botanical extract value chains.</p>	1 2 6
<b>AlpLinkBioEco</b>	<p><b>Linking bio-based industry value chains across the Alpine region</b></p> <p>AlpLinkBioEco works to develop a cross-regional circular bio-based economic strategy including a roadmap and advice to assess, select and create innovative value chains for the Alpine Space wood, agriculture, food/pharma and chemistry sectors.</p>	2 6 7
<b>AlpSib</b>	<p><b>Capacity development of public and private organisations for Social Impact Bonds</b></p> <p>To respond to the current economic and social crisis (high unemployment rates, ageing population), AlpSib develops innovative and tailored ways to involve private investments in order to fund services of social interest.</p>	3 5
<b>ASIS</b>	<p><b>Alpine Social Innovation Strategy</b></p> <p>To foster innovation in the Alpine Space, ASIS promotes the cooperation of its key actors, develops new ways to address societal challenges and provides new knowledge and skills to public authorities and business support organisations.</p>	1



**INNOVATIVE**  
Alpine Space

EUSALP  
ACTION GROUP

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	
<b>BE-READI ALPS</b>	<p><b>Business economic renewal to enhance strategic development and innovation in the Alpine Space</b></p> <p>BE-READI ALPS adapts start-up support services to the needs of mature SMEs in the Alpine Space and offers them a “second life” by giving them access to new opportunities in an open innovation perspective.</p>	<b>1 2</b>
<b>BIFOCALps</b>	<p><b>Boosting Innovation in Factory Of the future value Chain in the Alps</b></p> <p>BIFOCALps builds synergies among Alpine businesses, research and technology centres as well as development agencies toward a sustainable, smart and competitive development of the manufacturing value chain.</p>	<b>1 2</b>
<b>CARE4TECH</b>	<p><b>Cross-sectoral Alliances for Smart Living</b></p> <p>CARE4TECH works to overcome the current fragmentation in research and innovation in the smart living domain by fostering cooperation between quadruple helix players: public institutions, academia, business and civil society.</p>	<b>1 2</b>
<b>CIRCULAR4.0</b>	<p><b>Enabling the transition to circular economy in the Alpine Space</b></p> <p>CIRCULAR4.0 takes advantage of digitisation processes to support the transition to circular economy of SMEs in the Alpine region.</p>	<b>2</b>
<b>CO.N.S.E.N.SO</b>	<p><b>COmmunity Nurse Supporting Elderly iN a changing SOciety</b></p> <p>CO.N.S.E.N.SO develops a new care model for elderly people in the Alpine Space. It introduces the “family and community nurse”, who offers personalised services in order to allow the elderly to stay and live at home as long as possible.</p>	<b>5</b>



**INNOVATIVE**  
Alpine Space

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	EUSALP ACTION GROUP
<b>C-TEMAlp</b>	<p><b>Continuity of Traditional Enterprises in Mountain Alpine Space areas</b></p> <p>C-TEMAlp rises to the challenge of making business transfers in the Alpine Space more effective and fostering business renewal by bringing together actors from different regions to research, test and jointly define new business transfer services.</p>	1 2
<b>DEAS</b>	<p><b>A strategy to boost data economy in the Alpine Space</b></p> <p>DEAS exploits linked open data to develop new products and services in the mobility, environment and tourism fields. Through a dedicated strategy, it boosts the data economy in the Alpine Space.</p>	1
<b>DesAlps</b>	<p><b>Design Thinking for a Smart Innovation eco-system in the Alpine Space</b></p> <p>DesAlps trains practitioners and policy-makers on the design thinking approach, in order to reduce the inequality in services and opportunities for SMEs located in remote mountain areas.</p>	1 2
<b>DuALPlus</b>	<p><b>Increasing the attractiveness of dual education for skilled crafts and trades in the Alpine Space</b></p> <p>Despite a long-lasting tradition, nowadays Alpine skilled crafts and trades SMEs find it increasingly difficult to attract new apprentices. DuALPlus develops innovative ways to increase the appeal of dual education in this field.</p>	3
<b>HEALPS 2</b>	<p><b>Healing Alps: Tourism based on natural health resources. A strategic innovation for the development of Alpine regions</b></p> <p>HEALPS 2 fosters a better use of Alpine natural health resources for the development of tourism. It implements new business models and strengthens territorial innovation in Alpine destinations.</p>	2



## INNOVATIVE Alpine Space

EUSALP  
ACTION GROUP

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	
<b>INTESI</b>	<p><b>Integrated territorial strategies for Services of General Interest</b></p> <p>INTESI aims at ensuring the delivery of services of general interest in areas where demographic changes are making a sectorial approach no longer viable. It develops integrated strategies and policies that build on synergies between different services.</p>	5
<b>PlurAlps</b>	<p><b>Enhancing capacities for a pluralistic Alpine Space</b></p> <p>PlurAlps offers transnational solutions for the integration of migrants in Alpine municipalities. It includes pilot projects and a social planning tool to assess the demographics and needs of migrants and enhance the performance of municipalities.</p>	3 5
<b>S3-4AlpClusters</b>	<p><b>Smart Specialisation Strategies to build an Innovation model for Alpine Clusters</b></p> <p>S3-4AlpClusters devises transnational innovative models and effective tools to implement regional smart specialisation strategies (S3) and improve the competitiveness of Alpine SMEs by means of a cluster-based approach.</p>	1 2 3
<b>SCALE(up)ALPS</b>	<p><b>Accelerate and promote the Alpine Start-up Ecosystem</b></p> <p>SCALE(up)ALPS improves support services for Alpine Space start-ups, to help them in the delicate upscaling phase. The goal is to turn the Alpine Space into a hub for scale-ups and therefore become more attractive and competitive.</p>	1 2
<b>SESAM</b>	<p><b>Sensor Assisted Alpine Milk production</b></p> <p>SESAM introduces an innovative IT sensor-based framework for decision support tailored to small farm needs. This fosters competitiveness, animal wellbeing and calf loss reduction in the Alpine dairy farming sector.</p>	2



## INNOVATIVE Alpine Space

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	EUSALP ACTION GROUP
<b>SMART-SPACE</b>	<b>Smart manufacturing for Alpine Space SMEs</b>  In order to promote smart digital solutions for the traditional industrial sectors, the SMART-SPACE partnership works to identify an Alpine Smart manufacturing strategy and build a digital innovation hub to support Alpine SMEs.	1 2
<b>SmartVillages</b>	<b>Smart digital transformation of villages in the Alpine Space</b>  Through a smart village approach, SmartVillages brings together policy-makers, businesses, academia and civil society and fosters innovation through ICT based participatory tools to keep villages attractive to work and live in.	1 3 5 9
<b>T.A.A.F.E</b>	<b>Towards An Alpine Age-Friendly Environment</b>  T.A.A.F.E enhances the capacities of public authorities and service providers to develop sustainable age-friendly environments in the Alpine Space, through participatory co-creation methods.	5



“With the support of EUSALP, AlplInnoCT transnational stakeholder cooperation has been able to overcome technical and political hurdles and produce solutions towards a modal shift in favour of rail.”

Karl Schumacher,  
AlplInnoCT project manager



**LOW CARBON  
Alpine Space**

Mobility

Transport

Energy efficiency

Renewable energies



**LOW CARBON**  
Alpine Space

## An Alpine-wide dialogue for sustainable mobility



Karl Schumacher  
project manager

AlpInnoCT provides technical innovations and occasions for transnational dialogue between all players of Alpine freight transport at regional, national and European level. AG4 has helped us bring together all stakeholders and start an Alpine-wide information exchange. Altogether, seven dialogue events have been carried out within the project. AG4 was particularly involved in the one we organised in Bolzano about the possible measures to promote combined transport and modal shift from road to rail. In turn, AlpInnoCT contributes to EUSALP AG4 goals of improving transport system quality and increasing the sustainable accessibility of the Alps. The project promotes intermodality in freight transport, provides strategies for a more sustainable accessibility of the Alpine region and enhances transnational cooperation in this field.

AlpInnoCT analysed existing strategies, policies and processes, and applied production industry know-how to provide political and technical action sheets specifying short-term, mid-term and long-term goals as well as the actions necessary to achieve them. AG 4 plays an important role especially in the implementation of the political action sheets.





## A joint effort to shift goods from road to rail



Patrick Skonieczki  
EUSALP AG4  
co-leader

AG4 offers Alpine regions and countries a platform to coordinate and harmonise their activities to achieve a modal shift. In this joint effort, we rely on projects like AlplnnoCT, which bundle the forces of all relevant Alpine stakeholders in transport (logistics service providers, NGOs and public authorities) into one strategic dialogue. This multi-stakeholder approach is essential for the successful implementation of the EUSALP.



Olivier Margouet  
EUSALP AG4  
co-leader

Exploiting the full potential of innovative intermodal approaches for optimised logistic processes can help achieve modal shift from road to rail, which is crucial to reduce the negative impacts of transport in the Alpine region. AlplnnoCT pinpoints deficiencies in combined transport and helps policy-makers find solutions that respond to the needs of the involved actors through two ready-to-implement strategic documents: the political and the technical action sheets. The AG4 identified combined transport as a key element in the modal shift policy and will follow up on AlplnnoCT findings in the upcoming work plan to translate its results into further action.



## LOW CARBON Alpine Space

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	EUSALP ACTION GROUP
<b>ALPGRIDS</b>	<p><b>Increasing renewable energy sources uptake through microgrids in the Alps</b></p> <p>ALPGRIDS creates a transnational enabling environment for the development of low-carbon electric microgrids by addressing regulatory issues and organisational-business challenges.</p>	9
<b>AlpInnoCT</b>	<p><b>Alpine Innovation for Combined Transport</b></p> <p>AlpInnoCT tackles the challenge of raising combined transport efficiency and productivity while respecting the Alpine environment. It offers joint solutions to strengthen ecological transport and establish more efficient freight transport corridors.</p>	4
<b>ASTUS</b>	<p><b>Alpine Smart Transport and Urbanism Strategies</b></p> <p>ASTUS helps local authorities identify and implement long-term mobility and spatial planning solutions to reduce the CO2 impacts of commuting in the Alps. Data from five regions will be used to develop solutions suited to different territorial types.</p>	4
<b>BB-CLEAN</b>	<p><b>Strategic tools towards a sustainable use of biomass for low carbon domestic heating</b></p> <p>BB-CLEAN works to develop transnational policies for a sustainable use of biomass for domestic heating, minimising the impacts of biomass burning on natural ecosystems, human health and climate change.</p>	9
<b>CaSCo</b>	<p><b>Carbon Smart Communities</b></p> <p>CaSCo strives to decrease the CO2 emissions related to the use of timber products. The project develops and establishes policy guidelines, and it provides decision-makers with steering tools to promote climate-friendly timber products.</p>	2 9



## LOW CARBON Alpine Space

EUSALP  
ACTION GROUP

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	
<b>CESBA Alps</b>	<b>Sustainable territories</b>  Extending energy assessment from individual buildings to whole territories, CESBA Alps develops the first assessment tool at territorial scale. This tool will support the decision-making process, from analysis to policy implementation and monitoring.	9
<b>e-MOTICON</b>	<b>e-MObility Transnational strategy for an Interoperable COmmunity and Networking in the Alpine Space</b>  e-MOTICON supports and coordinates Alpine administrations in the spatial planning of electric charging stations. Its integrated transnational strategy enables a large diffusion of electric charging stations (E-CS) and wider interoperability.	4 9
<b>e-SMART</b>	<b>e-mobility SMART grid for passengers and last mile freight transports in the Alpine Space</b>  e-SMART designs, tests and validates transnational instruments for an integrated planning of e-mobility smart grid services and charging stations for local public transport and last mile freight logistics.	4 9
<b>GREENCYCLE</b>	<b>Introducing circular economy system in the Alpine Space to achieve low-carbon targets</b>  Greencycle promotes cooperation, mutual learning, shared capacity-building and exchange of experiences among Alpine public administrations to foster the implementation of the concept of circular economy and achieve a reduction in carbon emissions.	2 6 9
<b>GRETA</b>	<b>Near-surface Geothermal Resources in the Territory of the Alpine Space</b>  GRETA develops a shared knowledge base for the transfer and adoption of near-surface geothermal energy systems in the Alpine area. It delivers tools to support decision-making and encourage appropriate policy-making.	9



## LOW CARBON Alpine Space

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	EUSALP ACTION GROUP
<b>IMEAS</b>	<b>Integrated and Multi-level Energy models for the Alpine Space</b>  IMEAS develops a methodology and practical guidelines for the creation and integration of multi-level sustainable energy models in the Alpine Space. The method is participatory and based on the exchange of experiences and know-how among partners.	9
<b>LinkingAlps</b>	<b>Innovative tools and strategies for linking mobility information services in a decarbonised Alpine Space</b>  LinkingAlps connects Alpine mobility information services to foster a modal shift from private to low carbon passenger transport (e.g. public and on-demand), thus offering integrated mobility chains for passenger trips.	4
<b>MELINDA</b>	<b>Mobility Ecosystem for Low-carbon and INnovative moDAL shift in the Alps</b>  MELINDA fosters multimodality and modal shift in mobility behaviour for a more sustainable mobility in the Alps. By providing an integrated set of mobility and behavioural data, it supports policy-making and service planning.	4 5
<b>PEACE_Alps</b>	<b>Pooling Energy ACTION plans and Enhancing their implementation in the Alps</b>  In the Alps, many communities have adopted sustainable energy and climate action plans or other similar schemes but find it hard to carry them out effectively; PEACE_Alps tackles this issue by developing inter-municipal implementation measures.	9
<b>SamBA</b>	<b>Sustainable Mobility Behaviours in the Alpine region</b>  Sustainable mobility behaviours can only be achieved when people perceive public transport as a convenient option. SamBA sets up reward and pricing policies directly related to the external costs of transport in order to stimulate people to use sustainable mobility options instead of private cars.	4



**LOW CARBON**  
Alpine Space

EUSALP  
ACTION GROUP

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	
<b>SMART ALTITUDE</b>	<p>Alpine winter tourism territories demonstrating an integrated framework for a low-carbon, high-impact and resilient future</p> <p>SMART ALTITUDE helps overcome differences in territorial governance and infrastructure management among winter tourism destinations. The goal is to develop a shared, transnational approach to clean energy policy implementation in mountain areas.</p>	<p>1 9</p>
<b>THE4BEES</b>	<p>Transnational Holistic Ecosystem 4 Better Energy Efficiency through Social innovation</p> <p>Energy is consumed by people rather than by buildings, so the first step towards a low-carbon society is a change in people's behaviour. THE4BEES encourages such change through trainings, co-creation activities and innovative ICT applications.</p>	<p>9</p>



“There is no sustainable development and prosperity without sustainable soil management and soil protection.”

Borut Vrščaj,  
Links4Soils project manager



**LIVEABLE**  
Alpine Space

Biodiversity

Ecosystem services

Cultural & natural heritage

Natural risk management



**LIVEABLE**  
Alpine Space

## Links4Soils, AG6 and Alpine Convention together for soil protection



Borut Vrščaj  
project manager

Link4Soils develops and implements sustainable Alpine land management strategies, thus contributing to the EUSALP policy area “environment and energy” and in particular to the AG6 subgroup on spatial development and soil conservation. For example, within this subgroup we helped setting up the new soil protection working group of the Alpine Convention. In turn, the political support of the EUSALP AG6 members was paramount for the success of one of the project actions: the creation of the Alpine Soil Partnership. The latter promotes sustainable soil management and protection in the Alps. Thanks to our cooperation with AG6, the number of Alpine Soil Partnership members increased drastically and our project events (e.g. the Alpine Soil Forum in October 2019) have received an unexpectedly large participation.

In the next months, project partners will keep on actively participating in the Alpine Soil Partnership, contributing to the EUSALP AG 6 activities and to the work of the Alpine Convention soil protection working group by sharing Links4Soils results to the benefit of the whole Alpine region. It will be up to EUSALP, the Alpine Convention and local governments to turn the knowledge developed by Links4Soils into concrete actions.



**LIVEABLE**  
Alpine Space

## Safer soils in the Alpine region thanks to the synergy between Links4Soils and AG6



Wolferger Mayrhofer  
Lisa Ellemunter  
Helmut Serro  
EUSALP AG6  
co-leaders

We have many synergies with Links4Soils, both because of its goal – improving the systematic applicability of the Soil Conservation Protocol of the Alpine Convention – and because some project partners are involved in AG6. We cooperated with the project on several occasions: Links4Soils helped us organise the awareness-raising roadshow on reduced land take and on soil consumption in Austria, Italy and Slovenia; in turn, AG6 actively supported the Alpine Soil Partnership, which is a core output of the project. Finally, the results of the Links4Soils questionnaire served as elements for the elaboration of the “Less land take” AG6 toolbox for regional and local stakeholders.

The cooperation with the Alpine Space programme is essential to reach AG6 goals. Not only are AG6 activities financed through the AlpGov project but several other projects contribute to the current AG6 work plan. Links4Soils works towards “Spatial development and soil conservation”, AlpFoodway addresses our “Future oriented farming and forestry” goals and the newly approved project ADO - Alpine Drought Observatory is based on an AG6 report on water demand and supply in case of droughts.





**LIVEABLE**  
Alpine Space

EUSALP  
ACTION GROUP

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	
<b>ADO</b>	<b>Alpine Drought Observatory</b>  ADO sets up an innovative Alpine wide drought monitoring system and develops recommendations for improved risk preparedness and drought management efficiency in the Alpine Space.	6
<b>ALPBIONET2030</b>	<b>Integrative Alpine wildlife and habitat management for the next generation</b>  ALPBIONET2030 enhances transnational cooperation in nature protection and sets up an Alps-wide system for ecological connectivity. The project identifies areas with high connectivity potential, in which a wildlife strategy is tested.	7
<b>AlpES</b>	<b>Alpine Ecosystem Services – mapping, maintenance and management</b>  AlpES develops a transnational approach to ecosystem services and provides public authorities, policy-makers and NGOs with information, training and support in order to foster a shared understanding, appreciation and management of environmental issues.	6 7
<b>AlpFoodway</b>	<b>A cross-disciplinary, transnational and participative approach to Alpine food cultural heritage</b>  AlpFoodway works to safeguard Alpine food cultural heritage and turn it into a driver of sustainable development. To do so, after identifying the heritage worth preserving, it creates and tests intergenerational transmission formats and new marketing tools.	1 3 6
<b>ALPTREES</b>	<b>A transnational cooperation for sustainable use and management of non-native trees in urban, peri-urban and forest ecosystems in the Alpine region</b>  ALPTREES investigates the expected benefits and potential risks of non-native trees in the Alpine Space, by developing a transnational strategy to foster responsible use and management practices.	6 7 8



## LIVEABLE Alpine Space

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	EUSALP ACTION GROUP
<b>ATLAS</b>	<p><b>Advanced Tools for Low-carbon, high-value development of historic architecture in the Alpine Space</b></p> <p>Reaching climate targets and preserving Alpine cultural landscape is a challenge. ATLAS rises up to it by rediscovering, valorising and using historic buildings in a sustainable way, thus paving the way for a greener Alpine society.</p>	9
<b>CHEERS</b>	<p><b>Cultural HERitagE Risks and Securing activities</b></p> <p>Cultural heritage shapes people's identity and contributes to Alpine economy. CHEERS devises national and transnational tools, governance schemes and intervention guidelines to safeguard cultural heritage from natural hazards.</p>	3 6 8
<b>Eco-AlpsWater</b>	<p><b>Innovative Ecological Assessment and Water Management Strategy for the Protection of Ecosystem Services in Alpine Lakes and Rivers</b></p> <p>Eco-AlpsWater improves the water quality and biological assessment of Alpine lakes and streams. It makes species identification more efficient thanks to next generation DNA sequencing and optimises data management through smart technologies.</p>	6
<b>GreenRisk4ALPs</b>	<p><b>Development of ecosystem-based risk governance concepts with respect to natural hazards and climate impacts - from ecosystem-based solutions to integrated risk assessment</b></p> <p>Although their effectiveness is recognised, forests and ecosystem services have been seldom integrated in risk mitigation strategies. GreenRisk4ALPs (GR4A) develops ecosystem-based concepts to support risk governance.</p>	8



**LIVEABLE**  
Alpine Space

EUSALP  
ACTION GROUP

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	
<b>HyMoCARES</b>	<p><b>HydroMorphological assessment and management at basin scale for the Conservation of Alpine Rivers and related Ecosystem Services</b></p> <p>HyMoCARES fosters the conservation of Alpine rivers and related ecosystems by providing innovative basin planning and management tools based on the ecosystem services approach, while ensuring integration of local and basin levels.</p>	<b>6 7</b>
<b>Links4Soils</b>	<p><b>Linking Alpine Soil Knowledge for Sustainable Ecosystem Management and Capacity Building</b></p> <p>Links4Soils overcomes the main barriers to sustainable soil management in the Alpine region. To achieve this, it brings together stakeholders from cross-cutting sectors and sets up the first Alps-wide soil information system.</p>	<b>6</b>
<b>LOS_DAMA!</b>	<p><b>Landscape and Open Space Development in Alpine Metropolitan Areas</b></p> <p>As Alpine cities grow and transform, land use pressure is ever increasing. With a focus on green infrastructures for better quality of life in peri-urban areas, LOS_DAMA! proposes attractive green solutions for Alpine cities and their surroundings.</p>	<b>7</b>
<b>LUIGI</b>	<p><b>Linking Urban and Inner-Alpine Green Infrastructure - multifunctional ecosystem services for more liveable territories</b></p> <p>LUIGI promotes green infrastructure in Alpine rural and urban areas by assessing its economic, environmental and social benefits and by developing new business models and policies.</p>	<b>7</b>



## LIVEABLE Alpine Space

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	EUSALP ACTION GROUP
<b>OpenSpaceAlps</b>	<p><b>Sustainable development of Alpine open spaces by enhancing spatial planning governance</b></p> <p>OpenSpaceAlps fosters a multi-level, transnational spatial-planning governance in order to maintain open spaces as part of the Alpine green infrastructure, thus supporting sustainable development in the Alps.</p>	6 7
<b>RockTheAlps</b>	<p><b>Harmonized ROCKfall natural risk and protection forest mapping in the ALPine Space</b></p> <p>RockTheAlps focuses on forests as a protection element against rockfall and fosters their employment in risk management and prevention policies. The project provides the first Alps-wide harmonised rockfall risk and protection forests map.</p>	6 8
<b>SPARE</b>	<p><b>Strategic Planning for Alpine River Ecosystems – Integrating protection and development</b></p> <p>SPARE aims at sharing, adapting and capitalising strategic planning and river management experiences across different regions and governance levels, fostering the adoption of a catchment-wide approach and of a transnational perspective.</p>	6
<b>trAILS</b>	<p><b>Alpine Industrial Landscapes Transformation</b></p> <p>The decline of Alpine heavy industry has left behind several “Alpine Industrial Landscapes” (AILs), whose potential is still unexploited. trAILS generates multidisciplinary knowledge about AILs and develops sustainable and transferable transformation strategies.</p>	6
<b>YOUrALPS</b>	<p><b>Educating Youth for the Alps: (re)connecting Youth and Mountain heritage for an inspiring future in the Alps</b></p> <p>In order to stop the decline of Alpine identity and knowhow, YOUrALPS develops awareness-raising activities for the youth about the natural and cultural heritage of the Alpine region.</p>	3 6



“Joining forces with GoApply has strengthened understanding between two policy communities crucial for sustainable development in the Alps: disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.”

Florian Rudolf-Miklau,  
EUSALP AG8 co-leader



**WELL-GOVERNED**  
Alpine Space

- Participation
- Governance
- Multilevel
- Policy instruments



## WELL-GOVERNED

### Alpine Space

# GoApply and AG8: together we exceed expectations



Wolfgang Lexer  
GoApply  
project manager

GoApply tackles multi-level and cross-sector climate adaptation challenges by mapping, analysing and comparing relevant governance systems of four Alpine countries. AG8 strongly contributed to our key outputs and helped us reach – and over-achieve – our project objectives. The first result of AG8 members involvement in GoApply is the extension of the geographic coverage and impact beyond the partner countries Austria, Germany, Italy, Switzerland. France, Slovenia and Liechtenstein became part of our map of national adaptation governance systems and the multilingual booklet on “Good participation practice in climate adaptation in the Alpine region” has come to feature examples from France and Slovenia, too. AG8 was also crucial for establishing mutual exchange and cooperation with the natural hazard policy community in the Alpine region and for mainstreaming the importance of creating synergy between climate adaptation and natural hazard risk management.

To ensure that this cooperation continues in the future, AG8 and the transnational network of the Alpine adaptation policy-makers agreed on long-term liaison mechanisms, including coordination in setting up future work plans.



## With GoApply, to integrate risk management and climate change adaptation



Florian Rudolf-Miklau  
EUSALP AG8  
co-leader



Christian Wanger  
EUSALP AG8  
co-leader

The topics AG8 addresses are risk management and climate change adaptation. While we have worked a lot on natural hazard risk governance, GoApply has focused on climate change adaptation, providing a state-of-the-art database on the multilevel governance of climate adaptation in all Alpine countries, in-depth knowledge on the success factors, barriers, lessons and enhancement options, a multilingual brochure and a set of recommendations for the joint management of climate change adaptation and natural hazards prevention. These results set the ground for shared and improved adaptation governance approaches and support the development of synergies between risk management and climate change adaptation, both of which are objectives of the AG8 work plan. To capitalise on these results, we have already taken steps towards mainstreaming climate adaptation also into other relevant action groups.

In the future, AG8 will keep cooperating with the GoApply partners, who have formed a transnational network of institutions in charge of adaptation strategies in their countries. With them, we are currently working on aligning future work plans, which may very well result in a future cooperation project.



**WELL-GOVERNED**  
Alpine Space

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	EUSALP ACTION GROUP
<b>AlpGov</b>	<p><b>Implementing Alpine governance mechanisms of the European strategy for the Alpine region</b></p> <p>AlpGov supports EUSALP by establishing harmonised mechanisms for action group organisation, by mapping institutional frameworks, actors and funding schemes and by identifying and promoting actions with high leverage potential.</p>	<p>1 2 3</p> <p>4 5 6</p> <p>7 8 9</p>
<b>AlpGov 2</b>	<p><b>Enhancing the governance mechanisms of the European strategy for the Alpine region</b></p> <p>AlpGov2 takes the mechanisms and instruments developed in the framework of its predecessor (AlpGov) to the decision-making level in order to ensure the strategic implementation of the EUSALP Action Plan.</p>	<p>1 2 3</p> <p>4 5 6</p> <p>7 8 9</p>
<b>ARDIA-Net</b>	<p><b>Creating an Alpine Space Research, Development and Innovation Area by lowering barriers for cross-regional cooperation</b></p> <p>ARDIA-Net develops a multi-level research, development and innovation framework for Alpine governance. This framework enables cooperation in smart specialisation strategies implementation.</p>	<p>1 2</p>
<b>A-RING</b>	<p><b>Alpine Research and INnovation capacity Governance</b></p> <p>A-RING provides the framework for joint Alpine research and innovation policies through coordinated and transnational multi-level governance.</p>	<p>1</p>
<b>ASTHAG</b>	<p><b>Alpine Space Transnational Governance of Active and Healthy Ageing</b></p> <p>ASTHAG focuses on the need for cooperation in policy-making for the elderly. It establishes a transnational governance board involving quadruple helix players to promote active and healthy ageing in each territory.</p>	<p>1 5</p>





**WELL-GOVERNED**  
Alpine Space

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	EUSALP ACTION GROUP
<b>GaYA</b>	<b>Governance and Youth in the Alps</b>  GaYA fosters the involvement of young people in regional governance and develops new approaches for decision-makers. Building on local experiences, the project will produce a participation toolkit and policy recommendations.	1 2 3
<b>GoApply</b>	<b>Multidimensional governance of climate change adaptation in policy-making and practice</b>  Adaptation strategies are a highly necessary policy response to climate change in the Alpine area. GoApply tackles the issue by facilitating multi-level and transnational governance.	8



## **ALPINE SPACE: WHAT'S NEXT?**

The Interreg Alpine Space programme 2021-2027 is under preparation. A dedicated task force composed of delegates from all partner states as well as observers from the European Commission, the Alpine Convention and EUSALP is drafting the new cooperation programme. We need your expertise: help us shape the future Interreg Alpine Space programme 2021-2027!

Learn more at:

[www.alpine-space.eu/alpinespace2021plus](http://www.alpine-space.eu/alpinespace2021plus)



The **Interreg Alpine Space programme** is a European transnational cooperation programme involving seven countries (AT, CH, DE, FR, IT, LI, SI). It co-finances projects to make the region more innovative, develop low carbon solutions, valorise the cultural and natural heritage, and improve transnational governance. In the current programming period, 2014–2020, the programme budget is €139 million.

**EUSALP** is a EU macro-regional strategy based on a joint initiative of Alpine states and regions. It sets the strategic framework for cooperation in the Alpine region, supporting the alignment of relevant policy instruments. The EUSALP has an action plan which is implemented by nine dedicated Action Groups. Alpine Space projects actively contribute to the strategy.

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