



In ARDIA-Net our goal is to develop an Alpine Space Research, Development and Innovation Area by lowering barriers for cross-regional cooperation. The developed **AlpsConnect Cross-regional Cooperation Scheme** provides three options to support cross-regional RDI cooperation and thus close the respective funding gap.



AlpsConnect is based on the synchronization of **existing funding programmes:**

- No new funding programmes have to be established
- No new legal frameworks have to be developed
- No cross-regional transfer of funds
- Intellectual Property Right is defined by partner agreements

These premises form the background of our **ARDIA-Net Modular Framework:**

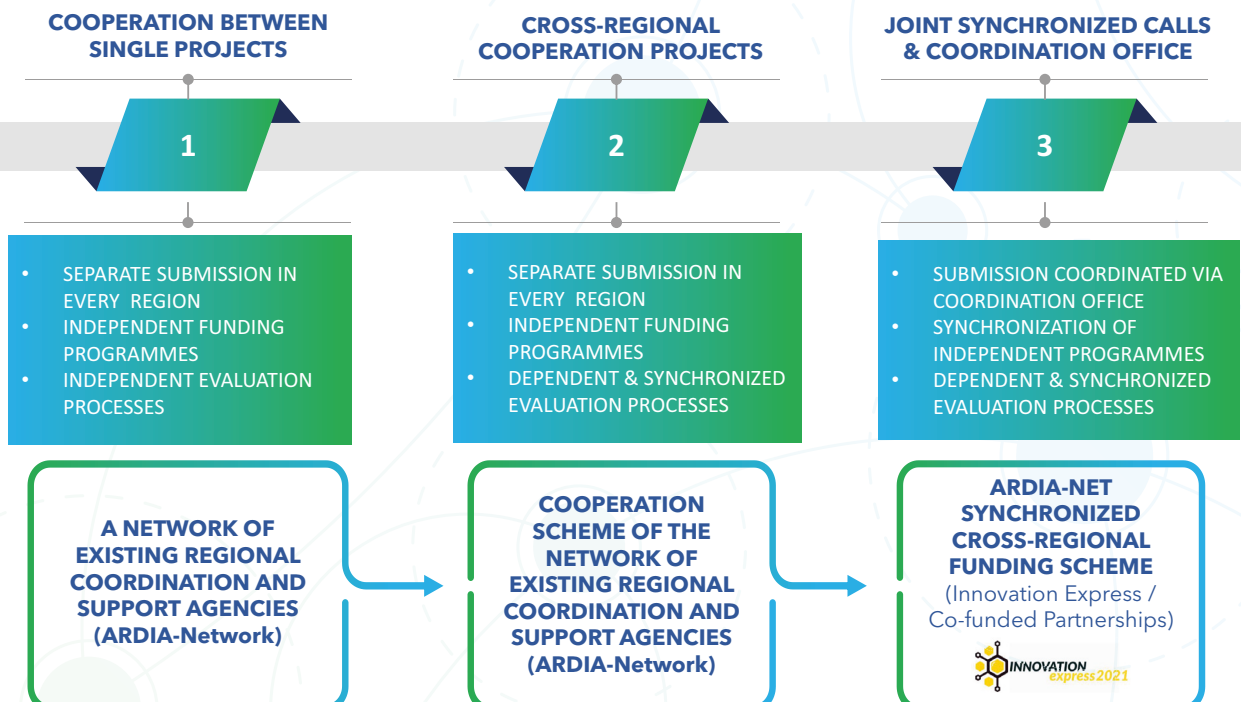
Dimension 1: AlpsConnect implements regional RDI-strategies (such as Smart Specialisation Strategies) to guarantee that cross-regional cooperation is based on the needs of the regional RDI ecosystem

Dimension 2: The three options of AlpsConnect are different in complexity of the cross-regional cooperation to guarantee realistic solutions for different needs

The AlpsConnect Cross-regional Cooperation Scheme:

**3 OPTIONS FOR CROSS-REGIONAL FUNDING SCHEMES
BASED ON 2 DIFFERENT APPROACHES**

3 OPTIONS FOR CROSS-REGIONAL FUNDING SCHEMES FROM THE COOPERATION BETWEEN SINGLE PROJECTS TO JOINT SYNCHRONIZED CALLS WITH A COORDINATION OFFICE



Multi-level-Governance Structures:



Network of Regional Coordination and Support Agencies (ARDIA-Network): All regions in the Alpine Space invest into coordination and support agencies to boost their regional economy and RDI ecosystem. We suggest using these existing multi-level governance structures and form a Network of Regional Coordination and Support Agencies to support the three options of AlpsConnect.



Multi-level Expert Group¹: The success of RDI coordination schemes across regions significantly depends on the expertise involved in their design, development, and promotion. ARDIA-Net established a formal Counselling Board supporting the development of networks and coordination offices through pilot actions, promotion, and involvement of relevant stakeholders at EC, national and regional levels.

Target Groups:

With the AlpsConnect Cross-Regional Cooperation Scheme and the need-based ARDIA-Net Modular Framework we are promoting the idea of synchronizing regional funding programmes to two different groups of stakeholders:



Group 1: Policy makers, programme owners, public funding agencies, management authorities (the administrative/governmental level responsible to design, publish, fund and/or manage calls)



Group 2: RDI stakeholders, entrepreneurs (SMEs), intermediaries, business support organisations, R&D (university/non-university), NGOs, foundations, and other call applicants

For further information, please see the following project results:

Potential public funding sources (regional, national and European levels)

In our report on potential public funding sources (regional, national and EU levels), we discuss the funding gap for cross-regional RDI cooperation in the Alpine Space, explore the potential for synchronization of funding schemes at regional, national and European level and present an analysis of potential public funding sources at regional level in the seven ARDIA-Net regions².

Bioeconomy cooperation potential in the Alpine macro-region

The report analyses thematic orientations within the bioeconomy ecosystems of the ARDIA-Net regions both from a quantitative and a qualitative perspective, inter alia through employment statistics, patent application data, and analysis of regional policies and institutional entities in the ARDIA-Net regions.

Case Study: RDI cooperation in the Alpine macro-region

The case study takes a look at the state of the art in terms of cross-regional RDI cooperation in the Alpine Space. In order to address the identified funding gaps, the study documents good practice of funding schemes that could be adapted to the Alpine macro-region.

The full documents' versions are available on the Project Results section of the ARDIA-Net website at the following link: <https://www.alpine-space.org/projects/ardia-net>

¹Dr. Gerd Meier zu Köcker (VDI/VDE-IT, Germany); Mateja Dermastia (Anteja ECG, Slovenia); Gorazd Jenko (Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy, Slovenia); Prof. Dr. Ralf Kindervater (BIOPRO Baden-Württemberg, Germany); Dr. Judit Schrick-Szenczi (Ministry of Economic Affairs, Labour and Tourism Baden-Württemberg, Germany); David Matzek-Lichtenstein (DG REGIO, European Commission); Anders Bergström (Policy, Science and Social Affairs, EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, Sweden); Walter Haas (Innovations- und Technologietransfer Salzburg GmbH, Austria)

²Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria, Canton of Fribourg, Lombardy, Salzburg, Slovenia, Upper Austria