



National info-day

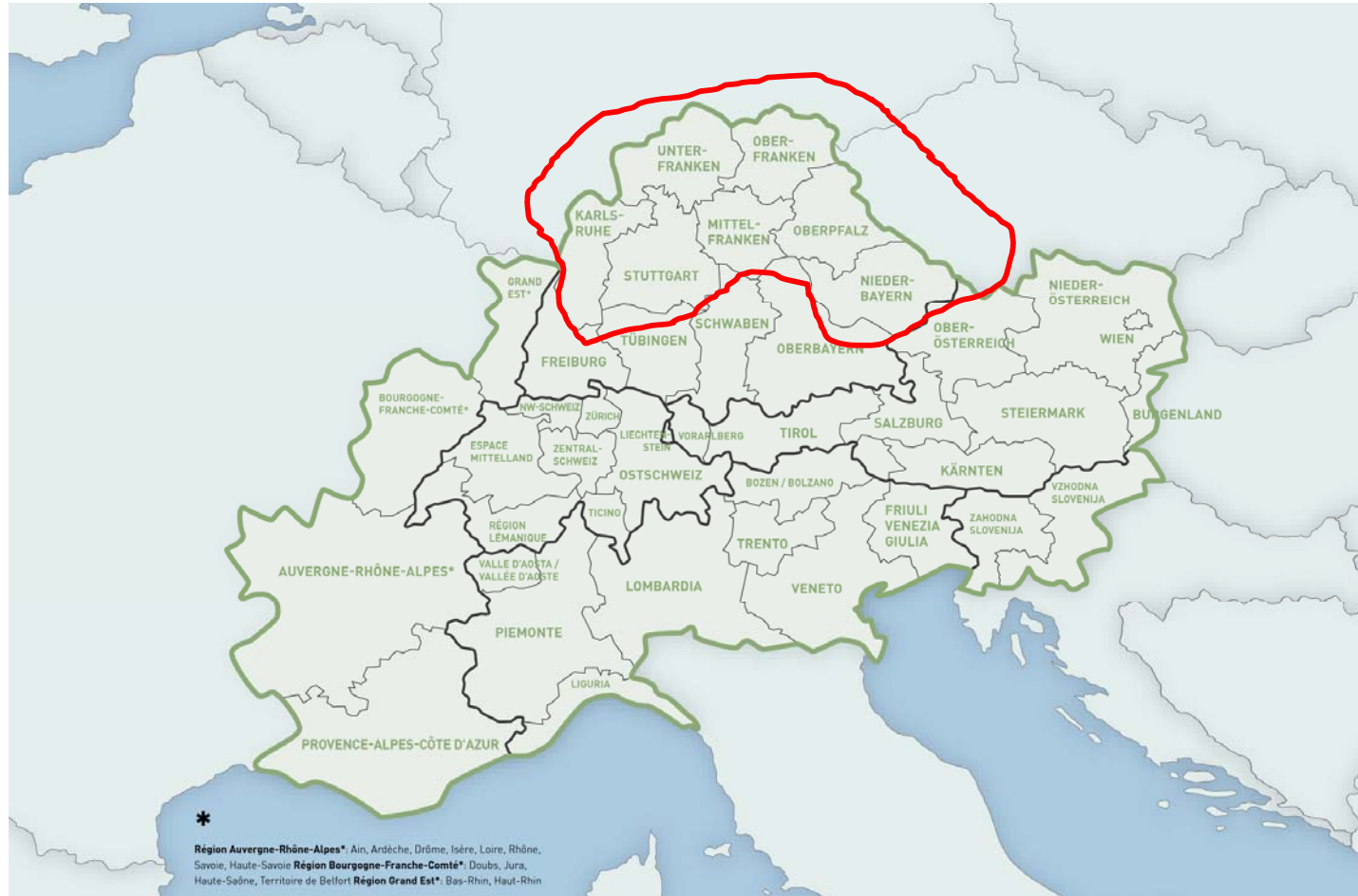
Milano | 18 November 2021

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Alpine Space: priorities and opportunities for cooperation in 2021-2027



Cooperation area



- Area: 42 NUTS II regions
- Population: 88 million inhabitants
- Beneficiaries: public authorities, chambers, R&D institutions, NGOs, among others

What does the programme do?



- Trigger and support cooperation projects across borders and facilitate joint transnational solutions
- Contribute to strategic discussions in the Alpine Space
- Provide a platform for exchange
- Contribute to the goals of EUSALP, the implementation of the Territorial Agenda 2030, and the work of the Alpine Convention

Thematic priorities



Priority 1

Climate resilient and green Alpine region (PO 2)

SO iv: promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and disaster resilience

SO vii: enhancing biodiversity, green infrastructure in the urban environment and reducing pollution

Priority 2

Carbon neutral & resource sensitive Alpine region (PO 2)

SO i: promoting energy efficiency

SO vi: promoting the transition to a circular economy

Priority 3

Innovation and digitalisation oriented green Alpine region (PO 1)

SO i: Enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies

SO ii: Reaping the benefits of digitisation for citizens, companies and governments

Priority 4

Cooperatively managed and developed Alpine region

Enhance institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders to implement EUSALP (Interreg-specific objective)

Priority 1

Climate resilient
and green Alpine
region

1.1 - Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and disaster resilience

Consequences of climate change in the Alpine region are expected to be manifold and represent a considerable challenge for alpine nature, economy and society.

The signs of climate change require urgent action:

- Support the development of inter-regional and transnational frameworks, joint management approaches and services that foster risk prevention and disaster resilience in a comprehensive and sustainable way.
- Nature Based Solutions
- Establish climate services to foster the resilience of the Alpine region
- Developing solutions and pilot activities for different types of territories in highly affected and exposed regions (e.g. high altitude environment with glacial mass reduction, permafrost degradation, or regions specifically hit by draught) as well as exposed main communications axes (e.g. roads, railways) and human settlements ...

Priority 1

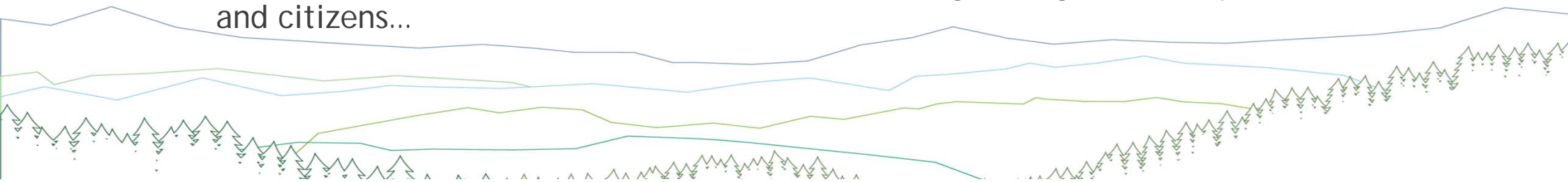
1.2 - Enhancing biodiversity, green infrastructure in the urban environment, and reducing pollution

The Alpine region marks a transnational biodiversity hotspot, even though it is situated within one of the most densely inhabited and connected areas in Europe

Climate resilient
and green Alpine
region

Developments in recent years and predicted future developments connected to climate change call for reinforced action:

- Multifunctional Green and Blue infrastructure networks, Nature Based Solutions (NBS) and innovative planning methodologies
- Sustainable land use management, climate-friendly settlement development, soil protection and the sustainable valorisation of natural and cultural heritage
- Integrated solutions and pilot activities to cope with the impacts of energy management, hydro power, and energy grids on ecosystems and biodiversity
- Measures of communication and awareness raising among different political levels and citizens...



Carbon neutral
& resource
sensitive Alpine
region

2.1 - Promoting energy efficiency measures

the Alpine region is a particularly suitable laboratory for the elaboration and testing of innovative, cooperative approaches in the field of energy efficiency and the road towards sufficiency

Developing post-carbon and sufficiency-oriented solutions:

- Supporting innovative solutions as well as concrete pilot actions for different types of territories, e.g. in the **planning/ building/ housing/ residential/ tourism /mobility & transport/ energy sector(s)**
- **Improving skills and competences for policy makers and stakeholders at different policy levels as well as energy communities**
- **Exchange of knowledge, good practices and R&D activities**
- **Improve energy poverty policies** concerning adequate and healthy heating, cooling, lighting and energy-to-power-appliances to enhance social inclusion, social innovation and encourage common policies for the Alpine region
- **Knowledge transfer, pilot activities as well as communication measures ...**

Priority 2

2.2 - Promoting the transition to a circular economy

The Alpine region is characterized by a **high potential for natural resources**. The exploitation and processing is mostly linked to (highly) **material intensive sectors**.

Carbon neutral
& resource
sensitive Alpine
region

Circular economy approaches connected with **bio-economy** and other **green economy-concepts**:

- “Cradle to cradle building”-concepts
- (Trans-)regional material cycles and value-chains, recycling or up-cycling, sharing approaches and renewables
- Reducing the total use and consumption of materials and resources in tourism and leisure time activities, including mobility
- Use of high quality biological, indigenous and regional products
- “Plastic free” Alpine region, reducing food waste, and valorisation of waste (e.g. wood and agri-food chains, urban waste).
- Address consumers and their behaviours ...

Priority 3

Innovation and
digitalisation
oriented green
Alpine region

3.1 - Enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies

Innovation includes a “green” character of activities, impacts of projects as well as methods and practices of project management:

- Fostering the innovation capacities, addressing innovation gaps on a transnational level in non-urban areas, reinforcing urban-rural as well as rural-rural-linkages
- **Clusters and innovation hubs-cooperation** in different territories
- **Experimental models and “green” start-ups**
- Ideas for transnational innovation activities and entrepreneurship with a view to **reducing territorial imbalances** in all sectors, processes and ecosystems in the Alpine region, as well as solutions for **identifying and mitigating adverse social and environmental impacts**;
- Application of social innovation to SGIs, **improve mobility with advanced technologies** (such as green hydrogen), **health and medical innovations**, **sustainable tourism** with particular consideration of bottom-up and open, inclusive approaches such as co-creation and living labs ...



Priority 3

3.2 - Reaping the benefits of digitalisation for citizens, companies and governments

Digitalisation offers **opportunities to address joint challenges** which are particularly prominent in mountainous areas such as the Alpine region

Innovation and digitalisation oriented green Alpine region

- Solutions for climate resilience, resource sensitivity, green and carbon neutrality as well as ensuring inclusiveness and social accessibility to these solutions for a **just transition**.
- **Flexible SGI provision in all types of areas and for all types of users** with regards to e-health/smart health, e-government as well as telemedicine
- E-learning, new working structures (home-office and other forms of flexible working) in order to provide **more attractive living possibilities in remote areas to different social groups**
- Support business development opportunities, product and service development, strengthening of regional value chains and regional marketing, with a view to **reducing territorial imbalances**
- Elaboration and implementation of **Smart Villages and Smart Cities** concepts
- **Accompany SMEs and associations in their digital transformation**, with the overarching aim to increase environmental sustainability
- Closing the **digital divide between regions**
- **Digital Innovation Hubs ...**



Priority 4

4.1 - A better cooperation governance

The Alpine region is characterised by a long tradition of international and inter-regional cooperation on governmental and non-governmental level.

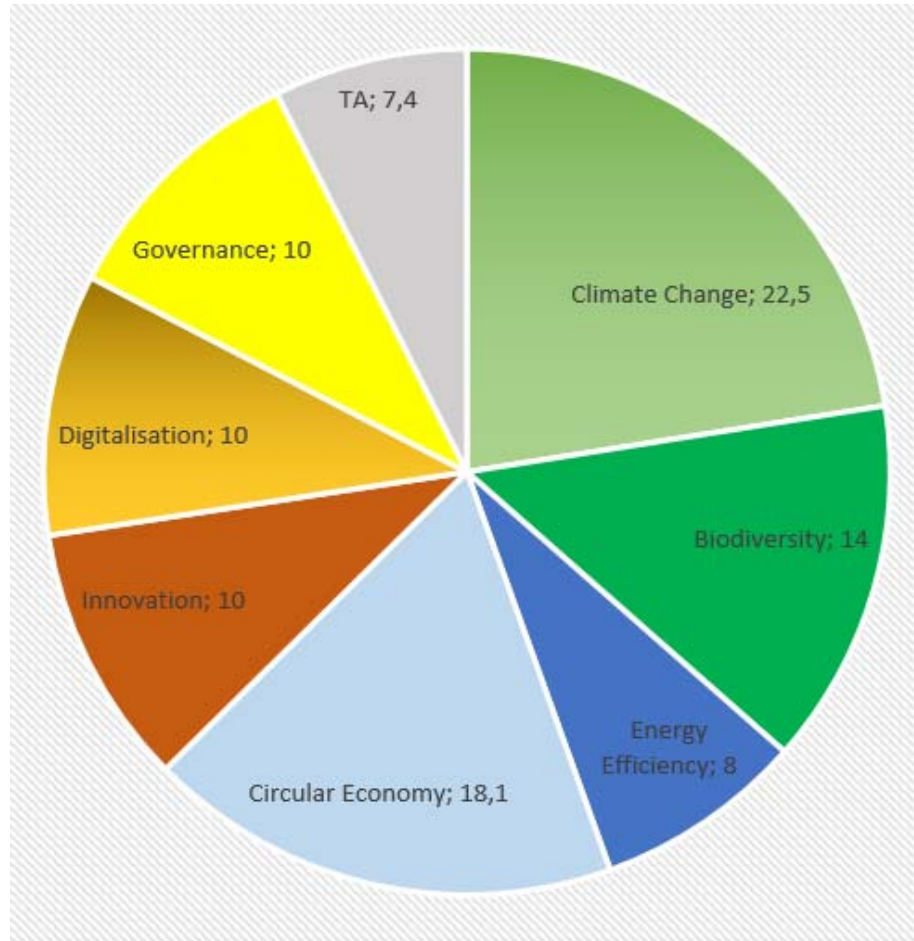
Cooperatively
managed and
developed Alpine
region

Further clarifying, deepening, supporting and improving cooperation structures, with placing a particular focus on the professionalisation of governance and stakeholder structures as well as on preparing the ground for innovative projects and stronger involvement of the civil society:

- Setting up transnational frameworks, platforms, networks and mechanisms in the field of governance
- Enhance cooperation and organisation processes within the EUSALP governance structure
- Communication measures and tools to support multi-level governance
- Capacity building and trainings for public authorities and stakeholders at different policy and governance-levels in order to adapt to new challenges...



Budget framework



- €107m ERDF contribution, of which €36,5m are concentrated in Priority 1
- Co-financing rate: 75%
- Opportunity to co-finance around 100 new projects, from classic to small-scale

What will be new?



- New approaches to cooperation
 - Small-scale projects, i.e. shorter in duration with less partners but focused in setting the scene or capitalising results
 - Classic projects, i.e. up to 36 months so partnerships have the time to address the policy cycle
 - Bigger cooperation area (now matching with EUSALP area)
- Simplified administrative approaches
 - Flat rate for travel and administration
 - Small-scale projects based on simplified costs option (SCO), e.g. flat rate and lump sums
- JEMS (new Joint Electronic Monitoring System developed by Interact)

What will be new? Small-scale/classic



- The total financial size of each project shall range between EUR 250.000 and 750.000;
- Eligible expenses from EU Members States are co-financed and reimbursed up to 75 %;
- The duration of small-scale projects shall range between 12 and 18 months;
- Small-scale projects shall involve from 3 to 6 partners from at least three different countries of the programme area.

Deviations may be accepted in well-justified cases only.

What will be new? Small-scale/classic



- The total financial size of each project shall range between EUR 1 and 3 million;
- Eligible expenses from EU Members States are co-financed and reimbursed up to 75 %;
- The duration of classic projects shall range between 24 and 36 months;
- Classic projects shall involve from 7 to 12 partners from at least four different countries of the programme area.

Deviations may be accepted in well-justified cases only.

What will be new? Flat rate/SCO



cost categories	option a)		option b)		option c)	
	real costs	flat rate	real costs	flat rate	real costs	flat rate
staff costs	fixed percentage method		fixed percentage method			20 % of external expertise/services and equipment costs
office and administration costs		15 % of staff costs		40 % of staff costs		15 % of staff costs
travel and accommodation costs		10 % of staff costs				10 % of staff costs
external expertise and service costs	real costs				real costs	
equipment expenditure	real costs				real costs	

What will be new? Flat rate/SCO



cost category	real cost options	flat rate options	
staff costs	calculation as a fixed percentage of the gross employment costs	flat rate of 20 % on basis of external expertise and services costs as well as equipment costs	
office and administration costs	-	flat rate of 15 % of eligible direct staff costs	flat rate of 40 % of eligible direct staff costs to cover the remaining costs
travel and accommodation costs	-	flat rate of 10 % of eligible direct staff costs	
external expertise and services costs	real costs	-	
equipment costs	real costs	-	

The following table demonstrates how these different calculation options can be combined on project level. It shall be stressed that the differentiation between so-called classic projects and small scale projects (as described in chapter A.3) is of relevance in this context, too. For classic projects all combination options are possible, whereas small scale projects should use flat rate options as far as possible. Therefore for small scale projects only the combinations b) or c) can be applied.

Timeline 1st call for proposal - Classic



- Total budget: 30 million ERD (25 for classic + 5 for small-scale)
 - Deadlines for classic step 1:
 - Opening: 22 November 2021
 - Submission: 28 February 2022
 - Assessment: 1 March - 15 April 2022
 - PC preparation & decision: 18 April - 6 May 2022
 - Deadlines for classic step 2:
 - Opening: 9 May 2022
 - Submission: 24 June 2022
 - Assessment: 27 June - 2 September 2022
 - PC preparation & decision: 5-23 September 2022
- first projects' start expected in October 2022

Timeline 1st call for proposal - Small-scale



- Total budget: 25 million ERD (classic + small-scale)
- Deadlines for small-scale:
 - Opening: 22 November 2021
 - Submission: 23 April 2022
 - Assessment: 25 April - 10 June 2022
 - PC preparation & decision: 13 June - 1 July 2022

→ first projects' start expected in July 2022

Documents



- Draft Interreg Programme → presentation of priorities
- Terms of Reference (for classic and small-scale) → valid for 1st call
- Programme Manual + Annexes (Application Forms) → programme rules and application procedure
- Looking for partners? National Contact Point + keep.eu

- www.alpine-space.eu → new website

→ kick-off event on 22-23 November in Salzburg

You contacts at the JS



Priority 1

Climate resilient and green Alpine region
(PO 2)

Elisa Kerschbaumer
&
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Priority 2

Carbon neutral & resource sensitive
Alpine region (PO 2)

Nuno Madeira

Priority 3

Innovation and digitalisation oriented
green Alpine region (PO 1)

Jana Habjan

Priority 4

Cooperatively managed and
developed Alpine region

Joint Secretariat



Thank you for your attention!

www.alpine-space.eu

