

### Introducing the Interreg Alpine Space programme 2021-2027

Thanks to a constant and fruitful exchange of all actors involved (partner states, joint secretariat/ managing authority and experts), the Interreg Alpine Space programme (IP) for the new funding period 2021-2027 was finalised. The Alpine region’s long tradition of inter-regional cooperation is strengthened through the full alignment of the programme and the EU strategy for Alpine Region (EUSALP). These tight bonds will ensure a common approach to address current challenges, such as climate change adaptation and mitigation, digital transformation and circular economy whose direct benefits are for Alpine citizens. Read the IP [here](#).

In anticipation of the approval of the IP by the European Commission, the first calls for classic or small-scale projects opened in November 2021. Interested organisations were invited to submit proposals across the three thematic priorities of the programme. Find out more about future calls [here](#).



### New topics for the new programme

The [Connect @Alpine Space 2021+ series](#) of events made the transition between the periods 2014-2020 and 2021-2027. 350 interested stakeholders discussed the challenges of the area and ways to address them through cooperation. Three topics were in the spotlight: resilience to climate change, circular economy and social innovation. All sessions were supported by a keynote from renowned experts, a panel discussion including Q&A opportunities and subsequent networking sessions. All proceedings are available [here](#).

### “Let’s change our altitude”

... was the motto of the online conference that kicked-off the programming period 2021-2027 of the Interreg Alpine Space on 21-22 November. Project achievements of 2014-2020 bridged-up to the new funding opportunities for 2021-2027, whose novelty are small-scale projects: shorter, more focused and with fewer partners. Find out more about the different types of projects [here](#).



More than 650 participants followed the live streaming of the conference. All proceedings are available [here](#). Highlights of the conference were:

- the [keynote by Dr Lučka Kajfež Bogataj](#) explaining the significance of climate change for the Alps
- the latest information provided about the upcoming programme period
- [concrete tips](#) on how to shape a good project application

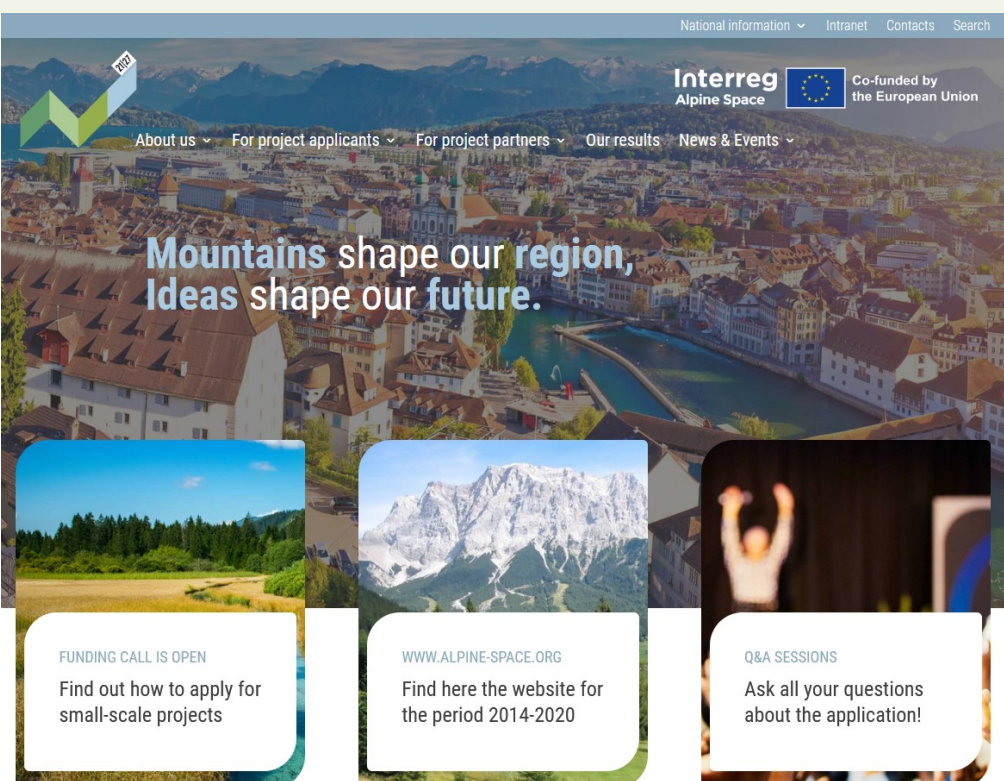
### Making a difference in the Alpine Space: Projects achievements 2021

The following projects successfully ended their activities in 2021 and could make a difference for citizens, nature and climate by addressing prevalent challenges in the Alpine Space. Find out more: <https://www.alpine-space.eu/projects/>

**AlpBioEco** explored the potential of innovative bioeconomy in value chains to foster local economies and was a finalist in the EU Regiostars award 2021 in the category Urban Europe. +++ **AlpLinkBioEco** fostered the creation of innovative value chains between regions in the field of circular and bioeconomy. +++ **ASIS** developed a new approach and skills for social innovation in the Alpine Space. +++ **ASTAHG** improved the governance capacities of regional Active and Healthy Ageing policies. +++ **ATLAS** established instruments for the low carbon development of historic buildings. +++ **BB-CLEAN** developed transnational policies for a sustainable use of biomass for domestic heating. +++ **CHEERS** supported local organisations to safeguard cultural heritage from natural hazards. +++ **DuALPlus** created the online platform DualEducationFinder to inform about dual educations in the Alpine Region. +++ **Eco-AlpsWater** improved traditional approaches to monitoring the ecological status of waters. +++ **GreenRisk4Alps** facilitated risk-based protective forest management.



+++ **MELINDA** implemented a social innovation approach to induce a behavioural change regarding mobility. +++ **SamBA** triggered behavioural changes leading to the use of more sustainable transport options. +++ **SESAM** strengthened the competitiveness of Alpine dairy farming. +++ **SMART ALTITUDE** reduced energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions in ski resorts. +++ **Smart Villages** developed innovative ways to create vibrant and attractive rural communities. +++ **TrAILS** conceived sustainable transformation strategies for former industrial sites.



### A user-friendly new website

We launched in October a new website for the Interreg Alpine Space at [www.alpine-space.eu](http://www.alpine-space.eu)! Its reorganised structure enables applicants, projects partners as well as citizens to easily find the information they are looking for. The website will store all results from projects which were co-financed by the Interreg Alpine Space programme since its creation in 2000.

The main publications from the periods 2000-2020 will also be available on this new portal.

### Bringing the management bodies together

The Interreg Alpine Space Joint Secretariat (JS) moved from Munich to Salzburg over summer. The Land Salzburg is now the host institution for the two bodies responsible for the day-to-day management of the Interreg Alpine Space programme: the JS and the managing authority. Find our new contact details [here](#).

