

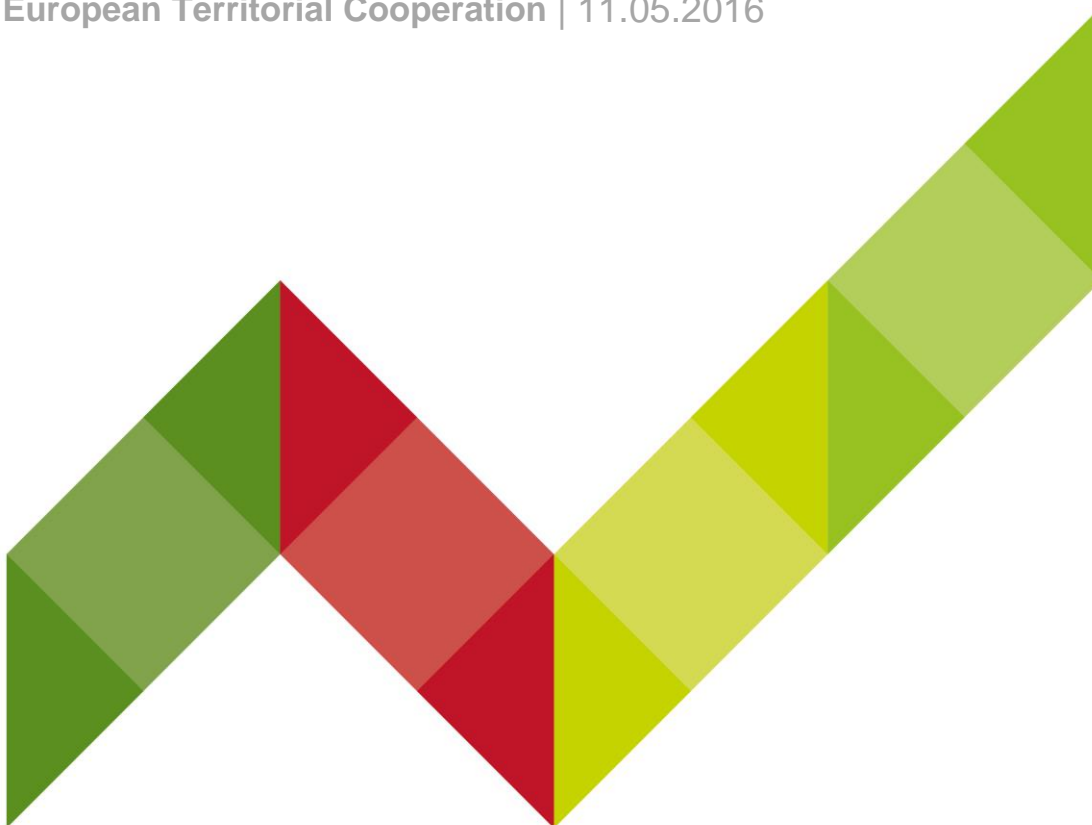
Interreg Alpine Space

AIR 2014/2015: Citizen's summary

14 | 20

Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013

European Territorial Cooperation | 11.05.2016





The Alpine Space programme is a European transnational cooperation programme for the Alpine region, co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). It is set up in programme periods of seven years.

The 2014-2020 programme gained momentum in 2014 and 2015: the Cooperation Programme (CP) was approved among the first Interreg programmes in December 2014. Since that time programme bodies collaborated closely to set up the procedures for selection, approval and implementation of Alpine Space projects. In the current programme, the application and monitoring process is carried out entirely online, through an e-monitoring system (eMS) whose core structure is used by several Interreg programmes.

With the endorsement of the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP), the possible links between the programme and the strategy became more concrete and were actively promoted.

The 2014-2020 period was officially kicked off at the Alpine Space 2020 conference on 21-22 October 2014 in Salzburg, in which about 400 participants gathered to learn more about the programme priorities, network and discuss project ideas. Additionally, national info days and seminars have been organised for the support of applicants.



Main programme documents

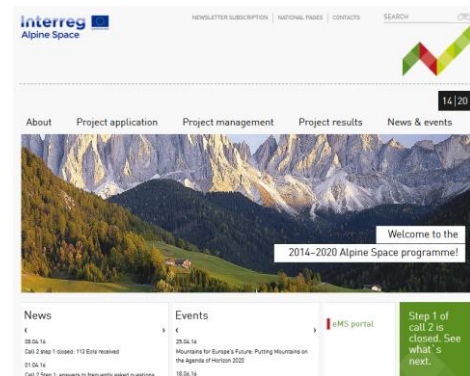
The Cooperation Programme, which is the basis for the implementation of the programme, was approved on 17 December 2014. You can find the document [here](#).

As part of the Project Implementation Handbook, a set of fact sheets providing guidance and information on programme rules and procedures to project applicants has been published [here](#).



New programme website

In March 2015, the 2014-2020 website was released. It contains a project idea tool, allowing stakeholders to share ideas, find partners and get feedback. The website is a main communication channel of the programme, providing information and guidance for applicants, running projects and any stakeholders with an interest in the programme activities.



Call 1 – facts and figures

On 15-16 December 2015, the PC approved nine projects within the first call for proposals. The call had been launched in spring that year and followed a two-step procedure.

The projects at a glance:



Innovative Alpine Space

C-TEMAIp – Continuity of Traditional Enterprises in Mountain Alpine Space areas

Demographic change and the high ageing index in Alpine Space areas could compromise its attractiveness with a risk of badly transferred or closing companies. Business transfer is thus seen as a sensitive process which can, in return, help strengthen the innovation potential of established SMEs and be an opportunity for business renewal in the area.

C-TEMAIp objectives are thus twofold:

- improve SMEs innovation, diversification and attractiveness through dedicated support services, and
- test innovative pilot activities of transnational business transfer.

C-TEMAIp will also contribute to support the EU harmonisation process of the regulatory framework for business transfer and build a sustainable transnational network for the benefit of the Alpine Space area.



CO.N.S.E.N.SO – COmmunity Nurse Supporting Elderly iN a changing SOciety

Europe's ageing population challenges health and social services and requires cooperation in several welfare sectors. CO.N.S.E.N.SO takes the challenge by developing a care model that puts the elderly at the centre of health and social services. It builds on the pivotal role of the Family and Community Nurse (FCN). The FCN have an innovative role as key players, who shape and manage personalised services for the elderly and their families, particularly those living in isolated areas. The model aims to allow the elderly to live at home as long as possible. Families will benefit from reduced elderly home assistance and regional authorities will see a reduction of social and health costs.

INTESI – Integrated territorial strategies for Services of General Interest

Services of general interest (SGI) are in the competence of authorities at different levels. Up to now, authorities and the service providers tend to have a strictly sectoral approach to SGI which leads to isolated solutions, neither taking benefit of potential synergies nor optimizing the use of public money. Therefore there is a need for a better horizontal and vertical coordination of SGI and for their inclusion into integrated territorial strategies. The main objective of Intesi is to assure the delivery of SGI in the long run via integrated territorial strategies and policies.



Low Carbon Alpine Space

PEACE_Alps – Pooling Energy Action plans & enhancing their implementation in the Alps

PEACE-ALPS tackles the problems related to the implementation of Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs) or any other Energy concepts already endorsed by Local Authorities (LAs) in Alpine Space Area by supporting LAs in developing concrete actions with an inter-municipal approach. This is the way to reaching its main objective: establishing low carbon and adaptation to climate change policy instruments. The addressed topics will be:

- energy management,
- energy refurbishment of buildings and public light,
- local adaptation to climate change.

The outputs and experience gained will be spread out in the Alpine Space with an effective engagement campaign of new regions interested in developing the same approach, and with policy recommendation at EU level.



THE4BEES – Transnational Holistic Ecosystem 4 Better Energy Efficiency through Social innovation

THE4BEES builds on the hypothesis: Energy is consumed by people rather than by buildings. Although most of the strategies to achieve energy efficiency in buildings focus on technical mitigation measures, to reach the ambitious goals on Low Carbon set by EU and Alpine Strategy (EUSALP), both structural and soft approaches shall be considered complementarily across the Alpine Space. THE4BEES focuses on the behavioural changes of users in public buildings needed to achieve reduction of energy consumption. Such changes will be originated by the use of innovative ICT applications developed by a transnational ecosystem. Those applications will be used by the target groups in the demonstration sites (schools, houses, factories) to encourage behavioural changes for energy efficiency and carbon footprint reduction.

GRETA – Near-surface Geothermal Resources in the Territory of the Alpine Space

The Alpine region must tackle rising energy consumption and, accordingly, CO₂ emissions reduction, related mostly to heating needs (mainly from residential and tourism sectors). The potential of renewable energy sources has been discussed in some recent studies. However, the opportunity to utilize Near-Surface Geothermal Energy (NSGE) has not yet been properly highlighted. Moreover, differences in country-specific regulations and practices currently impede a successful increase of use of this technology.

The aim of the GRETA project is to demonstrate the potential of NSGE in the Alpine Space and to foster its integration into future energy plans at different administrative levels. The outputs of the project will serve to promote and guide the implementation of shallow geothermal energy into policy instruments, e.g., the energy plans of municipalities or planning bureaus.

CESBA Alps – CESBA Alpine Space – Sustainable territories

While sustainability assessment tools are already well-established for buildings and small urban areas, such tools do not yet exist for the built environment at the level of territories. CESBA Alps aims to improve the sustainability of the Alpine built environment through the development of the first assessment tool at territorial scale, which will be contextualized to regional specificities. Through objective criteria and key performance indicators (KPIs) addressing all dimensions of sustainability, the tool will support the sustainability assessment of a territory, the definition of objective performance targets, the decision making in planning processes and the implementation and monitoring of effective low carbon policies. The CESBA Alps project is connected with the European CESBA initiative for a new Culture of Built environment.



Liveable Alpine Space

AlpES – Alpine Ecosystem Services – mapping, maintenance and management

Ecosystems and their services go beyond national borders and need a transnational approach for their dynamic protection, sustainable use, management and risk prevention. As a basis for joint action, public authorities, policy makers, NGOs, researchers and economic actors – the AlpES target groups – need a common understanding of ecosystem services, comparable information on their status and support in using appropriate tools for integrating them in their fields of work. The AlpES project's overall objective is to introduce ecosystem services as a regional/transnational environmental governance framework and train and support the AlpES target groups in understanding, valuing and managing them.

SPARE – Strategic Planning for Alpine River Ecosystems – Integrating protection and development

The Alps are Europe's water towers, providing multiple ecosystem services such as water for human consumption, agriculture, industry, tourism, energy and quality of life for residents, but also for surrounding lowlands and big metropolitan areas. Alpine rivers are the "blue backbones" of sustainable development, but only healthy rivers can provide such essential services: they are a vulnerable natural capital under pressure with the need of balancing protection and development. River governance is fragmented and diverging among and within countries: so far, knowledge transfer of good practices & policies has been weak. SPARE aims at exchanging, adapting and capitalising strategic planning and river management experiences across different spatial & governance levels. Going beyond administrative borders, the requirements of a catchment wide perspective in a transnational perspective will be tackled by the project.