



1st WIKIAlps project Newsletter, January 2014

Dear reader, welcome to the first WIKIAlps project newsletter. Here you can find a brief description of the project, the most important news and events to come regarding the project. Including an insight opinion of some of our partners.

The WIKIAlps project partners

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The aim of the WIKIAlps project is to capitalise on selected projects on spatial development issues carried out in the [Alpine Space Programming period 2007-2013](#) concentrating on projects in the fields of “[Inclusive growth](#)” and “[Resource efficiency and ecosystem management](#)”. The project will highlight missing links and synergies as well as unresolved contradictions between economic growth and environmental development. A partnership of seven institutions with wide-ranging expertise in spatial and sustainable development issues, coupled with the involvement of a large number of observers, ensure to address major spatial development challenges, according to the current and future needs of the main stakeholders within the Alpine Space. This information will feed a wiki, guidelines and recommendations providing easily accessible operative tools for policy makers, civil servants, researchers, entrepreneurs and the interested public. In particular, the wiki will offer ready-to-use information for spatial development policy and planning, supporting political decision-makers and civil servants during their daily work. For this reason, the WIKIAlps project will promote further synergies and transnational governance based on the knowledge and lessons learned from different EU projects.

The project WIKIAlps is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund in the frame of the European Territorial Cooperation Programme Alpine Space.

TRANSNATIONAL WORKING TABLES:

Participate actively and share your experience with us!

We would like to share together with you – and with *observers, policy makers and civil servants, researchers and entrepreneurs* – your experiences in the **Alpine spatial development** from the local to the transnational level. We want to support you in identifying needs and offer the possibility to implement transnational synergies with each other.

Two transnational working tables will take place in the following months. The first one in **Innsbruck (Wednesday, 19 March 2014)** is open to participants from Austria, Germany, Slovenia and Italy (Eastern Alpine Space), while the other one in **Courmayeur (Wednesday, 2 April 2014)** is dedicated to those of you coming from Italy, France and Switzerland (Western Alpine Space).

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We are going to tackle similar questions in both working tables. However, the different regional backgrounds and particular needs in the eastern and western Alpine Space will of course have a considerable influence on the specific discussions in the working tables. We ask you to keep this in mind when deciding for one of the two working tables. Nevertheless, you are also welcome to subscribe to both working tables.

What will you have to do? Bring your good ideas to the workshop - share your experiences - discuss about current issues and needs - get inspired.

Why is your participation important? The WIKIAlps project partners provide you with seven reasons:

Caroline Pecher from EURAC www.eurac.edu

In WIKIAlps we want to develop good, ready-to-use information for you and therefore we have to know, what you need for a sustainable spatial development in the Alpine Space!

Fides Braun from ÖAW/IGF www.mountainresearch.at

Meet new people, create synergies and get active in the WIKIAlps community!

Luigi Cortese from FondMS www.fondazionemontagnasicura.org

We want to support you on your effort for a sustainable development in the Alpine Space. Your engagement is an opportunity to contribute with your knowledge and ideas, to be informed and to learn from each other. The alpine territory management is a crucial aspect to build a more effective economy and to guarantee a safe and healthy future for next generations. We want to focus on what we can do now at every political and administrative level. We are waiting for you!

Stefan Marzelli from Ifuplan www.ifuplan.de

In the working tables / WIKIAlps you may personally express and underline the requirements and needs you have observed in your field as well as you may inform others and learn about synergies and links between important project achievements.

Mihai Tivadar from IRSTEA www.irstea.fr/dtm

In WIKIAlps, you shall have your say! Join the working tables and help us to understand your point of view, problems and challenges regarding spatial development, may your understanding be local, regional or transnational.

Janez Nared from ZRC SAZU <http://giam2.zrc-sazu.si/>

In the WIKIAlps working tables we want to host / gather partners from previous Alpine Space projects for exchanging valuable experiences: good practices, lessons-learned and unsolved challenges for the future cooperation!

Peter Niederer from SAB www.sab.ch

Take the opportunity to discuss and influence the future steps of the WIKIAlps programme with other stakeholders in the Alps!

Capitalising on projects – HOW?

In work package four (WP4) we are going to capitalise on spatial development projects, analyse common issues and needs in Alpine spatial development and identify relevant stakeholders. These analyses will build an important basis for work package five (WP5), in which we identify synergies and give final recommendations on how to overcome national borders in a sustainable spatial development in the Alps. We have asked our WP4 leader “ifuplan” from Germany to explain you a little more about the WP4 methodology:





Stefan Marzelli

1. What does capitalisation of projects in WIKIAlps means?

One observation in many of the Alpine Space projects is, that all project partners strive hard to fulfil the project objectives. But in the final phase of the projects there is often little time and energy to link the project results with those of other projects. Capitalisation means, that we try to fill this gap and build upon the results of finalised and even running projects to find synergies which may be outside the scope of the single project but in between.

The scope of these projects, their approaches, data, best practices, pilot activities and results are often difficult to overlook from outside. However the implementation of all these good inventions needs an easy access for decision makers, administration and the broader public. Therefore the idea was born to offer the capitalisation in the way a wiki does: to offer small, easy understandable pieces of relevant information, which are intelligently linked and make homogenities, oppositions, gaps or unsolved questions visible. By this new insights may be initiated for the users of this wiki.

2. How can this be done?

As the Alpine Space Programme offers a very large scope of thematic issues there is no general answer. In WIKIAlps we have decided to focus on two aspects:

We will look into projects of two thematic fields, the field “Inclusive growth” and the field “resource efficiency and ecosystem management”. We have chosen these obviously conflicting fields on purpose, as we expect to find just in these conflicting fields surprises in terms of synergies, links but also contradictions.

In a second step we have decided to focus on “sustainable spatial development” as a meta topic which is of crucial importance for the development of the Alpine space but which may be a very relevant link between the opposing thematic fields and their projects.

Once we have selected projects which promise interesting approaches, methodologies or results in the sense of sustainable spatial development, we can start to operationalize the capitalisation of these projects.

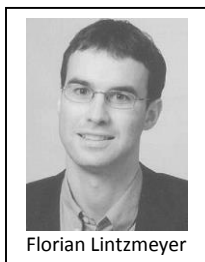
3. How do you select the projects for the capitalisation?

In the two thematic fields we are working with more than 35 projects that have been carried out! Within the WIKIAlps project time and budget will not be sufficient to analyse such an amount of information. Therefore, we decided to select those about 8 projects which seem the most relevant ones. As a basic pattern for the selection of projects we want to consider different criteria which are presently under work:

- Are issues of sustainable spatial development addressed in the projects?
- Do keywords assigned to the projects indicate relevant contents ?
- Are core topics of spatial development – which will be identified in national and transnational documents – tackled ?

We are currently developing an approach how to select these most promising projects. The approach may be project-driven (based on whole projects) or topic-driven (based on single results or work packages of projects related to a specific topic) or even mix both.

4. How could interested persons contribute?



Florian Lintzmeyer

There are different options for a contribution and different ways to communicate an interest: The project team of WIKIAlps would highly welcome contributions which indicate important topics and what are needs and requirements for sustainable spatial development. Also observations of gaps, synergies, contradictions or missing links in the results of projects related to spatial development are welcome. Any stakeholder, decision maker, researcher or administration staff could react on the newsletter or may directly contact the national project partner. For observers and selected stakeholders there will be two Working tables which offer the opportunity to feed in such contributions.



WEBSITE LAUNCH:

The brand new project website is offering all the information about the WIKIAlps project.

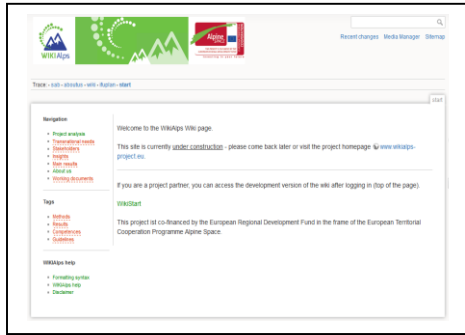
You can find information about the project, its objectives, activities and expected results, partners and observers, an event calendar ...

ACCESS it at www.wikialps-project.eu



LAUNCH OF WIKIAlps – The project’s wiki

The WIKI is currently under construction and will be soon accessible.



It will reorganize selected projects outcomes and provide rapidly operative and ready-to-use information for policy design.

It will contain information explaining the methodology used to undertake the different analyses as well as the first results from these analyses. For example:

- A) Fact sheets on capitalised projects.
- B) Stakeholders and institutions dealing with spatial development in the Alpine Space.
- C) Insights on common issues and needs as a results from the Transnational working tables.

Project Flyer

If you want to get a glimpse of what the WIKIAlps project is about, you can download the English version of the project FLYER from the website.

The flyer will also be available in other languages (DE, FR, IT, SL).

Subscribe to the NEWSLETTER:

If you also want to receive the next newsletters, you can subscribe to them. Just enter the section Newsletter of the project website: www.wikialps-project.eu, and fill in the form.

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