

# Proceedings

## Summer synergy brunch

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# Summer synergy brunch

With the Summer synergy brunch, the Alpine Space programme sought to give Alpine Space projects representatives, EUSALP action groups leaders (AG) and ARPAF project leaders the chance to:

- hear about the latest news from Alpine Space programme and EUSALP and regarding their cooperation,
- build synergy through the discussion of joint activities,
- strengthen cooperative relations.

The event benefited from the contribution of representatives from the European Commission, the EUSALP Presidency and the Alpine Space programme chair.

After an introduction in a plenary session, the participants took part in synergy brunch sessions, organised along the three thematic priorities of the programme. This document presents a synthesis of the main results of the discussions in the synergy brunch rooms.





# Priority 1 – Innovative Alpine Space

After discussing the main challenges that they face in dealing with innovation and services of general interest in the Alps, the participants reflected upon how these challenges could be answered by projects and EUSALP AG.

## **Main outcomes of the discussions:**

- A successful cooperation between projects and EUSALP AG could help in answering some of the main challenges in dealing with innovation:
  - ✓ Reaching the relevant stakeholders to better disseminate results,
  - ✓ Gaining critical mass by favouring cross-regional and cross-sectoral cooperation,
  - ✓ Building synergy between projects/players facing common issues on different topics,
  - ✓ Ensuring the transferability and adaptation of best practices and policies,
  - ✓ Achieving policy impact by lobbying and cooperation, giving visibility and creating synergy, so as to maintain the results.
- A concrete outcome of this cooperation could be a big data analysis and the development of strategies in favour of citizens to meet one of the main challenges on innovation: the intergenerational gap in digital transformation.
- Another cooperative Alpine solution could be a synchronised funding scheme or matching fund.





# Priority 2 – Low Carbon Alpine Space

After discussing their current activities and scope for joint work, the participants identified relevant events for participation and joint input as e.g. the *Energy transition conference* on 2 October 2018 in Innsbruck organised by AG9, and the city climate Olympics in Vienna on 11 September 2018. The AG leaders would welcome being informed about the project outputs and disseminate them to their members.

## **Main outcomes of the discussions:**

- Identified main challenges
  - ✓ Development of incentives and cheap, sustainable, reliable energy options,
  - ✓ Building a more sustainable environment,
  - ✓ Fostering an integrated multi-level energy planning.
- Possible further cooperation
  - ✓ Foster project interaction,
  - ✓ Mapping of projects (also across priorities), EUSALP actions groups and other projects.
  - ✓ Raise awareness and link projects to politicians and regions.
  - ✓ Organise common thematic events/project meetings.
  - ✓ Combine similar projects and organise a meeting with members of European Parliament.
  - ✓ Foster the use of the platform of knowledge.





## Priority 3 – Liveable Alpine Space

After a presentation round where they introduced themselves and the objectives of their project or AG, the participants were encouraged to meet around thematic-related tables (i.e. risk management, ecological connectivity, natural/cultural heritage).

### **Main outcomes of the discussions:**

- The synergy brunch was a valuable opportunity to meet new regional actors, discover projects contributing to AGs and establish (first) bilateral contacts.
  - ✓ Participants invited one another to project kick-off events / next AG meetings and agreed on regular exchange of information (e.g. studies or newsletters).
- An active collaboration between AGs and projects was perceived as a real chance to spread good results and to keep project outcomes „alive“ after project ending
  - ✓ AGs have a key role to play in that direction (e.g. collecting outputs and building bridges with relevant stakeholders),
  - ✓ There is thus a necessity to ensure continuity in the communication flow between projects and AGs.
- Cooperation between EUSALP and projects covering different challenges could lead to build bridges between different thematic AGs and foster cross-sectoral cooperation for the projects.



# More information

[www.alpine-space.eu](http://www.alpine-space.eu)

[www.alpine-region.eu](http://www.alpine-region.eu)

