



Press release - EUSALP meeting - Brussels - 8 March 2022

EUSALP Action Group 2 meeting on strategic economic sectors

Hybrid meeting

On March 8th, a meeting of the EUSALP Action Group 2 (strategic economic sectors) was held in plenary format in Brussels. This meeting was attended by approximately 70 people. 30 people were present in the meeting room and 40 were connected to follow the exchanges by videoconference.

This meeting, whose program is indicated below, was divided into several thematic segments to cover all the issues addressed in this Action Group dedicated to strategic economic sectors:

- tourism,
- wood,
- industry,
- energy: green hydrogen.

The main objective was to strengthen the dynamism of the Action Group and the incubation of European projects in EUSALP. The aim of this meeting was to put project leaders in touch not only with a larger number of potential partners but also with funding from the new generation of programmes (INTERREG, LIFE/HORIZON/I3 programmes managed directly by the Commission) in order to demonstrate the added value of EUSALP.

For the lead partners, this helps to gain credibility and increase their chances of success in the context of calls for projects, particularly INTERREG/Alpine Space. For the regional partners, this meeting was a good opportunity for some to become familiar with European funding and for others to launch a more ambitious approach (LIFE/HORIZON/I3 programmes).

Lastly, it was also aimed to enhance the organisation of this meeting in Brussels by inviting members of the European Commission to present the programmes under direct management. The thematic approach will allow us to combine the presentation of projects and sources of funding.

A workshop on the embedding of EUSALP was also organized on March 10, highlighting the establishment of financial dialogue networks, particularly on hydrogen, following the discussions of March 8.



Programme

9.00 to 10.00 : Action Group 2 plenary session.

Items on the agenda: governance and funding of Action Group 2 and its activities (end of Alpgov 2, implementation of TSS, Alpgov3...).

10:00 to 11:15: Tourism sector:

- Presentation and discussions around the Transtat/INTERREG project - INRAE/**Emmanuel George**.

- The Transtat project as seen by the partners : Lombardy Region: **Leonardo La Rocca**,

- Graubünden University of Applied Sciences - Graubünden Institute of Tourism: **Jan Mosedale**

- Zgornja Gorenjska Development Agency: **Eva Stravs Podlogar**

- Focus Interreg Alpine Space: what means for the tourism sector?

Joint Technical Secretariat / Salzburg. **Jana Habjan**

- Interventions/reactions on the AURA side: Mountain Cluster **Pierre François Adam**

11:30 to 12 :45 : Wood sector :

- Presentation of the LIFE programm: Priority: Adaptation to climate change, the calendar of the calls for proposals. AURA delegation **Julien Balsen** – AURA delegation to the European Commission

- Presentation and discussion about a project leader on wood applying to the LIFE programme - **Andreas Kleinschmit von Lengefeld** (FCBA), and **Antonio Brunori** (PEFC-Italia).

- Interventions/reactions on the AURA side: Pôle Xylofutur **Apolline Oswald**

12:45 to 14:00: Lunch

14:00 to 15:00: Industry 1/2

- Presentation and discussion on the H2020 Go Dip project by Hub Innovazione Trentino (**Luca Mion**)

- "Green Economy" project (CIPRA France – The Blue **Dorothea Palenberg**)

- Territorial Ecosystems for Innovation: **Italy's North-West case**, Mr. Edoardo Braccio, University of Turin



15:00 to 16:00 : Industry 2/2

- Presentation of the calendar and thematic priorities 2022 for 3I **Tomislav Pinter/DG Regio**.
- Presentation of the 2022 work perspectives **Loic Marin** /CIMES
- Feedback from regional clusters applying for the 3I call for projects Techtera/ **Robin Odon**.

16:00 to 17:00 : Hydrogen sector

- Presentation of a Focus Group initiative: Amethyst/Green Hydrogen for the Alps - Interreg (AURA-EE); **Etienne Viennot/AURA-EE**
- Presentation of the EIB: financial support to regions for hydrogen projects (CEF project in particular) **François Gilles** /BEI
- Possible interventions on the AURA side: CEA – **Thierry Priem**

17 :00 to 17:10 : Closing remarks