



EUSALP EU STRATEGY FOR THE ALPINE REGION
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ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

2025



ACTION GROUP 8

Risk Governance

1. KEY OUTPUTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2025

Name of the output	Objective tackled	Results and follow-up (if applicable)	Link with the 2023-2025 current Work Plan
Policy Recommendations: ADAPTING TO NATURAL HAZARDS IN THE ALPS: STRENGTHENING RISK GOVERNANCE, RISK CULTURE, AND CLIMATE-RESILIENT LAND USE	Strengthen the Alpine region's capacity to manage increasing natural hazards by improving risk governance frameworks, fostering a proactive risk culture, and promoting climate-resilient land-use planning and decision-making.	The recommendations consolidate shared knowledge and best practices among AG8 members on managing climate-induced natural hazards. They highlight key gaps in risk governance, coordination, and awareness, while proposing actionable measures to enhance prevention, preparedness, and long-term resilience.	This output was foreseen in the 2023–2025 Work Plan
Policy Recommendations: Enhancing Vertical Governance of Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)	Strategic direction and alignment to strengthen the vertical governance and the effective implementation CCA in the Alpine region by enhancing the strategic role of regional authorities	A consensus among our members has been reached on a topical issue arising from the still fragmented vertical governance, lack of political continuity, and weak integration of adaptation criteria into regulatory frameworks to effectively address. This topic could form the subject of a study or a session at the 2027 conference, as planned in our current 2026-2028 WP	Foreseen in our 2023-2025 WP
EUSALP South Tyrolean network meetings (twice a year)	Update on EUSALP activities in the region and foster collaborations among AGs	Common calendar of EUSALP events in South Tyrol, Agenda and Minutes of the meetings	Build collaborations with local stakeholders and AG members based in South Tyrol (AG4, AG6, AG8, AG9)

Alpine Space

Joint transnational expert workshop between AG8, PLANALP and Interreg Alpine Space project X-RISK-CC	The workshop was co-organised by AG8 and the Interreg project X-RISK-CC with the goal to explore common challenges of Alpine territories, gaps in existing practices and policy frameworks for (climate) risk management, and corresponding needs for action	The discussion of the workshop have influenced the outputs of the AG8 policy recommendations and the final outputs of the Interreg Alpine Space project X-RISK-CC	Linked with the policy recommendations and associated projects mentioned in the 2023-2025 WP
Working Paper on NbS	Deepen the knowledge and understanding of the role of NbS for hazard and climate risk management and identifying implementation challenges	The members have analysed the current status of NbS in their countries and common benefits and challenges in the implementation process were identified	Foreseen in our 2023-2025 WP
2 AG8 meetings	Development of our activities	Coordination of our activities	Foreseen in our 2023-2025 WP
CAPA	Further implementation of CAPA roadmap and adding of new items/resources to improve the knowledge data base	Further development of the central knowledge transfer infrastructure of AG8	Foreseen in our 2023-2025 WP
Joint Workshop "Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation through cross-project policy recommendations and pilot actions in the Alps" at the Annual Forum in Innsbruck	The workshop, co-organised by AG8 and the Interreg Alpine space project ADAPTNOW, with the collaboration of the projects X-RISK-CC, MOSAIC and Forest EcoValue, showcased how concrete pilot actions and tools can inform transnational policy recommendations for climate change adaptation and climate-related risk	The panel converged on the idea that EUSALP should act as a connector and amplifier: capitalising on project results, hosting shared platforms, fostering peer pressure among regions, and supporting a coherent, multi-level governance framework that makes local pilots replicable and politically visible across the Alpine macro-region.	Linked with the policy recommendations and associated projects mentioned in the 2023-2025 WP

	management in the Alpine region. It combined tools' and policy recommendations' presentations with a panel discussion involving project partners, AG8 co-leaders and the European Commission (DG REGIO).		
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2. OUTREACH AND DISSEMINATION

Action	Target audience	Results and follow-up (if applicable)	Link with the 2023-2025 current Work Plan
6 posts on social media, with an expected 3000 impressions	EUSALP community, External public, scientific and generic	n.a.	Communication activities about AG8 are foreseen in the workplan
1 news release on the website of AG8 Co-Lead Eurac Research, Center for Climate Change and Transformation	External public, scientific community	n.a.	Communication activities about AG8 are foreseen in the workplan
2 website articles by AG8 Co-Lead BMLUK	General public	n.a.	Communication activities about AG8 are foreseen in the workplan
3 social media posts by AG8 Co-Lead BMLUK	General public	n.a.	Communication activities about AG8 are foreseen in the workplan
We4DRR General Assembly: participation and presentation of AG8	Member of we4DRR (women exchange for disaster risk reduction) network	n.a.	Communication and Network activities are foreseen in the workplan

activities, April 2025,
Bolzano

3. POLITICAL DEBATES /POLITICAL MESSAGES TO CONVEY/POLITICAL ADVOCACY

Issue debated	Key points discussed	Follow-up (if applicable)	Link with the EUSALP Action Plan and the AG 2023- 2025 current Work Plan
Policy Recommendations on Enhancing Vertical Governance of Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)	- Provisions for mainstreaming climate adaptation should be established for regional development and sectoral strategies in the Alpine region. This can be achieved also by setting measurable CCA targets in sectoral plans to ensure that adaptation efforts continue despite political changes - A multi-level participatory governance framework should be institutionalised to promote collaboration and resource sharing from EU to the local level. - Additional regional criteria for CCA should be set for EU funding programmes (e.g., EAFRD, ERDF, Just Transition), as well as national and regional funding lines, and respective reporting requirements to ensure that projects align with adaptation goals and that effective	These topics could form the subject of a study or a session at the 2027 conference, as planned in our current 2026-2028 WP	Linked with the policy recommendations foreseen in the 2023-2025 WP

Alpine Space

	transformative climate adaptation is prioritised. - Additional regional criteria for CCA should be set for EU funding programmes (e.g., EAFRD, ERDF, Just Transition), as well as national and regional funding lines, and respective reporting requirements to ensure that projects align with adaptation goals and that effective transformative climate adaptation is prioritised.		
AG8 Policy Recommendations on Adapting to Natural Hazards in the Alps: Strengthening risk governance, risk culture, and climate-resilient land use	- Improve targeted early warning systems, harmonized data collection and infrastructure investment - Establish an improved risk culture, enhance the local capacity to act, provide enabling political frameworks and introduce preventative insurance schemes - Develop climate-resilient land use strategies through risk-based spatial planning, nature-based Solutions, and preservation of areas relevant for risk mitigation	These topics could form the subject of a study or a session at the 2027 conference, as planned in our current 2026-2028 WP	Linked with the policy recommendations foreseen in the 2023-2025 WP

4. CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIONS DELIVERED OR NEEDED

Action	Objective tackled	Results and follow-up (if applicable)	Link with the 2023-2025 current Work Plan
Delivered: Field Trip to the flood retention basin of Feldolling, Rosenheim, 15 May 2025	Knowledge exchange among AG8 members, capacity building on flood retention measures	n.a.	Exchange and cooperation between members foreseen in the workplan
Needed: Political backing	Implement the produced policy recommendations	n.a.	Policy recommendations foreseen in the workplan
Needed: Cooperation with Interreg projects	Leverage cooperation with Interreg projects to upscale and embed project results	n.a.	Cooperation with projects foreseen in the workplan
Needed: exchange with other MRS	To improve exchange with groups/stks in other MRS on risk governance and CCA	n.a.	Possible contribution in the MRS week as mentioned in the worlplan

5. PROJECT IDEAS INCUBATED MATCHING EU PROGRAMS

Project name	Status of the project (in progress/submitted/rejected/approved)	Addressed funding programme	Approved funds in € (if submitted)	Action Groups involved	Link with the EUSALP Action Plan and the AG 2023-2025 current Work Plan
BeCo	submitted	Alpine Space	Total ERDF grants: 2.170.403,30€	AG8	Foreseen in the AG8 2023-2025
ADAPTNOW	Concluded January 2026	Alpine Space	Total ERDF grants: 1.525.988€	AG8	Collaboration foreseen in the workplan
X-Risk-CC	Concluded January 2026	Alpine Space	Total ERDF grants: 2.017.377€	AG8	Collaboration foreseen in the workplan

6. YOUTH INCLUSION

Action/nature of the involvement	Number of Youth Councilors involved, country and name	Link with the 2023-2025 current Work Plan
Participation in 2-days AG8 meeting in Munich	1, Robin Mannhorst, Germany	Proposed in the workplan 2023-2025
Participation in the task force for framing the policy recommendations on Enhancing Vertical Governance of Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)	1, Robin Mannhorst, Germany	Proposed in the 2023-2025 WP