



EUSALP EU STRATEGY FOR THE ALPINE REGION

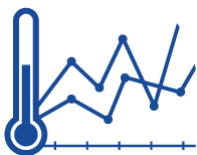
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EUSALP Action Group 8

To improve risk management and to better manage climate change, including major natural risks prevention

Wolfgang Lexer, Environment Agency Austria

on behalf of AG8 Co-Leader Florian Rudolf-Miklau, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Austria

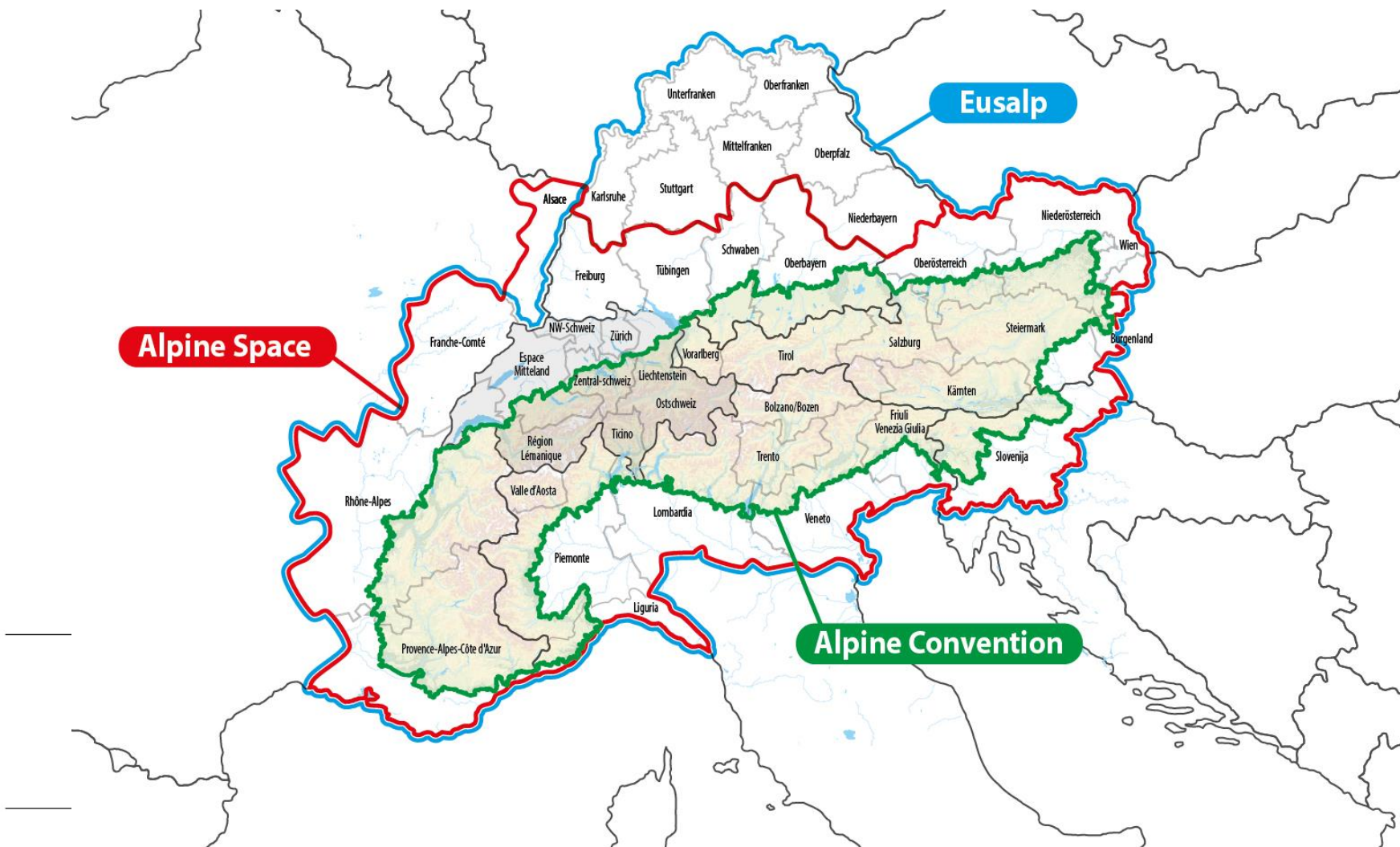


80 million people, 7 countries, 48 regions,
mountains and plains addressing together
common challenges and opportunities



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THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

AUSTRIA

- Burgenland
- Kärnten
- Niederösterreich
- Oberösterreich
- Salzburg
- Steiermark
- Tirol
- Vorarlberg
- Wien

FRANCE

- PACA
- Rhone Alpes
- Franche-Comté

GERMANY

- Baden-Württemberg
- Bayern

ITALY

- Lombardia
- Liguria
- Friuli Venezia Giulia
- Veneto
- Provincia Autonoma di Bolzano
- Provincia Autonoma di Trento
- Valle d'Aosta
- Piemonte

LIECHTENSTEIN

SLOVENIA

SWITZERLAND

- Aargau
- Appenzell Ausserrhoden
- Appenzell Innerrhoden
- Basel-Landschaft
- Basel-Stadt
- Bern
- Fribourg
- Geneva
- Glarus
- Graubünden
- Jura
- Lucerne
- Neuchatel
- Nidwalden
- Obwalden
- Schaffhausen
- Schwyz
- Solothurn
- St. Gallen
- Thurgau
- Ticino
- Uri
- Valais
- Vaud
- Zug
- Zürich

- 7 Alpine countries (5 EU MS, 2 non-EU countries)
- 48 regions
- Alpine core areas + peri-Alpine metropolitan areas
- 80 million people

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Why a Strategy for the Alpine region?

- one of the economically most dynamic, innovative and competitive areas in Europe.

But also

- environmental, economic and social challenges requiring a common response;
- important number of cooperation structures already operating in the area;
- strong request from the regions

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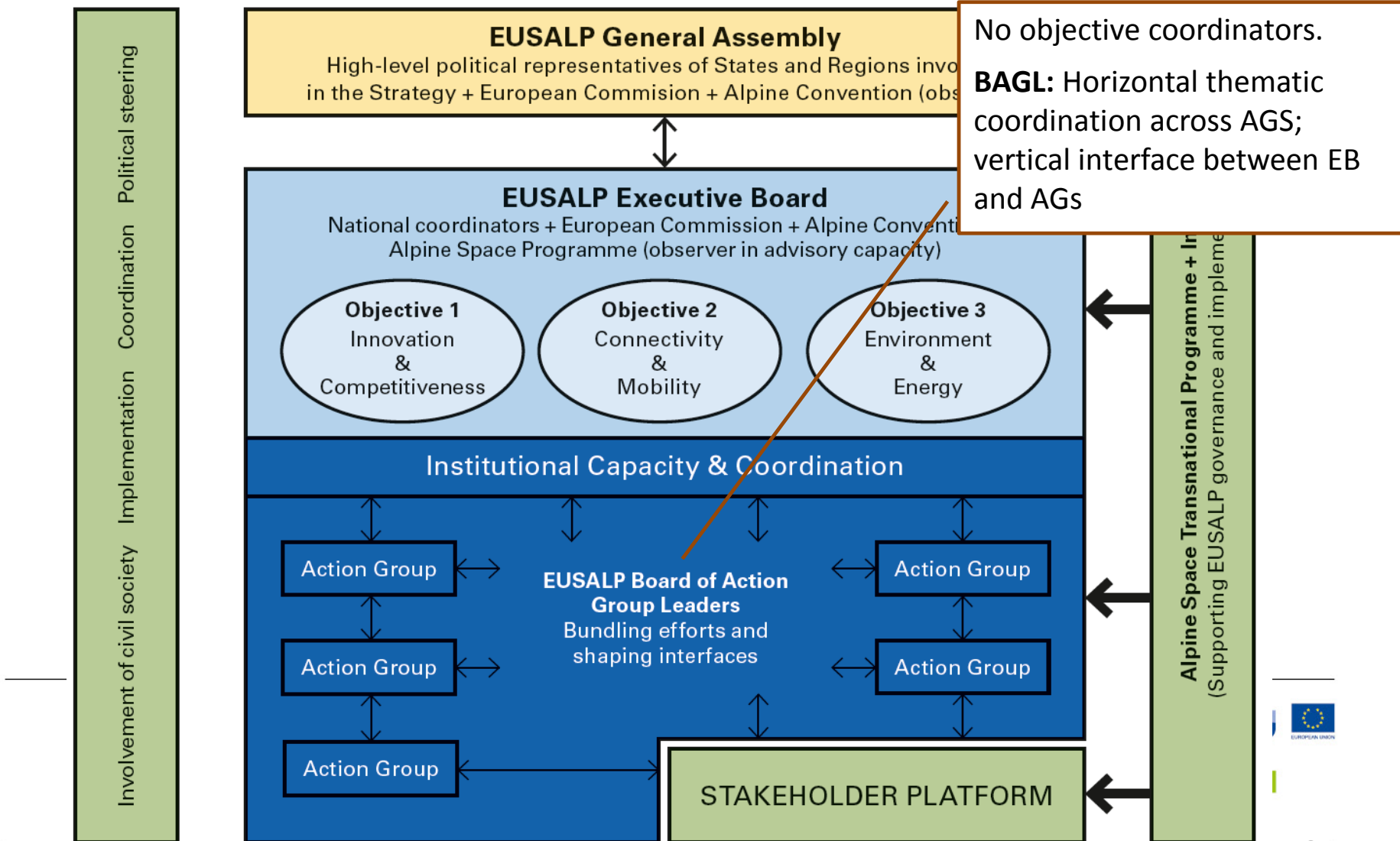
Cornerstones in the EUSALP process

- Basic documents & decisions:
 - Request from the European Council: 19/20 December 2013
 - Declaration of the Alpine States and Regions (Milan Declaration): 1-2 Dec. 2014
 - Communication from European Commission plus EUSALP Action Plan: 28 July 2015
 - EU Council Conclusions on the EUSALP: 17 Nov. 2015
 - Launch event by first Slovenian Presidency: 25-26 January 2016 (Brdo, SI)
 - Adoption of the EUSALP by European Council: 28 June 2016
 - Slovenian Presidency 2016: Set up of the governance structure and rules of procedure
 - Bavarian Presidency 2017: work programme of Presidency with priorities; preparation of work programs of Action Groups; implementing work plans; joint declarations of General Assembly; First Annual Forum (23-24 Nov. 2017, Munich)
 - Incoming Presidency 2018: Tyrol (Austria)
 - Presidency 2019: Italy (tbd)
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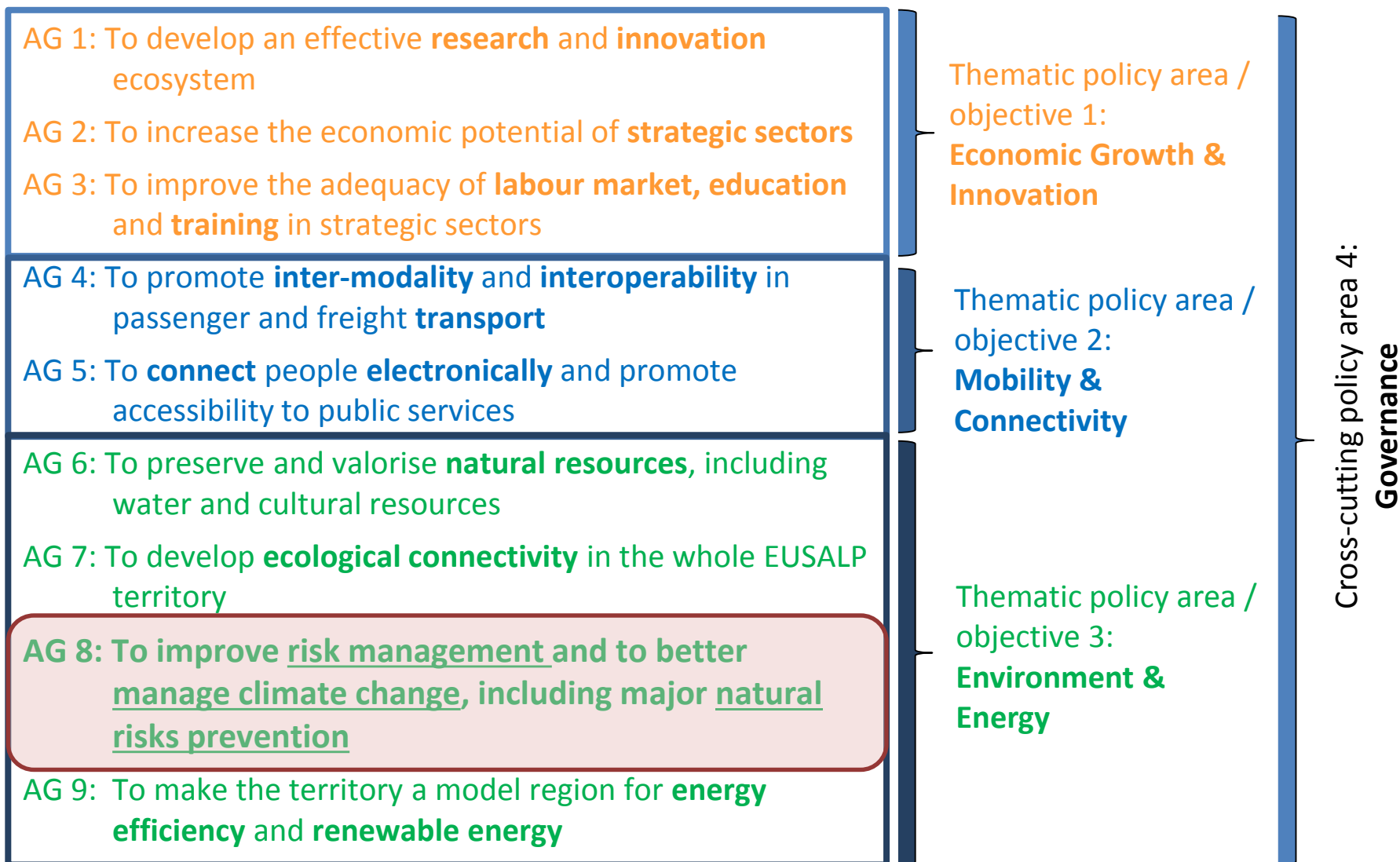
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EUSALP Governance Structure



Objectives and Action Groups



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Actiongroup Leader (AGL):

Florian Rudolf-Miklau (Austria)

Christian Wanger (Bavaria)

Additional AGL Representative Contact:

Catrin Promper (Austria)

Hannah Berger (Bavaria)

Who is AG8?

BERLIN

Bavaria:

Andreas Rimböck

Sebastian Höllerl

Switzerland:

Josef Eberli

Carolin Schärpf

Liechtenstein:

Heike Summer

Eusalp

PARIS

VADUZ

WIEN

BERN

LJUBLJANA

Austria:

Andreas Pichler

Cornelia Jäger

Siegfried Jachs

Ernst Böcskör (Burgenland)

Marcel Innerkofler (Tyrol)

Markus Federspiel (Tyrol)

Markus Kottek (Carinthia)

Rudolf Hornich (Styria)

Slovenia:

Milica Slokar

Joze Papez

France:

Vincent Courtray

Benjamin Einhorn

Observers:

Elisabeth Sötz (WWF)

Daniel Bieri (Club Arc Alpin)

Veronika Schulz (Club Arc Alpin)

Nicholas Chesnel (Alpine Space)

Italy:

Marcello Petitta

Luigi D'Alpaos (Veneto)

Roberto Barbiero (Trento)

Dino Zardi (Trento)

Massimo Ceriani (Lombardy)

ROMA

Current work plan of AG8



Risk Governance

- Mapping and analysis of status quo for Alpine natural hazards (report)
- Comparative study on the management of residual risk / overload cases (report)

Paving the ground for shared risk governance policies regarding Alpine natural hazards



Adaptation to climate change

- Mapping and comparing of climate adaptation governance systems in Alpine countries (report with good practice examples and recommendations)
- Climate Change Adaptation Platform for the Alps (CAPA)

Paving the ground for shared adaptation governance policies

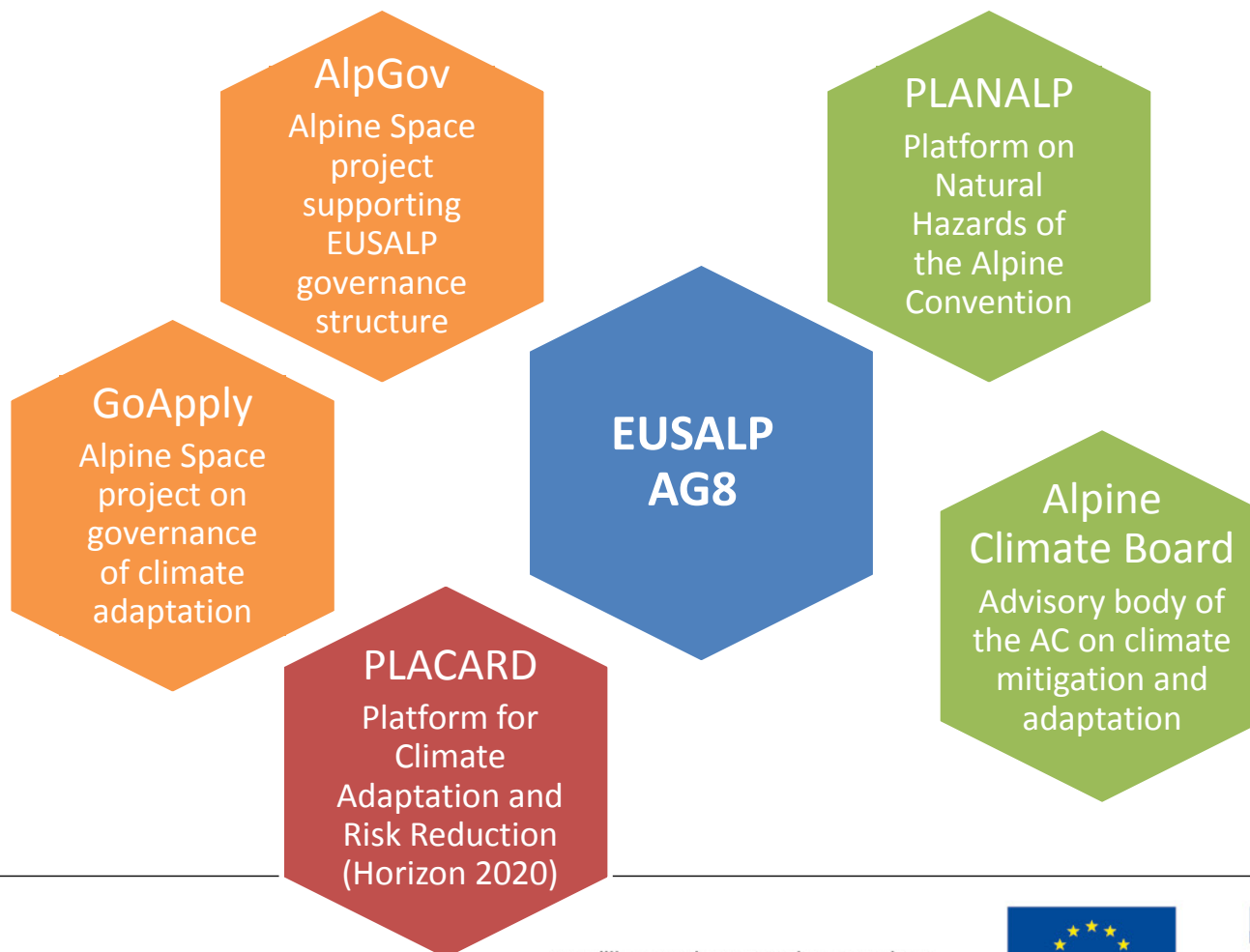


Mainstreaming climate adaptation & risk management

- Promoting closer alignment of governance mechanisms in climate adaptation and natural hazard management
- Implementing interface module on CAPA

Supporting synergies between risk management and climate adaptation

No Action Group is an Island...



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GoApply – Multidimensional governance of climate change adaptation in policy making and practice

Co-funded by: Alpine Space Programme 2014-2020

Project duration: 11 / 2016 – 04 / 2019 (2,5 years / 30 months)

Programme priority 4: Well-Governed Alpine Space

Programme objective: Increase the application of multilevel and transnational governance in the Alpine Space

Thematic project foci

- **Implementation** of adaptation strategies **across levels** (*vertical coordination*)
- **Horizontal integration** of adaptation into relevant **sectors** (*mainstreaming*)
- More active **involvement** of **regions, municipalities** and **non-governmental actors**
- Strengthening **transnational cooperation** in the field of climate adaptation within the context of **EUSALP**

- Project builds on the existing **transnational network of the national adaptation policy-making authorities in the Alpine countries**
 - **Project partners** are responsible for **national adaptation strategies in Austria, Germany, Switzerland and Italy**
 - National adaptation policy owners from **France, Slovenia and Liechtenstein** support the project as **observers** and regular network members
- **Supporting the EUSALP AG8 process** has been incorporated in project design from the beginning
- **Institutional linkages to AG8** on the level of partner institutions and via project observer roles of both AG8 Co-Leads (plus further EUSALP AG Leads)

Working modes and implementation activities

- Work meetings
- Providing information for studies
- Knowledge exchange
- Knowledge transfer and dissemination
- Conferences and events



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Some (first) lessons learnt

In general:

- ❑ Due to young history of EUSALP, it is too early to speak of successes or failures...

Organising the Action Group:

- ❑ *Success factor:* Building on pre-existing traditions of transnational cooperation in the region – take into account and make use of existing transnational entities, working bodies, respective actors and their expertise
- ❑ *Challenge:* many different actors, especially when the Action Group covers two policy fields → being inclusive vs. keeping the size of the group workable
- ❑ *Challenge:* setting up sub-groups or not → AG8 decided against in order to maximize potential synergies and to keep the momentum of having a diverse group
- ❑ *Challenge:* maintaining balanced, continuous and active participation of members from all relevant countries and regions

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Setting up and implementing the work programme:

- ☐ *Success factor:* Align with ongoing projects and initiatives to avoid overlaps and utilize synergies
- ☐ *Success factor:* Identify gaps and try to fill these jointly with AG members and other important players in the region
- ☐ *Challenge:* Keeping the oversight, as there are so many initiatives
- ☐ *Challenge:* Delineating work packages appropriate for the group → avoiding overload (capacity, resources), but integrating the knowledge of all members
- ☐ *Challenge:* Access to funding → decreasing significance of climate adaptation as a funding priority in (several) transnational programmes (2014-2020 as compared to 2007–2013) → one mainstreaming issue among many others...

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Many thanks for your attention



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Contacts AG8:

Catrin Promper (BMLFUW) catrin.promper@bmlfuw.gv.at

Hannah Berger (StMUV) Hannah.Berger@stmuv.bayern.de

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