

European Territorial Cooperation

Alpine Space Programme 2007-2013

PROJECT IDEA FORM

You have an idea and you want to know if it fits to the Programme's objectives? You are looking for partners to join a project?

Please fill in this form as precise and short as possible and submit it to the Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) or to the Alpine Space Contacts Points (ACPs).

Code: 0061_FL

Contact details		
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Project title	ECONNECT – Improving ecological connectivity in the Alps	
Date of submission	2008	
Priority ASP 2007-2013	Competitiveness and Attractiveness of the Alpine Space	
	Accessibility and Connectivity	
	Environment and risk management	X
Project description: transnational issue¹ the project intends to deal with (max 500 characters)		
<p>The Alps are both one of the most intensively exploited mountain ranges in the world and Europe's largest pool of biodiversity. Innovation in the preservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the Alps is needed in three thematic fields: 1) by regarding biodiversity from an Alps-wide (as opposed to a national) perspective, 2) by identifying biodiversity hotspots, where conservation measures can be most effective, and 3) by integrating (functional and structural) connectivity for more effectiveness in the biodiversity conservation of specific areas and sites in a European and global context.</p>		
Main objectives (max 500 characters)		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) "Dynamise" nature protection through species migration and the development of their habitats, particularly in relation to climate change; 2) Identify intensively exploited areas with ecological connectivity gaps; 3) Demarcate areas of importance for ecological connectivity; 4) Apply a tested strategy for the involvement of authorities and stakeholders; 5) Implement a coherent communication campaign; 6) Implement appropriate measures improving connectivity together with stakeholders in pilot areas; 7) Coordinate with ongoing activities (CBD, Natura 2000, PEEN, etc.) 		
Envisaged Outcomes (max 500 characters)		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Realisation of ecological networks in the most fragmented areas and among protected areas, with the support of NGOs and alpine countries. 2) Measures will consist in specific zoning adapted to the needs of ecological systems (namely ecological corridors and contractual measures with agriculture, forestry, 		

¹ See Operational Programme on: <http://www.alpinespace.org/2007-2013.html>

<p>hunting or tourism).</p> <p>3) Decision-makers at the local, regional, national, and transnational level will be made aware of the importance of the ecological continuum and biodiversity aspects will be considered in planning decisions.</p>	
Keywords (4 max)²	Biodiversity Conservation, structural and functional connectivity, ecological networks
Partners already found (for each of the partner found please indicate: institution/ organisation/ department; field of expertise; country).	CIPRA (International Commission for the Protection of the Alps), WWF (European Alpine Programme), ISCAR (International Scientific Committee Alpine Research), Direction of National Park Berchtesgaden (President of ALPARC, Alpine Network of Protected Areas), Platform "Ecological Network" of the Alpine Convention (represented by national administrations), CEMAGREF Grenoble (France), Swiss Biodiversity Forum
Partners searched (for each of the partner searched please indicate: institution/ organisation/ department; field of expertise; country). We are looking for the appropriate contacts with the following partners:	Economy sectors / companies and individuals: agriculture, forestry, tourism, fishery, hunting, industry, infrastructure (traffic)
Estimated total budget (in €)	4 Mio Euro
Do you want your idea to be published in the partner search section of the Alpine Space Programme's website (if it fits to the Programme's objectives)?	yes

² The keywords can be related to the thematic field covered, the outputs and results, the methodologies and solutions adopted, which better describes your project.