



Federal Ministry
of the Interior, Building
and Community

Transnational cooperation in spatial planning

Recent activities from an Alpine perspective

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German legal basis for cross-border cooperation in spatial planning

Federal Spatial Planning Law (ROG):

- § 14 Cross-border cooperation in regard to issues of cross-border relevance, including:
 - Contractual arrangements
 - Development concepts, networks and cooperation structures
 - Spatial observation and data provision

➔ The Bavarian State Planning Law contains similar provisions (§ 29)



EU Territorial Agenda

- TA 2030 to be adopted at the informal ministerial conference in Leipzig 12/2020
- Orientation for strategic spatial planning, strengthening the territorial dimension of sector policies at all governance levels
- Two overarching objectives:
 - a Just Europe → “Just” in respect to:
 - balanced territorial development
 - functional regions
 - integration beyond borders
 - and a Green Europe → “Green” in respect to:
 - healthy environment (i.a. green infrastructure linking ecosystems and protected areas in spatial planning and other policies)
 - circular economy
 - sustainable connections



Territorial Agenda: Why we need to act

- Three rationales, including „Sustainable development and climate change – increasing pressure on the environment“ → action is needed for:
 - Climate change (mitigation/adaptation)
 - Loss of biodiversity and land consumption
 - Air, soil and water quality
 - Secure, affordable and sustainable energy
 - Just transition to climate-neutrality
 - Circular value chains
 - Nature, landscape and cultural heritage: Fragmented natural habitats and ecological corridors



Territorial Agenda: Integration beyond borders – living and working across national borders

- Creates critical mass for development
- Promotes synergies
- Diminishes economic, social and **environmental fragmentation** and negative externalities
- Targeted i.a. at ecosystems and natural and cultural heritage

Approaches of strategic
dimension

macro-regional strategies
strategic Interreg cooperation EGTC
legal cross-border agreements Horizon Europe cooperation
mainstream cohesion policy programmes
European Groupings of Territorial Cooperation
cross-border planning inter-metropolitan functional regions



Territorial Agenda

Actions in the making

„Alpine Towns for Citizens – Climate Action in Alpine Towns“

- Swiss initiative to promote place-based approaches and exchange of experience
- Spatial/urban planning approaches targeting climate change (mitigation and adaptation)
- Currently in preparation, together with the Alpine Town of the Year-association, including a stock-taking on municipal activities in Alpine towns

A future for lagging regions

Understanding how sector policies shape spatial (im)balances

Small places matter for territorial development

Territorial vision for a cross-border functional region

Alpine towns for citizens

Climate change adaptation and resilience through landscape transition



The Alpine Convention Process

Role of spatial planning within the Alpine Convention:

Awareness that besides thematic approaches, sustainable development of the Alps requires a spatial planning framework

→ hence the „Protocol on Spatial Planning and Sustainable Development“ with references to environmental protection and open spaces, e.g.:

- Harmonised policies for territorial planning, development and protection
- Coordination of territorial planning with economic and environmental requirements, particularly in border areas
- Consideration of environmental protection in planning policies
- Delimitation of protected and „tranquil“ areas



The role of spatial planning in the Alpine process

Quote from the current Multi-Annual Work Programme 2017-2022 (MAP):

*“The Alpine Conference therefore calls for an even more transversal and integrated approach. In this context, **strengthening sustainable spatial planning** will help the Contracting Parties to combine sectoral activities and policies and will give new impetus to cooperation between different interest groups and stakeholders at different local and regional levels.”*



Multi-Annual Work
Programme of the
Alpine Conference
2017-2022





Alpine Convention Ad-hoc Expert Group Spatial Development

- Initiated during the German Presidency of the Alpine Convention 2015/2016
- Active from 2015-2019, chaired by Germany
- For details, visit www.alpconv.org/en/home/topics/spatial-planning/



Expert Group Spatial Development: Main outputs



Stakeholder Conference 2016 in Munich

- New challenges regarding spatial development
- Implementation, organisational requirements, governance



Declaration on Sustainable Spatial Development in the Alps ("Declaration of Murnau", 2016)

- Adopted at the XVI Alpine Conference
- New impulse for sustainable spatial development



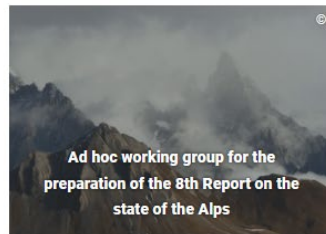
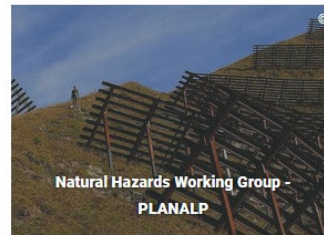
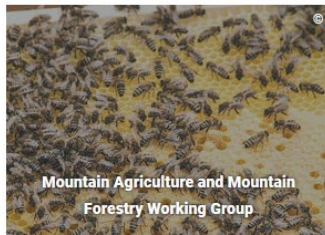
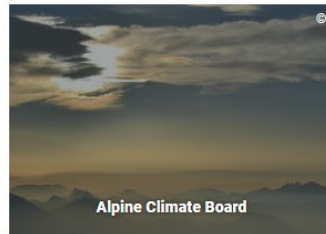
ESPON Targeted analysis Alps2050

- Common spatial perspectives for the Alpine area. Towards a common vision
- Territorial analyses and scenarios for the Alps

Alpine Convention

Current initiative for a new Working Body Spatial Planning

Active Thematic Working Bodies



Joint effort by AC member states
to establish a Working Body on
Spatial Planning for the mandate
following the upcoming Alpine
Conference in Dec. 2020



What is the added value of a Working Body Spatial Planning in the Alpine Convention framework?

- Climate change, water management, energy, land management, ecological fragmentation/connectivity → Challenges are increasingly supra-local, cross-border and transnational
- Spatial planning and development needs to contribute to multilateral strategies and agreements → Territorial Agenda 2030, European Green Deal, Alpine Climate Target System 2050, UN SDG, Paris Agreement, Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe etc.
- Transnational cooperation can promote targets of spatial programmes on state and federal level
- Strengthens a transversal and integral approach to sectoral activities and policies in the Alpine Convention perimeter



Alpine Convention

Topics for a Working Body Spatial Planning

- Status-quo assessment of cross-border cooperation and coordination of spatial development in the Alpine Convention area
 - Facilitate the implementation pathways of the Alpine Climate Target System 2050 in regard to spatial planning
 - Contribute to the 8th Report on the State of the Alps „Cities in the Alps“
- ➔ Long-term perspective: Common vision and perspective for the Alpine area, with guidelines towards joint Alpine Spatial Planning



EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP)

- 3 thematic policy areas (growth/innovation, mobility/connectivity, environment/energy) and one cross-cutting policy area „Governance“
- ➔ Objective: Improving cooperation and coordination of action in the Alpine region
- Various Action Groups address spatial-planning related issues:
 - Action Group 6 Resources
 - Action Group 7 Green Infrastructure
 - Action Group 8 Natural Hazards



Summary

- Cross-border cooperation in spatial development increasingly relevant, particularly in the multi-national Alpine region
- Different instruments and approaches (Interreg, EGTC, Alpine Convention, EUSALP etc.)
- Networks such as AlpPlan highly appreciated
- Challenge remains: How can we achieve a more formal and binding character of cooperation, e.g. regarding open spaces and ecological connectivity?
- Vision: Alpine Spatial Governance

Thank you for your attention!

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