



INSTITUTE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
FOR NATURE CONSERVATION



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT
AND SPATIAL PLANNING



AlpGov Networking event: »Green Infrastructure 4 Green Future«

Koper, Slovenia
20th of September 2019, afternoon

Event will be organised by the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation (Zavod RS za varstvo narave), EUSALP Action Group 7 (co-lead), in cooperation with the Slovenian Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning.

Concept Note

Green infrastructure is a topic that is increasingly mentioned by the professionals and the media within EUSALP countries and in wider territory. What is Green Infrastructure (GI) all about? Is it yet another “green flicker” or do the numerous activities in this field really bring better solutions for a greener, sustainable and more resilient society that builds on natural capital and respect for nature?

Rationale

Implementation of EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP) was launched in 2016 and concrete implementation steps are on the way, including activities within the project AlpGov¹. EUSALP Action Group 7² is working in the fields of Ecological connectivity and Green Infrastructure (GI) aiming at developing Alpine green infrastructure in the whole EUSALP territory, constantly spreading the network of cooperating actors. In parallel to the AG7 work, many activities on different government levels and project from EU programs have been implemented on the ground, with the content that seems related to GI. Even though this might not be visible at first sight, it is possible that many project results are directly contributing to the implementation of the Green Infrastructure concept in EUSALP and wider territory. The amount and size of results is growing so it is difficult to have an overview. For this reason, it is necessary to exchange results and experiences in order to jointly work toward the common goals, including the implementation of GI network.

In the last few years, AG7 have among others organised two networking workshops within Mediterranean Coast and MRS Week – 2017 in Koper³ and 2018 in Izola⁴. Both gave overview on some of the current activities regarding ecological connectivity and also served as an opportunity

¹ “Implementing Alpine Governance Mechanisms of the European Strategy for the Alpine Region”, acronym AlpGov, Interreg Alpine Space Programme project, Timeframe 06/2016 – 06/2019;

² AG7 – Green Infrastructure – To develop ecological connectivity in the whole EUSALP territory; <https://www.alpine-region.eu/action-group-7>

³ Results from the 2017 Workshop in Koper »Networking for Ecological Connectivity and Green Infrastructure«: http://www.zrsvn.si/sl/informacija.asp?id_meta_type=73&id_informacija=888

⁴ Results from 2018 Workshop in Izola:

http://www.zrsvn.si/sl/informacija.asp?id_meta_type=73&id_informacija=916

for dialogue and cooperation of interested partners. One of the goals was also to reach out of the Alpine region, towards other mountain regions (e.g. Dinaric Arc) and cooperation with other macro-regional strategies (EUSAIR, EUSDR).

To foster the dialogue and exchange on results/experiences regarding GI and ecological connectivity, 2019 event will be again organised by the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation (Zavod RS za varstvo narave) – EUSALP action group 7 co-lead and AlpGov project partner in cooperation with the Slovenian Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning.

Goal of the event

Representatives of various organizations and project implementers from cross-border and transnational cooperation programs will present experiences and practice of planning and managing GI. We will discuss how results and (project) activities contribute to biodiversity conservation, to quality of life and wellbeing as the core elements of GI and how multifunctionality of GI benefit concrete living space.

The aim of the event is to capitalize on current results and check how can they contribute to implementing the of EUSALP AG7 goals, perspectives of Alps 2050⁵ and Alpine GI declaration 2017⁶ and to strengthen the understanding of the GI concept and cooperation among stakeholders and actors involved.

Target audience

The event is intended for general and professional public:

- Government organisations, expert and research institutions, development agencies and other;
- Spatial planners, nature conservation experts and NGOs, project managers;
- EUSALP AG members, participants of the AlpGov Workshops (2017, 2018), actors of all MRS;
- General public.

Content

- Conceptual framework of GI – overview;
- GI planning and management – overview of concrete examples and results, presentations and discussion;
- Lessons learned: How do (project) activities fulfil the needs for establishment of multifunctional and biodiversity supporting green infrastructure? Discussion and conclusions;
- Optional (field trip and discussion): Škocjanski zatok Nature reserve – Slovenian coast green infrastructure in function;

Further Information

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W <http://www.alpine-region.eu/action-group-7>; <http://www.alpine-space.eu/projects/alpgov/en/home>

Workshop will be organised within the Mediterranean Coast and Macro-Regional Strategies Week 2019 (MCW). More about the MCW program on <http://www.adriatic-ionician.eu/>

⁵ <https://www.espon.eu/Alps2050>

⁶ „ALPINE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE – JOINING FORCES FOR NATURE, PEOPLE AND THE ECONOMY” – Declaration 2017: <https://www.alpine-region.eu/results/28-alpine-states-and-regions-adopted-political-declaration-%E2%80%9Ealpine-green-infrastructure-%E2%80%93>