

EUSALP and ALPJOBS

2018-ALPJOBS two-vears (March February 2020) pilot project funded by the European Parliament, which has allocated a specific budget in the form of a preparatory action named Alpine Region (ARPAF). Preparatory Action Fund ARPAF aims to facilitate the implementation of the EU Macroregional Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP). This Strategy concerns 7 Countries, of which 5 EU Member States (Austria, France, Germany, Italy and Slovenia) and 2 non-EU countries (Liechtenstein and Switzerland). and 48 Regions. The main added value of EUSALP consists in PERFORMING A NEW RELATIONSHIP METROPOLITAN, PERI-MOUNTAIN AND MOUNTAIN AREAS that will boost, with a strong focus on sustainability, the economy and social prosperity of the area. EUSALP would provide an opportunity to improve cross-border cooperation in the Alpine States as well as identifying common goals and implementing them more effectively through transnational collaboration.







ALPJOBS aims at contributing to the initiatives against depopulation in Alpine remote areas. Strong imbalances in terms of job opportunities and services supplied are to be found across the Alpine region.

Beyond the differences among the areas, common vicious cycles can undermine the future possibilities for local development, for example decreasing and ageing population can lead to a reduction in public services at the local level, while new opportunities from incoming technologies may not be exploited locally due to lack of organizational skills or innovation. Systemic problems (as well as opportunities) have to be anticipated, identified and managed in advance.

Specific focus needs to be on:

- young (15-34), which generally move out of remote areas for higher education and do not come back to their villages of origin (brain drain), and
- counterbalancing this brain drain by motivating young people to stay or return after studies or training experiences outside the region.

MILESTONES

In the Alpine Region there is a lack of qualified personnel in certain areas and professional fields.

Young adults are lacking information (see competences) on jobs and competences that either are or will be in demand

Local communities are changing and will change more and more according to uncontrollable trends (e.g. demography, aging, contrasting dynamics in tourism and natural resources)

Local education systems in the Alpine Region may be not promoting skills adequate to deal with changes in society and labor market

Current labor market and uncertainties in public policies or public funding may challenge the chance for the young adults to have or create and maintain own job.

What will ALPJOBS do?

ALPJOBS, by using the methods derived from Futures Studies, will help to answer to following open questions:

- how to match competences/skills required within year 2030 by regional enterprises and job seekers' competences
- how to establish and maintaining in future attractive job opportunities within Alpine remote areas of EUSALP's Macroregion,
- how to involve entrepreneurs and interest groups (i.e. education, training, labor agencies/organizations) and local policy makers in developing sustainable innovations of the local social economic system,
- how to promote the anticipatory governance, then the resilience of local communities, among local actors.

EXPECTED RESULTS

ALPJOBS has to be considered as a learning and testing experience with results at different levels in terms of:

- spread of competences in stakeholders and agents of change in Alpine remote areas on adaptation to or orientation of (i.e. anticipation) local opportunities for the labor market and innovation,
- collection of insights and strategic indications for possible future-proof projects of local development in collaboration with the local communities,
- fostering the awareness of entrepreneurial and social actors on the importance of involving young people and building strategies for local development, looking at the medium-long term and the related uncertainties.

Tangible results will include reports on:

- scenarios for Alpine remote contexts and labor markets as the ground for defining the strategic decisions,
- description of suitable contexts (viable systems) for maintenance of current jobs and creation future ones,
- recommendations for the implementation of measures to match or create future balance in labor demand and offer.
- guidelines on repeatable training methodology about the competence/skill profiles to be applied into the formal, not formal as well as informal educational and training systems.

The time horizon of ALPJOBS is 2030, but the same approach will help to consider a longer perspective (2050). In the end, it is expected to support the development of larger and more operational projects.

