

MANDATE OF THE
Ad Hoc Working Group for the elaboration of the
Tenth Report on the State of the Alps on Quality of
life
(RSA 10)
FOR THE PERIOD 2023-2024
(BETWEEN THE XVII AND XVIII MEETINGS OF THE ALPINE
CONFERENCE)

1. Introductory remarks

Importance of the issues selected and relevance of the proposed way to tackle them

Quality of life is one of the three priorities of the new Multiannual Work Programme of the Alpine Conference 2023-2030, which is currently being developed and will be adopted at the XVII Alpine Conference. The theme is also related to the work of all Thematic Working Bodies of the Alpine Convention (TWBs on transport, soil protection, spatial planning and sustainable development, climate change, biodiversity, mountain agriculture and forestry, natural hazards, WISO) and to the Nineth Report of the State of the Alps on Alpine towns, particularly to the respective role of Alpine towns and to future development scenarios elaborated as an integral part of the mentioned Report.

2. Objectives

Description of the objectives to be achieved until the XVIII Alpine Conference

The RSA10 shall address both corresponding objectives of the Multi-Annual Work programme 2023-2030 by providing:

- Initial knowledge in this field including an overview on existing or comparable approaches in the Alpine countries regarding measuring quality of life and addressing various aspects of quality of life for people in the Alps and potential territorial differences;

- Overview on what are the main policy challenges and offer proposals how spatial planning and related policies should respond and how quality of life can be better tackled in policy making processes.
- Preparing policy recommendations including proposals for potential future activities related to both objectives.
- Communication on the quality of life approach in spatial planning and policy making.

3. Planned outputs

Description of the planned outputs, with reference to the objectives

1. The RSA 10 will outline the status quo of quality of life in the Alps shown by agreed indicators at the selected territorial level. Chosen indicators could potentially be used for monitoring quality of life in the Alps in the course of implementation of the Multi-Annual Work Programme 2023-2030.

2. In order to address territorial quality of life (TQoL), an establishment of Territorial Living Labs is foreseen, ideally one in each Alpine country (8). On the one side, through living labs, potential differences in comprehension of the quality of life in (urban/rural) Alpine communities could be revealed, while on the other, they will give inputs for elaborating how spatial planning or other public policies can tackle quality of life and associated challenges in policy processes. TQoL Living Labs, as developed for this purpose by ESPON, offer a policy innovation milieu where experts from competent and trusted institutions work with citizens and civil society organisations. In cooperation, through co-creation and lateral thinking, these stakeholders jointly address QoL, define their shared understanding of QoL, challenges and priorities and test possible indicators.

3. In addition to that, the Alpine youth, important for the future of Alps will be involved through an ERASMUS project under the leadership of CIPRA Slovenia, and in cooperation with CIPRA France, CIPRA Germany and CIPRA International, with the aim

to empower young people for the living labs approach to quality of life. The results will be included in the RSA10.

4. The RSA 10 will elaborate recommendations for future activities in this field and the collected data will be included in the Alpine Convention Atlas.

5. An application for an ESPON targeted analysis shall support the preparation of the RSA 10, by further exploring on the inclusion of TQoL in spatial planning as well as public policy making processes via living labs. The result will be a separated document including guidance and policy recommendations. The project will also serve as one of the inputs to the RSA10 – outlining the recommendations with a particular Alpine importance.

4. Work plan

Outline of the foreseen timetable (meetings and other activities, main milestones scheduled)

Some preparation work will start already in 2022, namely:

- Submission of the application for a targeted analysis to the ESPON Programme to support the preparation of the RSA10 (Autumn 2022)
- Establishment of the Ad hoc working group on RSA10 (November 2022)

The major activities will take part in 2023 and 2024:

- Elaboration of the work plan and tasks, collection of the information and data (January/February 2023).
- Exchange with the TWBs on the quality of life objectives in the MAP 2023-2030 (first half of 2023).
- Coordination with the ESPON targeted analysis and monitoring of the project by the interested stakeholders' group and RSA 10 Ad hoc Working Group (2023/2024).
- Information on the work progress (Permanent Committee meeting (PC) in Spring 2023).

- Presentation and discussion of the role of youth on the basis of the CIPRA Slovenia ERASMUS project report (PC Autumn 2023/Spring 2024).
- Draft version for comments (Spring 2024).
- Draft final version (June 2024).
- Submission of RSA 10 to XVIII AC in autumn 2024 for adoption.

5. Cooperation

Description of the planned cooperation with other Alpine Convention bodies and further relevant partners and processes, and the expected benefits

- Presentation and discussion at the PC meetings.
- Information of TWB Chairs about the RSA 10 preparation and exchange on possible implementation of the MAP Quality of life objectives, acquiring relevant information and proposals.
- Liaising with the ERASMUS project led by Cipra Slovenia.
- Liaising with the consortium of the ESPON targeted analysis.

6. Communication

Description of the communication goals, targets and respective planned measures

- The goal is to promote what quality of life within the Alpine Convention area entails, what the challenges are and how they can be better tackled by activities of the Alpine Convention actors and in policy processes at national, regional or local levels to manage a good quality of life status or to improve it.
- The target groups are: national and regional ministries, municipalities, Alpine networks, spatial planners and other experts, general public;
- The work and the results of the RSA 10 will be presented to the Alpine Convention bodies on a regular basis and to the XVIII Alpine Conference in 2024;
- The RSA 10 with its main findings and recommendations will be published on the Alpine Convention web page;

- The RSA 10, which will be translated (in full or in form of a summary) in the languages of the Alpine Convention should be presented at national level by the Contracting Parties (post 2024).
- Quality of life will be promoted at a local level through TQoL approaches established during the preparation of RSA 10.
- CIPRA will, through the Erasmus Alpine Young Quality of life project, empower young people for the quality of life approach and outreach.
- The experiences and the outcomes of the RSA 10 will be presented in international frameworks, such as ESPON seminars, EUSALP, and to other interested stakeholders.

7. Link to the Multi-Annual Work Programme 2023-2030 of the Alpine Conference

Description of how the proposed objectives and activities shall contribute to some or all of the priority areas of the MAP 2023-2030 (biodiversity and ecosystems / climate action / quality of life / interlinkages, synergies, and trade-offs of the aforementioned areas)

The RSA 10 will contribute to the implementation of the third priority Quality of life and its two objectives:

- Further the Alpine Convention's knowledge on the quality of life of people in the Alps, acknowledging and respecting territorial and individual differences
- Promote the inclusion of quality-of-life measures in public policy-making processes at all territorial level

The transversal nature of the quality of life which encompass many different elements, will address also the other two MAP priority themes through exchange with the TWB Chairs and the TWB members or dedicated meetings.

8. Chair

The Chair will be held by Slovenia.