Sustainable practices in Alpine tourist destinations

COLLECTION OF GOOD PRACTICES FROM THE MOUNTAIN TOURIST SECTOR AIMED TO CURB EMISSIONS (PARTICULARLY GHGS), INCREASE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SUPPORT A WIDE ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES IN ALPINE TOURIST DESTINATIONS

WORKING GROUP SUSTAINABLE TOURISM OF THE ALPINE CONVENTION (2016-2018)
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1. **Introduction**

The mandate of the Working Group (WG) on Sustainable Tourism has been developed over the 2017-2018 period in coherence with the Multiannual Work Program of the Alpine Convention 2017/2022 (MAP), by addressing the topics of climate change, conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and green economy.

In this framework, the Group agreed to focus on some core aspects of the mandate by drafting some deliverables – of which this report is one. In elaborating the contents of this document, challenges for the long-term sustainability of alpine tourism have been taken into account, and a governance approach for "sustainable tourist destinations" kept as an ideal goal for Alpine tourist sites – that deserves to be defined and tested.

This report’s contents are consistent with the expectations of the mandate concerning a collection of voluntary initiatives in the mountain tourist sector (experiences and good practices). Many of them refer to initiatives aimed to curb emissions (particularly GHGs), increase energy efficiency in the sector and support a wide adoption of sustainable practices in Alpine tourist destinations. A part of the experiences gathered in this document refer to the fields of certification schemes, and sustainable management of tourist destinations. Others address novel approaches to a sustainable management of Alpine resources, structures and facilities, and sometimes deal with other inherent activities including mountain products suitable for promotion in tourist sites, and beyond. Some of the collected practices are also supportive to the development of all-seasons tourism in the Alps, can attract visitors to locations endowed with significant ecological assets, and participate in creating “green jobs” in local communities. They sometimes actively involve local or regional public administrations and interact with territorial and other planning policies.

The resulting brief collection presented in the pages that follow aims at showing how different countries, destinations and stakeholders from the private sector across all the Alps have tackled some of the most felt challenges identified for Alpine tourism. The report is expected to raise awareness particularly on those practices being likely to be transferred to more tourist sites in different countries and regions.

We wish that a widespread application of these and other successful practices may ensure a greater sustainability of Alpine tourism, without sacrificing the quality of the tourist experience for visitors and the well-being of local communities.
2. The collection of good practices in the field of sustainable tourism in the Alps

The role of tourist stakeholders (in particular the private sector, but also local and regional authorities) in tackling important sustainability challenges in the tourist sector has grown considerably in recent years. Several initiatives have been promoted to improve energy efficiency in tourist buildings. Voluntary standards are applied extensively by both companies and destinations (e.g. municipalities) in the tourist sector, including labels, voluntary reports and certification schemes covering a wide range of environmental and social aspects (from CO2 emissions reduction, to promotion of safer jobs and enhancement of local quality products).

With respect to the aforementioned objectives, and to the trend observed over the last few years towards a more environmentally sound and aware tourism, the Working Group (WG) on Sustainable Tourism in 2017-2018 focused on the collection and sharing of information and best practices concerning the promotion of a green management of destinations. This is ensured especially through initiatives aimed at reducing and managing CO2 emissions (such as energy efficiency in tourist buildings, sustainable mobility, certification schemes) and identifying innovative strategies for the Alpine tourism.

Moreover, the WG investigated on the transferability and sharing of possible actions collected in selected case studies through a network of destinations willing to make their tourist offer more sustainable and climate-friendly. Certainly, local stakeholders are expected to cooperate and actually perform an active exchange of experiences and good practices applied in the respective destinations.

This report collects a selection of good practices reported for the Alpine countries that are in line with the indications of the WG's mandate.

During the BP collection phase in the countries of the Alpine Convention, each country and observer was invited to select at least one initiative for tourist destinations where measures have been applied to increase sustainability and achieve CO2 reduction. A standard template has been used for this purpose where selected characteristics of the projects are to be reported, including: the economic sector, the description of the project, its objectives, duration, the territory where it applies and its economic, environmental and social impacts.

Among the good practices received, the ones collected in this report highlight - according to a criterion of geographical representativeness and in line with the contributions supplied by the members of the WG – actions implemented locally, mainly related to the reduction of CO2 emissions in Alpine tourist destinations. For each action, actual or potential environmental, social and economic impacts on Alpine territories being affected by tourism.  

Two to three good practices were selected for each of the countries represented in the WG and are briefly described in the following paragraphs. This selection took into account the territory and institutions behind good practice, its transferability and replicability, as well as its environmental, socio-cultural and economic effects. Particular consideration was given - as required by the mandate

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1 As proposed by the Presidency to the members of the Working Group at the Bolzano meeting (23-24 April 2018) where the representative and satisfactory number for the Alpine territory is identified in 10, with respect to the objectives set by the mandate of the Working Group itself.
- to those practices that in some way have effects on the reduction of noxious emissions and both in the western and eastern Alpine regions.

Other practices of great interest collected by the WG are listed in the Annex to this report.
3. Collection of good practices on sustainable alpine tourism

France

Change Approach for eco-tourism

The "Change Approach" project has been implemented by the NGO "Mountain Wilderness France". It relates to the fields of sustainable mobility, public transport and management of natural and cultural heritage.

With the aim of promoting eco-tourism and access to mountain tourist areas without the use of cars in order to protect the mountain environment and its inhabitants, the "Changing Approach" campaign involves all French mountain territories. The project involves the use of several tools to raise awareness among visitors and users of public transport services: brochures on mountain tours by public transport, sports itineraries available online and shared by the community, advices on ecotourism.

Among the objectives of the project the ones that follow can be counted: to stimulate citizens to a behavioral change and to induce them to replicate these behaviors, with an action aimed at facilitating the information and dissemination of this new approach.

The project was born in 2007 on the basis of the analysis of data demonstrating how trips to and from mountain tourist destinations accounted for 80% of the energy consumption attributable to tourists, and the consideration of the strong impact on the environment due to the use of private vehicles. The association works in collaboration with different mountain and non-mountain actors in the implementation of the project.

The expected impact on the environment and climate includes the promotion of the use of public transport and, at the same time, the limitation of private vehicles, with a consequent reduction in energy costs and pollution related to fuel consumption by individual vehicles. In fact, the development of human activities related to motorized transport has a significant impact on biodiversity, the spatial organization of naturalistic areas such as parks, and health (atmospheric pollution, greenhouse effect, etc.).

The economic impact of the project can mainly be linked to the promotion of eco-tourism. In the mountains, 90% of tourism turnover is generated in only 2% of the territory. The project aims to help mountain territories, whose residual economy does not guarantee their sustainability, to move towards economic sustainability connected to mountain life. Among the measures promoted on the local level: increase in the use of soft mobility, support for mountain agriculture through the promotion of local production and consumption (direct sales in the company, farmers’ markets for visitors from the city, etc.), promotion of local products of the territories that contribute to the local economy (guests, restaurants, know-how, food, agricultural resources, etc.) through a section of the Mountain Wilderness France web portal which collects initiatives and suggestions in the field of eco-tourism and allows users to share their own discoveries. Through the digital word-of-mouth of a participatory website, the association intends to promote the dissemination of information that makes mountain users and visitors increasingly aware of the impact of on-site visits. The promotion of eco-tourism, which in turn supports economically sustainable local mountain economic systems, is appreciated by residents. The management of shelters, mountain huts, and hostels, the direct sale by producers, grocery stores, bars and restaurants allow people to ensure continuity in the
management of their economic activity avoiding precarious seasonal jobs, thanks to a regular customer-base throughout the year.

The social impact of the project on citizens is very important for the promoter association. It takes the form of a continuous dialogue with locals and public authorities. For example, managers of local public transport services are invited to set up new bus stops in areas of interest for those who practice mountain sports and activities, or to suggest changes in the timetables. The action aims to raise awareness on the use and implementation of public transport systems, often in rural or mountain areas poorly served by public services, and to promote to keep a "Mountain to live" that encourages a "social reconnection" to the mountain. Moreover, the population is sensitized to the landscapes, the fauna and the flora of the mountains, and the project wishes to promote a better knowledge and awareness of environmental problems and citizens’ education for sustainable development.

REFERENCE WEBSITE https://www.mountainwilderness.fr/decouvrir/nos-campagnes/changer-d-approche-la-montagne-autrement/
Germany

Hotel Managers Network
In the field of energy efficiency, in particular under the category of solutions for the reduction of CO2 emissions, the project (supported by the energy company EZA!) provides for the creation of a network between hotel managers in a mountain area of the German Alps. The network aims to facilitate the exchange of experiences and best practices focused on energy and emissions management in the field of tourism.

The experience can be transferred to other regions especially with regard to the use of technologies for measuring the release of CO2 in tourist facilities (such as certified eco-hotels), in order to draw up an energy balance for each structure.

The objective of this project is to pursue greater energy savings and the reduction of related emissions, possibly by providing a model transferable to other regions, in the presence of local or regional initiators and moderators from both the private and the public sector.

The network was launched in October 2011 and encompassed the Allgäu and Kleinwalsertal areas, for a total of 12 companies, mainly hotels, involved. The participants are constantly informed on the production and use of energy by the participants of the network, and they are regularly updated and encouraged to implement energy saving measures.

The network is considered a good instrument of action on the local economy which can help reduce costs related to energy expenditure, with savings of between 6 and 10% of electricity consumption, as well as reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The environmental impact of the practice observed is positive, as energy savings and efficiency in hotel management allowed to reduce CO2 emissions and other substances, and it has often been accompanied by other measures consistent with the goal of limiting the increase in emissions and temperature.

The good practice also had an impact on the local society, bringing the issue of changing the Energy Saving Act and the Renewable Energy Act in Germany into the spotlight, as well as stimulating a greater demand for information on programs envisaging financial support and government funding for "green" companies in the country. This made the participants in the network feel more involved as "pioneers" in implementing actions for protecting the environment and the climate in the tourism sector, through the conditions of the tourist offer they propose. At the same time, the awareness of the structures and guests about the possibility of continuing to offer, and benefit from the same comforts, but with a lower impact on the environment, has increased.

REFERENCE WEBSITE: [www.eza-allgaeu.de](http://www.eza-allgaeu.de)
Alpine Energy Web Platform

The project aimed to create an “Alpine Energy Web Platform” fits into the field of energy efficiency and programs to reduce CO2 emissions. The project was presented as an initiative of the German Presidency 2015-2016 of the Alpine Convention. It aimed to involve stakeholders active in the field of sustainable tourism and management of hotels and restaurants in alpine regions, from all the Alpine countries.

With the aim of achieving greater energy savings and a reduction in climate-altering emissions in the hospitality industry, the project is designed to transfer available technical knowledge and experience to the hospitality business sector in the Alpine region. The platform has been established between 2017 and 2018 and addresses all Alpine regions and included a series of workshops and events, and the drafting of a guide (promoted by the German Federal Ministry of the Environment in the context of the initiative to export environmental technologies with the support of the Union of Hoteliers and Commercial Exhibitors of Alto Adige and the IDM Alto Adige), which can be consulted by hoteliers. A competition was also launched in the hotel and catering sector, to reward companies that have taken exemplary measures as a contribution to generating a more sustainable tourist offer in the whole Alpine area.

The platform, together with the initiatives that are part of it, has an economic, social and environmental impact, proposing itself as a tool capable of supporting hoteliers in the region on the path towards a structured energy management through the encouragement towards a constant process of optimization of energy consumption at all company levels. The web platform aims to achieve this purpose by illustrating how to implement energy management in the company, what measures can be taken, what investment can be made and what yield to expect, as well as how companies can contribute to climate change mitigation by reducing their GHG emissions.

REFERENCE WEBSITE https://www.alpine-energy.eu/
Italy

A comprehensive approach to sustainable tourism at the municipal level

The municipality of Ostana (in the district of Cuneo, Regione Piemonte), located in the western part of the Italian Alps, encompasses a system of good practices (not focused only on the tourist sector) that qualify it as a model and have allowed a real re-birth of the place.

Among the topics covered by practices found in the area: climate change, energy saving, use of new materials in construction, conservation and enhancement of local architectural tradition, etc. The municipality of Ostana has been able to attract visitors and residents even in the non-tourist seasons, by promoting models of sustainability aiming at ensuring levels of comfort and habitability in line with present times’ needs.

The offer of a "different” type of tourism, linked to the local environment and the Occitan culture, represents an important economic/residential leverage for the municipality of Ostana and the Upper Po Valley, particularly in the definition of an experimental path of development started in 2018, with an estimated timeframe of at least 10 years. An overview of the main practices found in the area of Ostana includes: incentives for the use of shuttle-transport during local events, public lighting powered by photovoltaic panels and mini wind-turbines, solar and photovoltaic panels placed on municipal buildings, use of geothermal energy for a “wellness center” and a pastry workshop opening soon. A large project to get Ostana food self-sufficient (at 50%) has been developed with the cooperation of the Institute Malva of Bibiana and is being evaluated by Regione Piemonte for financing.

From an environmental point of view, all these initiatives will contribute to reducing CO₂ and polluting emissions, to saving energy and to the recovery of mountain farming with a new increase in the diversity of available raw materials linked to it.

From an economic point of view, thanks to the initiatives started in the recent years, there have been particularly positive impacts on the local economy. The trend is expected to be further reinforced by ongoing projects involving private investments for around €11 million (Ambornetti projects, Sere Lamboi of Monviso Institute, Founç, etc.). In particular, among the planned results it is worth mentioning: the creation of at least 12 full-time jobs in Ostana in the tourist sector (not to mention the linked suppliers), the beginning of a “circular economy” system in the Po Valley, based on an approach to management of resources and production directly led by the involved investors, the Municipality, and the inhabitants of Ostana.

The social impact is reflected by a clear demographic trend in the Municipality of Ostana: from about 1200 inhabitants at the beginning of the 20th century, the residents fell to 5 people (all elderly) in the years 1970-80 due to wars and migrations. After over 30 years of commitment of the Municipal Administration, today there are about 50 residents in winter (including young people and children) - which has allowed the community to live again. The Municipal Administration’s goal is to reach at least 100 permanent residents, being theoretically able to sustain themselves also thanks to the increase of the tourist sector, fostered by the Municipality's “green” initiatives mentioned earlier.
**Accessible Dolomites for all visitors**

Outside the domain of energy efficiency, the project developed by the DOLOMITI UNESCO Foundation called “Dolomiti Accessibili” (Accessible Dolomites) focuses on the Eastern Italian Alps and tackles the issues of accessible and socially inclusive tourism & hospitality. It addresses people with reduced mobility capabilities (disabled and elderly people, children in early age). The website [www.visitdolomites.com](http://www.visitdolomites.com) includes 23 paths accessible to everybody within the 9 Dolomites systems recognised by UNESCO. For each of them, the level of difficulty, a detailed map of the itinerary, GPS position, environmental & geomorphological features of the area are clearly reported.

Started in 2016, the project applies to all the territories included in the UNESCO WHL site. It has been financed through the Italian Ministry for Cultural Heritage (MiBAC) according to the provisions of, and resources allocated through a National Law (No. 77/06). For the first phase of the project, the following steps were foreseen: mapping and enhancement of accessible paths, organization of an educational event aimed to involve media, set up of training courses for ski instructors and alpine guides.

The main target of the project is to make the Dolomiti heritage accessible as an experience to a wide group of people, depending on the needs and capabilities of the user/visitor. Territorial administrations and Sports, Accessibility and Disability associations in the Dolomites area, coordinated by the Foundation, have set up a tool for easing the research of information on accessible itineraries in the Dolomiti UNESCO site. The project provides joint, uniform, detailed description on the universal values of the site – which implements the Management Strategy for the Site, that foresees the promotion of projects aimed at ensuring the experiential use of the heritage by people with disabilities.

Socio-economic impact of the practice links to the target of making the Dolomiti UNESCO site more easily accessible by increasing tourist mobility of disabled people and the awareness of tourist facilities and hotels in welcoming also this type of tourist.

**REFERENCE WEBSITE:** [http://www.dolomitiunesco.info/attivita/dolomiti-accessibili-percorsi/](http://www.dolomitiunesco.info/attivita/dolomiti-accessibili-percorsi/)
Slovenia

Promotion of typical regional dishes

Promoting stakeholders participation in the promotion of typical local products, the project "Trnič na vsako mizo" (winner of a grant of € 5,000 in the context of the 2014 Snovalec Award, and included in the register of living cultural heritage) has been applied in the municipality of Kamnik (location where there are many good practices in the field of sustainable development). It has allowed the recognition and validation of typical regional dishes, with a procedure seemingly easily transferable to other Alpine regions.

Aiming at relaunching a traditional cheese typical of the area of Velika planina (hard cheese with a “pear” shape), the Office for Tourism and Sport of the Municipality of Kamnik has been supporting the organizational aspects for allowing a large-scale production of the cheese and including it among the "culinary tourism contents". Through the search for suitable producers, the creation of a corporate identity and a special packaging, as well as an "ad hoc" certification, the product has been made available in the shops, and included in the offer of the restaurants throughout Slovenia. The Committee of Experts of the Snovalec Award welcomed this example of good practice of transformation of a forgotten traditional regional food into a major “invention” throughout Slovenia.

The economic impact of the project, on which specific data are not available, mainly refers to the sales and promotional potential of a local product on a national scale. Furthermore, the increased production scale provides advantages in terms of reduction of production and transport costs at the local and regional level.

The social impact of the project results in the valorisation of the local identity both among tourists and citizens of the Municipality of Kamnik and, indirectly, on potential consumers throughout Slovenia.

The environmental impact of the project mainly refers to the introduction of production methods inspired by sustainability principles that take in due consideration the natural and traditional value of the product, and its "local" nature, with known effects in terms of transport emissions.

REFERENCE WEBSITE: http://www.kamnik.si/?t=news&id=2798
**Energy-efficient SPA**

In the field of energy efficiency it is worth to be mentioned the excellence of the SPA facility of Snovic, located in the municipality of Kamnik, which in 2008 has received the European Eco-Label award for tourist accommodation services.

The structure, whose buildings are made with environmental-friendly materials, uses renewable energy sources for heating and air-conditioning (wood-biomass, solar collectors for heating the pool water, vacuum solar collectors, water-water and air-water heating pumps) and promotes a system of separate waste collection. This has allowed this Eco Spa to obtain the ISO 14001 certification, which specifies the requirements for an environmental management system applicable in processes, working techniques, materials, products and energy management of the structure itself.

The main goals of the management of the structure are primarily the contribution to the control and reduction of environmental impacts, as well as the sensitization of the guests on the importance of environmental and nature protection.

The positive impact on the environment is accounted for by a reduction of 155 tons per year in CO₂ emissions compared to a "business as usual" (BAU) scenario. This result has been achieved through a series of coordinated actions including: the greater use of public transport solutions by guests moving between Ljubljana and the Snovik SPA; the improved management of waste collection; and the introduction of some ecological measures promoting environmental protection.

From an economic point of view, an eco-sustainable management of the structure – which includes suites and rooms created according to the model of "smart rooms" with relevant energy savings – allows for savings in terms of energy consumption and costs. An example for many other companies, Eco Spa has been able to position itself on the market in a group of eco-conscious tourist suppliers that attract a significant number of tourists in the Kamnik area.

The social impact of Snovic is significant too, thanks to the commitment of the structure to inform and sensitize guests on the importance of environmental protection. At the local level, awareness raising initiatives also take place in primary schools where the structure promoted the introduction of some special “technological days” to present innovative solutions for sustainability.
Bohinj Municipality and his history of sustainability

Two-thirds of the Bohinj Municipality area lies in the Triglav National Park, therefore this fact by itself demands special rules and brings additional incentives to try to include knowledge and environmentally friendly materials in development projects. In 2017, the Bohinj Municipality Council confirmed the extensive "Bohinj Municipality Sustainable Development Strategy 2025+" which together with other documentation is the driving force for the development and preparation of projects in the future. Steps in the fields of transport, development and preservation of traditional crafts as well as the development of tourist products are oriented in the right direction.

More and more tourists come to Bohinj Municipality every year. On the one hand, this brings many positive effects for the local community and broader, while on the other hand, increasing pressure causes many problems that require rational solutions and management. This includes issues connected to traffic and accessibility. Pursuant to traffic calming and reducing the burden on the environment as well as on the basis of the action plan and with the purpose of traffic calming on the most affected areas of Bohinj (Lake Bohinj), we have introduced organised shuttle transport from remote car parks to the lake and back, as well as to the Blato pasture, a popular starting point for hikes to mountains. Thus, we have introduced alternative options to parking in car parks with slightly higher parking fees along the shore of Lake Bohinj to preserve the heart of the Triglav National Park.

The collective Bohinjsko/From Bohinj brand covers the range of products and produce from Bohinj and is also used as a certification of quality – essentially, it is a developmental platform for generating new products and services in close connection to many local stakeholders. The collective Bohinjsko/From Bohinj brand is more than just the label and a certificate on the product, it incorporates a clear strategy of local business development. Our ancestors were strongly connected to nature and what it offered them. They had to produce their own food, showing a lot of inventiveness, knowledge and skills. Although the world has changed, we are still inventive and inseparably connected to nature. It is quite a challenge to harmonise the protection of the environment with tourism growth. The Bohinjsko/From Bohinj products and services represent this fusion in the best possible extent. We put our hearts, stories, tradition and visions into them. Today, 70 local providers who offer 392 products and services are joined under the collective Bohinjsko/From Bohinj brand.

Lastly, the International Wild Flower Festival of Bohinj is a glorious compliment to spring, flowers, bees, nature and coming together. This is an annual festival in spring (from the end of May to the start of June) that represents our floral diversity and promotes the respect for nature and diversity among those who live here and those who visit Bohinj. All this is enabled by offering many cultural events, educational and creative workshops and guided botanical hikes.

During this two-week festival, Bohinj breathes with flowers, which is also proven by many participating stakeholders like the young people, the primary school and kindergarten, many sports and cultural associations as well as providers of local food and other products who prepare a diverse festival programme with the mentoring of Turizem Bohinj and the Triglav National Park Institute.
Flowers, especially wild flowers, are very well preserved in Bohinj and in the entire area of the Julian Alps. The fact that more than 1000 types of flowers grow in Bohinj and which we aim to preserve, confirms that the decision to organise a festival that glorifies flowers and raises the awareness of people is the right one.

ANNEX

List of Good Practices collected not included in the section above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories of good practices (GP)</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Location / site</th>
<th>Short Narrative Description</th>
<th>References / Website / Documents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programmes for reducing CO2 emissions</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Municipality of Chiusa di Pesio (Cuneo, Piemonte)</td>
<td>Phytodepuration in an alpine hut</td>
<td><a href="http://www.areemarittimeprotettealpine.it">www.areemarittimeprotettealpine.it</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Municipality of Caneva, Municipality of Budoia, Municipality of Polcenigo (Friuli Venezia Giulia)</td>
<td>Reduction of thermal consumption in the tertiary sector</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Municipality of Sonico (Brescia, Lombardia)</td>
<td>Energy and environmental efficiency in the Tonolini Hut in the Adamello Park</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Municipality of Kamnik</td>
<td>Project &quot;City Walk&quot; &amp; Sustainable Mobility</td>
<td><a href="http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/citywalk">http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/citywalk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Municipality of Kamnik (as one of the participants)</td>
<td>Electric vehicle charging stations</td>
<td><a href="https://www.kamnik.si/">https://www.kamnik.si/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Municipality of Kamnik-Savinja Alps</td>
<td>Project &quot;Vodna pot okoli Kamniško-Savinjskih Alp&quot;</td>
<td><a href="https://www.kamnik.si/">https://www.kamnik.si/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Programmes or actions for sustainable spatial planning / landscape protection</td>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Municipality of Kamnik</td>
<td>Kamnik municipal spatial plan (Občinski prostorski načrt)</td>
<td><a href="https://www.uradni-list.si/pdf/2015/Urna/2015086.pdf#">https://www.uradni-list.si/pdf/2015/Urna/2015086.pdf#</a> /a2015086-pdf</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation of stakeholders</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>All the municipalities of the Montana Valle Stura and Borgo San Dalmazzo (Piemonte)</td>
<td>&quot;Lou Viage&quot; hiking route</td>
<td><a href="http://www.louviage.it/">http://www.louviage.it/</a></td>
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<td>Italy</td>
<td>Municipality of Pietraporzio (Cuneo) - borgata di Pontebernardo (Cuneo, Piemonte)</td>
<td>Ecomuseum of Pastoralism</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vallestura.cn.it">www.vallestura.cn.it</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Municipalities of Gaiola, Moiola, Rittana, Roccasparvera e Valloriate (generally across the territory of the Stura di Demonte Valley, Piemonte)</td>
<td>Bike Park Tajarè</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vallestura.cn.it">www.vallestura.cn.it</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Municipality of Valdieri (Cuneo, Piemonte)</td>
<td>Rie supply chain</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ecomuseosegale.it/">http://www.ecomuseosegale.it/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Entracque (home of the &quot;Uomini e Lupi&quot; wildlife center. The catchment area includes a large national and international audience (esp. Piedmont and Liguria))</td>
<td>Wildlife Center &quot;Uomini e Lupi&quot; (Men and Wolves)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.turismoentracque.it/vivere/uomini-e-lupi/">http://www.turismoentracque.it/vivere/uomini-e-lupi/</a></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Italy</td>
<td>Municipality of Chiusa di Pesio and traders and producers of Valle Pesio (Piemonte)</td>
<td>Sustainable picnic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Municipalities of Valpelline, Oyace, Bionaz (Valle d'Aosta)</td>
<td>Cultural Association Naturavalp</td>
<td><a href="http://www.naturavalp.it/index.asp">http://www.naturavalp.it/index.asp</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Municipalities of Forno di Zoldo, Cibiana di Cadore and Zoppe di Cadore (Veneto)</td>
<td>Villaggio degli Alpinisti / Bergsteigerdoerfer</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bergsteigerdoerfer.org">www.bergsteigerdoerfer.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>All 13 municipalities belonging to the Gran Paradiso National Park territory: Locana, Noasca, Ceresole Reale, Ribordone, Ronco Canavese, Valprato Soana (Piemonte); Aymavilles, Introd, Villeneuve, Rhemes Saint Georges, Rhemes Notre Dame, Cogne, Valsavarenche</td>
<td>Park Quality Label</td>
<td><a href="http://www.pngp.it/marchio-qualita">http://www.pngp.it/marchio-qualita</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Region/Location</td>
<td>Project/Activity</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Website/Link</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>(Valle d'Aosta)</td>
<td>All the territories involved in the UNESCO Dolomites WHL Site</td>
<td>Network of quality products and producers of the Dolomites (DOLOMITI UNESCO Foundation)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.dolomitiunesco.info/attivita/rete-produttori-dolomiti-unesco/">http://www.dolomitiunesco.info/attivita/rete-produttori-dolomiti-unesco/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Municipality of Chamonix-Mont-Blanc Valley</td>
<td>Plan of action to make the territory exemplary and innovative in terms of conservation and enhancement of its natural site and its cultural identity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Municipality of Kamnik (as one of the participants)</td>
<td>Project &quot;Zgodbe rok in krajev&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Municipality of Kamnik</td>
<td>Project &quot;Kamniška košarica lokalnih dobrot&quot;</td>
<td><a href="https://www.kamnik.si/">https://www.kamnik.si/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Municipality of Aviano, Piancavallo (Friuli Venezia Giulia)</td>
<td>&quot;Viabilità pulita&quot; for Piancavallo (Clean Mobility)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>22 municipalities of the lower Susa valley grouped in the Valle Susa Mountain Union (Piemonte)</td>
<td>A cycling route along the Via Francigena</td>
<td><a href="http://www.unionemontanavallesusa.it">www.unionemontanavallesusa.it</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Region</td>
<td>Partnerships</td>
<td>Activities</td>
<td>Links</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Liguria Region (in particular, Municipalities of Apricale, S. Stefano al mare, Castelbianco, Loano, Celle Ligure, Campo Ligure, Pignone, Castelnuovo Magra), Parco di Montemarcello Magra Vara (interventions for improvement of pedestrian paths and pedestrian cycle)</td>
<td>Intense transboundary tourist itineraries</td>
<td><a href="http://interreg-maritime.eu/web/intense">http://interreg-maritime.eu/web/intense</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Municipalities of Fondotoce, Premosello, Cossogno, San Bernardino Verbano, Trontano (Piemonte)</td>
<td>Slow Panorama; E-bike Val Grande</td>
<td><a href="http://www.parcovalgrande.it">www.parcovalgrande.it</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Municipalities of Entracque, Valdieri, Roaschia (Piemonte)</td>
<td>&quot;Le Marittime girale in bus&quot; (Use to bus to visit Maritime Alps)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.areeprottealpimaritime.it">www.areeprottealpimaritime.it</a>; <a href="https://bit.ly/2z2W2yP">https://bit.ly/2z2W2yP</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Lombardia</td>
<td>Camminaforestelombardia (Forest itineraries in Lombardia)</td>
<td><a href="http://WWW.CAMMINAFORESTE.IT">WWW.CAMMINAFORESTE.IT</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Municipalities of Varzo and Baceno (Piemonte)</td>
<td>Park Bus</td>
<td><a href="http://WWW.AREEPROTETTEOSSOLIT">WWW.AREEPROTETTEOSSOLIT</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Municipality of Kamnik</td>
<td>Project &quot;E-kolesarnice&quot; (Project E-bicycle sheds)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kamnik.si/">https://www.kamnik.si/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Municipality of Kamnik</td>
<td>Rent an e-bike at TIC Kamnik</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kamnik.si/">https://www.kamnik.si/</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Integrated approach to sustainable tourism and regional development</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Municipalities of Ramsau: Sachrang/Schleching: Kreuth</td>
<td>Mountaineering villages in line with the Austrian Initiative “Bergsteigerdörfer (integrated approach to sustainable tourism and regional development)2</td>
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Ramsau: [https://www.bergsteigerdoerfer.org/53-0-Bergsteigerdorf-Ramsau.html](https://www.bergsteigerdoerfer.org/53-0-Bergsteigerdorf-Ramsau.html)

Sachrang/Schleching: [https://www.bergsteigerdoerfer.org/54-0-Bergsteigerdorf-Sachrang.html](https://www.bergsteigerdoerfer.org/54-0-Bergsteigerdorf-Sachrang.html); [https://www.bergsteigerdoerfer.org/55-0-Bergsteigerdorf-Schleching.html](https://www.bergsteigerdoerfer.org/55-0-Bergsteigerdorf-Schleching.html)

Kreuth: [https://www.bergsteigerdoerfer.org/59-0-Bergsteigerdorf-Kreuth.html](https://www.bergsteigerdoerfer.org/59-0-Bergsteigerdorf-Kreuth.html)

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3 Rather than focusing only on one aspect such as climate protection, resource efficiency, mobility etc. the mountaineering village concept is an integrated approach to sustainable tourism and regional development. It encompasses mobility, nature protection, sustainable agriculture and tourism development. It took a while for German municipalities to take over this innovative approach: however, in the last two years several municipalities have undergone the necessary certification process in order to remodel their services as tourism destinations.