

Slovenian Presidency of the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region 2024





SLOVENIAN PRESIDENCY OF THE EU STRATEGY FOR THE ALPINE REGION 2024

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Introduction



TANJA FAJON

*Deputy Prime Minister and Minister
of Foreign and European Affairs of
the Republic of Slovenia*

Dear Reader,
Dear Friend of the Alpine Region,

My country has always been deeply connected to its Alpine identity, which is why cooperation within the Alpine Region is of such importance to us. We demonstrated our commitment to this cooperation by holding the first Presidency of the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region in 2016, when the Strategy was established.

Today, as Slovenia holds the Presidency once again, the Region faces many challenges. While the EU undergoes a green and digital transformation, it is also confronting major geopolitical shifts and increasing pressure from global economic competition. Climate change and environmental degradation are threatening the quality of life in the Alpine Region, both for us and for future generations. Last year, Slovenia was hit by the worst floods in its history, displacing hundreds of people from their homes and livelihoods. This year, our neighbours have faced similar natural disasters. Peace, prosperity and a pristine environment can no longer be taken for granted. We must be pro-active.

To that end, Slovenia has identified three priorities for its Presidency, which should remain the focus for the entire Region in the years ahead. The first and foremost of these is water - the most precious resource that we have in the Alps. We should strengthen our collaboration on sustainable and climate-resilient water management, ensuring that it remains a valuable resource and not a source of devastation. Secondly, we believe, that for the Alpine Region to maintain its delicate balance between economic development and environmental sustainability, circularity must be embraced as the core of its economic model. Lastly, but certainly not least, we must consider what is truly at stake – the young people and future generations who will call the Alpine Region their home. To them, I would like to make a heartfelt plea: help us create a vision for the future of the Alpine Region.

It is reassuring to see that cooperation within the Alpine Region has been reinvigorated. We are witnessing an increased interest from all countries and regions in the potential of our macro-regional cooperation. My team has been working hard to make progress in adapting the goals of our Strategy to the new realities and opportunities.

We should fully harness the potential of macro-regional cooperation, as it paves the way for solutions that are often difficult to achieve within more formalised structures, where national interests compete. The EU Strategy for the Alpine Region helps us facilitate the implementation of key European and global political initiatives across our territories, aligning them with regional and local efforts.

We all share the experience of life in the Alpine Region. Together, we can turn challenges into opportunities, transforming our demanding playgrounds into rewarding experiences. I truly believe that now, at this pivotal moment, we can achieve great things together.



ELISA FERREIRA
*Commissioner for Cohesion
and Reforms*

Dear reader,

The Alpine Region is among the most dynamic, innovative and competitive areas in Europe. Over the years, the collective efforts of stakeholders involved in the Alpine Strategy have demonstrated the power of cooperation in tackling common opportunities and challenges, ranging from climate change adaptation, energy efficiency, circular economy and water management to the skills needed for the jobs of the future.

I want to express my gratitude to the Slovenian Presidency for advancing the goals of the Alpine Strategy and effectively facilitating the successful implementation of numerous cooperation projects across the macro-region.

As we look to the future, it is clear that environmental, economic and social challenges remain. The climate risks were starkly demonstrated last summer, when floods caused one of the worst natural disasters ever in Slovenia. We must therefore work together to promote sustainable practices and innovative policies and protect the precious ecosystems of the Alpine Region.

We also need to invest in our most valuable resource for the future – our people, particularly the youth. In this regard, I praise your ongoing efforts to engage young people in the work of the Alpine Strategy through the Youth Council.

Russia's unprovoked aggression against Ukraine has reminded us of the importance of safeguarding the values and principles upon which our Union is built. It has also highlighted the importance of collective cooperation, including on energy security. It is crucial that we keep diversifying our energy sources, invest in the green transition and renewable energy, and strengthen our energy interconnections to reduce dependency on external suppliers.

The Alpine Strategy has a central role in implementing Cohesion Policy and other EU objectives in the region by bridging local and regional activities with European priorities based on participatory planning. The goals of the Strategy and of the EU are complementary, working hand in hand to achieve sustainable development, economic growth and territorial cohesion in the region.

I would like to once again express my gratitude to the Slovenian Presidency of the Alpine Strategy for their dedication and accomplishments throughout this year. Together, we are shaping a better, stronger, and more resilient Europe, ensuring that no one and no place is left behind.

Timeline of all events during si presidency

Youth Council

From 12 to 14, January 2024

Schaan, Liechtenstein

EUSALP Youth Council Meeting in Liechtenstein

Ten members of the EUSALP Youth Council from the seven Alpine states met in Schaan, Liechtenstein, to work on projects for the Alpine region.

Liechtenstein, an active EUSALP member, supports youth involvement in international cooperation. The Youth Council, comprising 28 young residents, aims to contribute to a resilient and sustainable Alpine region.

The meeting aligned Youth Council activities with EUSALP priorities and the Slovenian Presidency's 2024 focus. It also prepared for the 2025 EUSALP presidency, co-hosted by Liechtenstein and Austria, by connecting with local organizations.

Discussions covered the quality of life in the Alps and recent EUSALP initiatives. This event benefited from the official support of the Slovenian presidency of EUSALP.



Presidency

From 1 to 2 February 2024

Postojna, Slovenia

Presidency Kick-off event, BAGL and EB meetings

With the opening event held on 1 February, Slovenia began its Presidency of EU Strategy for Alpine Region. The opening address was delivered by State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Mr Marko Štucin, Member of European Parliament Mr Matjaž Nemec and Mr Sławomir Tokarski, Director at DG REGIO, European Commission who supported Presidency priorities. At the Board of Action Group Leaders (BAGL) and Executive Board (EB) meetings, participants discussed Slovenian Presidency priorities, inclusion of youth, improvements of governance and plans for the Action Plan revision process.



Presidency

From 13 to 15 March 2024

Kamnik, Slovenia

EUSALP Youth Council meets Youth Parliament of Alpine Convention and Cipra Youth Council

The multi-day event was organised by the Slovenian Presidency of EUSALP and EUSALP Youth Council in collaboration with the Youth Parliament of the Alpine Convention (YPAC) and the CIPRA Youth Council. The president of the Republic of Slovenia, Nataša Pirc Musar opened the event. EUSALP Youth Council participants discussed the issue of sustainable water management in the context of extreme weather events and the adaptation of climate change. The EUSALP Youth attended the YPAC General Assembly and discussed possible synergies with this YPAC and the CIPRA Youth Council.



Presidency

21 March 2024

Online

BAGL Meeting

The on-line BAGL meeting was an occasion to discuss the progress on cross-cutting priorities and the work plans of Action Groups as well as possible synergies with Presidency's priorities. The initiative of EUSALP Success Stories was also presented to Action Group Leaders.

Presidency

20 March 2024

Brdo, Slovenia

2nd Meeting of Task Force for Revision of EUSALP Action Plan



Timeline of all events during si presidency

Presidency

12 April 2024

Online

3rd Meeting of Task Force for Revision of EUSALP Action Plan

Presidency

23 and 24 April 2024

Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia

EB Meeting

In its 2nd meeting under the Slovenian Presidency the Executive Board discussed the progress made by Task Force on revision of EUSALP Action Plan as well as the continuation of the Youth Council model of work and its inclusion in EUSALP implementation. Presidency and EUSALP secretariat reported on their activities, especially the results of recent BAGL meeting. Slovenian Presidency also provided its first glimpse of the upcoming 9th EUSALP Annual Forum.



Presidency

14 May 2024

online

4th Meeting of Task Force for Revision of EUSALP Action Plan

European Commission

11 June 2024

Brussels, The EGG

MRS and Sea Basin days 2024

This year, DG REGIO and DG MARE, in collaboration with the Sea Basin strategies, hosted an exclusive event that brought together the seven key strategies: four macro-regional (Alpine, Danube, Adriatic-Ionian, Baltic Sea) and three sea-basin (Atlantic, Western Mediterranean, and Black Sea). The event aimed to enhance coordination among participating countries, pillar coordinators, stakeholders, presidencies, and representatives, under the theme #Strategies4Cooperation. A highlight of the event was the youth panel, featuring representatives from the EUSALP Youth Council, EUSDR, EUSAIR, EUSBR and Mediterranean regions. They shared their vision on tackling challenges under the theme “Echoes of Tomorrow: Young Minds Cooperating for the Future.” The event showcased synergies among the strategies, with notable participants including Elisa Ferreira (Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms), Themis Christophidou (Director General for DG REGIO), and Charlina Vitcheva (Director General for DG MARE). The plenary closure session, attended by Marc Marchler, State Councillor of Switzerland from the Alpine Strategy, emphasized the importance of cooperation between EU and non-EU member states, further highlighted by the presence of Moldavian representatives.

European Commission

14 June 2024

Brussels, The EGG

High-level Group and Meeting of 4 MRS Trio Presidencies

European Commission organized and chaired the High-level Group meeting, which focused on two primary topics: enlargement process and the future of cohesion policy. Incumbent presidencies of EU macro-regional strategies were invited to deliver short views on the mentioned topics. While the enlargement process is less relevant for EUSALP, the Slovenian Presidency focused more on the future of cohesion policy. The following Meeting of 4 macro-regional trio presidencies was chaired by Austrian Presidency of EUSDR. The Trios reflected on the EU MRS and Sea Basin days and, similarly to High-level group discussed the role of EU MRS in future cohesion policy after 2027. A lively discussion was held on strategic processes in each EU MRS, where Slovenian Presidency of EUSALP gave a short insight in the on-going revision process.



Presidency

03 and 04 June 2024

Bled, Slovenia

EB-BAGL and EB meetings

The main topics of the two-day EB-BAGL meeting in Bled was the state-of-play of AGs work plans and cross cutting priorities as well as the EUSALP Action Plan revision process. Within the latter a lively discussion unfolded on the proposals for improvement of action groups' governance. The Executive Board meeting that followed focused almost exclusively on the progress and key issues in the process of the revision of EUSALP Action Plan. The other important topic concerned the future of EUSALP Support project.



Timeline of all events during si presidency

Action Group 3

9 to 11 July 2024

Vercors, France

Discover Mountain Jobs: Youth Explore Careers in the French Prealps

Vercors, France – During three days, thirteen young people from France, Italy, and Switzerland gathered at the AFRAT Centre in the Vercors area of the French Prealps for the ‘Discover Mountain Jobs’ event. This initiative, organised by the EUSALP Action Group 3 (AG 3) and funded by the Support EUSALP Project, aimed to highlight the challenges and opportunities of working and living in mountain regions. Participants, aged 20 to 26, came from diverse backgrounds, including students, workers, and NEETs (young people not in employment, education, or training). They engaged with AFRAT trainers, local experts, and professionals who shared insights into mountain professions and the skills required. The event covered various topics, such as environmental protection, forestry, and the impact of climate change. Participants visited the Vercors Regional Nature Park, learned about local product promotion through a cooking workshop, and explored the concept of multi-activity by meeting a farmer who also works as a ski instructor. A visit to ‘La Jolie Colo,’ a community space combining residential and economic activities, showcased innovative approaches to mountain living. The event also emphasized the importance of remote working and digital skills in expanding job opportunities.



Presidency

27 June 2024

online

5th Meeting of Task Force for Revision of EUSALP Action Plan

Presidency

3 September 2024

online

6th Meeting of Task Force for Revision of EUSALP Action Plan

Presidency

16 and 17 September 2024

Portorož, Slovenia

EB-BAGL Meeting

The goal of the last joint meeting of Executive Board and Board of Action Groups Leaders under Slovenian Presidency was to look back at the work done during the Presidency and to focus on the upcoming 9th EUSALP Annual Forum and General Assembly. EB and BAGL members exchanged views on the outcome of the work done by the Task Force for revision of EUSALP Action Plan and roadmap of that process until the Annual Forum. Incoming Austrian Presidency of EUSALP in 2025 briefly presented their priorities.



Presidency

From 17 to 20 September 2024

Izola, Slovenia

Mediterranean Coast and Macro-regional Strategies Week 2024

Slovenian coastal town of Izola hosted the 9th Mediterranean Coast and Macro-regional Strategies Week. The MRS Week in Izola became a major macro-regional event featuring numerous discussions relevant for all four EU MRS, thereby enhancing thematic cooperation between them. The Week was officially opened by Slovenian Minister for Cohesion and Regional Development, Mr Aleksander Jevšek and State Secretary at Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Mr Marko Štucin. Particular focus of the discussions was the future of cohesion policy after 2027 and the role of EU MRS.



Timeline of all events during si presidency

Action Group 5

18 September 2024

Izola, Slovenia

Digital Alps Conference 2024: Unleashing the Potential of Digitalization in the Alps!

The Digital Alps Conference (DAC) 2024, promoted by EUSALP Action Group 5, aimed to bring together initiatives and projects focused on digitalization in the Alps. This year, the event, which took place within the framework of the Week of the Mediterranean Coast and Macro-regional Strategies 2024, benefited from the official support of the Slovenian presidency of EUSALP. The conference began with an inspiring opening speeches by Emilija Stojmenova Duh from Ministry of Digital Transformation, and Stefanos Kotoglou from the European Commission's DG DIGIT, setting the tone for the discussions. As part of the Smart Community project, the Green Point - short food supply chain is a Lighthouse Test Area. Marina Balaic shared the efforts to drive digital and sustainable initiatives in the Pomurje and Podravje regions, supported by the ITC - Innovation Technology Cluster and DIH AGRIFOOD. Darja Kukovič highlighted their significant role in advancing digital agriculture and rural innovation.



Action Group 3

19 september 2024

Izola, Slovenia

Soft Skills Conference

Organized by EUSALP AG3, the Soft Skills conference, focused on the non-technical skills necessary for transforming traditional sectors in rural areas. Darja Kukovič presented insightful strategies on DEMO FARMS through the Living Lab and Multi-Actor Approaches, demonstrating the importance of these skills in digital transformation. This event benefited from the official support of the Slovenian presidency of EUSALP.

Presidency

14 to 15 November 2024

Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia

9th EUSALP Annual Forum and General Assembly

The 9th EUSALP Annual Forum and General Assembly took place live on 14 and 15 November in Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia. With the slogan "Circular and Smart Alpine Region" the Forum features discussions on circular economy, smart and sustainable water management and quality of life for young people in the Alps. General Assembly gathers political representatives of the countries and regions that participate in EUSALP, to discuss the future development of the Alpine Region and implementation of EUSALP.

Youth - Bourgogne-Franche-Comté

15 November 2024

Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia

Pitch Your Project - finals

The EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP) is called on young people aged 16 to 29 to participate in the “Pitch Your Project” competition. Under the slogan “Your Alps! Your Future! Your Idea!” participants were invited to submit innovative ideas for the sustainable development of the Alpine region by October 1st, 2024. The top five project ideas are presented at the final event, where candidates will pitch their projects to an audience of international experts. The audience will vote to award the prize to the top three projects. This year’s competition focuses on four key topics : Smart Water Management: Ideas for regenerating water systems, saving water during droughts, and mitigating flood impacts. Boosting Circular Economy: Promoting local products, short supply chains, and traditional activities. Youth Involvement: Mobilizing youth to improve quality of life, participate in local democracy, and support youth-led projects. Mobility: Innovations for reaching tourist destinations without cars and promoting sustainable travel practices. The event highlights the creativity and commitment of young people in shaping a sustainable future for the Alpine region. Discover the winners during the Final event or visit our website. This event benefited from the official support of the Slovenian presidency of EUSALP.

Action Group 7

15 November 2024

Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia

GI Goes Business Award - final event

The Green Infrastructure Goes Business Award promotes innovative ideas, products, and services for a green economy within the EU Strategy for the Alpine

Region (EUSALP). The third edition, starting in June 2024, focuses on solutions for “wise water management.” Initiated by the EUSALP Action Group 7 “Green Infrastructure,” the competition has seen participation from around 40 start-ups, companies, and organizations in its previous editions. Winners receive bespoke coaching to develop their ideas, products, services, or business models from September to November 2024. The program includes two online workshops, two individual coaching sessions, and the GIGB Camp at the EUSALP Annual Forum in Slovenia. This event features coaching, networking, and an Awarding Ceremony where winners present their innovations to an international audience. This event benefited from the official support of the Slovenian presidency of EUSALP.

Action group 9

15 November 2024

Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia

EUSALP Energy Award 2024: Energy Transition in SMEs

The EUSALP Energy Award 2024 seeks to recognize SMEs that are pioneers in the energy transition. Under the theme “Energy Transition in SMEs,” the award honours enterprises that significantly reduce their energy needs through innovative measures, activities, and projects. The award targets SMEs excelling in energy efficiency, renewable energy, carbon footprint reduction, mobility, circular economy, and communication. The benefits of participating are: promotion through EUSALP’s media channels (website, newsletter, social media), international press coverage, networking opportunities with other energy transition supporters in Europe and the Alps, inclusion in a promotional video to encourage the replication of best practices, recognition at the EUSALP Energy Conference during the Annual Forum, in Slovenia. This event benefited from the official support of the Slovenian presidency of EUSALP.



ACHIEVEMENTS

during the Slovenian Presidency



Committing to active youth involvement and creating synergies: The participation of young people in the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP) has been notably strengthened and the voice of young people has been clearer than ever. The EUSALP Youth Council have created their Youth Vision for Water-smart Alpine Region. The Slovenian Presidency also laid solid foundation in creating synergies among youth structures in the Alpine Region: for the first time the EUSALP Youth Council met with Youth Parliament of Alpine Convention and CIPRA Council.



Driving the process of revision of EUSALP Action Plan forward: the Task Force for revision process has worked hard to deliver proposals and considerations for the revised EUSALP Action Plan. Intensive work done in Task Force, EB and EB-BAGL meetings has produced the White Paper which realigns the thematic objectives of the Strategy towards the pressing challenges and political priorities for the future of Alpine region.



Advancing the cooperation on circular economy in the Alpine Region: with the signing of the Letter of Intent during Slovenian Presidency an important step was made towards the goals to establish the CIRCULAR ALP Hub. This will bring together stakeholders in the circular economy, promote best practices from the Alpine region on a global scale, and contribute to the creation of tools supporting the circular economy across the Alpine Region.



Promoting sustainable water management: the notion that the quality of life for future generations also depends on how we treat one of the most precious resources in the Alps has been thoroughly promoted among young people in the region. EUSALP Youth Council have prepared their own recommendations about sustainable water management in the Alps. Sustainable water management was also one of the topics of Pitch Your Project competition.



Making EUSALP more visible: through a focused campaign of EUSALP Success Stories, concrete results of macro-regional cooperation in Alpine Region were published and promoted through various channels. Together with renovation of EUSALP website and a new video about EUSALP, the potential to reach a much wider audience is there.

Did you know?



CYCLING: The three major cycling races in the Alpine countries, Giro d'Italia, Tour de France and World Championship in Zürich, were won by Tadej Pogačar in 2024.

**PARIS OLYMPICS 2024:
EUSALP regions
earned 153 medals!**



Do you know EUSALP seven emblematic mountains represented in this line ?

Slovenia
Triglav Nature
Park: 2,864 m

Switzerland
Matterhorn
Zermatt:
4,478 m

Austria
Grossglockner:
3,798 m

France
Mont-Blanc
Chamonix:
4,808 m

Italy
Marmolada:
3,342 or
3,343 m

Germany
Zugspitze:
2,962 m

**and
Liechtenstein**
Grauspitz:
2599 m.



There are around 220.000 glaciers on planet Earth. Out of those, 3000 to 3500 are found all across the Alps.

[Jean-Baptiste Bosson, glaciologue]



Do you Know EUSALP perpetuum mobile ?



The symbol of EUSALP Presidency is “Kolo” wheel, which is the world’s oldest wooden wheel dating back 5.200 years. It was found in the marshes south of Ljubljana and the word “kolo” actually means “wheel” in Slovenian. It already travelled across six EUSALP countries and is back home in 2024. The invention of the wooden wheel is certainly one of the most important novelties that affected the development of mankind.



6400! THANK YOU!

EUSALP DIGITAL COMMUNITY is still growing! **Join us!**



1864



1894 + 414



1106 + 1057

Success stories

Nice -
Ventimiglia - Cuneo
railway line

Green
Infrastructure Goes
Business Award

Natural
hazard model

**Multifunctional
forests and
sustainable use
of timber**

**EUSALP
Energy Award**

**Digital
transformation
in the Alps**



Youth vision for water-smart region

EUSALP Youth Council vision on smart water management

We - the young people of the Alpine Regions - represent the future of the Alps. From our point of view it is crucial to transform our economy and society towards climate neutrality, so that we do not have to suffer from the decisions we make today.

Water resources are crucial for both human societies and ecosystems, especially in regions like the Alps where snow plays a fundamental role. However, climate change and human activities are posing significant challenges to the availability and quality of these resources. This is why we need to take action now to ensure efficient and sufficient water management in the future.

Current State of Water Resource Protection

The Alpine region, home to many lakes and glaciers but also the source of numerous rivers, plays a significant role in the lives of Central Europe's inhabitants. Water, a crucial renewable energy source, is a substantial part of electricity supply as well as a key factor in the Alpine tourism model, underscoring the importance of smart water management.

However, due to climate change, our glaciers are melting, and scientists predict regional and seasonal water shortages. In about 80 years, almost all glaciers will be gone. Additionally, more intense climate-related disasters are expected due to heavy rainfall in our mountain ranges, as we witnessed during our field visit organized by the EUSALP 2024 Slovenian Presidency to the Savinja Valley near Kamnik. The consequences are far-reaching, not only for the Alpine territories and their populations but also for Europe.

For the following years, members of the EUSALP Youth Council are committed to continuing their collaboration with the work of EUSALP Action Group 6, in line with the efforts and declarations of the Alpine Convention on water management in their Report on the State of the Alps.

Youth Council Recommendations for Smart Water Management

- **Education and Awareness Campaigns:** Educating people about the importance of water footprint of electronics, fast fashion and other daily consumption products through school programs, workshops, and community projects focused on water management.
- **Youth Involvement in Decision-Making:** Creating platforms where young people can participate in local and regional water management decisions, such as youth councils or advisory boards, ensures that their voices are heard and considered.
- **Support for Community-Led Initiatives:** Encouraging and supporting community-led projects that focus on sustainable water use, such as rainwater harvesting, the creation of green spaces, or local reforestation efforts, can provide practical ways for young people to get involved.



9th EUSALP Annual Forum Programme

The draft program is available and subject to change.

14 November 2024

10:00 – 11:00

(Splendens Hall)

Youth Vision for Alpine Region

The Alpine region is facing different challenges due to climate and social change. Hence, the active involvement of young people is pivotal for safeguarding a sustainable future of the Alpine region.

The inhabitants of the Alpine region are most directly affected by the climate change. The extreme events are driving the need to increase knowledge and skills on how to deal with those challenges as effectively as possible. It is of great importance that the young generation is consulted and skilled in order to safeguard the quality of life in the Alpine area. Moreover, due to its specific geographical feature, the Alpine area is also facing social challenges, especially in terms of the emigration of young people from mountain valleys and cities.

The panel will be an opportunity for exchange among the speakers about the mechanisms needed to empower the young people of the Alpine region to respond properly to future challenges, especially related to the climate change and social change.

Language: English

11:15 – 12:30

(Splendens Hall)

Pitch your Project competition and awarding ceremony – side event

Pitch Your Project is a competition for young people between 16 and 29 years old. As experts of their living space, the Alpine Region, they are invited to submit projects ideas for a sustainable development of the Alpine Region.

Language: English

12:30 – 14:00

(the Lobby)

Lunch

13:00 – 14:00

(Glass Hall)

Welcome gathering for high level representatives

14:00 – 14:30

(Grandis Hall)

Official Opening of the 9th EUSALP Annual Forum

Language: SI, FR, DE, IT, EN

14:30 – 15:15*(Grandis Hall)***High-level plenary panel: Alpine region – competitive, circular and smart in global world?**

The Alpine macro-region is one of the most prosperous and competitive regions in Europe. With its unique geographic and natural features, it is often quoted as water tower of Europe and a biodiversity sanctuary. Almost a decade after the establishment of EUSALP, the region's main challenge remains – balancing its wealth and development with nature conservation and adopting innovative approaches to strengthen the area in a sustainable way, while also reducing disparities between various regions and within them. Macro-regional strategies have proved to be a successful tool for cooperation and learning from one another on challenges that go beyond national borders. As Europe undergoes green and digital transition and also faces increasing global competition and geopolitical tensions, the Alpine Region can serve as a development model, in particular in its ability to carefully balance the economic progress with the environmental objectives.

The panel will be an opportunity for the exchange between ministers and other high-level speakers about the mechanisms and the role of EUSALP in helping the Alpine Region to stay ahead of the world's most advanced economies by being competitive, circular and smart.

Language: SI, FR, DE, IT, EN

15:15 – 15:30*(Grandis Hall)***Handover Ceremony of the EUSALP Presidency to Austria and Liechtenstein**

Language: SI, FR, DE, IT, EN

15:30 – 16:00*(the Lobby)***Break**

15:30 – 16:00*(Glass Hall)***Press Conference**

16:00 – 18:00*(Brdo Castle)***General Assembly of High Representatives responsible for the EUSALP (by invitation only)**

16:00 – 17:30*(Grandis Hall)***Climate resilient water management in the Alpine Region**

Alpine Region is experiencing a profound negative impact of climate change. Increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather related events (floods, erosion, landslides, drought ...) has now not only affected livelihoods in the region, but has brought about the necessity to rethink our management of one of the most precious resources: water. This has certainly been the case in Slovenia in 2023, when devastating torrential sediment processes and flash floods have prompted a public debate on how to approach water management in the new era of increasingly rapid climate change.

Language: English

16:00 – 18:00

(Splendens Hall)

EUSALP Energy Conference “Energy Transition in the Economy” & EUSALP Energy Awarding Ceremony – side event

Decision-makers, entrepreneurs, scientists and implementers discuss how to increase energy efficiency and the use of renewable energies in Europe’s economy and outline the role the EUSALP in promoting a green economy. The event will conclude with the EUSALP Energy Awarding session, which was organized under the motto “Energy Transition in SME’s” and with a guided exhibition tour dedicated the topic of energy saving and climate protection.

Language: English

18:00 – 20:30

(The Lobby)

Networking dinner with concert

15 November 2024

09:30 – 11:00

(Grandis Hall)

Could Alpine region become a circular economy model region?

The European Union has been a global leader in promoting the transition to a circular economy and sustainable production and consumption. Despite the progress made over the past years, the overall transition to a circular economy remains slow due to different challenges (i.e. economic and regulatory barriers, consumer behaviour, limited infrastructure etc.).

The panel will be an opportunity for the exchange between the speakers about the mechanisms and the role of EUSALP in helping the Alpine Region to become a model region for transition from linear to circular economy.

Language: English

11:00 – 11:15

(The Lobby)

Break

11:15 – 12:15

(Grandis Hall)

Award ceremony for Green Infrastructure goes Business Award, Energy award and Pitch your project

Language: English

12:15 – 12:30

(Grandis Hall)

Closing of the 9th EUSALP Annual Forum

Language: English

OTHER EVENTS

14 November 2024

**9:30 – 11:30
and
16:00 – 18:00**

(Heros Hall)

Green Infrastructure goes Business Award: Coaching Workshop

(by invitation only)

The Green Infrastructure Goes Business Award supports innovative ideas, products and services for a green economy and promotes sustainable development in the area of the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region. The third edition of the international competition is focusing particularly on solutions with benefits for “wise water management”.

Language: English

Want to know more about EUSALP?

Website



More about
EUSALP -
Digital
presentation
Youtube



EUSALP
Thematic
and Action
Groups



EUSALP
youth council



SLOVENIAN PRESIDENCY OF THE EU STRATEGY FOR THE ALPINE REGION 2024

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