

**ARL**

ACADEMY FOR  
TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT  
IN THE LEIBNIZ ASSOCIATION



AlpPlan - alpine spatial planning network

**Interreg**



Co-funded by  
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**Alpine Space**

PlanToConnect

# Introducing the *AlpPlan/PlanToConnect* **Expert Platform on Green Infrastructure, Ecological Connectivity and Spatial Planning**



## Background

- Recent developments in the **(European) policy framework** (e.g. EU Nature Restoration law, Biodiversity Strategy, Green Deal, COP15 '30 by 30' goal)
- PTC project is developing an **“Alpine Planning Strategy for Ecological Connectivity”** that promotes multifunctional Green and Blue Infrastructure networks (**GBI**) and Nature-based Solutions (**NbS**) for the **conservation and restoration of ecological connectivity in the Alps**
- **Multifunctional dimensions of GBI** also include other important land-based ecosystem services, e.g. soil and climate protection as well as adaptation to climate change
- Focus is on the **design and implementation of “connectivity conservation and restoration areas”** outside of existing protected areas



## Mission statement

The AlpPlan/PlanToConnect Expert Platform [...] promotes **networking with the scientific community, experts, implementers of GI-projects and policy-makers** to address **knowledge gaps and challenges** in the design and implementation of a **strategic, well-connected, multi-functional and cross-border network of Green and Blue Infrastructure (GBI)** as basis to enhance nature and human well-being across the Alpine Space. It focusses on **priority actions for (re-)connecting fragmented landscapes** and to assure that conservation and restoration of **ecological connectivity between protected areas** become an **integral part of Spatial Planning and Territorial Development** systems in the Alpine Space.



## Scope & objectives

- **open** to all interested experts with a thematic connection
- **cooperation of scientific scholars and practitioners** is envisaged
- intended to address also **representatives of relevant networks, institutions and organisations** (e.g. AlpConv, EUSALP, Alpine space projects, NGOs, ...)
- **concrete influence on central project results/outputs**, thereby assuring adequate **(scientific) quality**
- **active and important role** in the elaboration, dissemination and implementation of the **Alpine Planning Strategy for Ecological Connectivity**
- meetings are carried out **mainly through workshops**, predominantly online (face-to-face event is planned once a year)



## Timeline & products

**1st meeting (online kick-off, 02 October 2023):** Small group (PlanToConnect partnership + observers/close experts)

**2nd meeting (27.-28. November 2023 at UIRS in Ljubljana, SI):** Transnational on-site (hybrid) workshop: adoption of the “mission & objectives” deliverable

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online workshop(s) with varying focus topics

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**X. Meeting (25.-28. November 2024 in Obergurgl, AT):** 2-days on-site mid-term transnational workshop as input for the Alpine Planning Strategy

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→ **Own products** are possible, depending on the contributions of the experts involved. This includes in particular the elaboration of an **ARL AlpPlan position paper**.