

Hypotheses on the requirements for a sustainable spatial development

For a more detailed description of the identification and content of each hypothesis, please refer to [the WIKIALps Action 4.2 Working Paper Hypotheses](#)

Spatially adapted policies

- Coordination of sector policies to prevent exploitation of natural resources and single-sector economies
- Sensitive Alpine territory requires appropriate and diversified measures (consensus-oriented multi-stakeholder approach)

Macroregional issues

- Partnerships & trade-offs between inner- and outer-Alpine areas

Urban-rural linkages

- Rural-urban partnership requires vital networks and processes
- Cross-sectoral and integrated approaches are needed to slow down impacts in rural areas

Acknowledgment / internalization of external effects / Compensation schemes

- Adopt policies that recognize the multi-functionality of the primary sector
- Economic valorisation of natural resources and ecosystem services initiates new compensations schemes
- Compensation schemes between urban and rural areas

Services of general interest

- Rural areas need to cooperate and complement each other
- Public services are under pressure and cuts will particularly affect small and isolated mountain communities

Alpine economic development

- Competition between global and regional economic cycles
- Changing consumer patterns require adaptation of tourism evolution
- Value creation in the primary sector generates payment schemes and opportunities for regional economic development
- Resource efficient economies become economically competitive and implement sustainable structures

Demographic change

- Ageing population requires adaptation and offers opportunities for Alpine areas

Alpine ecosystems

- Alps are a hotspot for maintaining and restoring ecosystem services

Pressure on Alpine resources

- Changes in energy sector requires more energy efficiency and causes land use changes
- Urban development and increasing land take pose a risk

Mobility

- High mobility level punctually triggers economic growth and at the same time aggravates spatial disparities

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