

Transnational topics of Sustainable Spatial Development

In order to identify the transnational topics in Alpine area two documents deem to be of high priority:

- The Guiding Principles for Sustainable Spatial Development for the European Continent (CEMAT 2000)
- The Alpine Convention Protocol on Spatial Planning and Sustainable Development.

Based on these documents and adjusted to mountain environments transnational topics are compiled in a grouping to CEMAT's 10 main principles:

1 Territorial cohesion through balanced social and economic development

- Polycentric development model as basis for spatial development
- Economic diversification, multiple job-holding, craft and SME maintenance and development
- Cooperation between SME within the Alpine Space
- Support both economic development and a balanced distribution of the population in the Alpine territory/polycentricity
- facilitate equal opportunities for the local population in its social, cultural and economic development

→ [projects related to topic 1](#)

2 Improving urban - rural relationship and Alpine/peri-alpine relationship

- Accessibility of urban systems and functions and of public services and central functions for country dwellers
- Equivalency of living conditions and quality
- Recognition of the interests of Alpine populations
- Synergies and complementarity between towns
- Revitalisation and diversification of rural economies
- Accessibility of recreation areas for urban dwellers while safeguarding natural and cultural heritages
- Compensation mechanisms for Alpine services delivered to the lowlands or vice versa
- Regulation of adverse impacts on the Alps generated outside of the Alpine Space

→ [projects related to topic 2](#)

3 Balanced accessibility

- Completing TEN-projects where appropriate to a sustainable spatial policy
- Linking small and medium-sized towns and peripheral areas to the major transport networks
- Careful improvement of regional and local accessibility if necessary
- Promotion of public transport offers

→ [projects related to topic 3](#)

4 Developing access to information and knowledge

- Improving access to information

→ [projects related to topic 4](#)

5 Reducing environmental damage

- Improving inadequate coordination of sectoral policies or local decisions
- Prevention and mitigation of environmental harms through sectoral policies through spatial planning policy
- Protection, sustainable management and rehabilitation of land, water, air and landscapes, fauna, flora, habitats

→ [projects related to topic 5](#)

6 Enhancing and protecting natural resources and natural heritage

- Protection of natural resources as elements for balanced ecosystems, regional attractiveness, recreational quality and quality of life
- Integrated management of water resources
- Re-establishing and conserving ecosystems including ecological networks through spatial planning policy
- Protection of environment by agriculture and forestry
- Harmonise use of territory with the ecological needs and objectives
- Use the resources and the territory sparingly and compatibly with the environment

→ [projects related to topic 6](#)

7 Enhancing cultural heritage as a factor for development

- Integrated management of cultural heritage
- Relationship between modern architecture, urban design and cultural heritage
- Maintenance and promotion of identity of mountain populations
- Maintenance and promotion of diversity of cultural heritage
- Respect of regional identities and specific cultural features

→ [projects related to topic 7](#)

8 Safe development of energy resources

- Improving energy efficiency and energy saving
- Promotion of renewable energy sources within the limits of the environmental capacities

→ [projects related to topic 8](#)

9 Encouraging high quality, sustainable tourism

- Consideration of natural resources, economic, social and cultural environments
- Development of tourism within the carrying capacity of these resources and environments

→ [projects related to topic 9](#)

10 Limitation of natural disaster impacts

- Taking preventive measures
- Reducing the vulnerability of settlement structures

→ [projects related to topic 10](#)

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