The Tyrol's EUSALP presidency
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From the beginning, the Tyrol has played a pro-active part in the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region and is also very active in the implementation phase. The Tyrol is involved in the work of the Executive Board as the representative of the Austrian regions and contributes to five of the nine Action Groups in the fields of Labour Market (AG 3), Natural Resources (AG 6), Natural Hazard Management (AG 8) and Energy (AG 9).

In the Action Group 4 on Mobility, the Tyrol has assumed lead responsibility together with the European Region Tyrol-South Tyrol-Trentino.

In 2018, the Tyrol will hold the presidency of EUSALP for a twelve-month period. This means that the Tyrol has lead responsibility during that year for the further development and implementation of EUSALP in close collaboration with the European Commission and with the neighbouring States and Regions.

The EU Strategy for the Alpine Region is the first and only EU macro-regional strategy for which the Regions have primary responsibility. It consistently employs a bottom-up approach in order to address the needs of the citizens in the Alpine Region. The objective is to prove that, with the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region, all the actors working together can strengthen economic, political and social cohesion at the heart of Europe to the benefit of the people living in the Alps. The motto chosen for the Tyrol's EUSALP presidency is accordingly shaping.future.together. – In the interest of the Alps! The aim is to adopt responsible approaches to decision-making and implementation that will permit the best possible future for the people living in the Alpine Region to be shaped on a co-operative basis. Co-operation is in general the key to managing the future. Good and sustainable solutions to the pending challenges in the Alpine Region can only be developed and implemented by working together.

The key fields of activity are derived from the EUSALP objectives as well as from the programmes of the Austrian presidencies of the Council of the EU and of the Alpine Convention. They benefit from broad-based interest on the part of the population of the Alps and communicable knowhow and the results of the work of the Action Groups, with the Action Groups with Tyrolean involvement playing a special role.

The Tyrolean presidency will make a special effort to push forward and support the following key fields of activity:

- **Labour market:** Dual education in the Alpine Region and training for migrants and their integration in the labour market
- **Mobility:** Modal shift and EUSALP travel information platform
- **Natural resources:** Economical land-use and promotion of the production, processing, marketing and consumption of Alpine foodstuffs as a cultural heritage including the related value-added chains
- **Natural hazards:** Further development of integrated natural hazard management to establish Alpine-wide risk governance
- **Energy:** Development of a sustainable cross-border energy strategy for the Alpine Region on the basis of EUSALP’s energy monitoring data and the establishment of a periodical EUSALP Energy Conference

These main fields of activity fall well short of the total number of topics and projects to be addressed by the various Action Groups in 2018, and the importance of the work done by the Action Groups that are not particularly affected by the main topics selected for the Tyrolean presidency is explicitly stressed.

The Tyrolean EUSALP presidency will also have a focus on the subject of governance in the Alpine Region. The objective here is to activate good governance and citizen participation, with a special focus to be placed on young people. This is to be achieved by establishing and strengthening cooperation and synergies between the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region and existing initiatives in the Alpine Region.

In 2018 Austria also holds the presidency of the Alpine Convention, chairs the EU Interreg Alpine Space Programme and will take over the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union in the second half of the year. Good coordination of all these processes will offer useful synergies in the relevant policy areas and a presentation of the Alpine Region as a model for a sustainable economic future in a sensitive region. Through their cooperation in the EUSALP, the Alpine countries can provide answers and make constructive contributions to European development and stimulate change at the European level.

The following is a description of the main fields of activity planned for the Tyroil’s EUSALP presidency in the Action Groups 3, 4, 6, 8 and 9 and Objective 4 – Alpine Governance.
Main topics of the Tyrol’s EUSALP presidency at a glance

The EUSALP work programme of the Tyrolean presidency 2018 is based on the EUSALP Action Plan and the work programmes of the individual Action Groups. The Tyrol is contributing to all four EUSALP objectives in five Action Groups, which defines the points of focus for the Tyrol’s EUSALP presidency.

**Objective 1 Economic Growth and Innovation**
Fair access to job opportunities, building on the high competitiveness of the Region

**Action Group 3: Labour market**
(To improve the adequacy of labour market education and training in strategic sectors)
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**Objective 2 Mobility and Connectivity**
Sustainable internal and external connectivity

**Action Group 4: Mobility**
(To promote inter-modality and interoperability in passengers and freight transport)
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**Objective 3 Environment and Energy**
A more inclusive environmental framework and renewable and reliable energy solutions for the future

**Action Group 6: Natural Resources**
(To preserve and valorize natural resources, including water and cultural resources)
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**Action Group 8: Natural hazards**
(To improve risk management and to better manage climate change, including major natural risks prevention)
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**Objective 4 Alpine Governance**

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