



EUSALP EU STRATEGY FOR THE ALPINE REGION

www.alpine-region.eu

Developing digital innovation policies: an overview from the regional perspective

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<https://www.alpine-region.eu/action-group-5>



80 million people, 7 countries, 48 regions,
mountains and plains addressing together
common challenges and opportunities



This project is co-financed by the European Union via Interreg Alpine Space

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION: A KEY ROLE FOR TERRITORIES

- **The European green deal:** The new growth strategy to transform the EU into a fair and prosperous society, with a modern resource-efficient and competitive economy, where there are no net emissions of greenhouse gases in 2050 and where economic growth is decoupled from resource use.
- **The European Digital Strategy:** The EU digital strategy will make the digital transformation that everyone is experiencing in their lives work for people, businesses and the planet, in line with EU values. It's based on 3 streams of action:
 1. Technology that works for people,
 2. A fair and competitive digital economy,
 3. An open, democratic and sustainable society

The full transition to the digital age we are all experiencing plays a **key role for the future development and resilience** of the Alpine territories and this transformation **need to be fair, sustainable and competitive**

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EUSALP - EU STRATEGY FOR THE ALPINE REGION



WHY A MACRO-REGIONAL STRATEGY?

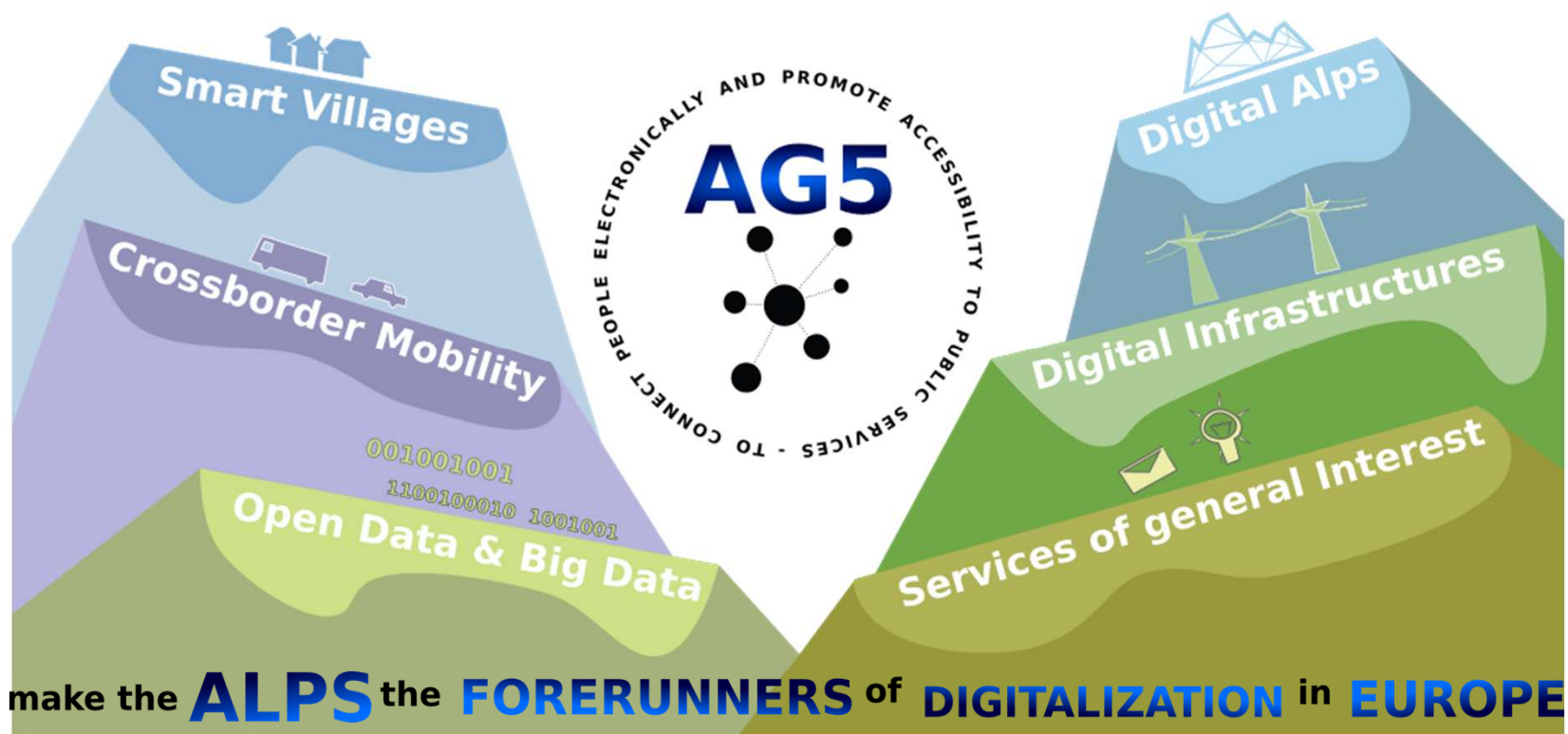
An Alpine macro-regional strategy would provide an opportunity to improve cross-border cooperation in the Alpine States as well as identifying common goals and implementing them more effectively through transnational collaboration

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EUSALP ACTION GROUP 5 OVERVIEW



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AG5 TOPICS (1)



Digital Alps: several digitalization initiatives to support economic development, sustainability and resilience, such as **ARPAF Smart SME's** project and collection of **E-health** experiences during the Covid-19 period. Results are available on <https://www.alpine-region.eu/p/communication-area/publications>



Smart Villages: Apply of SV approach to improve the framework for innovation through new forms of stakeholder involvement facilitated by ICT. Lead of **ASP project** whose objective is to support the sustainable and community-centered development and the digital transformation of mountain and rural areas (6 countries, 9 regions involved, 13 partners and 12 test areas). Organization of events to spread the Smart Villages approach in Courmayeur, Grenoble and Bern (<https://www.alpine-region.eu/projects/smart-villages>)



Cross-border mobility: Finalization of the Cross-border mobility **ARPAF project** (12 cross-border case studies, analysis on incoming and outgoing commuters, gaps in cross-border infrastructures, innovative solutions and models of cooperation, 9 policy recommendations) to increase cross-border mobility across the Alpine Region, avoiding negative impacts on economy, society and the environment (<https://www.alpine-region.eu/projects/arpaf-crossborder>)

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AG5 TOPICS (2)



SGI

Access to Services of general interest: creation of the **Alpine Think Tank** on SGI to discuss and produce recommendations on upcoming challenges for SGI in the Alps (<https://www.alpine-region.eu/publications/thesis-paper-sgi>)

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Data

Open data & Big data: launch of the new thematic area on trending topic about data gathering and usage in the current *digital age* pursuing an **European Strategy for Data** as a common European data spaces tailored on the Alpine priorities. Creation of a **focus group** on these topics to bring forward a common vision for the Alpine area.



Infrastructures

Digital Infrastructures: Publication of the **feasibility study** on cross-border connectivity in the Alpine region, identifying models of intervention, 14 cross border gaps and 4 possible applications to develop infrastructure of cross border fiber optic backbones to **fulfill the connectivity gaps in the Alpine Area**. (<https://www.alpine-region.eu/publications/cross-border-connectivity-alpine-region>)

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KEY DRIVERS FOR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF TERRITORIES (1)

Fasten the digital transformation through the Smart Villages approach

Co-design of digital services and solutions with the territories through a bottom-up participatory approach in different fields like **Smart Mobility, Smart Economy, Smart Environment, Smart living, Smart governance, Smart people** taking full advantage of the opportunities provided by ICT to tackle with local communities challenges. Support the process of **social innovation** that it requires.

Adopt a strategic digital Infrastructures Roadmap

Speeding up the investments in **future-proof digital infrastructures** as fiber optics, 5G networks, the deployment of IoT, distributed computing resources and connections to EU-level infrastructures, with the aim to cover both the most populated and marginal areas. Integrate the EU-level and Country-level goals with **Regional-level view and local needs**.

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KEY DRIVERS FOR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF TERRITORIES (2)

Focus on digitalisation of PA as the engine for economic dev. and SGI

Promoting the digitalisation of procedures and processes of the Public Administration at all levels, keeping a special focus on **Services of general interest** and eGovernment / digital citizenship. Create **the general framework** for economic development and resilience in the digital age.

Build a data strategy and a widespread data culture

Identify what are the **needs and opportunities from the use of open data, big data and analytics**, toward a data-driven experience-based policy development cycle within Public administrations and the direct contribution from citizen and stakeholders to the cycle.

Invest in Digital Skills for all the local actors

Empower digital skills and digital literacy in different economic sectors facilitating access to digital services and focusing **the need of skill at local communities-level** for the process of digital transformation itself.

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EUSALP MAIN ONLINE EVENT ON DIGITALIZATION



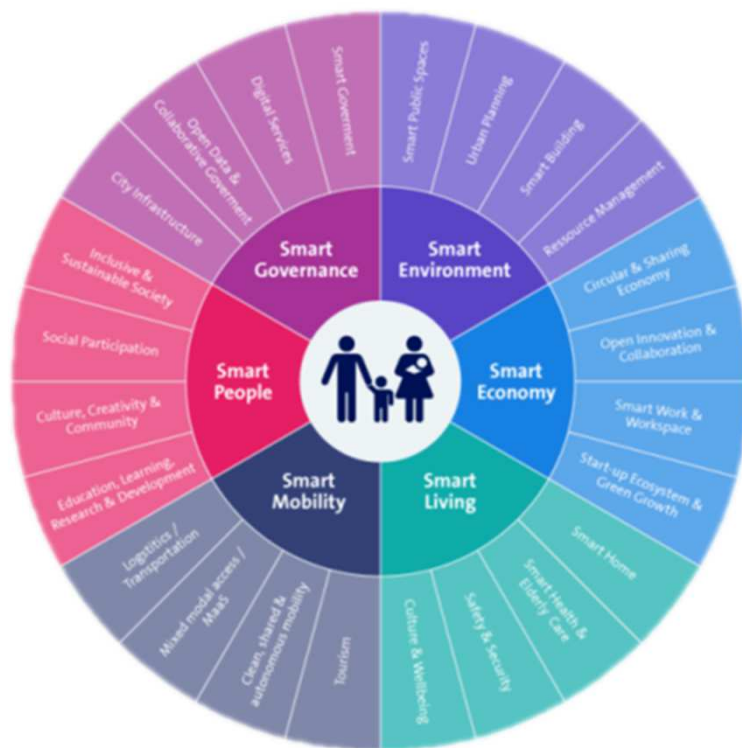
Register on **digitalalps.eu**

27-28 May 2021

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THE SMART VILLAGE APPROACH



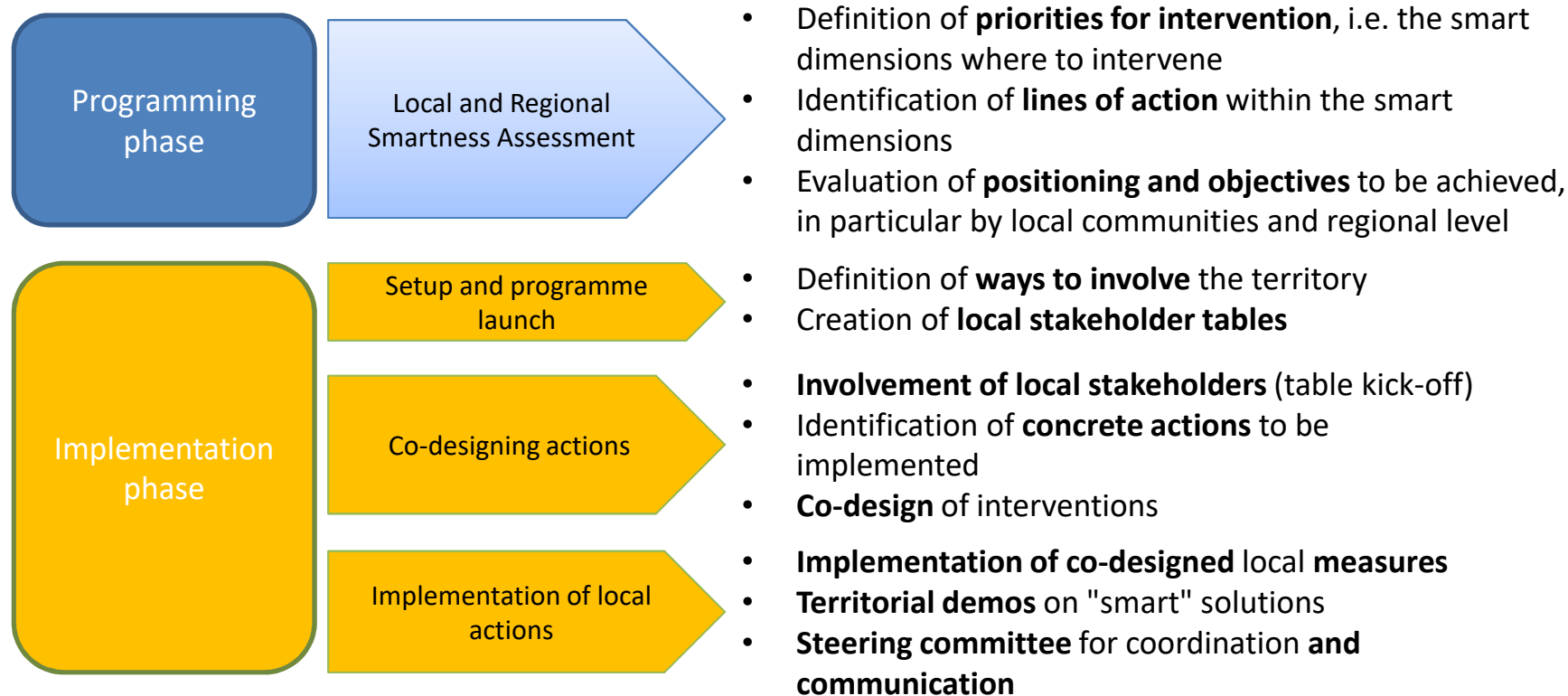
SMART VILLAGE: co-constructing a digital transformation for territories

- Smart Villages are **communities in rural areas** that use **innovative solutions to improve their resilience, building on their local strengths and opportunities.**
- Smart Villages **benefit from cooperation and alliances with other communities** and actors in rural and urban areas.
- Smart Villages use a **participatory approach to develop and implement their strategy** for improving their conditions, especially by **exploiting solutions offered by digital technologies.**
- Smart Villages were **launched by DG AGRI and developed by ENRD. EUSALP and AG5 gave to Smart Villages approach an Alpine dimension.**

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THE PROPOSED APPROACH OF SV IN THE VALLE D'AOSTA REGION



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A SMART VILLAGE PROGRAM AT REGIONAL AND LOCAL LEVEL



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Thank you for your attention!



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ONLINE RESOURCES ON SMART VILLAGES

Smart Villages are a key theme of EUSALP Alpine Macro-Regional Strategy, and in particular of Action Group 5 (AG5), through the development of a specific cross-sectoral initiative (<https://www.alpine-region.eu/projects/smart-villages>)

Definition of Smart Village developed by the European Rural Network (ENRD) (https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/smart-and-competitive-rural-areas/smart-villages/smart-villages-portal_en)

Theme of European relevance launched in 2016 by DG AGRI, DG REGIO and DG MOBI following the Cork Declaration (https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/cork-declaration_en.pdf)

Included in the definition of Smart Rural Areas by the European Committee of the Regions (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52017IR3465&from=EN>)

They are a key aspect of the 2nd Pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2021-2027 (<https://www.euromontana.org/en/smart-mountains-a-new-story-of-resilience/>)

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