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Joint Pilot Action Programme under Art. 10 ERDF Alpine Space / Eastern Alps. Second Progress Report to the European Commission DG XVI

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Joint Pilot Action Programme
under Art. 10 ERDF

Alpine Space

SECOND PROGRESS REPORT

for the Commission DG XVI

Submitted by the Common Secretariat
on March 22, 1999



CONTENT:

<i>I. ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMON SECRETARIAT SINCE JULY 1998.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>II. SECOND CALL PROJECT APPLICATION.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>III. SECOND CALL PROJECT REVIEW.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>IV. SECOND CALL PROJECT APPROVAL</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>V. PROGRAMME EVALUATION.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>VI. PHASE (INDICATIVE) NEXT STEPS OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION</i>	<i>5</i>

Enclosure:

- Summary sheet of project-assessment
- Distribution of expenditure after the second call

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I. ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMON SECRETARIAT SINCE JULY 1998

JULY 1998 – MARCH 1999

1. After the meeting of the Management Committee (July 20, 1998)

After the meeting of the Management Committee on July 20, 1998 the Common Secretariat finished the minutes of the meeting, informed all project co-ordinators about the approval of their projects, corrected the rules of procedure of the Management Committee and finished the written procedure for the project amendment of C1.

At the beginning of September 1998 the Common Secretariat sent the first progress report to the European Commission, GD XVI.

On September 22, 1998 the presidency passed to Germany. The chairman of the Management Committee is now Mr. Buchholz, the chairman of the Common Secretariat is Ms. Amor.

In October the Common Secretariat sent the application form of an additional project part of B1 in Germany to the members of the Management Committee. This additional part was approved by written procedure.

2. Meeting of all INTERREG II C and Pilot Action Programme Secretariats

On October 19, 1998 the Common Secretariat went to a meeting of all INTERREG II C and Pilot Action Programme secretariats in Brussels. The secretariats discussed the following points:

- State of progress of the various programmes
- Scope for co-operation between the Secretariats (e.g. evaluation, financial management system, joint exhibition)
- Participation in the ESDP Forum (February 1999)
- Any other business

1. Meeting of the Common Secretariat

On October 29, 1998 the members of the Common Secretariat met in Munich to discuss the following points:

- Current situation in all countries: approved projects, application for new projects
- Discussion about public relations in the programme
- Discussion and preparation of the ESDP-seminar in Vienna
- Next steps

It was decided to prepare a brochure about the programme for the ESDP-seminar in Vienna. The members of the Common Secretariat discussed the contents of the brochure and the presentation of the programme during the seminar.

1. ESDP-Seminar in Vienna

The Common Secretariat participated at the ESDP-Seminar in Vienna November 25/26, 1998. In Workshop B "The eastern Alps" the Common Secretariat had the opportunity to present the programme and distributed a brochure. The project co-ordinator of A1 presented the first results of the project REGIONALP and an expert/consultant of the commission prepared a critical assessment about the coherence between ESDP-policy options and the priorities of the pilot action programme. Mr. Ambrosi, the representative of Friuli-Venezia Giulia, gave an outlook of the experiences of this region and Mr. Dufeil gave his comments and suggestions about the pilot action programme and the ESDP.

2. Meeting DG XVI with secretariats

On December 2, 1998 the Common secretariat went to a meeting of the DG XVI with all secretariats and co-ordination of INTERREG IIC and Art. 10 pilot action programmes in Brussels. The aim of this meeting was the preparation of the final ESDP forum in Brussels (February 2/3, 1999).

3. ESDP Forum in Brussels

On February 2/3, 1999 the Common Secretariat participated at the final ESDP Forum in Brussels. The "Alpine Space" pilot action has been the subject particularly of Session 2 "Spatial planning in practice" and of the related document entitled "The ESDP in practice, a guide for transnational cooperation: Interreg IIC & pilot actions - Synthesis report on the workshops". In the occasion of the Forum, the final and "official" version of the "Alpine Space" presentation brochure (with a new cover, not linked to the Workshop B of the Vienna Seminar) has been distributed.

II. SECOND CALL PROJECT APPLICATION BEGINNING OF OCTOBER – DECEMBER 11, 1998

The Common Secretariat submitted the application form to all project co-ordinators of the Alpine Space Programme at the beginning of October (in the form of a limited call).

For the special requirements of the national co-financing the respective national secretariats used the separately developed application forms, which were then submitted to the project co-ordinators together with the transnational application form.

After submission of the application documents the Common Secretariat assisted and advised the project co-ordinators and project partners in preparing the application documents.

III. SECOND CALL PROJECT REVIEW

DECEMBER 11, 1998 – FEBRUARY 1999

By the deadline December 11, 1998 the following projects/project-parts were submitted:

Project	Description
A2	"Good practice guide" for the implementation of programmes and projects concerning sustainable spatial and regional planning
A3 additional Austrian part	Local authorities network "Alliance in the Alps"
C2 new modules, additional parts	Regional and spatial planning instruments for Alpine areas, with special reference to the balanced and sustained development of settlements in densely and sparsely populated regions

The first step was the pre-review of the projects by the secretariats. Obvious faults were reported to the project co-ordinators and project partners for correction.

After that the secretariats evaluated resp. reviewed the projects with the summary sheet for transnational projects. For the summarised results see enclosure 1 and financial table (enclosure 2).

IV. SECOND CALL PROJECT APPROVAL

DECEMBER 1998 - END OF FEBRUARY 1999

The results of the project review / evaluation of the Common Secretariat were presented to the German national committee on February 20, 1999 and to the Austrian national committee on February 27, 1999. Both committees approved the projects resp. the recommendations of the Common Secretariat. The German national committee approved one of the German project parts of measure C2 with less ERDF-funds than asked in the application form. So the application form was corrected and the project then approved by written procedure. The Italian national committee approved the projects in its meeting on December 15, 1998 resp. in a written procedure in February 1999.

On February 26, 1999 the results of the project review / evaluation were presented to the transnational Management Committee. The Management Committee confirmed the results of the project reviews resp. the approvals of the national committees.

In the meeting Mr. Buchholz and Mr. Pössinger declared the willingness of Germany to participate in the project A1 e.g. by organising one of the scheduled seminars together with Switzerland. After having clarified some details Germany will fill in an application form and start a written procedure.

V. PROGRAMME EVALUATION

In the meeting on February 26, 1999 the transnational Management Committee discussed about the evaluation of the programme. The participants discussed whether to carry through an interim or an ex-post evaluation. Due to the limited budget its not possible to have both.

The results of the discussion were:

- The participants of the meeting agreed on an interim evaluation of the programme implementation.
- The evaluation should especially give an answer to the following questions: what is a transnational project, is the current definition satisfactory, how do you have to accompany such projects, what is the real meaning of integrated sustainable regional planning in the Alpine region?
- The participants agreed on the proposed budget of EURO 25.000,-- (A and I EURO 10.000,--, D EURO 5.000,--).
- In the enclosure of the minutes the members of the Management Committee received the original draft terms of reference for the evaluation and a proposal of Austria. The members were asked to comment on these proposals within two weeks. The call for tenders should be done in April. The Management Committee will decide on the selection of the evaluator in May by written procedure or, if necessary, in a meeting under the Italian chairmanship.
- Each national committee was asked to nominate possible applicants.
- In addition to the evaluation the Common Secretariat should prepare a short report on the experiences in this programme for the European Commission.

VI. PHASE (INDICATIVE) NEXT STEPS ***OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION***

- Finishing of the minutes of the Management Committee (MC) meeting on February 26, 1999 and finishing of the terms of reference for the evaluation according to the comments and amendments of the members of the Management Committee (MC)
- Call for tender for the evaluation
- Written procedure for the German part of A1
- Holding the next chairmanship (May 13, 1999 – December 31, 1999), Italy will organise the third meeting of the Management Committee taking place in autumn 1999
- Monitoring of the projects
- Decision how to finalise the programme and how to continue the work of the Common Secretariat after the end of 1999

Enclosure

Summary sheet of project-assessment (after the 2. Call, state February 1999, integration of the projects approved in July 1998)

Project	No.	Project-co-ordinator	Project-partner	Financial contribution of partners ERDF-Funds (1.000 ECU)				Results of the evaluation	
				A	D	I	total	G.I. ¹	Recommendation of the Common Secretariat
Spatial development and spatial planning in the Alpine area (REGIONALP)	A1	A	I, CH	120	0	143	263 ²	B (good)	<u>(approved in July 1998)</u>
"Good practice Guide" for implementation of programmes and projects concerning sustainable spatial and regional planning	A2	A	I, D	28,9	15	73	116,9	B (good)	<u>I. Approval of project and allocation of funds</u>
Local authorities network "Alliance in the Alps"	A3	D	A, I	50	275	47	372	B (good)	<u>I. Approval of project and allocation of funds</u>
Transnational pilot projects for environmentally sound travel logistics linked with electronic booking and information systems in Alpine tourism regions	B1	A	D, I	800	300	388	1.488	B (good)	<u>(approved in July 1998)</u>

¹ G.I = General Impression

² Co-operation of non-member states: Switzerland (financial contribution 60.000 ECU), Slovenia and Germany (observer Status)

Project	No.	Project-coordinator	Project-partner	Financial contribution of partners ERDF-Funds (1.000 ECU)				Results of the evaluation	
				A	D	I	total	G.I. ¹	Recommendation of the Common Secretariat
Rationalisation, maintenance and reinsertion of public and private services at the local and regional level	C1	I	A	50	0	294	344	B (good)	<i>(approved in July 1998)</i>
Regional and spatial planning instruments for Alpine areas, with special reference to the balanced and sustained development of settlements in densely and sparsely populated regions.	C2	A	D, I	450	283	38	771	B (good)	<u>I. Approval of project and allocation of funds</u>
Developing a computer information system for co-ordinating civil protection in transnational regions	D1	I	A	50	0	349	399	B (good)	<i>(approved in July 1998)</i>
Protecting and recovering settlement typologies in small Alpine centres	D2	I	A	150	0	325	475	B (good)	<i>(approved in July 1998)</i>
Water resources in the Alpine space	D3	I	A, D	200	40	205	445	A (very good)	<i>(approved in July 1998)</i>

Distribution of expenditure (1.000 ECU) after the 2. Call and difference to the Programme expenditure

Enclosure 2

Measures / Projects	Italy	Germany	Austria	total
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	total	EU	NAT	total	EU	NAT	total	EU	NAT	total	EU	NAT
Project A 1	286	143	143	0	0	0	240	120	120	526	263	263
Project A 2	309	73	236	30	15	15	61	29	32	399	117	283
Project A 3	94	47	47	550	275	275	101	50	51	745	372	373
Measure A:	689	263	426	580	290	290	402	199	203	1.671	752	919
Diff. A*:	-241	-39	-202	120	60	60	-2	1	-3	-123	22	-145
Project B 1	776	388	388	655	328	328	2.000	800	1.200	3.431	1.516	1.916
Measure B:	776	388	388	655	328	328	2.000	800	1.200	3.431	1.516	1.916
Diff. B*:	-74	-37	-37	-55	-28	-28	-400	0	-400	-529	-65	-465
Project C 1	664	332	332	0	0	0	100	50	50	764	382	382
Project C 2	76	38	38	583	283	300	900	450	450	1.559	771	788
Measure C:	740	370	370	583	283	300	1.000	500	500	2.323	1.153	1.170
Diff. C*:	80	40	40	-63	-23	-40	600	300	300	617	317	300
Project D 1	698	349	349	0	0	0	100	50	50	798	399	399
Project D 2	650	325	325	0	0	0	300	150	150	950	475	475
Project D 3	410	205	205	80	40	40	400	200	200	890	445	445
Measure D:	1.758	879	879	80	40	40	800	400	400	2.638	1.319	1.319
Diff. D*:	72	36	36	0	0	0	-600	-300	-300	-528	-264	-264
A+B+C+D	3.963	1.900	2.063	1.898	941	958	4.202	1.899	2.303	10.063	4.739	5.323
Diff. A+B+C+D*	-163	0	-163	2	10	-8	-402	1	-403	-563	11	-573
Measure E: Tech. assistance	200	100	100	100	50	50	200	100	100	500	250	250
Total expend.	4.163	2.000	2.163	1.998	991	1.008	4.402	1.999	2.403	10.563	4.989	5.573
Diff.*	-163	0	-163	2	10	-8	-402	1	-403	-563	11	-573

* Difference to the Programme Document "Alpine Space"

NAT= total national cofinancing