



THE ALPINE SPACE AREA

-  E.U. regions
-  Areas outside the E.U.

Non-E.U. areas are indicative only.
 © EuroGeographics Associations for the administrative boundaries

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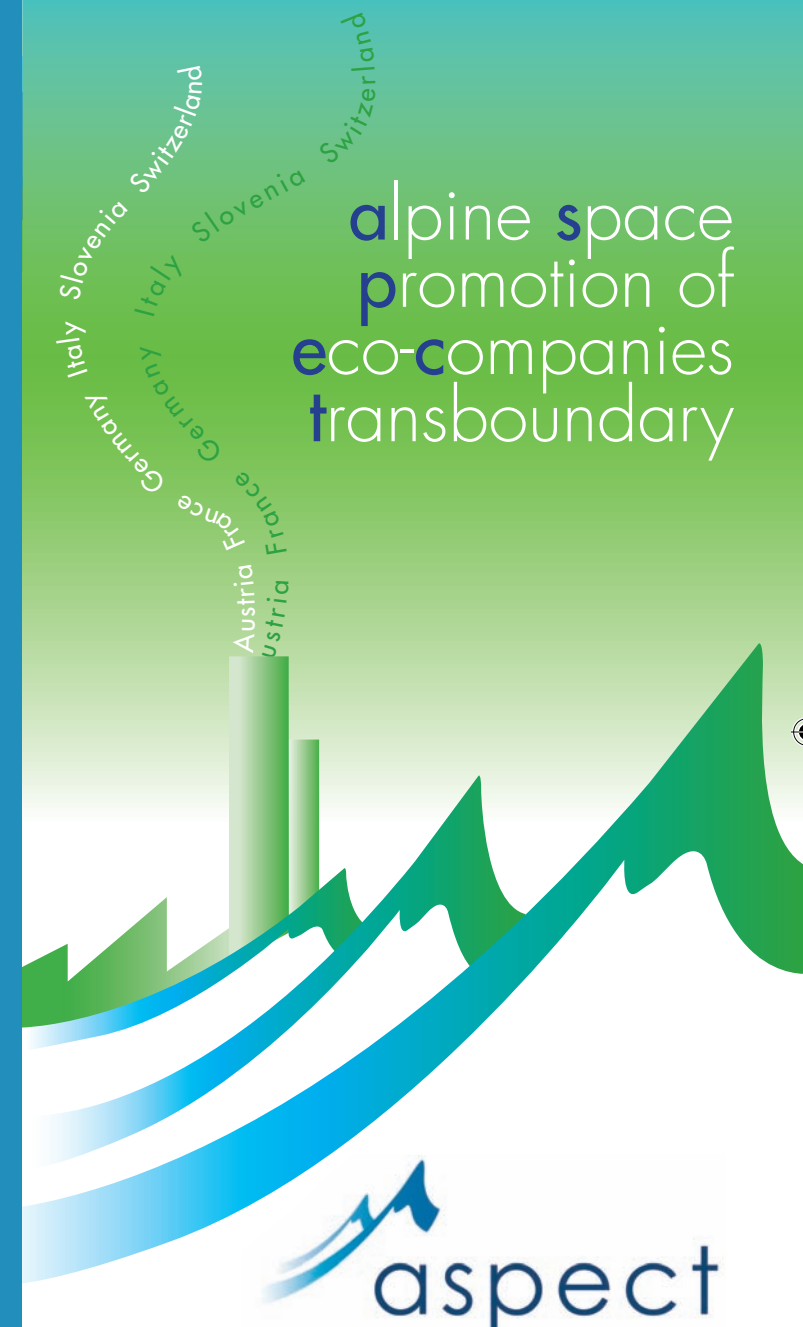
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alpine space
 promotion of
 eco-companies
 transboundary



KEY ISSUES FOR ECO-COMPANIES IN THE ALPINE SPACE

The Alps are a very sensitive area in terms of environment, on account of their geographical and demographic configuration, but also in terms of economic challenges as a result of their topography.

The European Union aims to stimulate the competitiveness of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), which are the first purveyor of employment.

At the same time, ecosystems in the Alpine areas must be preserved so as to provide a pleasant place to live in and an attractive place to visit.

The ASPECT project aims to bridge the gap between economic development and environmental protection by promoting eco-companies, most of which are SMEs with high growth rates.

Eco-companies play a major part in protecting the environment by dealing with:

- Air
- Soil
- Waste
- Noise
- Water
- Energy

ASPECT OBJECTIVES

Fostering economic growth of eco-companies in the Alpine Space via support and promotion activities:

- Development of common strategies
- Creation of tools for promotion towards public authorities, general public, etc...
- Support of business development, clustering and networking

Examples of actions:

- Strategic analysis of the sector, indicators, market potential
- Benchmark visits and best practice exchanges
- Innovation assessment
- Promotion in exhibitions and workshops
- Database for co-operation
- Guidelines for Public Authorities and Organizations on how to foster eco-companies' development

Expected Benefits for SMEs:

- Become member of ASPECT business network
- Find technological or industrial partners in other regions
- Access new tools for promotion, cooperation and innovation
- Increase visibility and stakeholder awareness



INTERREG III B ALPINE SPACE

Interreg III is a Community initiative financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) which aims at stimulating interregional cooperation in the EU on 3 levels: cross-border (strand A), transnational (strand B) and interregional (strand C) co-operations.

The Alpine Space is one of the transnational areas selected in the strand B. One of the themes supported by Interreg III B Alpine Space is the "Promotion of the Alpine Space as a competitive and attractive living and economic space" especially for "competitiveness and sustainable development".

ASPECT has been selected in this framework of action.

More information on the programme:
www.alpinespace.org