



Guidelines for obtaining the environmental certification



AlpCity Partner Work Package WP Coordinator Subjects involved and their role

Friuli Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region (Italy)

Urban environment (WP7)

Friuli Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region (Italy)

Friuli Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region - Central Directorate for Agricultural, Natural, Forestry and Mountain Resources – Mountain Department, which has managed and coordinated the whole operation and given technical and financial support to local authorities and stakeholders involved in the project.

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Local counterparts involved (for contact details concerning these counterparts, please ask the above-mentioned project manager and consultant):

- the seven Municipalities of the “Alta Val Tagliamento” area: Forni di Sopra, Ampezzo, Forni di Sotto, Socchieve, Enemonzo, Preone and Raveo;
- “Cossetur” (the Consortium of Tourist Services) of Forni di Sopra, Forni di Sotto and Sauris;
- the “Comunità Montana” (Mountain Community) of Carnia: the Association of the Municipalities of the Carnia mountain territory including the Alta Val Tagliamento, which is collaborating with all the other pilot case actors on specific matters related to environmental issues;
- the “Ente Gestore del Parco delle Dolomiti Friulane” (the Managing Body of the Friulian Dolomites Park).

Spatial area involved

The area of Forni di Sopra and Alta Val Tagliamento



Project budget	€ 50.000,00
Project purpose	The project aimed at enhancing the endogenous resources through the achievement of an environmental certification, which promotes the environmental quality of the landscape and of the environment of Forni di Sopra. The project provided the local authorities with some guidelines for and such tool can be transferred to other regions as best practice example. The foreseen case study has to be seen as a practical experience, which will put into practice what described in the guidelines. Certification will improve the value of the area offering a transparent communication to the public, increasing the participation of stakeholders in decision-making process concerning their territory.
Project methodology	The adopted methodology foresaw the transfer of the concept model to other regions and the involvement of stakeholders since the first phase of the project improving in this way a bottom-up approach. The project will provide best practices on tourism, land use management, financial aspects and will promote the dissemination of such issues to other alpine contexts.
Project activities	<p>The “Guidelines for obtaining environmental certification” were prepared. The collection of data and the environmental analysis of the Municipality of Ampezzo to apply for the EMAS Certification has been concluded. Furthermore, the Environmental Declaration of the Municipality of Ampezzo and the Declaration concerning their Environmental Policy have been prepared. The last step, that is, the pre-audit to check that the commitments concerning the above-mentioned documents have been fulfilled and subsequent application to officially obtain the EMAS Certification, will be completed by the end of summer.</p> <p>Two customer satisfaction surveys were carried out for the area of Forni di Sopra, furthermore, a mid-term plan for the development of opportunities for tourism, connected with the untouched environment of the whole valley, has been drafted (presented to local authorities and stakeholders on 4th May 2005 in Forni di Sopra with the aim of being discussed and shared).</p> <p>The three-year plan for an ecologically sustainable development plan for the Alta Val Tagliamento has been defined and approved by the local authorities and stakeholders involved who, in order to implement it, will create a specific no-profit association called “Associazione Alta Val Tagliamento”. The final version of the plan is being formulated and by the end of the project it will be presented locally.</p>
Achieved results	<p>The main results that have already been achieved are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• setting up a widespread local partnership involving all the local authorities responsible for the selected area and the stakeholders who are interested in the pilot case issues;• carrying out all the steps concerning the definition of the guidelines to obtain environmental certification (EMAS) and promote tourism in the entire valley;• setting up a plan for sustainable development of the selected areas.
Discrepancies between planned results and results achieved	No discrepancies between the original plan and the expected results have been reported so far.
Instruments proposed, revised and finalised	<p>An agreement with the consultancy (“O-sistemi” l.t.d.).</p> <p>The definition of a three-year plan for an ecologically sustainable development plan for the Alta Val Tagliamento.</p> <p>The involvement of local authorities and stakeholders through a participatory process and consequent sharing of the decisions of the plan.</p> <p>Two customer-satisfaction surveys.</p>



	<p>An environmental analysis of the Municipality of Ampezzo. An environmental declaration of the Municipality of Ampezzo. The creation of a no-profit association.</p>
Impact on the local environment, actors and stakeholders	<p>The decision-sharing process has created a strong awareness, at a local level, of the economic perspectives that are available when the potentials of the environment are appropriately used.</p>
Critical aspects	<p>At the beginning, the local authorities and stakeholders of the territory involved were perplexed about the particular approach proposed within the pilot case. The constant involvement of local private and public actors together with the decision-sharing process has, day by day, increased the consensus on planned aims.</p>
Lessons learned	<p>The importance of the decision-making process can be confirmed - a process, by means of which, it is possible to overcome local rivalries by making local authorities and stakeholders converge towards a common objective. Consequently, a similar approach, if correctly implemented, leads to great improvement of problem solving capacities.</p>
Transferability	<p>The decision-sharing approach and the development of a strong collaboration among the socio-economic subjects, that are typical of a mountain valley – such as the one involved in the pilot project - if tied to the identification of specific aims, constitute a strategy that can surely be repeated in and transferred to other territories with similar features.</p>
Case study follow-up	<p>The set up of a three-year development plan and the creation of a no-profit association make it possible to declare that there will be a certain and positive follow up, after the end of the project, in terms of collaboration and co-operation between the local actors in order to reach the objectives foreseen by the project.</p>
Common issues with other projects	<p>For the entire duration of the pilot case (approximately 2 years) there have been constant exchanges between the subjects that have implemented the case study, i.e. Friuli Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region, “O-Sistemi” and the local actors. In the last six months, this collaboration has led to the set up of a local work group that has conducted to the preparation of a three-year plan and the creation of the above-mentioned no-profit association. An exchange of experiences has already taken place between this project’s case study and a pilot case of the INNOREF Project, called Aedes, that has similar contents. Once the two pilot cases have been brought to an end, a common follow up is foreseen in the next EU programming period 2007-2013.</p>
SSC Experts’ comments and recommendations	<p>The project aimed at enhancing the endogenous resources through the achievement of an environmental certification promoting the environmental quality of the landscape and of the environment. The certification can be applied in other regions as best practices example and compared to other similar tools (labels) used for promoting parks, biosphere etc. The certification aims at improving the valorisation of the area providing a transparent communication to the public, increasing the participation of stakeholders in managing the territory. The particular theme (certification, labels) can give the opportunity to exchange information at transnational level with the bodies mentioned above. Then the exchange of information can provide follow up activities (networking, common guidelines etc).</p>