



CAPACities Project

Competitiveness Actions and Policies for Alpine Cities

STATE OF THE ART on March 31st 2010

General progress of project activities

After the achievement of a common definition of Alpine Space-Small Local Urban Centers, CAPACities Project entered in its crucial phase with the **definition and implementation of innovative tools** aimed at promoting the potential of the Alpine Space. The main objective in this phase was **to make the interlink between the operational tools and their testing in pilot actions explicit** and concretely visible; indeed the efforts of the whole partnership concentrated on the demonstration of the **innovative character of pilot projects**, on the basis of each territorial and social context. To this aim, the website and all the other communication products realized, both at project and at local level, encouraged the **involvement of stakeholders** and communities in the development of concrete actions on territories towards the achievement of project goals.

Activities, Outputs, Results

Thanks to great effort of the partnership, the **kit of operational tools** aimed at promoting Alpine Space-Small Local Urban Centers (AS-SLUCs) is almost completed: a draft of **the GIS-Database** is available and was deeply discussed by partners during the 3rd Project Meeting (Milan, 17-18 December) together with the draft of the **IT devoted tool for the representation of AS-SLUCs** and the **IT tool for the monitoring of AS-SLUCs attractiveness & competitiveness**. Indeed, a survey was carried out on the legislative, social context, on the management scheme and the innovative aspect of pilot projects, to better understand the actual context and the impact expected after the testing of tools. Pilot actions are in progress: workshops, interviews were arranged as well as the drafting of strategic plans with local politicians. Core activities were supported by a **strong communication effort**, thanks to the **Project Brochure and Poster** and the dissemination of information on the website, local newsletter and newspapers



Work Package 2 – General Project Management

- Collection and elaboration of financial data provided by PPs on expenses incurred and forecast on future expenses, to evaluate the opportunity of modifying the budget allocation. Thanks to this monitoring, some shifts among CC above the 20%(but in "negative") were identified and LP decided to inform the MA accordingly. LP, indeed, decided to submit a request for WP5 extension (3 months).
- The 3rd Project Meeting took place on December 17th and 18th 2009, in Milan. It was organized by the Lead Partner, instead of partner LI, who will then take care of the 4th Project Meeting. The meeting was participated by all PPs together with representatives of ACCESS project, local stakeholders and experts who contributed to enrich the discussion.
- Annex 1 of the Internal Guidelines (Partners' reference persons) was updated to include a change of the contact person of NTA. Moreover, other partners (such as RAVDA and AMGI) enlarged their project team with new project officers.
- PAB members evaluated WP4 results giving also suggestions for on going activities: the result has been resumed in a report which precisely identified weakness and strengths of the work done in WP4.
- Version n.2 of the Communication Plan has been approved by the partnership with written procedure after the third Project Meeting in Milan.

Work Package 3 – Information & Publicity

- Visual identity: during the 3rd Project Meeting in Milan, the definitive version of visual identity elements (PPT, agenda, invitation, report, ect.) have been approved by the partnership together with the Communication Plan.
- Website: CAPACities website is regularly updated to host all relevant outputs produced by PPs as well as news on workshops, local events and on the state of the art of the project. The reserved area is operative and works as exchange platform and project archive; the IT devoted tool elaborated by AMGI(Action 5.2)and the IT tool produced by NTA(Action 5.5) are going to be uploaded on the website in a short time.
- Publishable documents: LAMORO elaborated, printed and distributed to PPs the Project Brochure; Lead Partner elaborated and printed the Project Poster. Regione Piemonte produced 1 newsletter for each project area (2 in total).AMGI produced the link to the IT devoted tool(action 5.2) that will be soon uploaded on CAPACities website.
- Media Outputs: project partners involved several media channels so that CAPACities project has been publicized through 2 Newsletter,9 press releases,4 article.
- Public events: the project has been disseminated also through many events: Milan, December 17th; March 30th Cuneo; February,19th Brossasco; February,22nd Domodossola; Workshops: March 17th,Saluzzo; March 22nd Domodossola; Milan, Innocité meeting, January,28th.



Work Package 4 – Alpine Town Survey

Concluded at the end of September 2009

Work package 5 – Operational Tools

- Creation of database and GIS on AS-SLUCs: the collection of data at NUTS5 level was completed, according to specific topics. Lead Partner organized data in GIS-database for all FR, ITA and SLO municipalities included in the Alpine Convention Area and for CH and AT pilot areas, and created maps representing most relevant data and indicators. The final output is almost completed and will be closed by the end of June.
- Definition of an innovative approach for representing AS-SLUCs peculiarities: AMGI completed the elaboration of the IT devoted tool. Some improvements are still needed: maps of pilot areas will be added and SWOT analysis of pilot areas will be available also in the respective mother tongue, but is it operative and is going to be uploaded on CAPACities website in a short time.
- Extrapolation of clusters: Lead Partner identified geographical macro-clusters based on geography, morphology, urban functions and relations with MEGA outside Alpine Convention. On the basis of these macro-clusters, each PP identified sub-(thematic) clusters according to his/her specific tasks, as corollary of local distinctive hallmark. AMGI worked on the methodology for the extrapolation of clusters.
- Identification and recording of the innovative tools: LP identified and summarized in a grid the innovative tools developed by each PP in respective pilot actions; PP8 (RP) elaborated a tool (an analytical grid) to check the coherence between actions promoted in pilot projects and the planning framework developed in the common methodological work accomplished in action 4.2
- Innovative monitoring of AS-SLUCs competitiveness and attractiveness: NTA elaborated a draft of the IT-tool



Work Package 6 – Pilot actions

- After the planning phase, WP6 entered the operative phase, focused on the **concrete implementation of innovative tools/processes/methods on the pilot areas**; **CAUE** (WP responsible) collected information on the innovative aspects and on the social/normative context of projects (1st and 2nd Step forms) in order to guarantee the right link between the "logical framework" provided by WP4 and WP5 analysis and methodologies and the concrete implementation of operative tools in WP6;
- Action 6.1: **RL** reinforced the cooperation with local partners in Valle del Verbano; **CAUE** prepared a Plan for sports, cultural, leisure facilities in Pays "Une Autre Provence"; **RAVDA** arranged many meetings/interviews to build up a participative way on the territorial planning; **RP** closed the phase of "survey and interviewing"; **GR** made efforts towards the elaboration of a Manual for Urban Planners;
- Action 6.2: **LAMORO** continued the action on field aimed at promoting innovative gender policies, through the strengthening of the network established among local stakeholders and policy makers; **RAVDA** organized 2 meetings with important associations working locally, carried out interviews (still on going) with aged craftsmen (within the research work for the local cultural guide);
- Action 6.3: **AMGI** set up periodical meetings with local stakeholders to discuss project results and the model of "intermunicipal strategies"; **LI** prepared a Paper on "Intercommunal Cooperation"; **CAUE** prepared a Plan for a network of "Territory Houses" in Urban Area Community "Ventoux-Comtat-Venaissin"; **RP** started measures for energy performances, renewable sources, technological services in both pilot areas;
- Action 6.4: **RL** engaged the local governments in the deregulation process in the management of natural resources and eco-touristic activities (Prata Camportaccio and Chiavenna Valley); **IUG** organized a workshop with students at bachelor level to identify different types of centralities in the Pays Voironnais. Results will be discussed with majors, professionals and private stakeholders
- Action 6.5: **RL** defined formative activities linked to the dissemination of PTR and to the management of territorial resources; **AMGI** arranged 4 events at local level to promote Idrija territory; **RAVDA** arranged 5 meetings with cultural/economic associations, 1 with local crafts, prepared the draft of the Guide to Walser Culture; **RP** defined strategies to restart local economy and favour permanent residence