

R4.5 - Report on weak points from the interconnection between project results and Alpine Space Region's targets

Work Package 4

FINAL VERSION

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1. Introduction

To provide an overview of past and present attempts on this matter and to propose future activities in the related fields for the European Alps, the project, **Alpine Space in Movement - targeted to water and energy capitalization (AIM)** was granted by the Alpine Space Programme (ASP). AIM capitalizes the achievements of the numerous ASP projects. Furthermore, on the basis of stakeholder discussions and the overview of relevant documents on EU, regional and local levels, the goal of the AIM project is to produce **guidelines for the ASP period 2014-2020**. The core issue is to define **needs related to strategic planning, cooperation among institutions/administrations and commonly agreed decision-making tools in the water-energy nexus**.

To support the elaboration of the above-mentioned guidelines for the ASP programming period 2014-2020 from the aspect of the water-energy nexus, the following activities/deliverables were proposed and approved within Work Package 4 of the AIM project:

- R4.1 Database and report on the ASR needs regarding “renewable energy, resource efficiency & ecosystem management” or “water-energy nexus”.
- R4.2 Informative factsheet table of selected project results and achievements - with the most important tools & instruments available to stakeholders.
- R4.3 Evaluation and assessment of accomplished and foreseen results of selected projects.
- R4.4 Report on project results in terms of economic valorization of ecosystem services.
- **R4.5 Database/report on weak points from the interconnection between selected project's results and ASR targets.**

In order to elaborate the deliverable **R4.5 Database/report on weak points from the interconnection between selected project's results and ASR targets**, results (recognized needs) from the R4.1 report and outcomes from stakeholder discussions were gathered and then checked with available results of the selected project in the content of three main selected topics: Aquatic ecosystem conservation, Hydropower production (water use) and the WATER–ENERGY NEXUS.

2. Recognized weak points from the interconnection between project results and Alpine Space Region's targets

On the basis of previous activities within WP4 and on the basis of stakeholder panel discussions, the main needs or targets recognized within AIM topics are recapitulated and presented in the following table.

Table 1: Recognized targets of the ASR to improve Aquatic ecosystem conservation, Hydropower production and support the water-energy nexus

Aquatic ecosystem conservation
Harmonization and standardization of approaches between countries (data collection, evaluation, ...)
Ecosystem services evaluation (cost recovery, benefits, ...)
Setting and management of ecological flow
Improvement of longitudinal connectivity
Sediment transport management
Mitigation of HP pressures (hydropеaking, flushing, impoundments, etc.)
Improving efficiency of water use to meet WFD objectives
Hydropower production/water use
Improvement of existing HP schemes (in the context of sustainability, innovation and resource management)
Capitalization of best practices and management strategies
Evaluation of HP potential for HP planning and investment decision
Valorization of the role of HP storage capacity
Improving the decision process for HP concession granting
WATER-ENERGY NEXUS
Inter-sectoral strategic planning and decision making on national/regional/local levels
Harmonization of methodologies in accordance with the Common Implementation Strategy
Harmonization of methodologies to support the RES implementation
Improvement of the inclusion of the cost-benefit analysis in the process of decision making
Consideration and evaluation of climate change impacts

In the next step, selected projects were checked with regard to how the targets were addressed within the project's activities (next table). If a certain target was only indirectly addressed (e.g. "Improvement of longitudinal connectivity" in SHARE) or addressed but not in the context of Aquatic ecosystem conservation, hydropower production or water-energy nexus (e.g. "Consideration and evaluation of climate change impacts" within AlpWaterScarce, where support for calculation of future scenarios is given), the target was not checked. Nevertheless, it has to be stressed that the evaluation of the projects is based on available and downloadable data.

In the last column, Table 2 provides the information on the total frequency of a certain target within all selected projects. For a more comparative overview, the same information is provided in Figure 2.

Table 2: Recognized targets of the ASR to improve Aquatic ecosystem conservation, Hydropower production and support the water-energy nexus

	AlpWaterScarce	ECONNECT	SHARE	recharge.green	SEAPAlps	SedAlp	Sum
Aquatic ecosystem conservation							15
Harmonization and standardization of approaches between countries (data collection, evaluation, ...)		x	x				2
Ecosystem services evaluation (cost recovery, benefits, ...)	x	x		x			3
Setting and management of ecological flow	x		x				2
Improvement of longitudinal connectivity		x				x	2
Sediment transport management						x	1
Mitigation of HP pressures (hydro-peaking, flushing, impoundments, etc.)			x	x		x	3
Improving efficiency of water use to meet WFD objectives	x		x				2
Hydropower production/water use							11
Improvement of existing HP schemes (in the context of sustainability, innovation and resource management)	x		x	x	x		4
Capitalization of best practices and management strategies			x		x		2
Evaluation of HP potential for HP planning and investment decision			x		x		2
Valorization of the role of HP storage capacity					x	x	2
Improving the decision process for HP concession granting			x				1
WATER-ENERGY NEXUS							7
Improvement of strategic planning and decision making on national/regional/local levels	x		x			x	3
Harmonization of methodologies in accordance with the Common Implementation Strategy							0
Harmonization of methodologies to support the RES implementation				x			1
Improvement of the inclusion of the cost-benefit analysis in the process of decision making			x	x			2
Consideration and evaluation of climate change impacts	x						1

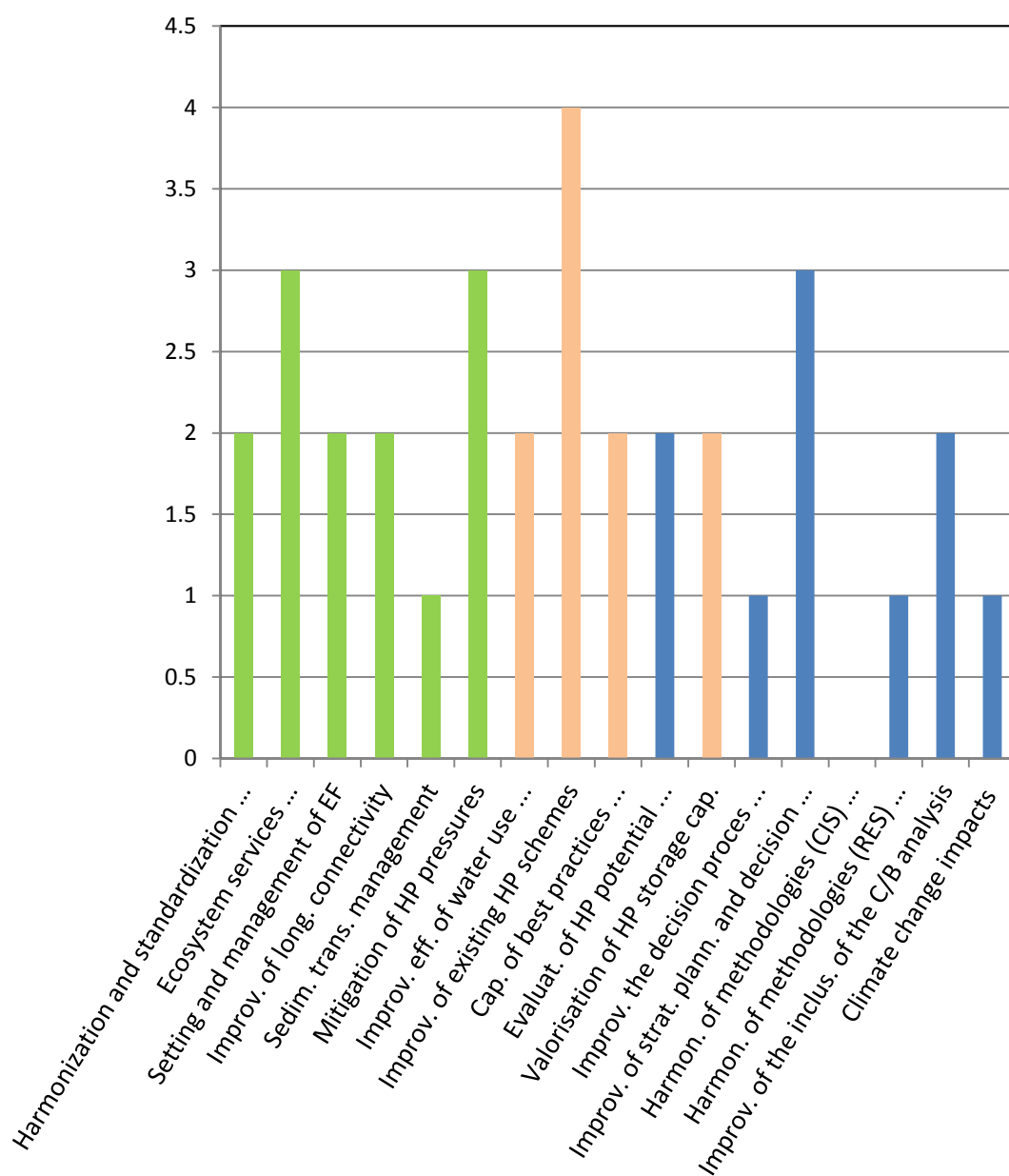


Figure 1: Frequency of address of the targets within the selected projects

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