



Federal Agency for  
Nature Conservation



# Enhancing Synergies in Alpine Nature Restoration Planning

4 September 2025, Online

Moderation: McKenna Davis, Ecologic Institute



# Agenda

9:00 – 9:05	<b>Welcome</b> <i>McKenna Davis, Coordinator Nature-based Solutions, Ecologic Institute</i> <i>Irina Kozban, Coordinator of the Restoration Core Group of the Alpine Biodiversity Board, Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)</i>
9:05 – 9:15	<b>Introduction and setting the scene</b> <i>Representative of the Alpine Biodiversity Board (ABB), TBC</i>
9:15 – 9:20	<b>Opening remarks from the European Commission</b> <i>Florian Claeys, Policy officer for Nature Restoration Regulation at the Directorate-General for the Environment, European Commission</i>
9:20 - 9:35	<b>Where are we now? Restoration planning processes across the region</b> <i>McKenna Davis, Ecologic Institute</i>
<b>Block 1: Building a shared vision - Crafting the Alpine perspective on restoration</b>	
9:35 – 9:45	<b>Synergies in restoration planning: Presenting the draft text for the section 4.2.11(a) of National Restoration Plans</b> <i>Irina Kozban, Federal Agency for Nature Conservation</i>
9:45 - 10:00	<b>Joint reflections on how to further develop the text</b> <i>Benjamin Kupilas, Coordinator Biodiversity, Ecologic Institute</i>
10:00 - 10:30	<b>Zooming in on priority topics, gaps and opportunities</b> <i>Benjamin Kupilas, Ecologic Institute</i>
10:30 - 10:45	<b>Break</b>

# Agenda

Block 2: Identifying shared actions – Designing cross-border proposals	
10:45 - 11:05	<b>Towards transnational restoration: Setting the scene</b> <i>Teresa Spantzel, Biodiversity &amp; Nature Restoration, Ecologic Institute</i>
11:05 - 12:15	<b>Exploring opportunities for concrete measures: Breakout sessions</b>
12:15 - 12:30	<b>Break</b>
12:30 - 12:50	<b>Plenary synthesis: Presentation and discussion of cross-border proposals</b> <i>McKenna Davis, Ecologic Institute</i>
12:50 - 13:00	<b>Closing and next steps</b> <i>Representative of the Alpine Biodiversity Board (ABB), TBC</i>



# Introduction and setting the scene

*Jon Marco Church, Alpine Biodiversity Board*





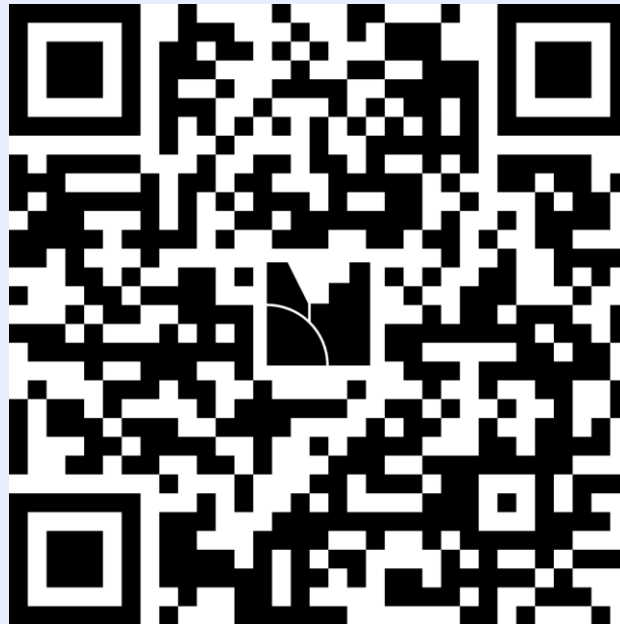




# Where are we now?

## Restoration planning processes across the region

**Mentimeter:**



or use this code: 8933 1757

<https://www.mentimeter.com/>



# **Block 1: Building a shared vision: Crafting the Alpine perspective on restoration**

## **Synergies in restoration planning: Presenting the draft text for section 4.2.11(a) of the National Restoration Plans**

- ▶ Irina Kozban, Federal Agency for Nature Conservation



# Joint reflections on how to further develop the text

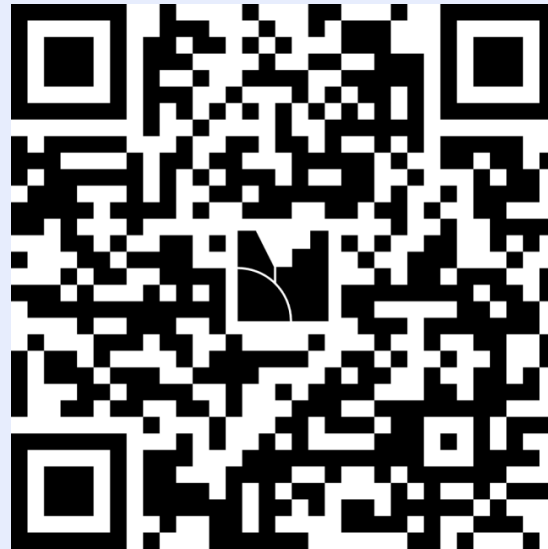
*Dr. Benjamin Kupilas, Coordinator Biodiversity, Ecologic Institute*





# Zooming in on priority topics, gaps and opportunities

Mentimeter (same link):



or use this code: 8933 1757

# Coffee break





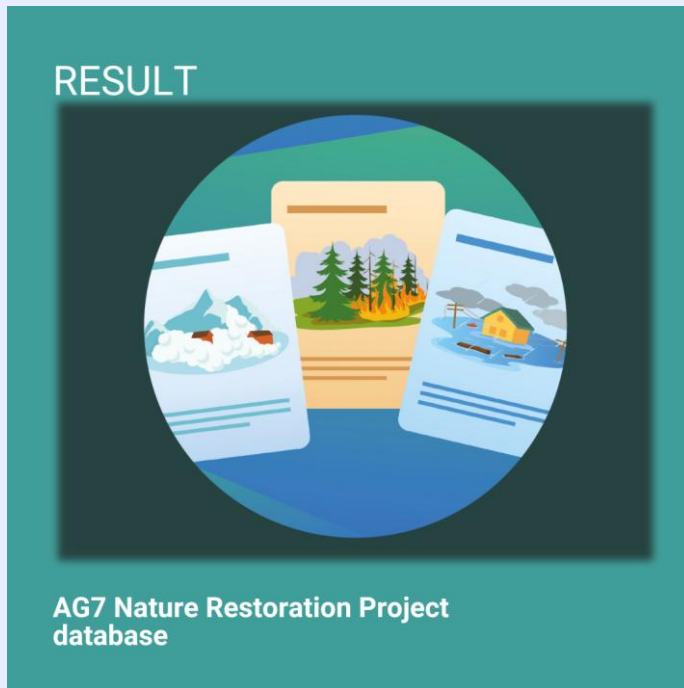
## **Block 2: Identifying shared actions - Designing cross-border proposals**

### **Towards transnational restoration: Setting the scene**

- ▶ Teresa Spantzel, Biodiversity & Nature Restoration, Ecologic Institute

# Examples of transboundary restoration projects

## *EUSALP Action Group 7 (AG7) Nature Restoration Project Database*



[EUSALP AG7 Project Database](#)

- ▶ Aim: support Member States in drafting NRPs under the NRL by showcasing existing best practices
- ▶ Over 150 projects collected, mainly from European programmes like LIFE and Interreg
- ▶ Topics: mostly river habitats and forests
- ▶ Database structured along the categories of the Nature Restoration Law and comes with filters (habitat types, funding source, size, year, etc.) to facilitate easy use



# Examples of transboundary restoration projects

## *Integrated Small Wetlands of the Alps Monitoring and Protection (I-SWAMP)*

- ▶ Objective: Restoration of small Alpine wetlands
- ▶ Integrated approach: science-based decision-making and empowerment and ownership of local communities
- ▶ Budget: 404.600 EUR, co-funded by the EU Interreg Alpine Space Programme
- ▶ Timeline: 2022-2024
- ▶ Countries involved: Italy, Austria and Slovenia



# Examples of transboundary restoration projects

## *Strategic Planning for Alpine River Ecosystems (SPARE)*

- ▶ Objective: Enhance the protection, conservation and ecological connectivity of Alpine river ecosystems
- ▶ Integrated approach: Sharing, adapting and capitalising strategic planning and river management
- ▶ Budget: 2.184.820 EUR, co-funded by the EU Interreg Alpine Space Programme
- ▶ Timeline: 2015-2018
- ▶ Countries involved: Austria, Italy, Slovenia, France, Liechtenstein, Switzerland





## Examples of transboundary areas flagged for collaboration

- Areas beyond the AC perimeter, but within the EUSALP space
- Intensively used Alpine valleys (ca. 10 major valleys)
- Natura 2000 Alpine grasslands

Lake Maggiore,  
Lake Como, Ticino  
Landscape Corridor  
(IT, CH)

Lake Constance  
(DE, AT, CH)

Northern Alpine foothills  
(DE, AT)



Rhaetian Triangle  
(IT, CH, AT)

Po River Basin  
(IT, CH, AT, FR, SI)

Isel, Mur,  
Drau rivers  
(IT, AT, SI)

# Exploring opportunities for concrete measures: Breakout sessions

## ▶ Round 1 (ca. 30 minutes)

- Room 1: IT, CH
- Room 2: FR, DE
- Room 3: SI, AT, IT
- Room 4: ...


\*\*BE free to join any group

## ▶ Round 2 (ca. 30 minutes)

- Room 1: DE, AT
- Room 2: FR, IT
- Room 3: IT, CH, FR, SI, AT, DE
- Room 4: ...

\*\*BE free to join any group





# Exploring opportunities for concrete measures: Breakout sessions – Guiding questions

1. Which **transboundary area** (e.g. lake, region, basin)? Which **countries**?
2. Which **specific ecosystems and habitats**? Main **restoration challenges** being faced?
3. What **concrete restoration measures** are being implemented (or planned)? Where do you see potential for coordination and **cooperation** with neighbouring countries?

Further considerations for discussion (optional):

- Potential for **stakeholder engagement** in upcoming restoration activities
- Alignment of **data and monitoring** efforts across borders

# Coffee break





# Presentation and discussion of cross-border proposals





# Closing and next steps

Irina Kozban, Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)





**Thank you for joining!**