

# Abstract/Poster for Global Food Summit 2019

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## **Interreg Alpine Space Project AlpBioEco - Valorisation of innovative bio-economical potentials along bio-based food & botanical extract value chains in the Alpine Space**

A strong and competent consortium of 13 project partners of five alpine countries are working together in **AlpBioEco** project to investigate current value chains, screen innovations and develop new products as well as new business models which will be tested in pilot studies. In our project we focus on bio-based food and botanical extract value chains. In four working packages the overall objective of AlpBioEco is to foster the sustainability of the local economy in the Alpine Space by the valorisation of innovative bioeconomical potentials of apples, walnuts and herbs. AlpBioEco contributes to the framework conditions for innovation, resulting in eco-innovative business ideas and concepts for small and medium-sized enterprises in the Alpine region.

By implementing and stimulating eco-innovations in practice, exemplarily the three value chains are analysed with regard to their bioeconomical potentials, while a cross-sectoral multi-level stakeholder approach is applied. SMEs, clusters and initiatives, administration and politics as well as academia work together. Within a validation report, the approach of eco-innovation along bio-based food production value chains in Alpine regions is provided. Through concepts of 'Open Innovation', transnational cooperations for eco-innovations in the bio-based economy are intensified. Thus, AlpBioEco increases capacities of SMEs to jointly develop bio-based products and implement them in the market. In sum, this project contributes to a better cohesion and integrated territorial development since rural regions become connected in new bio-based value chains.

Currently work package one is in progress: The main methods used during the two periods are screenings of scientific literature, analyses of the three value chain products in form of experts-email-Surveys and additional telephone interviews on the market side and analyses of each product category on the laboratory side. The results of this working package lead in to a report including a guiding roadmap.

AlpBioEco is an EU project co-financed through the Interreg Alpine Space Programm and by the „Federal Transnational Cooperation Programme“ of the German Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community. The European Union bioeconomy strategy addresses the production of renewable biological resources and their conversion into vital products. Expanding bioeconomy, particularly in rural areas, represents a major development potential. In the Alpine regions, this potential can however only be harnessed if the actors and municipalities cooperate closely and pursue shared objectives.

[www.alpine-space.eu/alpbioeco](http://www.alpine-space.eu/alpbioeco)

Project start: April 2018

Project closure: March 2021

Keywords: value chains; alpine space; innovations; sustainability; market analysis; business models; bioeconomy