

Submitted Abstract

ID IMC22-FSAbstr- 310

First Author First Name Last Name	Andreja Borec
Submitting Author First Name Last Name	Andreja Borec
Correspondence	andreja.borec@um.si
Co-Authors >> E-Mails will be not listed	Golc, Jernej
Organisations	University of Maribor, Slovenia
Country	Slovenia
Region	Eastern Europe
Title	Mountain Policy Analysis In Slovenia.
Keywords	Mountains, Policy, Slovenia
Type	List Of Focus Session
Focus Session ID	24

Abstract

Under Directive 75/268/EEC large part of Slovenia (72.4%) is defined as mountain area. Mountain areas in Slovenia face similar number of challenges related to increasing overgrowing of agricultural land and unfavourable demographic trends and consequently to the reduced competitiveness of agriculture and entrepreneurial initiatives (opportunities) as elsewhere in EU mountains. For the paper proposes the policy and governance for mountain territories was analysed on the national level. Our focus was on the CAP and Cohesion policy programmes and measures. For the CAP (2014-2020-22) the most surprising differences were found for the measure M4 where supported investments in mountain areas was twice as low as the average value of investments in the lowland. In the implementation of sub-measure 4.1 of the Rural Development Program (RDP) 2014-2020, only 32% of funds were approved in the mountain area, despite the fact that mountain areas represent 72.4% of the total Slovenian territory. For the most RDP measures also low share of funds allocated to mountain territories were noticed. Only the measure 13.1-Payment of compensation in mountain areas, as fully intended measure for mountain areas, was payed off for 95%.

For the Cohesion policy in the period 2014-2020-22, Slovenia is divided into the Eastern and Western Cohesion Regions whereby the western region, with the higher share of mountain territories is eligible for a lower share of funds. Detailed review of tenders for programming period (2014-20) and projects applications revealed low number of projects and funds associated exclusively to mountain territories.

Among mountain initiatives the AC (Alpine Convention) is the only that is really active. It has a long track record, much better experience in raising external (EU and internal (national) funds as else in mountains. (Borec, A., 2019).

By analysing mountain policy, we face the general lack of analytical data. In previous papers (Borec, 2021) very few funded national scientific projects related particular to mountains were established. The situation is similar by published work in Slovenia between 2004-2020 (Borec, 2021).

In general, mountain strategies and actions in Slovenia are somehow neglected. Criticism based on opinion that the situation could be much better, if the mountains on national level would get more general attention and public validity and/or to be perceived as independent discipline or branch with good analytics behind (Borec, 2021).