

COPING WITH CLIMATE CHANGE Transnational Action in the Alps

Interlaken, Switzerland, 4-5 May 2010



The Alps are much earlier and more strongly affected by climate change than other regions in Europe. Coping with the various effects of climate change is a key challenge for the Alpine Space. Joint efforts and cooperation are indispensable to adapt and to mitigate impacts. This workshop wants to support an active exchange between all on-going projects in the Alps.



Three thematic workshops for the Alpine Space

This is the first of a series of three thematic workshops which the Alpine Space Programme is organising as it approaches half-time of this current programme period 2007-2013.

First project results are underway and with a crosscutting perspective, each of these workshops will take a look beyond the three programme priorities Competitiveness & Attractiveness - Accessibility & Connectivity - Environment & Risk Prevention at strategic key issues affecting the cooperation area and addressed by several of the running projects.

Workshop Objectives

- Find common understanding of **key challenges** caused by climate change in the Alps
- Analyse **state of achievements** in tackling those challenges through current projects
- Identify gaps and **scope for improvements** to support mitigation / adaptation measures
- Inspire key actors to discuss **opportunities for new projects**
- **Build synergies** between existing initiatives
- Provide **input to the ongoing policy debate**.



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by the European Regional
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Programme

Tuesday - 4 May 2010

- Facilitation Day 1: Anton Aschwanden (CH)
- 8.30 **Registration**
- 9.00 **Welcome & introduction**
- Urs Graf, Mayor of Interlaken - Welcome
 - Maria Lezzi, Director, Swiss Federal Office for Spatial Development ARE – Towards a (competitive and attractive) sustainable Alpine region
 - José Antonio Ruiz de Casas, DG Regional Policy, Territorial Cooperation, European Commission
 - Jernej Stritih, Director, Governmental Service for Climate Change, Slovenian Presidency of the Alpine Convention
 - Christian Salletmaier, Managing Authority, Alpine Space Programme – Workshop objectives
- 9.40 **Coping with climate change in the Alps – A challenging status**
Experts introduce critical aspects of key sectors and draw scenarios for their future development in the context of climate change - followed by an interactive panel debate looking at promising examples, first answers and challenges ahead.
- Session 1: Natural resources + Energy + Biodiversity**
- Stéphane Isoard, European Environment Agency
 - Giovanni Pino, ISPRA - Innovative Technologies Sector Director, Italian Agency for Environmental Protection and Research
 - Guido Plassmann, Director, Task Force Protected Areas - Secretariat of the Alpine Convention
- Regional Responses through transnational action – status & perspective**
- Karl Kleemayr, Paramount Project, Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape (A)
 - Patrick Biard, European Projects Manager, Rhonalpenenergy-Environment (F)
- 10.50 **Coffee Break**
- 11.15 **Coping with climate change in the Alps – A challenging status (continued)**
- Session 2: Economy + Tourism + Transport**
- Alfred W. Strigl, Managing Director, Plenum Society for Holistic Sustainable Development (A)
 - Dominik Siegrist, University of Applied Sciences Rapperswil (CH) & President of CIPRA International
 - Philippe Dhenein, Managing Director Regional Planning, Rhône-Alpes Region (F)
- Regional Responses through transnational action – status & perspective**
- Lucia Brusegan, ClimAlpTour Project, Veneto Region (I)
 - Georg Sele, INFICON AG & (FL)
- Questions from the floor
- 12.20 **Passing on the Challenge**
Introducing the afternoon programme
- 12.30 **Lunch**

14.00

Defining Agendas. Climate Lounge

Participants discuss around a set of tables grouped according to themes. Participants will have the chance to visit at least 3 tables. At each table a table host will facilitate the discussion aimed at:

- + consolidating views
- + defining objectives & scope of action
- + development of first project ideas
- + partnering

Table 1: Transport

Table Host: Rainer Kistler, Secretary General, Central Switzerland Environment Directors Conference and Head of the Environmental Protection Agency Canton Zug

Table 2: Biodiversity

Table Host: Thomas Scheurer, Executive Director, ISCAR - International Scientific Committee on Research in the Alps

Table 3: Economy

Table Host: Sergeja Praper, Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia

Table 4: Tourism

Table Host: Martin Tritten, Head of Tourism, Beco Berner Economy (CH)

Table 5: Risks

Table Host: Michael Staudinger, Regional Office for Salzburg and Upper Austria of ZAMG -Central Institute for Meteorology and Geodynamics (A)

Table 6: Water

Table Host: Bruno Schädler, Lecturer & Senior Researcher, Institute of Geography, Hydrology Group & Oeschger Center for Climate Change Research, University of Bern (CH)

Table 7: Energy

Table Host: Wolfgang Pfefferkorn, Project Co-ordinator, CIPRA International

16.30

Wrap up

17.00

Climate Lounge (continued)

More need to exchange? This is your chance.

19.00

Dinner Reception at the Mountain Restaurant "Harder-Kulm"

hosted by the Swiss Federal Office for Spatial Development ARE

18.30 – Meeting Point at the workshop venue 'Casino Kursaal Interlaken'

18.45 – Departure by cable car from valley station

22.00 – Return to Interlaken Centre

Wednesday - 5 May 2010

Facilitation Day 2: Thomas Egger, Director, SAB - Swiss Centre for Mountain Regions

9.00

Food for thought

Adrian Knüsel, Ceramist, Artist and Director of the Ballenberg Course Centre (CH)

9.30

Exchange on priorities

Interview rounds

- Climate Lounge revisited: Presentation of results
- Feedback from workshop participants & panellists from previous day

- 11.00 **Coffee break**
- 11.30 **Synthesis**
Thomas Egger, Director, SAB - Swiss Centre for Mountain Regions
- 11.50 **Looking ahead: accelerating action in the Alps**
- Andreas Götz, Director of CIPRA -International & Bruno Abegg, Scientific Expert cc.alps
cc.alps: sustainable climate response measures - make it happen!
 - Christian Salletmaier, Managing Authority, Alpine Space Programme
Coping with climate change - Call for joint action
- 12.20 **„Uf widerluege“ - Farewell by the Hosts & Organisers**
- Silvia Jost, ARE - Swiss Federal Office for Spatial Development
- 13.00 **Outdoor Farm Lunch**
12.30 departing on foot from workshop venue to family Balmer's farm.
- 14.30 **Excursion to Ballenberg**
Retrofitting a 16th century farm house to meet modern energy standards
14.30 pick up from Lunch at the farm.
16.30-17.00 expected return to centre of Interlaken.

Organiser

Alpine Space Programme 2007-2013
Joint Technical Secretariat
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Host

Swiss Federal Office for Spatial Development
ARE

Endorsement

Alpine Convention
CIPRA - International Commission for the
Protection of the Alps

Venue

Casino Kursaal Interlaken
www.casino-interlaken.ch

Greening

The organisers of this workshop have been actively working on minimising negative local and global environmental impacts produced by this event:

- Information about greening actions and how participants can contribute is being provided before, during and after the event.
- Participants have been encouraged to limit the environmental impact during their journey/stay and to offset the carbon emissions from travelling.
- Waste production has been kept to a minimum and re-use and recycling promoted. Green office practices - such as double sided printing, separate waste collection and re-use of materials such as badges - have been applied for the preparation of this workshop.
- The use of online media in pre- and post-meeting communication with participants is being maximised in order to reduce waste.
- Workshop papers are limited to essential documents, in order to minimise the use of materials. This includes an online evaluation.
- Programme documents produced for the event are printed on certified 100% recycled material.
- Booked hotels are located within walking distance from the workshop venue.
- Local, fair trade and organic products have been prioritised for the catering during the event.
- Tap water will be provided for drinking.



The **Alpine Space Programme** is the EU transnational co-operation programme for the Alpine region. It connects 33 regions from seven Alpine countries with the aim to increase competitiveness and attractiveness of the Alpine region in a sustainable way. In its current programme period 2007-2013, it invests 130 Mio € in impact-oriented projects in which key actors develop shared solutions on specific Alpine issues as laid down in the programme objectives **Competitiveness and Attractiveness - Accessibility and Connectivity - Environment and Risk Prevention**. www.alpine-space.eu