

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

The cc.alps Project Team is delighted to present the first issue of our new Project Newsletter. The Newsletter is designed to keep you up to date with the progress of the Project and important related news.

If you no longer wish to receive our Newsletter, please send an e-mail to serena.rauzi@cipra.org and write “unsubscribe” in the subject line.

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The project cc.alps introduces itself

cc.alps – climate change: thinking one step further!

The climate change hurts the Alps stronger than other regions in Europe. Therefore many measures in different fields have been taken and prepared to mitigate or to adapt to the climate change.



Could the impact of climate response measures be more serious for our environment and society in the long run than the impact of climate change itself?

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Climate change is a fact. It can be seen all over the world and it is particularly noticeable in the Alps. Our society has already begun to take measures to adapt to these changes or to mitigate them. Some of the direct or indirect responses to the consequences of climate change include snow guns, glacier films, avalanche baffle installations, renewable energies, passive houses, public transport, etc. But not all these measures are equally in harmony with nature, society and the economy. So what impact do these measures have, and is the impact in the long run perhaps even more severe for our environment and our society than the impact of climate change itself?

CIPRA believes that these questions are asked all too seldom. That’s why it has taken the initiative to look more closely at these

issues, with its cc.alps project. CIPRA wants to help ensure that climate response measures are as much in harmony with the principle of sustainable development as possible. CIPRA wants to prevent measures being taken in the name of climate protection which ultimately would have a negative impact on the environment or society.

Collect and evaluate climate measures

The cc.alps project gathers and evaluates measures already implemented, measures whose results are already visible. To this end a group of international experts draws up definitions for fields of action and a rating system to be able to evaluate climate response measures systematically and as objectively as possible with regard to their impact on nature, society and the economy. CIPRA will then use these foundations to raise awareness of the impact of climate change in the Alpine region. CIPRA will warn against those measures which do not comply with the principle of sustainability and propagate those measures which are in harmony with sustainability.

In May 2008 cc.alps is launching a competition across the Alps aimed at finding successful activities and projects in the area of climate protection. An international jury will evaluate the contributions and, in the autumn, award prizes worth a total of €100,000. (For more information see the following article).

Sustain climate pilot regions

cc.alps also aims to yield results which can be put to direct practical use and support their implementation. That's why cc.alps is preparing to co-operate with pilot regions which are willing to commit themselves to a sustainable approach to the impact of climate change. They are to illustrate by way of example how climate response measures in the Alpine region can be shaped in an eco-friendly way.

Building on the positive experience it gained with its Future in the Alps Project completed in December 2007, CIPRA will again make the findings and the practical solutions available to the general public and to interested target groups as part of the cc.alps project. The know-how will be published through workshops, conferences, publications and electronic media; in addition stakeholders in the Alps will have the possibility of establishing new contacts and exchanging their knowledge.

cc.alps started in February 2008 and will finish in June 2009. The budget of the project is of 1.2 Millions Euros and is financed by the Swiss MAVA foundation for nature. A follow up project is foreseen.

The Climate in the Alps is much prized

CIPRA Competition: win prizes worth up to €20,000 each

Prizes worth a total of €100,000 await the best measures aimed at a sustainable approach to the consequences of climate change in the Alpine region. CIPRA, the International Commission for the Protection of the Alps, has just launched this competition as part of cc.alps.



cc.alps promotes measures aimed at protecting the climate and adapting to the consequences of climate change, with prizes worth a total of €100,000.

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Zeitenpiegel

cc.alps is offering main prizes worth €20,000 each and runner-up prizes worth €10,000 each to promote and publicise throughout the Alps measures aimed at protecting the climate or adapting to the consequences of climate change. The purpose of the measures is to harmonise ecological, social and economic interests. Wolfgang Pfefferkorn, the cc.alps Project Manager, explains: "What we're looking for are projects, initiatives or activities that are technical (e.g. flood protection) or strategic (e.g. a climate-orientated tourism concept) in nature. The competition is also open to legislative, financial or educational measures."

Mitigating climate change is of particular concern to CIPRA: "The mitigation or climate response measures currently adopted are simply not bold enough, especially where the public sector is concerned. As a non-governmental organisation CIPRA sees it as its task to do something about this. That's why we're awarding more prizes for mitigation measures than for adaptation measures," says CIPRA Director Andreas Götz.

The competition is open to private individuals, businesses, associations, local authorities, institutions and other organisations that implement climate response measures. CIPRA expects to receive contributions from

a multitude of sectors such as agriculture and forestry, nature conservation, energy supply, transport or tourism. The closing date is 31 July 2008. The contributions submitted can be viewed publicly on the internet from August 7. More detailed information and the Participation Form are available at www.cipra.org/cc.alps.

Who's behind cc.alps?

The Project cc.alps is to be carried out in close collaboration between the CIPRA International Project Team and an outside team of experts. Work in the individual Alpine states will be supported by national contact agencies.

The project management, PR work and task co-ordination will all be conducted essentially from the CIPRA headquarters in Schaan, Liechtenstein. The **Project Team** is comprised of Bruno Abegg, Andreas Götz, Wolfgang Pfefferkorn, Serena Rauzi and Aurelia Ullrich.

The **national offices** support the Project Team mainly in the areas of PR work at national level and research into climate response measures. Andreas Güthler/CIPRA Deutschland, Alexandre

Mignotte/CIPRA Frankreich, Francesco Pastorelli/CIPRA Italia, Nadine Pfahringer/CIPRA Österreich, Anamarija Šegina/CIPRA Slovenija and Reto Solèr/CIPRA Schweiz represent the national offices.

The **team of experts** consists of an international group of experts, whose duties include defining the fields of action, drawing up a rating system, and evaluating the response measures themselves. The team includes Bruno Abegg (University of Zurich), Sergio Savoia (WWF European Alpine Programme), Martine Rebetez (WSL) and Helmut Haberl, Veronika Gaube and Simone Gingrich (University of Klagenfurt). The Project as a whole is headed up by Wolfgang Pfefferkorn; Bruno Abegg is in charge of the team of experts and is its spokesman.

Further details of the Project Team can be found at: <http://www.cipra.org/en/cc.alps/team-contact> .

International expert meeting to exchange know-how

cc.alps organizes a round of discussions on the impact of climate response measures in the Alps, that is to be held in Dornbirn/AT on 16 and 17 June; this meeting is to be attended by experts from different fields and countries gathering for an exchange of know-how.

This round-table is to address the following questions and more: What consequences of climate response measures do we already know about and what do they entail? What sort of strategies are there for preventing negative effects? What evaluation studies on the impact of climate response measures have already been carried out; what are the findings and what can we learn from them? What role do these climate response measures play in the awareness of the scientific community (science, administration, politics) and how can we raise that awareness? The Project Team is aiming to use this meeting to deepen its knowledge of the subject and incorporate it in the realisation of the project. All the participants will thus have the opportunity of establishing new and important contacts, of learning more about potential synergetic effects with other areas and countries, and finding out about the state of the art.

www.cipra.org/cc.alps: the project on-line

Communication is a top priority at cc.alps. A central medium for communicating information is our website. Information on the Project's progress and important news is regularly posted and updated on www.cipra.org/cc.alps. General information on cc.alps, its objectives and activities can be found there along with information on the competition and the participation form. Users are kept up to date with regularly updated news on the Project and the issue of climate response measures in general. The Newsletters published every two to three months can be subscribed to via the website; they can also be downloaded under the heading "Newsletter". The "Events" heading provides information on interesting events relating to the subject of climate change in the Alps. The project teams of cc.alps are featured on the site along with photos and contact data; information packs are also available for the press media under the "Press" heading. All contents are available in five languages German, French, Italian, Slovenian and English.

cc.alps in few words:

The Project "cc.alps – climate change: thinking one step further!" is organised by CIPRA, the International Commission for the Protection of the Alps, and financed by the MAVA Foundation for Nature. Through the Project, CIPRA is helping to ensure that climate response measures in the Alpine region are in harmony with the principle of sustainable development.

Duration of the project: February 2008 to June 2009 - www.cipra.org/cc.alps