

# Future in the Alps

## Project newsletter

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[www.cipra.org/future](http://www.cipra.org/future)



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### “Disseminating knowledge – networking people”: The workshop series continues

The international series of Future in the Alps workshops entitled “Disseminating knowledge – networking people” made an impressive start to the new year. Dozens of actors from the Alps and other regions took advantage of the workshops held in January to learn and contribute their own experiences.



International knowledge sharing between twelve countries

© Ögut

On 22 – 23 January a workshop was held in Budapest on the subject of “Co-operative Decision-making and Conflict Management in Public Planning and Environment”. The event was hosted jointly by the Viennese Österreichische Gesellschaft für Umwelt und Technik and the Hungarian Regional Environmental Center. For CIPRA the objective of the event was an exchange of knowledge with other regions of the world. The workshop had the backing of the Ministries of the Environment in Austria, Finland, Germany and Hungary, and also the Carpathian Convention.

In addition to a general overview of developments to date and the various alternative forms of conflict management (e.g. environmental mediation) in Central Europe, the first day was devoted to a number of models like the Austrian Ombudsman system and some practical examples. Matthias Buchecker reported on his experiences with new forms of decision-making in the framework of Future in the Alps.

In the afternoon, a practical was held in which the 45 attendees from twelve countries (mainly in Eastern Europe) were able to practise the various stages of the conflict resolution process: contracting with the client in a difficult situation, preparation of the kick-off meeting and management of conflict escalation.

On the second day a number of case studies were presented to the group and discussed in detail. The workshops culminated in a World Café devoted to the question of what participants can do to help anchor new forms of decision making and conflict management in their respective spheres of activity.

The feedback from the attendees was very positive, and thought is now being given to follow-up events.

## Networks – a daily challenge in regional development

In the framework of its international series of Future in the Alps workshops, CIPRA International organised an event on the subject of “Regional Planning, Management and Networking” in collaboration with CIPRA Austria, the LEADER network office in Vienna, the Regionalmanagement Austria umbrella organisation and the Austrian Institute of Adult Education.

The first speaker, Professor Willke of the University of Bielefeld/D, presented his hypotheses on the “intelligent region”. He was followed by Johannes Heeb, who drew some conclusions from the findings of Future in the Alps, and Bruno Schmid, who spoke about developments to date at the Entlebuch Biosphere Reserve. Klaus Thien then focussed on the role of adult education for “learning regions”. At the end of the first day, attendees were given an insight into the co-operative structures established in the host region, where a number of intermediary organisations are active such as the Gesäuse National Park, LEADER and Regionalmanagement.

The second day began with a report by Wolf Huber from the Federal Chancellery in Vienna on thirty years of regional development in Austria and the exciting subject of “Multi-level governance at the interface of EU funds, federalism and regional obstinacy”. Karl Becker and Günther Salchner described the obstacles and keys to success in everyday regional management and discussed their experiences in Niederösterreich-Mitte and the Ausserfern region of the Tyrol.

Four workshops were then held to enable attendees to go into greater depth on the subjects of the various presentations, and they were well attended, with over 130 participants, mainly from Austria plus a few from South Tyrol, Germany and Poland.

The conclusion from the various presentations: Co-operation is the key to success for regional development projects, or as Formula 1 World Champion Mika Häkkinen put it: “You never win alone. Once you start believing something different, you start losing!”

The presentations will be made available for downloading from [www.cipra.org/future](http://www.cipra.org/future) in March.



Torchlight walk for making new friends.

© Franz Speer

### News from the award winners of the Future in the Alps competition

## Wood construction - art - Vorarlberg: growing focus on ecological aspects



The Community Centre in Blons (2005 Wood Construction Award) is a fine example of sustainable construction plus support for the regional economy.

© Bruno Klomfar

Qualitätsgemeinschaft Vorarlberger Holzbau-Kunst is working to promote ecological wood construction. One of their aims is to give greater weight to the ecological aspects of buildings in the framework of the Wood Construction Award (“Holzbaupreis”), including energy savings and material sourcing. The Qualitätsgemeinschaft regularly awards the prize for the best timber buildings in Vorarlberg.

The organisation is also conducting a poll of fifty Vorarlberg architects and carpenters on the subject of ecological construction, energy and the future potential of timber buildings. The results of the poll will be very helpful for defining future plans and activities at Vorarlberger Holzbau-Kunst.

Info: <http://www.holzbau-kunst.at/> (de)

### News from the award winners of the Future in the Alps competition

## Logarska Dolina: progress in the conservation area

With the prize money from the Future in the Alps competition, the non-profit Logarska Dolina company is continuing with the work for which the prize was awarded: implementation and improvement of public-private partnerships to run the Logarska Dolina Landscape Park, visitor and infrastructure management, landscape protection and preparations for the creation of the Kamnik Savinja Alps Regional Park. Various activities and events are planned for the end of 2007, which will lead to the institutionalisation

of the new regional park. The park is being developed in the framework of the cross-border project "Sustainable development of Kamniško-Savinjske Alpe", which is funded out of the EU's INTERREG IIIA Austria/Slovenia programme. Information materials have been printed for visitors to the park, the information boards have been replaced and the information points upgraded, and a leisurely path through the park will soon be finished. The company is also in the process of producing the following documents: a draft management plan for conservation areas in Solčavsko, basic information for nature protection and spatial development in the Kamnik Savinja Alps, a draft management contract for the Logarska Dolina Landscape Park that will improve the current public-private partnership, a study on the refurbishment of settlements, farms and cultural monuments in the existing conservation areas, and a nature interpretation plan.

Infos: <http://www.logarska-dolina.si> (sl, de, en)



Logarska Dolina is to become part of the cross-border Kamnik Savinja Alps Regional Park.  
© Logarska Dolina

## DYNALP<sup>2</sup>: second project announcement and thematic workshops

In April 2006, the Alliance in the Alps local authority network launched the DYNALP<sup>2</sup> project. The main objective is to implement the findings from the Future in the Alps project run by the International Commission for the Protection of the Alps (CIPRA).



### 2nd project announcement: support for local community projects

The main focus of DYNALP<sup>2</sup> is implementation of projects at the level of the member municipalities. The first project announcement was made in 2006 and attracted a 73 submissions. The international jury selected 22 projects, and they were awarded a total of 300,000 euros.

The Alliance in the Alps is now inviting submissions for a second round of projects. This time 200,000 euros will be available for the winning projects submitted by the member communities.

The proposed projects are expected to make a contribution to sustainable development and application of the results from the six chapters investigated in the framework of Future in the Alps. The local authority network will award between 10'000 and 20'000 euros to the projects selected, and the local authorities must ensure the availability of 50% co-financing.

Project proposals can be submitted until 29 June 2007. More detailed information is available via Internet from <http://dynamp.alpenallianz.org/de/ausschreibung/>.

### Workshops for knowledge sharing

These international events are another main component of DYNALP<sup>2</sup>. The following workshops are already planned for 2007:

**What keeps young people in the valleys? Recipes and success stories in the fight against outward migration**, Bovec/S, 30-31 March 2007, languages: sl, de, it

**Mobility for tourism in the mountains: from mountain road maintenance to the use of rail**, Bardonecchia/I, 14-15 June 2007, languages: it, fr

DYNALP<sup>2</sup> is a three-year project scheduled to run from April 2006 to June 2009. It receives financial support from the Swiss MAVA Foundation for Nature Conservation.

For further information go to: <http://dynamp.alpenallianz.org/de>

## CIPRA Info Special on Future in the Alps

The special number of the CIPRA information bulletin on the results and findings to date from Future in the Alps which was originally due to appear in October 2006 will be published in March. At the beginning of December executives and representatives of all the CIPRA organisations came together for a workshop to discuss the political relevance of the reports from alpKnow-how. The result is a memorandum with CIPRA's political demands relating to each of the Future in the Alps topics. The memorandum will be released shortly as a tool and guideline to CIPRA's political position. The demands listed in the memorandum have also been incorporated in the individual articles in the CIPRA Info Special.

## **Next schedule of the workshop series „Future in the Alps“ (for full details see [www.cipra.org/future](http://www.cipra.org/future) )**

**Die Zukunft der Daseinsvorsorge im Alpenraum: Herausforderungen – Chancen – Erfolgsbeispiele;** 28.2.-1.3.07, Warmbad Villach (A); Partner: Kärntner Landesregierung, Abteilung 20, Interreg IIB-Projects PUSEMOR; languages: de, fr, it, sl.

**Der Sektor Wald in der Regionalpolitik – Optionen für eine nachhaltige Entwicklung im Alpenraum;** 29.-30.3.07, Brig (CH); Partner: Fortbildung Wald und Landschaft, CAFOR, SAB, WSL, Schutzwald Schweiz; languages: de, fr

**Verkehrs- und Besuchermanagement in Schutzgebieten;** 10.-11.5.07, Gozd Martuljek/(SI); Partner: CIPRA Slovenija; languages: sl, de, it.

**Von der geographischen Peripherie zu virtuellem Zentrum: ICT in einer rural-alpinen Region;** 10.-11.5.07, Poschiavo (CH); Partner: Polo Poschiavo; languages: it, de.

## **Workshops in Italy and Switzerland**

The dates and subjects have now been decided for three more workshops to be held in Italy and Switzerland:

**Creazione di valore aggiunto attraverso il turismo;** 7-8.6.07, Chiavenna (I); partners: CIPRA Italy, WWF Italia; languages: de, it

**Aree protette e sviluppo locale (working title);** October.07, Belluno Province(I); partners: CIPRA Italy, Federparchi and Dolomiti Bellunesi National Park; languages: de, it.

**Welche Partizipation brauchen Raum- und Umweltbezogene Projekte?** 6.-7. 9. 07 Hochschule Wallis, Sieders (CH); Partner: SANU, Haute école valaisanne, Naturpark Pfyng-Finges, Fondation pour le Développement Durable des régions de Montagne; languages: de, fr

### **About “Future in the Alps”**

The Future in the Alps Project is organised by CIPRA, the International Commission for the Protection of the Alps, and financed by the MAVA Foundation for Nature Conservation. Future in the Alps, a broad-based knowledge management project, is aimed at promoting sustainable development in the alpine region. Its aim is to get people, businesses and institutions to network in order to exchange and implement know-how and information, and as a result create new incentives for sustainable development in the Alps. The Project is a contribution by CIPRA to the implementation of the Alpine Convention.

Future in the Alps is a networking instrument and promotes new and existing initiatives aimed at achieving a harmonious balance between nature conservation, the needs of the population and economic objectives. Practical experience and the latest research findings are collated, evaluated and processed for further application (alpKnowhow). alpService makes the results available to a multitude of players. Sustainable pilot projects that apply this knowledge are in turn supported and monitored in alpPerformance.

The following six topics are to be addressed in Future in the Alps: Regional Value Added, Governance Capacity, Protected Areas, Mobility, New Forms of Decision Making, Policies and Instruments.

Project term: July 2004 to December 2007 - [www.cipra.org/future](http://www.cipra.org/future)