



CIPRA calling for sustainable measures in response to global warming

“Climate protection must not be permitted to damage the natural environment!”

Climate check for the Alps: A team of scientists representing various disciplines is showing what intelligent climate protection could look like. Their findings are being incorporated in the cc.alps project launched by the International Commission for the Protection of the Alps (CIPRA).

CIPRA’s conclusion: the countries of the Alps must act now to adjust to the consequences of global warming – but only with measures that do mankind and the natural environment more good than harm.

Moving the Alps to Denmark? That is no easy task. The International Commission for the Protection of the Alps (CIPRA) is determined to show delegates at the Copenhagen Climate Summit that global warming is making itself felt particularly drastically along the Alpine arc. CIPRA President Dominik Siegrist has a clear warning: “Not even the biggest sceptics can now ignore Nature’s signals like violent storms and flooding.”

Today the mountain landscape is changing so quickly that many species of flora and fauna will not be able to adapt, and almost every second plant species in the Alps will be in danger of extinction by 2100. CIPRA is calling on the delegates in Copenhagen to agree on a binding regime for financing the necessary climate change mitigation measures. The investment will not only benefit the natural environment. Jobs can also be created in many sectors like energy supply, nature protection and the transport industry (see box).

In construction and living, for example, emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) could be significantly reduced in the short term through the rehabilitation of badly insulated buildings. CIPRA is calling on national governments and the European Union to introduce ambitious programmes to fund improvements to public transport, and to restore bogs and woods as effective carbon sinks.

CIPRA demands on nature protection

CIPRA put together demands on central topics: energy, nature protection, traffic, building and refurbishing, tourism, spatial planning, natural hazards, agriculture, forestry and water, and energy self-sufficient regions.

www.cipra.org/de/cc.alps/ergebnisse/for-derungen

Thinking ahead in climate protection

The Alps must become a model region for forward-looking climate and environmental protection policies. This is the goal pursued by CIPRA with its cc.alps project, which bundles the expertise of scientists from many disciplines. The common goal is “to think one step ahead in climate protection”, as Executive Director Andreas Götz puts it. The umbrella organisation for five million people with an interest in nature protection in seven Alpine countries is proposing measures to reduce energy consumption. For such diverse fields as traffic, tourism, regional economy, nature protection, spatial planning and energy supply, CIPRA has also listed the ways in which the Alpine countries can start preparing for the impacts of climate change.

“We are seeing a lot of actionism,” says Götz. This actionism often does more harm than good. But the CIPRA climate check not only pillories the errors of short-sighted policymakers; it also

spotlights successful and sustainable models. Municipalities and companies setting a good example are recommended for emulation (see box).

CIPRA's experts are thinking well ahead. The future lies in buildings that produce an energy surplus. The necessary technologies – like better insulation, photovoltaic and geothermal systems – are already available. The big advantage of such private mini power plants: climate-neutral generation.

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This press release is available in a long and a short version together with press photos from www.cipra.org/en/press/press-releases/press-release

Exemplary climate measures

The team of cc.alps chose 34 projects, initiatives and activities that are not only good for the climate but also for society, environment and the economy. CIPRA suggests reading them, copying them, passing them on and improving them!

www.cipra.org/de/cc.alps/ergebnisse/good-practice

CIPRA, a manifold and multifaceted organisation

The International Commission for the Protection of the Alps CIPRA is a non governmental umbrella organisation with national representations in all Alpine countries which represents more than 100 associations and organisations. CIPRA works for a sustainable development in the Alps and advocates for the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage, for the preservation of regional diversity and for solutions to cross border problems in the Alpine space.

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