



# **CIPRA International Annual Report 2005**

**CIPRA International**  
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## Contents:

<b>CIPRA</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Alpine Convention: a Tool for Protection and Sustainable Development</b>	<b>3</b>
Transport Protocol under Pressure	3
“Population and Culture” Declaration	4
Water Management Protocol	4
Compliance Committee	4
<b>CIPRA and the EU</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>“Future in the Alps” Started</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>climAlp: Strengthening Regional Economy and Protecting the Climate through Intelligent Building</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Biodiversity: a Vision becomes Reality</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>The Community Network “Alliance in the Alps”</b>	<b>6</b>
An Established Success Story	6
Dynalp is Dynamic	6
Alliance of Central Asian Mountain Communities	7
<b>Alpine Town of the Year</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>CIPRA Info</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>alpMedia: an Information Service Enjoying an Ever Increasing Popularity</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Alpine City – Alpine Land: the CIPRA Annual Conference 2005</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Bodies and People</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>National CIPRA Representatives</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Finances</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<b>12</b>

## **CIPRA**

The International Commission for the Protection of the Alps CIPRA (Commission Internationale pour la Protection des Alpes) works for sustainable development in the Alps. It supports the preservation of the natural and cultural heritage, the maintenance of regional diversity and problem-solving in the Alpine region across national borders. CIPRA's guiding principle and statutes are available on the net under [www.cipra.org](http://www.cipra.org).



CIPRA is a non-governmental umbrella organisation with branches in seven Alpine states (Germany, France, Italy, Liechtenstein, Austria, Switzerland and Slovenia), which represent around 100 member organisations in the Alpine region. It was founded on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 1952 and is headquartered in Schaan, in the Principality of Liechtenstein. The non-profit-making purposes of CIPRA are recognised by the Liechtenstein Tax Authority.

## ***Alpine Convention: a Tool for Protection and Sustainable Development***



The Alpine Convention, an international treaty among all the Alpine states and the European Union, was set up on CIPRA's impulse, but after it had long prepared the floor. CIPRA participates in the Alpine Convention as an official observer.

This framework agreement is of crucial importance for sustainable development in the Alps. It offers the population of the Alpine region prospects for a worthwhile future by jointly tackling issues concerning economics, ecology and society with an international approach involving the whole Alpine region. A multitude of concrete projects in the most different fields are living proof of the fact that from France to Slovenia the Alps are perceived as a whole, which was much less the case before the Alpine Convention was signed.

In a world challenged by globalisation and the decline of agriculture, and in view of global warming and the overall changes in the nature of tourism with all the repercussions that entails, CIPRA considers the Alpine Convention as a key instrument not only of exchange and co-operation but also of preservation and sustainable regional development.. Thus, it takes part in the different bodies of the Alpine Convention and makes concrete proposals for further developing cooperation and for the implementation of the Alpine Convention and its protocols.

In 2005, CIPRA participated in all the sessions of the Alpine Convention Permanent Committee.

In 2005, some 14 years after the Alpine Convention was signed by the Alpine states and the EU, Switzerland, Italy and the European Union still had not a single ratified implementation protocol whereas Monaco had only endorsed some of them.

### **Transport Protocol under Pressure**

CIPRA, together with other organisations, has made an undertaking to ensure that the EU signing of the Transport Protocol is not - as planned – cancelled from the relative list of priorities. This action was successful, though the pressure of the Austrian EU Presidency and the Alpine states is needed if the Council is to really sign the protocol.

France, too, needed to be pushed forward. In 2005 France ratified all the protocols it had not so far endorsed, although when ratifying the Transport Protocol it made a whole set of reservations which essentially place at risk the applicability of the Transport Protocol for France. CIPRA protested in a letter to the French Minister for the Environment and urged the

Ministers for the Environment of the other parties to the Transport Protocol to intervene with France. This matter has not yet been brought to an end.

### **“Population and Culture” Declaration**

CIPRA has long undertaken to draw up a protocol on the topic of “Population and Culture”. The Contracting Parties have opted for an unbinding declaration, whose implementation through the Contracting Parties shall be assessed by the Compliance Committee of the Alpine Convention. The process of drawing up the declaration under the Italian Presidency progressed slowly. In 2006 CIPRA will commit itself to ensuring that the Ministers for the Environment approve a concrete and future-oriented declaration at the 9<sup>th</sup> Alpine Conference and thereafter become more active in this area.

### **Water Management Protocol**

In the International Year of Freshwater 2003, CIPRA put forward its proposal for a protocol to implement the Alpine Convention on “Water Management” in four languages. In 2005 it urged the Austrian Minister for the Environment as Chairman of the Alpine Conference to honour the pledges for a “Water Management Protocol”. The first steps have now been taken by Austria.

### **Compliance Committee**

For the first time in the history of the Alpine Convention, the Contracting Parties had to present detailed reports as of end of August 2005 on the fulfilment of their obligations stemming from the Alpine Convention and the implementation protocols. All Contracting Parties with the exception of Monaco submitted their report, although most of them were too late and some of them not in all the languages of the Convention.

For CIPRA the Contracting Parties’ reports offer many opportunities. It takes part in the meetings of the Compliance Committee and may insert its own opinions in the report that is drawn up by the committee. The Contracting Parties’ reports are also very instructive for CIPRA member organisations. They can view the reports and, on a national level, point out any inadequacy in the implementation.

### ***CIPRA and the EU***

The EU is a Party to the Alpine Convention but, as yet, it has not ratified any of the protocols. Both EU policy and legislation exert important influences on the development of the Alpine region, such as in the areas of environmental standards, regional development, development of rural areas, transport, agriculture etc. Protection of the environment and sustainable development are key factors at regional, national and international level for the competitiveness that has become the focus of the EU policy.

Therefore, in 2005, CIPRA increased its commitment to also become an active player in EU matters. To this end it has established many contacts and will be ever increasingly present in Brussels. It can provide Brussels with information on innovative sustainable development models of the Alpine region and help in accelerating the ratification process of the Alpine Convention protocols through the EU.

## **“Future in the Alps” Started**

“Future in the Alps” is a project by CIPRA which is financed by the MAVA Foundation for Nature Conservation.

“Future in the Alps” is a broad-based knowledge management project 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. By means of this project, CIPRA makes a contribution to the implementation of the Alpine Convention.

“Future in the Alps” networks and promotes new and existing initiatives aimed at harmonising 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 “Enterprise Alps”, alpPerformance brings together those players who adopt an innovative and sustainable approach to their economic activities.

The following six issues are tackled within “Future in the Alps”: regional value added, governance capacity, protected areas, mobility, new forms of decision making, policies and instruments.

The project runs from July 2004 to December 2007.

The first phase of Future in the Alps, alpKnowhow, almost came to an end in 2005. The project team is now meeting the challenge of processing the knowledge it gathered into the six project issues and, by making it available to users through the activities of alpService, ensuring its distribution.

One of the crucial aims of “Future in the Alps” lies in creating a network of promising enterprises similar to “Alliance in the Alps”, which made CIPRA’s work with local authorities easier. In order to realise this project with broad support, CIPRA, together with partners from all Alpine states, submitted a project named Network Enterprise Alps NENA for the fourth Call of Interreg IIIB , which was approved in February 2006.

The knowledge gained will be first implemented via the communities of the network “Alliance in the Alps”, within the framework of the Dynalp<sup>2</sup> project. Further details in the section on the network “Alliance in the Alps”.



Zukunft in den Alpen  
Avenir dans les Alpes  
Futuro nelle Alpi  
Prihodnost v Alpah  
Future in the Alps



## **climAlp: Strengthening Regional Economy and Protecting the Climate through Intelligent Building**



The aim of this project is to make the general public aware that low-energy buildings made of wood in the Alps protect the climate and stimulate the regional economy. Through this information campaign, CIPRA makes a contribution to the protection of the climate, sustainable development in the Alpine region and the implementation of the Alpine Convention and its “Mountain forests” and “Energy” protocols. The project runs until the end of 2006.

After drawing up a comprehensive report in 2004, this information began being circulated among the various Alpine states mid 2005.

As a first step, national project managers of the relative CIPRA branches compiled promotional possibilities and listed further information sources such as Internet databanks or

already existing overviews. The quadrilingual homepage [www.climalp.info](http://www.climalp.info) is constantly updated. News is made available online and other new events are steadily put on the agenda.

Thanks to the contacts it established, the first information events could already be held in some Alpine countries. In Italy, Austria and France the relative project managers spoke on various topics concerning energy-saving building with regional wood. The events took place within a wider framework such as Alpexpo and the exhibition Naturissima in Grenoble/F or were held together with partner organisations such as Legambiente in Dronero/I.

The project is financed by the Principality of Liechtenstein, the International Lottery in Liechtenstein Foundation, Vaduz/FL, the Stiftung Fürstlicher Kommerzienrat Guido Feger, Vaduz/FL and the Karl Mayer Foundation Triesen/FL. Implementation activities will be co-financed by national financial backers.

### ***Biodiversity: a Vision becomes Reality***

WWF, CIPRA, the International Scientific Committee on Alpine Research ISCAR and the Alpine Network of Protected Areas have developed a joint biodiversity vision for the Alps. An implementation project, which focuses particularly on the issue of corridors between protected areas and other biodiversity habitats in the Alps, will be developed on this basis. In any case, a greater participation of those concerned in the relative geographical areas is necessary.

Preliminary works for the development of a new project with the above mentioned partners started in 2005.



### ***The Community Network “Alliance in the Alps”***



Allianz in den Alpen  
Alliance dans les Alpes  
Alleanza nelle Alpi  
Povezanost v Alpah

#### **An Established Success Story**

The community network “Alliance in the Alps” that CIPRA contributed to establish is living proof of the fact that sustainable development and the implementation of the Alpine Convention may also occur at local level. The exchange of know-how and good practices among the communities throughout the Alps is impressive. Thus it is no surprise that an ever increasing number of communities wish to become members. The number of local authorities involved since its foundation in 1997 has reached almost 200: a five-fold increase.

CIPRA acts as network coordinator. Within this framework, it participates in events and supports the presidency of the community network in its activities. It also maintains and updates the website of the community network ([www.alpenallianz.org](http://www.alpenallianz.org)).

#### **Dynalp is Dynamic**

The community network is pursuing an Interreg IIIB Project under the name “Dynalp”, which regards rural tourism and agricultural development. Within the framework of this project, CIPRA acts as an advisor and takes care of the technical part of communication (databanks, Internet [[www.dynalp.org](http://www.dynalp.org)]). The project ends in 2006. Thus, together with the community network, CIPRA developed a further project for Dynalp in which national CIPRA branches might play a greater role.

In December 2005, the MAVA Foundation for Nature Conservation resolved to finance this next project (Dynalp<sup>2</sup>). This project aims at initially implementing the knowledge gained in “Future in the Alps”, applying the results of the research of Future in the



Alps through local and regional projects. CIPRA will have an important role in this project. The Jury that selected the winners of the “Future in the Alps” competition will also determine what community projects are to be financed as part of Dynalp II.

### **Alliance of Central Asian Mountain Communities**

Since the International Year of Mountains 2002, CIPRA has been working with the community network “Alliance in the Alps” and the Swiss Direktion für Entwicklung und Zusammenarbeit DEZA to set up a community network in Central Asia. After reports issued from Kyrgyzstan in 2002, CIPRA was allowed in June 2003 to cooperate at the foundation of the Alliance of Central Asian Mountain Communities. In 2005, CIPRA was represented at the annual conference. CIPRA’s director is also a member of the founding council of a foundation for mountain community development in Central Asia. Additionally, CIPRA periodically submits contributions to the newsletter of the Alliance of Central Asian Mountain Communities, published quarterly in Russian, Kirghiz, Kazach and Tajik. CIPRA has organised excursions and tours to projects in the Alps for several representatives of such a Central Asian network.

### **Alpine Town of the Year**



Since 2003, CIPRA is entrusted with the management of the “Alpine Town of the Year” Community of Interests. Similarly to the community network “Alliance in the Alps”, it carries out tasks in the areas of communication, information, consultancy and administration and takes care of the Website ([www.alpenstaedte.org](http://www.alpenstaedte.org)). Sonthofen in Germany was awarded the title of Alpine Town of the Year in 2005. For 2006, the Jury in which, in addition to CIPRA, also ARGE Alpine towns and Pro Vita Alpina are represented named the French town of

Chambéry “Alpine Town of the Year”.

### **CIPRA Info**

CIPRA Info has become a popular source of information on current topics in the Alps. Currently there is a print run of 11,500 copies of this 12 to 20-page magazine published in four languages.

Since CIPRA started spreading current information in the form of newsletters appearing twice monthly on alpMedia, CIPRA Info turned into a forum where relevant topics are tackled and examined more thoroughly. Four issues appeared in 2005: „Klimawandel – Hot Spot Alpen“<sup>1</sup> (No. 75), „Wasserkraft – Die Alpen unter Strom“<sup>2</sup> (No. 76), „Eisenbahntunnels statt Verkehrspolitik“<sup>3</sup> (No. 77) and „AlpenStadt – AlpenLand“<sup>4</sup> (No. 78).



<sup>1</sup> Climate Change – Hot-Spot Alps  
<sup>2</sup> Hydroelectric Power – The Alps under Current  
<sup>3</sup> Railway Tunnels Instead of Transport Policy  
<sup>4</sup> Alpine Town – Alpine Country

## ***alpMedia: an Information Service Enjoying an Ever Increasing Popularity***

In the International Year of Mountains 2002, CIPRA started alpMedia, an ambitious information service on sustainable development in the Alpine region ([www.alpmedia.net](http://www.alpmedia.net)). A newsletter is sent by e-mail and at the same time made available on [www.alpMedia.net](http://www.alpMedia.net) twice monthly in four Alpine languages. An English summary appears every two months.



The figure of 1,800 subscribers receiving the newsletter by e-mail in 2002 has already increased to over 5,000 people worldwide. In this way we annually send over 125,000 newsletters. Technical adjustments on the CIPRA Web will lead to a higher number of search engine hits of the alpMedia Website.

Presently alpMedia has no separate financing, i.e. the information service is financed with CIPRA's general resources. In 2005 this meant that only a single dossier on artificial snow systems could be produced since there is no budget for translations.

## ***Alpine City – Alpine Land: the CIPRA Annual Conference 2005***



The CIPRA annual conference titled “AlpenStadt – AlpenLand” (Alpien City – Alpine Land) took place in Brig/CH from September 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> 2005, which particularly and fully focused on the responsibility of Alpine towns as far as the future of the Alps is concerned. Two thirds of the population of the Alps live in urban areas or are directly dependant on them. From this viewpoint, it is evident that Alpine towns are the socioeconomic heart of the Alps. Thus, CIPRA aimed at winning over towns to be main players in Alpine policy. Their importance for sustainable development was highlighted, so as to also achieve the proper consideration of towns within the framework of the Alpine Convention.

The conference focussed on the margin of action of players in cities and rural areas in the Alps, since improved cooperation among Alpine towns and rural areas results in advantages and makes a better positioning possible in the competition with greater urban areas outside of the Alps.

About 120 people participated in this conference with excursions, organised jointly by CIPRA Switzerland, CIPRA International and “Future in the Alps”.

## ***Bodies and People***

CIPRA's supreme body is the Assembly of Delegates. Within this assembly, all national representatives are entitled to six seats, with two reserved to the South Tyrol regional branch. The promoting member, Nederlandse Milieugroep Alpen, has an advisory role. As a rule the Assembly of Delegates convenes once a year: in 2005 the assembly convened on September 22<sup>nd</sup> in Brig / Switzerland.

A somewhat leaner body is the Presiding Committee. Within this body, every national representative has two votes, whereas the regional representative has one. Its yearly meeting took place on January 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> in Schaan. It has already become a tradition that, before the Presiding Committee meeting, the directors of national CIPRA branches convene on two half days to exchange views, thus preparing the ground for good communications.

The Executive Board of CIPRA is elected for three years. It comprises the President, one or several Deputy Presidents and the Treasurer.



From left to right: Dominik Siegrist (CH), President, Helmuth Moroder (I), 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy President, Katharina Lins (A), 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy President, Jernej Stritih (SI), 3<sup>rd</sup> Deputy President, Josef Biedermann (FL), Treasurer.

Five Executive Board meetings took place in 2005, four of which were held as teleconferences, one as a two-day meeting.

In 2004, CIPRA headquarters consisted of the two Directors, three Project Managers and the Secretary. CIPRA also employs three trainees.



From left to right: Andreas Götz, Executive Director, Michel Revaz, Deputy Director, Aurelia Ullrich, Project Manager, Petra Beyrer, Secretary, Wolfgang Pfefferkorn and Felix Hahn, Project Managers.

Both the Executive Board members and employees of the headquarters as well as the national CIPRA branches have held innumerable speeches at events, shown presentations and participated in round-table speeches in the whole Alpine region.

## ***National CIPRA Representatives***

Besides its headquarters in Liechtenstein, *CIPRA International* has *national CIPRA representations* in the following countries:

- *Germany*: Heinrichgasse 8, D-87435 Kempten/Allgäu, Phone 0049 831 520 95 01, Fax 0049 831 18 024, [info@cipra.de](mailto:info@cipra.de), [www.cipra.de](http://www.cipra.de)  
50% Director as well as ½ an employee's job at the headquarters

Member organisations:

Bergwacht im Bayerischen Roten Kreuz

Deutscher Alpenverein e.V.

Landesbund für Vogelschutz in Bayern e.V.

Schutzgemeinschaft Deutscher Wald

Bund Naturschutz in Bayern e. V.

Verband Deutscher Berg- und Skiführer

Verein zum Schutz der Bergwelt e. V.

Touristenverein "Die Naturfreunde" e.V.

Bodensee-Stiftung

Mountain Wilderness Deutschland

Institut für Meteorologie und Klimaforschung (Garmisch)

- *France*: MNEI, 5 place Bir Hakeim, F-38000 Grenoble  
Phone 0033 476 48 17 46, Fax 0033 476 48 17 46,  
cipra-france@wanadoo.fr  
100% Director

Member organisations:

Association Dauphinoise pour l'Aménagement de la Montagne (ADAM)  
Association nationale pour la protection des Eaux et rivières (ANPER TOS)  
Fédération française des clubs d'alpinisme et de montagne (FFCAM)  
Fédération française de montagne et d'escalade (FFME)  
Fédération française de randonnée pédestre (FFRP)  
Fédération nationale des associations d'usagers des transports (FNAUT)  
Fédération Rhône-Alpes de protection de la nature (FRAPNA)  
Fédération française union touristique des amis de la nature (FFUTAN)  
Mountain Wilderness France  
Parc National des Ecrins  
Parc National de la Vanoise  
Parc National du Mercantour  
Parc naturel régional de la Chartreuse

- *Italy*: c/o Pro Natura, via Pastrengo 13, I-10128 Turin  
Phone 0039 011 548 626, Fax 0039 011 503 155, cipra@arpnet.it  
100% Director plus community servants

Member organisations:

Club Alpino Italiano  
Dachverband für Natur- und Umweltschutz in Südtirol  
Canoa Club Trento  
Ecoistituto del Friuli Venezia Giulia  
Gruppo Amici della Natura  
Gruppo Ricerche Cultura Montana  
Istituto Nazionale di Urbanistica (INU)  
Italia Nostra  
Lega Italiana Protezione Uccelli  
Legambiente  
Mountain Wilderness  
Valle d'Aosta Ambiente  
WWF Italia, pagine Alpi del WWF Italia  
Pro Natura Torino  
Parco Nazionale delle Dolomiti Bellunesi  
Parco delle Orobie Valtellinesi  
Laboratorio di Antropologia Culturale delle Alpi Marittime (LASA)  
Parco Nazionale dello Stelvio  
Parco delle Alpi Marittime  
Parco Nazionale della Val Grande  
Federazione Italiana di Parchi e delle Riserve Naturali (Federparchi)  
S.O.S. Dolomites  
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Phone 0043 1 40 113 36 34, Fax 0043 1 40 113-50, birgit.karre@cipra.at, www.cipra.at  
50% Director, 100% Responsible for the Alpine Convention Office CIPRA Austria

Member organisations:  
Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Berg- und Naturwachten Österreichs  
Naturfreunde Österreich  
Österreichischer Alpenschutzverband  
Österreichischer Alpenverein  
Österreichischer Forstverein  
Österreichischer Naturschutzbund  
Österreichischer Touristenklub  
Zentralstelle der Österreichischen Landesjagdverbände  
Verband Österreichischer Höhlenforscher

9 states:  
Burgenland  
Carinthia  
Upper Austria  
Lower Austria  
Salzburg  
Styria  
Tyrol  
Vorarlberg  
Vienna

- *Switzerland*: Hohlstrasse 489, CH-8048 Zürich  
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20% Director, 20% - 30% Projects

Member organisations:  
Alpen-Initiative  
Fondazione Uomonatura  
Grimselverein  
Mountain Wilderness Schweiz  
Naturfreunde Schweiz (NFS)  
Pro Natura  
Rheinaubund  
Schweizer Heimatschutz  
Schweizerischer Alpenclub SAC  
Schweizerische Greina-Stiftung  
Schweizer Vogelschutz (SVS)  
Stiftung Landschaftsschutz Schweiz SL  
Verkehrsclub der Schweiz (VCS)  
WWF Schweiz

- *Slovenia*: Večna pot 2, SI-1000 Ljubljana  
Phone 00386 1 200 78 00 (int.209), Fax 00386 1 273 589  
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50% Director

Member organisations:  
Planinska zveza Slovenije  
Društvo arhitektov Slovenije  
Inštitut za geografijo  
Prirodoslovno društvo Slovenije  
Gozdarski inštitut Slovenije  
Občina Tolmin  
Ministrstvo za kmetijstvo gozdarstvo in prehrano  
Ministrstvo za okolje in prostor

- *Liechtenstein*: c/o Liechtensteinische Gesellschaft für Umweltschutz  
Im Bretscha 22, FL-9494 Schaan, Phone 00423 232 52 62, Fax 00423 237 40 31  
info@lgu.li, www.lgu.li

Member organisations:

Botanisch-Zoologische Ges. Liechtenstein-Sargans-Werdenberg  
Fischereiverein Liechtenstein  
Liechtensteinische Gesellschaft für Umweltschutz  
Liechtensteiner Forstverein  
Liechtensteiner Jägerschaft  
Liechtensteiner Ornithologischer Landesverband  
Liechtensteiner Tierschutzverein  
Liechtensteinischer Alpenverein  
Solargenossenschaft Liechtenstein  
Verkehrs-Club Liechtenstein

- The regional member *CIPRA South Tyrol* is represented by the South Tyrolean Umweltdachverband. Kornplatz 10, I-39100 Bozen, Phone 0039 0471 97 37 00  
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Member organisations:

Alpenverein Südtirol  
Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Natur- und Umweltschutz Pustertal  
Arbeitskreis Südtiroler Mittelschullehrer  
Arche B - Verein für umwelt- und menschengerechtes  
Bauen und Leben  
Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Vogelkunde und Vogelschutz in Südtirol  
Bund Alternativer Anbauer  
Heimatspflegeverband  
Lia per Natura y Usanzas  
Südtiroler Gesellschaft für Gesundheitsförderung  
Südtiroler Tierschutzring  
Südtiroler Schützenbund  
Touristenverein "Die Naturfreunde" Meran  
Umweltschutzgruppe Vinschgau  
Verband Südtiroler Berg- und Skiführer  
Verbraucherzentrale Südtirol

## **Finances**

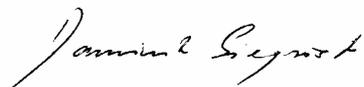
In financial year 2005 CIPRA had CHF 2,175,938 of income and CHF 2,075,128 in expenses, with profits of CHF 100,810. These shall be allocated to reserves and guarantee CIPRA's liquidity.

## **Acknowledgements**

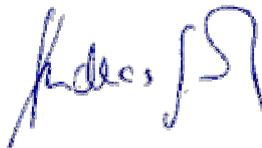
CIPRA thanks Liechtenstein, which finances a substantial part of CIPRA's running costs as well as many projects, and the Swiss Bundesamt für Umwelt (BAFU, Federal Department of Environment) for its support through the years. A very special thanks to all the financial backers mentioned in this report for their support to the relative projects. These are in particular the MAVA Foundation for Nature Conservation in Montricher/CHJ, the Aage V. Jensen Charity Foundation, Vaduz, the International Lottery in Liechtenstein Foundation,

Vaduz/FL, the Stiftung Fürstlicher Kommerzienrat Guido Feger, Vaduz/FL, the Karl Mayer Foundation, Triesen/FL and the European Union / Interreg IIIB.

Schaan, March 31st, 2006



Dominik Siegrist  
President of CIPRA International



Andreas Götz  
Director of CIPRA International