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ANNUAL REPORT CIPRA INTERNATIONAL



MILLIONS OF STEPS FOR THE ALPS

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Like growing bananas on Piz Palü

Commitment to networks for nature

Communicate and find common ground

young@lpweek / "Alpine Town of the Year" _

Alpine Power

Young Alps

Ecological networks ___

CIPRA's 60th anniversary

CIPRA in its anniversary year _

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SCHAAN/LI, APRIL 2013

DEAR READER,

_ When the Internet started to take off around the middle of the 1990s, CIPRA already had four decades of networking experience across linguistic, cultural, geographic and political borders. Networking is about much more than just exchanging news and information via cyberspace. Networks are like woven fabrics with countless stitches; they involve a relationship of give and take between their participants.

One of CIPRA's overriding tasks is to look after its fabrics and ensure their further development – based on the shared idea of sustainable development, of learning from one another and motivating each another: through cooperation with environmental associations, with the Alliance in the Alps, with ALPARC, the Alpine Network of Protected Areas, and with ISCAR, the International Scientific Committee for Alpine Research. Networks flourish where their participants nourish them and also benefit from them – from useful information, interesting experiences and new contacts. The knowledge that people elsewhere are developing solutions for problems that sometimes seem insuperable is a source of strength for one's own activities.

Networking can mean keeping your feet very much on the ground, as in the case of the Alpine Power long-distance walk through the Alps, which CIPRA organised in the summer of

2012 to mark its 60th anniversary. Contacts were established or strengthened with local inhabitants and members of national CIPRA organisations; people came from far and wide to support the walkers and join them on one or more sections of the walk. CIPRA representatives and fellow campaigners have covered a lot of ground, both geographically on the Alpine walk and historically since the organisation was founded in 1952. We are therefore dedicating this Annual Report to the "million steps for the Alps" that committed people have made over the last few decades. Particularly successful last year was the Alpine Week in Poschiavo, when CIPRA invited young people to get involved in politics and succeeded in persuading environment ministers to put energy efficiency and reducing energy consumption on the agenda of the Alpine Convention's newly founded Energy

I look forward to networking with you in the future and hope you enjoy reading our latest Annual Report.

Dominik Siegrist

President of CIPRA International

LIKE GROWING BANANAS ON PIZ PALÜ

ALPINE POWER

It is important to keep your feet on the ground. That is the reason why CIPRA members held a cross-border trek along the Alpine chain – as a network-building project and a kind of Long March, which also made tracks on Facebook.

_ The valley bottom now lies far below them, framed by the mountains, a still life that is very much alive. The hedgerows draw a picturesque patchwork of fields and meadows around Poschiavo, a village of 3,600 souls. Only an hour earlier they were still down there in the old buildings, having sat for days discussing "The Renewable Alps" as part of AlpWeek 2012. But now, together with friends of CIPRA, they want to come into closer contact with the Alps themselves, to feel them and talk to the people who live there, about their problems, experiences and ideas. It is to be a walk with time to stop for more than getting your breath back.

"For me, Valposchiavo is one of the most interesting valleys in the whole of the Alps," says a tall man with bushy eyebrows and a flat cap: Dominik Siegrist, President of CIPRA International and leader of the eight-strong group on this section of the trek, on a day that is fresh and sunny. Alpine Power is the name of the long-distance walk devised by CIPRA to mark its 60th anniversary with the aim of strengthening and extending its cross-border networks. The trek is to last from July to October and cover the whole length of the Alpine chain from Slovenia to France. The

Colourful language: Dominik Siegrist lays out the flags of the countries of the Alps at Passo del Muretto.



various sections of the walk are being organised by the corresponding national CIPRA offices and are to be backed up with regular postings on Facebook.

Barbara Ehringhaus, President of the Pro Mont Blanc organisa-

tion, neatly illustrates the paradoxical life that Alpine protection entails: "Since I started getting involved, I've spent a lot of time sitting in front of my computer and have had hardly any time for walking." Dominik Siegrist leads the way with a long and regular stride, his sticks sounding a leisurely rhythm. "Walking for me is the discovery of slowness," he says. "It turns my mind to new ideas." Back home he has a big map on the wall showing all the itineraries he has ever walked; it resembles a gigantic spider's web covering the whole of the Alps. His observations and experiences as a walker are an additional source of knowledge about the various regions and their inhabitants and as such contribute to his teaching as a professor of tourism at Rapperswil Technical University. "You have to learn to read the signs of the countryside," he says, raising his eyebrows and indicating the many carefully arranged stones on the ground in front of him. "This, for example, is a fine old mulattiera, which farmers used for centuries to drive their cattle to the huts on the spring pastures higher up the mountain as a stopover on their way to the summer pastures of the main alp. It is a typical element of the cultural landscape of the Southern Alps," Dominik explains. "Many of these tracks have now fallen into disuse, while others - like this one - have been rediscovered in the context of green tourism and walking holidays.

Protecting the Alps right across the board

Thirty minutes later and the group arrives at the mountain pasture with its collection of little stone houses complete with red shutters, pots of geraniums – and satellite dishes. The cars standing outside the houses have number plates from Canton Grisons. Two little chapels overlook the freshly mown meadows. The mountain ridge across the valley is bathed in the last rays of the setting sun. The walkers are joined by a Mountain Wilderness activist and a geographer from Erlangen. A group photo is taken for the first Facebook posting for this section of the trek.



Fast progress through Valmalenco with Alpine Power: Sometimes the detour – deviazione in Italian – is faster than the normal route.

The very first posting for Alpine Power on Facebook includes photographs of Bruno Stephan Walder, the new Executive Director of CIPRA International, cycling through the Logar Valley with colleagues from CIPRA Slovenia and talking to a number of local mayors. On the Hoher Ifen in Bavaria, the Alpine Power group joined an event organised in protest against the construction of a new cable car there. They held a mountain-top vigil, unrolled banners and posted CIPRA's demands on Facebook. And their efforts were not in vain – in October 2012 the proposed cable car project was rejected by the local people in a referendum. A converging walk in Liechtenstein led straight on to the section organised by CIPRA Switzerland, crossing the pass at St. Luzisteig and traversing Canton Grisons as far as Poschiavo, the point of departure for the group led by Dominik Siegrist.

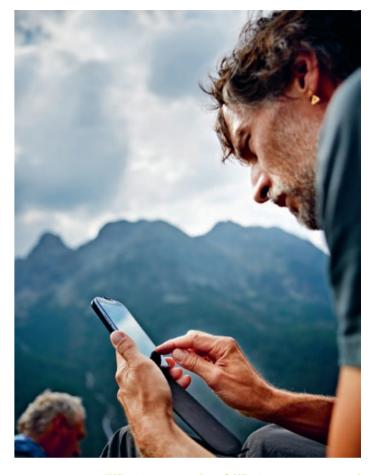
"Ahead of us lies a three and a half hour climb with almost 1,200 metres of ascent to the Cancian Pass," says Dominik in his role as our guide the following morning. After two hours the vegetation becomes sparser until only lichen adds colour to the grey of the rock and scree. Piz Palü is shrouded in cloud. A wooden arch marks the border on the Cancian Pass at 2,498 metres above sea-level. The boulders on the Italian side of the pass are no

different from those on the Swiss side. The border nevertheless plays an important role for the protection of the Alps, as the subsequent encounters show.

Below the pass, the walkers are joined by the Legambiente Valtellina activist Ruggero Spada, a tall man with black curly hair. He wants to show the visitors an "alpe sana", a healthy alp. Clad in jeans, our new guide glides light-footed ahead of the group through a fairytale landscape of glacier-carved rock and pine stands. Dominik Siegrist asks him what became of the petition launched to save the Stelvio National Park, which he signed five years ago. "The project has come to a standstill," says Ruggero. He explains that the Italian government under Silvio Berlusconi has no interest in ecological concerns but hopes that things will improve with the new government – in spite of a lack of support on the part of the local inhabitants, who simply do not identify with the mountains: "The people here have their eyes set on Milan; the younger generation go there for leisure and learning."



Top: The mountain huts of Alpe Campolungo surrounded by the infrastructure of the Chiesa Ski Area in Valmalenco Left: Some walk, others work. The ascent from Chiareggio to Passo del Muretto. Right: Legambiente's President Giovanni Bettini (right) discussing Alpine policies with locals during the evening meal in Chiareggio.



"What are our values? What are we prepared to spend money on?" Christian Lüthi uses Facebook to share his experiences during the trek.





All the greater is the pleasure Ruggero takes in presenting such a successful symbol of regional identity as Alpe Acquanera. The stone cottage nestles against the mountain slope. Andrea, who runs the alp, receives us with a firm handshake and a loud voice. A head of dark wilful hair radiates good humour. Farm dogs fuss around the walkers' legs. Andrea serves salami, spicy mountain cheese and a fruity organic red wine – "home-made without sugar or sulphur". Bruno Stephan Walder tastes the food and declares the salami "ottimo" – simply the best! Andrea proudly shows the visitors his cheese-making facility: a sooty room with an enormous copper pot over an open fire.

Andrea's family has farmed on this alp for the last five hundred years. He spent many years working as a lorry driver, but the call of the mountains proved irresistible. He took the bold step of becoming an Alpine farmer and has never looked back. "My herd of cows has grown from eight to thirty strong. Customers are not interested in supermarket products and are willing to pay the extra." As a result, he can afford to send his two children to university. Alpine Power gives Andrea moral support for his mountain farming philosophy: "I'm going to make a cheese called Forza Alpina!" Dusk is falling; the walkers must hurry. "A fine example, but not a

lifestyle that everyone can emulate," says Dominik Siegrist as the group descends from the alp. Further up the mountain, at Alpe Palü, the old mountain huts have been left to decay, and plastic sheeting now covers gaping holes in their slate roofs. For their role as stewards of the countryside, the local farmers are paid very little by the municipality, which is treated similarly by the regional authorities, who receive a pittance from the government in Rome. The Facebook posting for this day is apt – a photograph of dilapidated stone houses with a ski lift in the background and a question for users: "What are our values? What are we prepared to spend money on?"

Storming the summit together

In Chiareggio the group is joined for dinner by Giovanni Bettini. The 74-year-old chairman of Legambiente Valtellina has an ironic smile on his lips and a weary look in his eyes: "In Valtellina, protecting the Alps is like growing bananas on Piz Palü – an unlikely undertaking." Efforts to protect the national park have faltered, yet permission has been granted for the construction of a hundred small hydropower plants. This involves diverting natural streams, resulting in stream beds drying up. But Giovanni now

has new hope – in the past his organisation had little contact with Alpine protection organisations from other countries and only loose ties with CIPRA itself. For Dominik Siegrist, the main message of the meeting is clear: "In Valtellina, Legambiente is alive and kicking." Contact has been re-established – one of the many little steps forward achieved through Alpine Power.

The fourth day again sees the group engaged in lively conversation. Reto Solèr of CIPRA Switzerland, an experienced walker and author of several guide books for walkers, waxes lyrical on the subject of bivouacking in the open air. Bruno Stephan Walder discovers some rare veins of quartzite in the rock that look rather like pork belly. And Barbara Ehringhaus tells Dominik Siegrist of her sense of frustration that UNESCO has not yet recognised Mont Blanc as a World Heritage site, mainly because of opposition from the local tourist trade. Dominik advises her to have the massif's OUV evaluated, its Outstanding Universal Value. "UNESCO takes such assessments very seriously."

The group descends a scree slope and follows the dry bed of the Orlegna River, which is composed of white stones the size of medicine balls. Before Maloja, the walkers come to the Salecina do-it-yourself holiday and conference centre. A sunbathing visitor on the seat outside the renovated farmhouse sips her cappuccino. Dominik Siegrist, who is a member of the Salecina board of trustees, provides a guided tour of the facilities, which include a library with long shelves of books on the region. Like all visitors to the centre, the members of the group do the cooking and cleaning themselves.

Everyone agrees that now would be a good time to sit down and take stock of the days they have spent together as a group. But the cause of protecting the Alps also calls for work to be done in offices and meetings to be held back home. The fine threads established on this section of the Alpine Power trek need to be woven into the CIPRA fabric – perhaps accompanied by a spicy mountain cheese by the name of Forza Alpina.

Tilman Wörtz (text) and Heinz Heiss (photos)

Zeitenspiegel Reportagen



People concerned about nature

Our vision: With some 30,000 species of animals and 13,000 species of plants, residents and visitors alike appreciate the infinite natural diversity of the Alps. People see this diversity as an essential element of their lives and are willing to work to protect it. **Our demands:**

- **Networked habitats** _ If they are to multiply, animals and plants need the freedom to spread. This calls for a general commitment from everyone from gardeners to members of the EU Parliament, from environmental protection groups to fisheries authorities.
- Energy production that respects the natural environment _ With the targeted transition to renewable energy, there is a need to protect remaining near-natural stretches of water and unspoilt countryside. The environmental, social and economic implications of such projects must be carefully considered and balanced.
- Revitalizing Alpine rivers _ Free-flowing rivers make a contribution to flood protection and offer diverse habitats. Revitalization measures require interregional coordination and should be implemented via statutory local regulations.

Projects

- Ecological Continuum Initiative _ Objective: An Alps-wide ecological network. Establishing a scientific basis and initiating implementation projects such as ECONNECT. Partners: CIPRA, Alpine Network of Protected Areas (ALPARC), International Scientific Committee for Alpine Research (ISCAR). Work in progress since 2007. Sponsored by the Gerda Techow Foundation.
- Film campaign: "For the Hermit and the Salamander" _ Objective: Awareness building among local authorities for the need for habitat networking. Short film in five languages featuring representatives of municipalities in three Alpine countries. Sponsors include the Valüna Foundation. Produced in 2012, to be screened in 2013.
- recharge.green Balancing Alpine Energy and Nature _ Objective: Compatibility between the production of renewable energy on the one hand and biodiversity and soil quality on the other. CIPRA has developed this project in collaboration with fourteen partners and is responsible for communicating the project. Sponsored by the European Fund for Regional Development (Alpine Space) and the German Ministry of the Envi-
- Alpine Convention platforms _ Objective: International exchange and collaboration, improvement of the political framework. CIPRA is affiliated to the Ecological Network Platform and the Wild Animals and Society Platform.

ronment. Project duration: October 2012 to June 2015.

www.cipra.org/biodiversity



COMMITMENT TO NETWORKS FOR NATURE

ECOLOGICAL NETWORKS

CIPRA has produced a short film to show what can be done at the local level to preserve biodiversity. The spotlight on the actors in the municipalities is a source of great encouragement and strengthens them in their commitment. Let the film roll!



_ Aldo Rodigari is standing on a gravel bank in the middle of the River Rom with a microphone clipped to his shirt collar. He is speaking loud enough to be heard against the rushing of the water – about how the river has been renaturalised and why the conservation order for Switzerland's Val Müstair or Münster Valley is so important. The river at his feet seems to be murmuring assent. The Deputy Mayor of Val Müstair has prepared his German contribution well. Only the really long words occasionally cause problems for the Romansh speaker from Canton Grisons.

The location on the border between Switzerland and Italy is one of five selected to make a film commissioned by CIPRA called "For hermits and fire salamanders". In France Bruno Murienne, Mayor of Saint-Martin d'Uriage, explains how local authorities can protect the natural environment in the long term through wise spatial planning measures. In the South Tyrolean municipality of Taufers

Top: Aldo Rodigari talking about renaturalisation of the River Rom in Val Müstair. **Left:** Margit Gaiser addressing the camera with a plea for conservation of the waterway.



"You need information to join in the debate":Margit Gaiser feels that CIPRA's publications should be compulsory reading for local councillors.

in Italy and the Lower Engadin community of Ramosch in Switzerland, local officials speak to the camera in the hope of recruiting allies elsewhere for the cause of habitat networking. And Bruno Stephan Walder, Executive Director of CIPRA International, talks about the importance of such activities if we are to maintain the enormous biodiversity of the Alps.

Then there are all those members of the CIPRA network who do not appear in the film but played a very important role nevertheless. Some, like the participants in the Ecological Continuum Initiative, delivered the necessary knowledge, while others contributed their ideas to the basic concept, identified suitable locations and put CIPRA in touch with the right people.

Val Müstair, which has just 1.600 inhabitants, was awarded the status of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in 2011. Now a source of local pride, the award was originally controversial. Some years ago, a revitalisation project for the man-made section of the Rom in Fuldera met with considerable resistance. Local farmers were concerned that a freely meandering river would nibble away their land. Today the river, freed of its straitjacket, flows harmlessly through the carefully managed meadows. The farmers find it easier to work their land, and the tourists enjoy the unique cultural landscape to be seen along the River Rom. Successful little examples help win support for bigger projects, as Aldo Rodigari has learnt for himself. "The revitalised river landscape is now one of the attractions of the Val Müstair Biosphere." Sometimes a nudge from outside, from environmentalist groups, for example, is enough to get things moving. He hopes that the film will help open the eyes of people elsewhere. There is a note of pride in his voice when he says, "This may be a peripheral region, but that does not make us backward."

On the Italian side of the border in Italy, the Rom is called the Rambach. Speaking to the camera, Councillor Margit Gaiser from Taufers produces a veritable cascade of words. She certainly does not mince them. She criticises the low generating

capacity of the proposed hydropower plant in relation to the very considerable damage it will cause in terms of the landscape and ecology. She speaks of a go-it-alone response by the Taufers local authority, which is not coordinating the date for the referendum with the neighbouring village of Mals, of information that is being withheld from the local inhabitants, of tourists stranded at the border because the path simply peters out on the Italian side, and of the advantages that a conservation order for the river would offer the village's residents and businesses.

She does not say everything in front of the camera, however. It is not her style to attack people in public. Instead she seeks to win them over, in particular the one thousand or so residents of Taufers. She puts her faith in the film. If it is capable of attracting attention right across the Alps, she thinks it might also trigger an awareness-building process in the village. Margit Gaiser, who is also active in a Rambach protection group, feels that CIPRA's publications should be compulsory reading for all councillors: "You need information to join in the debate."

"When it comes to water, there are always lots of obstacles because there are so many beneficiaries," says Angelika Abderhalden. She is a contact for CIPRA in the Lower Engadin and also Executive Director of Pro Terra Engiadina, a foundation established for the management and conservation of landscapes of particular cultural and natural value. She finds other networking projects less controversial and says local authorities have to set priorities: "Ecological networks should be created where the benefits are greatest."

That is grist to the mill for Victor Peer, Mayor of Ramosch, an "organic village" where students from Vienna are working to prevent shrubs encroaching onto dry grassland. Victor Peer is a farmer who grew up in the Lower Engadin and "was always close to nature". But he did not really appreciate the value of near-natural farming methods until he was elected to the local council and came into contact with environmental groups and the cantonal authorities. Today he is chairman of Pro Terra Engiadina and sees natural land management as a sustainable investment "for tourism and the people who live here". For Victor Peer, the choice of his small community as a shooting location for CIPRA's film is confirmation that they are heading in the right direction.

Barbara Wülser (text and photos)

CIPRA International



Local habitat networking film

The 15-minute documentary film entitled "For hermits and fire salamanders" has been produced to encourage local authorities to contribute to ecological networking. It has received funding from

the Valüna Foundation and can be downloaded in English, French, German, Italian and Slovene from the websites of CIPRA and the Alpine Ecological Network. It is also available from CIPRA as a DVD.

www.alpine-ecological-network.org



COMMUNICATE AND FIND COMMON GROUND

CIPRA'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Working across borders for the environment – Wolfgang Burhenne, founder member of CIPRA, and Andrea Matt, Executive Director of CIPRA Liechtenstein, talk about their activities as networkers.

_ Suddenly there was this border. What a nuisance! Before the war, Wolfgang Burhenne, who was born in 1924 and grew up in Garmisch, simply went shopping in Innsbruck – or climbing in Switzerland. His grandparents had a house on Lake Constance and went hunting in the Bregenzer Wald. Then things changed. The Nazis put him in Dachau for three years for helping prisoners. And after the war the fences were there again – in the mountains. "It was difficult to cross the border into Austria or Switzerland," Wolfgang Burhenne remembers. In 1952 he was one of the initiators in the foundation of CIPRA in Rottach-Egern on Tegernsee and became its first unpaid Secretary General. Sixty years later on 5 May 2012, Wolfgang, now almost 90 years old, was again in Rottach-Egern to celebrate the organisation's anniversary with

latter-day representatives, fellow travellers and friends of CIPRA. A different place, a different generation. Andrea Matt straightens her green skirt, pulls down the sleeves of her embroidered blouse and slips on a light grey woollen jacket. In this case the dress code is political – the 52-year-old Executive Director of CIPRA Liechtenstein is on her way to the annual general assembly of the Liechtenstein Hunters. It will be a critical meeting: she hopes to win the hunters over to CIPRA's ideas. "The key to success is often to find partners who are not directly involved in environmental protection," says Andrea. And appearances can make a difference. For meetings with the business community, she dons her black two-piece; at the general assembly of the Liechtenstein Society for Environmental Protection (LGU), of



DESIGNER AND POLITICAL ARCHITECT

Andrea Matt, who was born in 1960, has worked for sustainable development in Liechtenstein and beyond for many years. At present she is Executive Director of both CIPRA Liechtenstein and the Liechtenstein Society for Environmental Protection. Before that she was a member of the Diet of Liechtenstein. The designer and scientific journalist equipped herself for her political work by studying women's rights and environmental law.

which she is also the Executive Director, she appears in jeans and T-shirt. For Andrea, the important thing is to communicate with people with the arguments that are important to them, find common ground and build networks that extend beyond linguistic and cultural borders.

Hunting for contacts

Two different personalities, the same mission – contacts are essential to get things moving. That is something that has not changed since the foundation of CIPRA. After the war, the US army of occupation attempted to dispossess the Bavarian landowners, who traditionally held the hunting rights on their own land. The Americans sought to recruit GIs with the prospect of "free fishing and hunting". In protest against the policy of the military government, Wolfgang Burhenne resigned from his post at the Bavarian State Ministry of Nutrition, Agriculture and Forestry and made contact with environmentalists in the USA. In 1948 he was involved as the first German representative in the foundation of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN); it was thanks to him that Germany

was able to become a member in 1950. Nor was it merely fortuitous that Charles Bernhard, the first President of the IUCN, also became the first President of CIPRA. That helped the organisation establish an international presence.

Developing strategies, forging battle plans, honing arguments and building up staying power in the pursuit of objectives – those are also things Andrea Matt learnt as a politician. From 2005 to 2009 she was a member of the Diet of Liechtenstein. Andrea takes a clear line, but with room for compromise. "I can only demand things that are feasible within the existing framework." Wolfgang Burhenne has a similar rule of thumb: "You should not demand anything you cannot justify."

Wolfgang Burhenne maintains that scientists used to think that when they came up with new findings, politicians would have to accept them automatically. But this is not the case. Scientific findings must first generate political conclusions. That is the role he sees for himself and for environmental organisations like CIP-RA. After Wolfgang had helped draw up a new post-war hunting law in Bavaria – "which obviously was not what the Americans



PIONEER IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Wolfgang Burhenne was born in 1924 and lost his father when he was only six. He was wounded in the war and spent three years in concentration and penal camps. He studied law, forestry and political science. In addition to his activities as Executive Director of the German Interparliamentary Working Group, he has always been committed to the cause of nature protection and environmentalism. He is an honorary member of CIPRA and in 2011 received the 3rd German Alpine Award from CIPRA Germany.

wanted" – the Bavarian Prime Minister invited him to collaborate on a federal law, too. That was the beginning of a long career in law-making. Wolfgang founded and chaired the IUCN's Commission on Environmental Law, represented the Alpine Convention within the IUCN, chaired the UN committee that drew up the World Charter for Nature, and proposed the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and other international agreements.

Andrea Matt sees Wolfgang Burhenne as a role model. "He does what I would like to do most – help shape the legal framework." Andrea, a designer with additional legal training, is convinced that European environmental law ensures high standards, that legislation today is primarily seen as a way of steering human behaviour, and that modern society is capable of agreeing through political discourse on a state that is seen as right and desirable. "To that extent, legal debate also helps us develop our system of values."

Networking in thought and deed

Wolfgang Burhenne is less optimistic on that point. He feels that, in spite of today's greater environmental awareness, the world has not really become a better place. Why not? "Because we are not becoming better people." It worries Wolfgang to see

the world becoming more crowded and pressure on the natural environment increasing. Andrea Matt, on the other hand, as a member of the new generation in positions of leadership and responsibility, also sees the opportunities: "Climate change is bringing us to the point where ecology is not just about preserving nature but about ensuring our own survival."

This makes a cross-border approach essential. A meeting with colleagues from Austria or France gives the Executive Director of CIPRA Liechtenstein an opportunity to see what solutions they are working on. "That can be used as input for strategies which will also work in our part of the world." That, she adds, is why CIPRA with its networks is so important. She feels what is so exciting about the Alps is that "we have a link, the shared living space of the Alps, where the challenges also have much in common – and very different people working together to shape our living space." Bringing them together, Andrea concludes, is a task for multiple generations – and for CIPRA.

Barbara Wülser (text) and Caroline Begle (photos)
CIPRA International



Alpine Convention and Alpine solidarity

Our vision: National, regional and local authorities and the business community in the Alps base their activities on the contents and goals of the Alpine Convention. They initiate and support relevant projects and implement suitable measures themselves. The macro-region of the Alps is founded on solidarity between 14 million inhabitants of the Alps and 56 million in the surrounding urban centres. The Alpine space, which is so important for the whole of Europe, is the subject of protection and sustainable development. Our demands:

- Participation for all actors _ Implementation of the Alpine Convention must become dynamic and visible at a practical level. It is time for a more active role on the part of the signatory states and for the inclusion of regional and local authorities and the business community.
- Renewal of the Alps with the support of young people
 _ The political future of the Alps rests with the young. CIPRA

- works to ensure that their voice is heard in the official bodies of the Alpine Convention.
- Dialogue and participation _ The residents of the Alps and the surrounding regions and urban centres face common challenges: excessive transit traffic, discontinuous habitats and growing demands on our water resources, e.g. for power generation and irrigation. Solutions can only be developed on a participatory and democratic basis. CIPRA and its networks want to incorporate their experience in a new strategy for the macro-region of the Alps.

Political activities

As co-founder of the Alpine Convention, CIPRA is working at all levels for sustainable development in the Alps – in the Alpine Conference of Ministers of the Environment, in the Standing Committee of the Alpine Conference and in various platforms and working groups. In the Compliance Committee, CIPRA is vigilant in tracking implementation of the Alpine Convention by the signatory states. CIPRA is able to perform these key tasks thanks in particular to the support of the Liechtenstein authorities.

www.cipra.org/en/alpine-convention/positions

MILLIONS OF STEPS FOR THE ALPS ANNUAL REPORT 2012 CIPRA INTERNATIONAL

CIPRA'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Networking across national borders has always been one of CIPRA's main objectives - as it was in its anniversary year.

16 – 18 August 2012. With walks to Sücka and other



15 August - 5 October 2012





21 – 23

September 2012

From Massello, where



Grenoble



7 July 2012. A mountain-top vigil was held





Innsbruck

Bozen/Bolzano



Kick-off event in Rottach-Egern _ 5 May 2012







Maribor •

(SL)

1 - 6 July / 19 October 2012











Liubliana

n touch with innovation in South Tyrol

20 - 22 July 2012. Starting from the Dolomites and a conference held in Tesero on the subject

Bovec



CIPRA IN ITS ANNIVERSARY YEAR

CIPRA dedicated 2012, its anniversary year, to those who are committed to sustainable development in the Alps. These people met at events such as the one held to celebrate the occasion in Rottach-Egern/D, where CIPRA was founded, at AlpWeek in Valposchiavo/CH, on the Alpine Power trek, and at various festivities organized across Alpine countries. Many people took the opportunity to engage with CIPRA representatives, fellow travellers and local inhabitants, to observe examples of good and bad practice in the field of sustainable development, to discuss possible solutions - and to join in the celebrations.

www.cipra.org/en/60-years

5 - 7 October 2012. The third section of the



= Activities in Alpine countries

= Alpine Power route



= Events



= Start of section



= End of section

YOUNG ALPS

YOUNG@LPWEEK / ALPINE TOWN OF THE YEAR

Everyone's talking about the future. But usually without involving those to whom it actually belongs. CIPRA supports young people in articulating their hopes and demands.

_ The young people are disappointed – not a single minister will be present to see the play they are performing as part of Alp-Week 2012 in Poschiavo, Switzerland. The official explanation is that they will all be at dinner. The attempt to present a tenpoint resolution on behalf of the Youth Parliament of the Alpine Convention (YPAC) at the Conference of Ministers on Friday has already been foiled in advance.

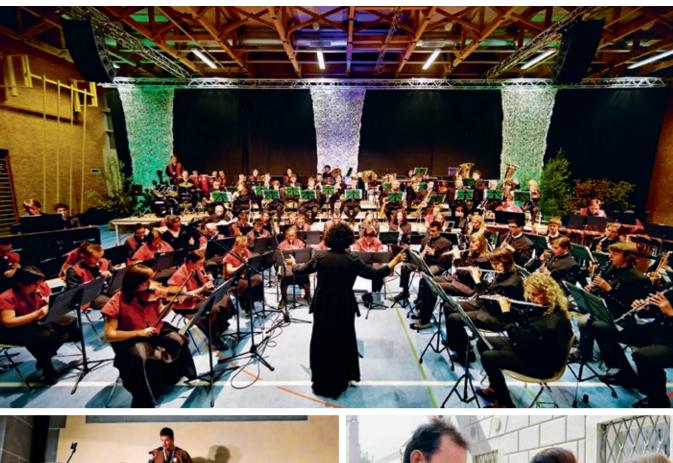
"Pseudo-participation!" That is the response of Luzia Felder (23) from Entlebuch in Switzerland, who was intending to perform the play with her friends so as to communicate their ideas to policy makers on this year's AlpWeek theme, namely Renewable Alps. Isabella Hilber (16) and Moritz Schwarz (20), two Austrian members of YPAC, are worried that the politicians think young people should be seen and not heard. But they have travelled to Poschiavo to lend young people a voice for the first time ever in the history of AlpWeek. One hundred and twenty young adults have come from various countries and projects to hold discussions, create and perform sketches, make films and even hold a concert with their own youth orchestra. This is young@lpweek – sponsored by CIPRA and the Alpine Town of the Year Association.

Federal Councillor at the info stand

Two storevs of a building behind the Church of San Vittore house a market place with information stands representing various projects and groups. Luzia and her friends are presenting the activities of My Clime-mate, a youth project set up by the Alliance in the Alps network of municipalities, in which they participated over the previous year. The results include such practical things as spelt pasta made with local eggs and without the use of any electrical appliances. Only a few visitors find their way to their stand tucked away in a corner on the second floor. Most of them congregate in the foyer, where the Swiss Federal Councillor Doris Leuthard appears in the afternoon and is soon surrounded by half a dozen people, mainly journalists. Luzia who, like all the young people, is wearing a blue T-shirt with the slogan "I'm an Alpine Transformer – and you?", refuses to be discouraged. Together with her friend Andrea Müller, she blocks the politician's path and invites her to visit their stand. And the Federal Councillor accepts! Luzia is very pleased, and her mood visibly improves. "She is approachable and likeable," she says. "And of course she knows that it is good PR to be seen with young people!"

Isabella and Moritz are also into power lobbying. They identify the head of the Austrian delegation and manage to organise a meet-









Voices of youth: Luzia Felder (right) and her friend Andrea Müller presenting young people's ideas for the Alps.

ing with Nikolaus Berlakovich, the Austrian Minister of the Environment. That actually enables them to present the Youth Parliament's resolution after all, and they go through it item by item, from YPAC's call for a tax on the excessive consumption of energy and the introduction of a Green Week to car-free Sundays.

In the evening, the Ministers are having dinner in the Sala delle Sibille in the historic Hotel Albrici on the main square. Together with the other guests, Bruno Stephan Walder, Executive Director of CIPRA International, is present in the adjoining room in his capacity as representative of the observer organisation. He has something up his sleeve. The door to the room reserved for the ministers opens, and their Swiss host Doris Leuthard goes to the window to see where the music is coming from. This is the

moment for the agreed signal to the young people to start performing their sketches. The ministers are soon on the balcony. The youngsters are ready for them on the square in front of the church – with a very pertinent sketch. A politician is asked a question by some young people but his response is, literally, "Blah, blah, blah." But then another politician gives some straight answers, and the young people respond with one loud voice: "That's the kind of politician we want!" The audience applauds. The youngsters had rehearsed under the guidance of an actress and with the support of CIPRA. The theatre group comprises sixth-formers from Poschiavo, the Clime-mates from Entlebuch and young people from the Aqua Mühle jobless project in Vorarlberg, Austria.

Young people getting together

What is equally important for the young participants is the opportunity to meet other members of their age group who are also interested in the environment in which they live. "We got our Top: The musicians of Alpine Towns of the Year Chambéry and Idrija bring AlpWeek to a close with a fine concert. Left: "Blah blah blah" is the contribution of the politicians in the sketch performed by the youngsters.

Right: Moritz Schwarz (centre) and Isabella Hilber present the Youth Parliament's resolution to Austria's Minister of the Environment Nikolaus Berlakovich.

programme together in just one day!" says a delighted Alexander Djordewitsch, a 17-year-old in rapper dress, who made his hobby one of the inputs. Isabella Hilber is impressed by the commitment of the young people in the Aqua Mühle group: "I never realised how privileged I am and what opportunities I have as a grammar-school pupil."

With their blue Transformer T-shirts, the young people draw attention to AlpWeek in every last corner of Poschiavo. The concluding plenary session opens with their video clips on the

Photos left and top: Heinz Heiss, centre: Andy Mette Photo bottom right: Caroline Begle / CIPRA Internati

MILLIONS OF STEPS FOR THE ALPS
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subject of Renewable Alps, the motto of this year's event. The youngsters have also designed a complete page of the local newspaper "Il Grigione Italiano".

The young AlpWeek participants have learnt their media skills in a variety of workshops run by experts throughout the week. "The objective is to give them the tools they need to express themselves," says Tanja Mähr, CIPRA's project manager for young@lpweek. "We also want to encourage other organisations to increase their level of youth involvement." The goal has been achieved – all the speakers in the closing session praise the young people and the valuable contributions they have made to AlpWeek.

But it was young@lpweek itself that had the final word, and a lively one it was too – in the form of a joint concert given by two orchestras, both from Alpine Towns of the Year, namely the Tétras

Lyre Orchestra from Chambéry in France and the Miners' Brass Band from Idrija in Slovenia. What is so special about the Tétras Lyre Orchestra is the fact that the musicians are mentally handicapped. Most of them play the recorder; hardly any can read music. They learnt the pieces on the programme off by heart, from George Bizet's "Habanera" to Queen's "Greatest Hits". And they only had one day to rehearse. Clémence Joueau, the only violinist in the French orchestra, said afterwards, "Plein de joie de vivre" – pure joy in life! And Luiza Felder, Andrea Müller, Moritz Schwarz and Isabella Hilber – finally reconciled with AlpWeek – conclude: "We have seen that we can achieve something!"

Tilman Wörtz (text)

Zeitenspiegel Reportagen



The next generation has a voice

Our vision: As the generation that will be affected most by today's decisions, young people are involved in shaping a sustainable future for the Alps. They are aware of their responsibility and join other actors as experts for the future. **Our demands:**

- Define the rules together _ Young people know best where they wish to be involved and which decisions they would rather leave to adults. They need a clear framework for participation and the assurance that their input will be taken seriously.
- Show that it is worth the effort _ Young people must see that it is worth becoming involved. What is important in this context is feedback on their activities and direct contact with adults. Nothing is more demotivating than pseudo-participation.
- Give adults the help they need _ Adults sometimes forget that communication with young people must take the form of a dialogue. Or they bore them with their high-flying language. Adults who are willing to take young people seriously must also realise that no personal affront is intended when youngsters see and tackle certain things differently. In order to strengthen youth involvement in the Alps, the adult players must pool their experiences and develop strategies together.

Projects

- Youth Parliament of the Alpine Convention (YPAC)_ Objective: To give young people experience of political decision-making. YPAC has been held in a different Alpine country every year since 2006, and has had the support of CIPRA since 2012, particularly with regard to project management and public relations. Funded through the EU's Youth in Action programme and by the Liechtenstein government, the Gerda Techow Foundation and several sponsors.
- young@lpweek _ Objective: To involve young people in AlpWeek where they can address the subject of Renewable Alps and present their ideas and visions in various formats. Organised in collaboration with the Alpine Town of the Year Association, whose office is run by CIPRA and whose jury includes CIPRA members. Sponsored through the EU's Youth in Action programme and by the Swiss Federal Office of Spatial Planning, the Alliance in the Alps network of municipalities, the Grisons Art Foundation, the Valposchiavo regional authority and Migros Culture Percentage. Held in Valposchiavo, Switzerland on 5 8 September 2012.



"THE CLIMALP EXCURSION WAS A BREAKTHROUGH"

CLIMALP / ALLIANCE IN THE ALPS NETWORK OF MUNICIPALITIES

The local authority in Saint-Jean-d'Arvey decided to use local timber to construct an energy-efficient multipurpose building. In an interview with the Mayor Jean-Claude Monin, we learn how the idea was inspired by a CIPRA visit to Vorarlberg.

Showing the way: Mayor Jean-Claude Monin speaking at the official opening of the community centre in Saint-Jean-d'Arvey.

_ Your new community centre is built of local timber and is a particularly energy-efficient design. This has made the French municipality of Saint-Jean-d'Arvey a pioneer in the field of sustainable construction. What does that mean for you?

First of all, such a model and showcase project is a real challenge for all concerned. But it is also a rewarding challenge! Our objective is to promote the regional timber industry and make a contribution to environmental protection. Local politicians are not elected to cover the area with as much concrete and asphalt as possible; it is our duty to think of the environment, the future and the climate. In Saint-Jean-d'Arvey we

www.cipra.org/youth | http://ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.htm

take these matters very seriously. We have doubtless made a contribution with this pioneering building, but we should not exaggerate our role. At last June's official opening of the centre, everybody stressed the merits of the project. The important thing now is that others follow suit and decision-makers in other municipalities do their best to address the challenges of the future.

How did members of the council react when you presented the idea for the building?

Before the matter was discussed and a decision taken, we travelled to Vorarlberg in Austria. We wanted to go there with CIPRA. The climalp excursion was a breakthrough. What we saw and learnt there helped us to do a good job of preparing our project and convincing the councillors - with the result that the project was approved unanimously.



The new centre uses less energy than a conventional building, but the construction costs are higher. Were the proposals for the construction method and costs readily accepted by the councillors and the local people?

Of course! A few years ago we doubled our water rates so as to be able to switch to ultrafiltration membrane technology for water treatment, thus eliminating the need to add chlorine. There was a consensus on that proposal, too. What is important is that you provide full information on what you are doing and why. As in the case of the new water purification plant, the local people quickly accepted the proposal for the new building. I think people today are very supportive of ecological measures. Of course not everyone always thinks the same, but criticism and suggestions are helpful, too.

Would you recommend that mayors and local decision-makers take a look at what others are doing before implementing a project of this kind?

Definitely! That is so important. You can often find good ideas somewhere else and then implement them yourself, perhaps with modifications. It's like invention and recycling. That is today's approach, especially in the context of globalisation. You can go to Africa, for example, to find models of solidarity that no longer exist in our part of the world. You have to keep an open mind for things that are different; you have to look around – and the Alliance in the Alps network of municipalities provides precisely this opportunity.

Left: The community centre in Saint-Jean-d'Arvey meets all the requirements of sustainable construction. **Right:** Half the village turned out to admire the new building.

MUNICIPALITIES OFFERING MUTUAL INSPIRATION

Jean-Claude Monin is Mayor of the municipality of Saint-Jean-d'Arvey in the French Alps. In the summer of 2012 they constructed a new multipurpose community centre in the form of a low-energy building using certified timber. The council in Saint-Jean-d'Arvey took its inspiration from the community building in Ludesch, Vorarlberg/A, which they visited on a climalp fact-finding trip. With its climalp project, CIPRA is showing that energy-efficient buildings made of local timber are attractive, help to mitigate climate change and promote the regional economy. In 2012 climalp received support from the Liechtenstein government, Fondation Assistence and the Karl Mayer Foundation.

Saint-Jean-d'Arvey is a member of the Alliance in the Alps network of municipalities, which now has a membership of over 300 local authorities. They work together to promote sustainability in the Alps. CIPRA played a role in the creation of the network in 1997 and has handled various secretariat functions as well as the project management for the organisation since 2000.

www.cipra.org/climalp/ (de/fr/it/sl) www.alpenallianz.org

Do you have the feeling that people's thinking and public opinion are gradually moving in the direction of environmental stewardship?

Yes, I do. But you must then be in a position to implement the political decisions at a professional and practical level. Public moods are subject to faster change today than the worlds of business and public administration, however paradoxical that may sound. It is our duty as a local authority to win local people over to a common goal and take the necessary steps together with them to ensure that the goal is achieved.

Alexandre Mignotte (interview and photo)

CIPRA France



CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY

Carbon-neutral Alps as a model region

Our vision: The people in the Alps live carbon-neutral lives, which also means they live good lives. They live and work in plus energy buildings constructed of regional materials; they walk, cycle or use public transport for as many journeys as possible, and they consume regional produce. **Our demands:**

- Reduced energy consumption _ We will only be able to slow down the pace of global warming with a clear reduction in energy consumption. This presupposes sufficient public awareness, the necessary legislation and a pricing policy based on true and transparent costs.
- Sustainable use of energy _ Comprehensive programmes serve to promote the transition to renewable energies. Government funding should only be made available to those who satisfy the requirements of such programmes.
- Energy production that respects nature _ With the envisaged energy transition, we must protect the remaining near-natural waterways and unspoiled countryside from being covered in wind farms and solar energy installations. The impact of such projects must be given thorough consideration.

Projects

• climalp _ Objective: To communicate knowledge in the field of energy-efficient construction and refurbishment. Information campaigns with fact-finding trips for local authorities, developers and architects. Project supported in 2012 by the Liechtenstein government, Fondation Assistence and the Karl Mayer Foundation.

- MountEE _ Objective: To help local authorities implement ultra-low-energy standards. Seven partners from the Alps, the Pyrenees and Scandinavia are developing regional strategies and initiating pilot projects. CIPRA is coordinating the overall project and is responsible for public relations. The project is being funded by the EU's Intelligent Energy Europe Programme and by the International Charitable Foundation. Project duration: 2012 to 2015.
- Alpstar _ Objective: Carbon-neutral Alps by 2050. Thirteen partners. Supported by the European Fund for Regional Development (Alpine Space). CIPRA has been appointed by the Liechtenstein government and the St. Gallen cantonal authority to coordinate activities in the Alpine Rhine Valley pilot region. Project management for the Alpine Town of the Year Association. Duration: 2011 to 2014.
- C3-Alps _ Objective: To make theoretical knowledge in the field of climate change adaptation available for practical application. Seventeen partners. Supported by the European Fund for Regional Development (Alpine Space). CIPRA has been commissioned to perform the work by the Liechtenstein government, the Bavarian Ministry of the Environment and the Munich and Upper Bavaria Chamber of Trades. Duration: 2012 to 2014.
- cc.alps _ Objective: To coordinate climate change mitigation measures with the demands of sustainable development. Project components: database and competition on climate change mitigation measures, events, ten Compacts (background reports on various topics) and political demands. Funded by the Mava Foundation for Nature, completed in 2012. Follow-up activities: transnational cooperation between pilot regions as part of the EU's Leader Programme.

www.cipra.org/climate

"FACT-FINDING TRIPS LIKE CLIMALP ARE SOME OF MY FAVOURITE ASSIGNMENTS"

PUBLIC RELATIONS

CIPRA communicates in four languages of the Alps and also in English.

The resulting translation load is handled by several translators and interpreters.

Reinhold Ferrari is one of them.

_ Sustainability is a very important subject for CIPRA. For me, too. I still remember when the term first came to be used in the Alps in the 1980s and it had to be reproduced in the Italian language. In English, the word durability was originally used. So the Italian dictionaries suggested durata and also persistenza (like the English word persistence) until someone proposed the term sostenibilità, which is derived from the English sustainability.

That is a good example of the work of a translator: a metatext – containing information about the author of the text, the intended recipient and the cultural context – is needed if the translator is to find an appropriate solution to the task in hand. For the most part, translators are confronted with a static object, i.e. the text, and their view is restricted. They sit alone in their ivory tower, and the author, recipients and client are a long way away.

Basically, I think translators must primarily make sure they avoid the linguistic pitfalls described by Paul Watzlawick in his book "How Real Is Real? – Communication, Disinformation, Confusion". In the chapter entitled "Traduttore, traditore", the author compares the relative triviality of confusing the Italian word burro (butter), which is also the Spanish word for donkey, and asino, the Italian word for donkey, with the potentially drastic effects of confusing 10⁹ and 10¹² when translating a text book on nuclear physics, for example. This is simply an occupational hazard.

As a translator and interpreter, you are continually learning and preparing for the next assignment. One day you may be interpreting from German at a press conference, the next day you are translating from English at a trade union meeting, and the following day you find yourself interpreting for the Italian members of the audience at a Renewable Alps conference such as AlpWeek 2012 in Valposchiavo. A one-day interpreting assignment requires at least one day of intensive preparation, as well as intellectual curiosity and a clear head if you are to make a good job of it. This makes the work strenuous – and also fascinating.

I have been working with CIPRA for over ten years now. It is easier and also more rewarding when you share your client's concerns and objectives. In this context I am thinking particularly of the CIPRA publication "Alps Insight", which often addresses subjects that are not only important for the Alps but also for myself in my professional development as a translator and my personal development as a vigilant and responsible citizen with a growing commitment to sustainability.

I personally prefer interpreting to written translation work. I especially love simultaneous interpreting, where I sit in the booth and can see the speakers. Apart from the spoken words coming to me via the headset, I can see the speaker's gestures and facial expression, and hear their tone of voice. I take



A keen supporter of CIPRA's ideas:

The interpreter Reinhold Ferrari sees himself as a bridge between the speaker and the audience.

all these elements of verbal and non-verbal communication to literally interpret the message and recreate it in another language.

There is another form of interpreting I should like to mention, namely consecutive interpreting on fact-finding trips, such as those organized by CIPRA's climalp project. These are definitely some of my favourite assignments – because I am the bridge between the speaker and the audience. Apart from that I find the subject so fascinating that I have devoted a lot of time and

energy to it in my private life, too, and have actually helped plan and build my own passive house. When I am on a fact-finding trip interpreting for someone who is explaining the advantages of passive houses and sustainable construction, it helps that I am a "believer" and have "converted" the people I live with. Then I interpret with maximum enthusiasm to the benefit of all concerned – CIPRA, my audience and myself.

Reinhold Ferrari

Alps LaRete

www.alpslarete.org

BUILDING BRIDGES WITH LANGUAGES

Reinhold Ferrari has been one of around two dozen translators working for CIPRA for more than ten years now. Among other things, he has translated this Annual Report and the CIPRA backgrounder Alps Insight. The fact that the Italian edition of the 3rd Alpine Report published by CIPRA in 2008 was awarded the Premio Gambrinus Giuseppe Mazzotti prize is due also to him. CIPRA builds a linguistic bridge across the Alps. Most if its publications appear in French, German, Italian and Slovene, and some are translated into English. CIPRA's central information platform is its website, which has a total of more than 80,000 pages. AlpMedia is a monthly newsletter devoted to current developments and activities in the Alps. Facebook and Twitter support communication with the closer CIPRA community, i.e. CIPRA staff in various countries, affiliated organisations and like-minded people.

In 2012 CIPRA published two editions of Alps Insight in German, French, Italian and Slovene, one on the subject of governance and participation ("Our will be done") and one about youth involvement ("Yes, youth can"). The CIPRA Compact "Forest management in climate change" is the tenth publication in a series that takes a critical look at climate change mitigation measures in the Alps.

www.cipra.org

ELECTRIFYING NEWSLETTER: LIECHTENSTEIN TURNS THE LIGHTS OFF

Networking presupposes communication. In the sixty years of its existence, CIPRA has always seen itself as a networker, keeping people with similar interests informed and connected – and often with surprising effects. With the help of its alpMedia newsletter, for example, CIPRA has been very successful in raising an awareness of the problem of light pollution. In the summer of 2009, a number of local authorities in Liechtenstein started experimenting by switching off street lighting overnight. The results are clearly positive – this initiative saves energy, reduces costs and tackles light pollution all at the same time – much to the delight of the bats, who can hunt for insects without being confused by the lights. The reports published in alpMedia triggered a wave of telephone calls from journalists, researchers, local authorities and other interested parties. The issue also attracted the attention of Switzerland's Ostschweiz radio station, which produced a programme on the subject. With its nighttime shutdown, Liechtenstein has made further progress in the direction of sustainable development. The various steps along this road and much more besides are dealt with in the CIPRA newsletter – every month.

www.cipra.org/alpmedia



THE CIPRA INTERNATIONAL TEAM



Left to right: Wolfgang Pfefferkorn (A) Project manager Alpstar, MountEE, C3-Alps, cc.alps, Barbara Wülser (CH)
Communication manager, Madeleine Rohrer (I) Project manager Alpine Town of the Year, alpMedia; team member Alpstar,
Tanja Mähr (A) Project manager Youth in the Alps, 60th Anniversary of CIPRA, Julitta Eller (A) Accounts, Aurelia Ullrich-Schneider (D) Project manager Ecological Continuum, recharge.green, climalp; team member Alpstar, cc.alps,
Petra Beyrer (A) Assistant to the Executive Director/projects, administration, Carole Piton (F) Project team member Alliance in the Alps, MountEE, Caroline Begle (A) Webmaster, Bruno Stephan Walder (CH) Executive Director (since May 2012),
Alpine Convention, Claire Simon (F/D) Deputy Director, Project manager Alliance in the Alps

Not in the photo: Catherine Frick (LI) Data input clerk, Andreas Götz (CH/I) Executive Director (until May 2012),

Claudia Pfister (CH) Project manager Alliance in the Alps (until March 2012)

Interns: Nikolaj Midasch (D), Simon Steuer (D), Antonija Wieser (A), Eva Schwienbacher (I)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF CIPRA INTERNATIONAL



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Helmuth Moroder
Deputy President (I)



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Marjeta Keršic-Svetel
Deputy President (SI)



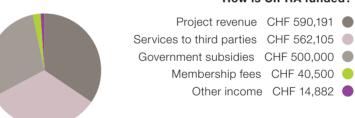
Josef Biedermann Treasurer (LI)

FINANCES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

_ CIPRA International's anniversary year was an extraordinary year for the organisation. The celebrations held in Rottach-Egern/D, where CIPRA was founded, the Alpine Power activities organised throughout the Alps, and AlpWeek 2012 held in Poschiavo/CH together with the 12th Alpine Conference of Ministers of the Environment combined to make great demands on the organisation in terms of both personnel and finance. With the appointment of Bruno Stephan Walder as the new Director, priority was given in 2012 to consolidation and reorientation. Finances were placed on a broader footing with a wider range of projects and sponsors. Thanks to their contributions and other support, CIPRA International is able to report a balanced year-end financial position, with income of CHF 1.708 million and expenditure totalling CHF 1.705 million.

CIPRA International's income in 2012 is comprised of one third project revenue, one third services to third parties and one third Europe-wide projects. CIPRA is a service provider for the Alliance in the Alps and Alpine Town of the Year networks. The generous subsidy provided by the Principality of Liechtenstein as the country in which CIPRA International is domiciled is the foundation that enables the organisation to perform targeted PR work on the subject of sustainability in the Alps. As a result, CIPRA can also play a role with its observer status to the Alpine Convention and at the European level in delivering significant inputs to challenges such as energy policy and climate change.

How is CIPRA funded?



How does CIPRA spend its funds?

- PR, policy, administration CHF 814,752
- Projects/services: material costs, fees CHF 379,452
- Projects/services: wages & salaries CHF 511,222

About one half of expenditure went on PR, political work and administration. That includes continual updating for our five-language website, publication of our topical magazine "Alps Insight" and the monthly "alpMedia" newsletter. The other half was spent on our own project work and on services provided to other networks and projects.

At the end of 2012, CIPRA International's assets amounted to around CHF 400,000. The annual financial statements and accounts of CIPRA International are independently audited by Revitrust AG of Schaan/LI. To see the details of the annual financial statements including the balance sheet, please go to website www.cipra.org

CIPRA International's thanks for financial support and contracts go to:

Principality of Liechtenstein www.llv.li (de)

Fondation Assistence Internationale, Triesenberg/LI

Federal Office of Spatial Development (ARE), Bern/CH

www.are.admin.ch

The EU's Intelligent Energy Europe Programme
http://ec.europa-eu/cip/iee

...

Alliance in the Alps Network of Municipalities www.alpenallianz.org

Alpine Town of the Year Association www.alpenstaedte.org

Binding Foundation, Schaan/LI www.binding.li (de)

Gemeinnützige Stiftungen, LI

The EU's Youth in Action Programme www.aha.li (de)

Gerda Techow Foundation, Vaduz/LI

Valüna Foundation, Vaduz/LI

CIPRA Deutschland www.cipra.de (de)

Office of Spatial Development and Geoinformation, Canton St. Gall/CH www.areg.sg.ch

Aage V. Jensen Charity Foundation, Vaduz/LI

Karl Mayer Foundation, Vaduz/LI

Foundation of Fürstlicher Kommerzienrat Guido Feger, Vaduz/LI

Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), Berlin/D www.bmu.de (de)

ICF International Charitable Foundation, Vaduz/LI

Handwerkskammer für München und Oberbayern/D

www.hwk-muenchen.de (de)

Region of Valposchiavo/CH www.regione-valposchiavo.ch (de/it)

Office of Culture, Canton Grisons/CH www.gr.ch

MIGROS Culture Percentage, Zürich/CH www.migros-kulturprozent.ch

CIPRA, the International Commission for the Protection of the Alps, is a non-governmental umbrella organisation with representatives in the seven Alpine states of Germany, France, Italy, Liechtenstein, Austria, Switzerland, Slovenia and regional representatives in South Tyrol/I. It represents around 100 associations and organisations from across the Alps. CIPRA works for sustainable development in the Alps. It advocates the conservation of natural and cultural heritage, the preservation of regional diversity and solutions to cross-border issues in the Alpine region. It was founded on 5th May 1952 and is domiciled in Schaan in the Principality of Liechtenstein. CIPRA's status as a non-profit organisation is recognised by the tax authorities of Liechtenstein. Its guiding principle and its statutes can be found on the internet at www.cipra.org



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