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Medienmitteilung: Abschluss GaYA-Projekt und Konferenz in Chambéry/F

Youth participation is a must, not a nice extra

More youth participation in the Alps! This appeal went to the politicians of the Alpine countries at the conference on the GaYA project in Chambéry/F. The extent to which the topic moves was shown by the participation of numerous young people and representatives from politics and society throughout the Alps.

Actively promote a political culture of participation, anchor the participation of young people in decision-making processes, make youth participation a must, not just a nice extra! The partner organisations of the Interreg project GaYA brought these political recommendations to the politicians of the Alpine countries.

How can youth participation in cities and rural areas be promoted? What innovative ideas and projects are there? What can politicians and decision-makers do? More than 200 participants from all Alpine countries travelled to the GaYA conference in Chambéry, France, to answer questions on youth participation. In interactive sessions, young people, politicians and interested parties from various Alpine countries exchanged ideas. In addition, the event offered music and alpine cuisine as well as films produced by young people, which were presented as part of an alpine-wide film competition.

The conference was part of the Interreg project GaYA - Governance and Youth in the Alps that aims to involve the younger generation more closely in political decision-making processes. The event also marked the end of the two-year project. Besides the international exchange and the political recommendations, the project partners presented a toolbox for youth participation and a comparative study on participatory democracy in the Alps.

Information project GaYA: www.alpine-space.eu/projects

This press release and pictures can be downloaded at:
www.alpine-space.eu/project-news-details/en/5349

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GaYA- Governance and youth in the Alps

Young people tend to leave the Alpine space because they lack personal and professional fulfilment. Furthermore a majority of decision-makers remain unaware of the benefits a young active population brings to society. In cooperation with eight partners from all over the Alps GaYA aims to increase the quality of democratic processes in the Alpine space by enhancing the involvement of young people in regional governance and by developing new approaches for decision makers. New democratic methods are collected in order to overcome the challenges of territorial cohesion and participatory involvement of young people in everyday political actions. The implementation of innovative governance forms has great potential for increasing sustainable and fair decision making.

GaYa lasts from October 2016 to February 2019 and is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund through the Interreg Alpine Space programme. www.alpine-space.eu/gaya