



Euromontana's VIIIth European Mountain Convention "European Mountain Regions- A spirit of Innovation"

15th-17th September 2010, Lillehammer, Norway

Euromontana, the European association for mountain areas, together with Norwegian Mountain Regions Cooperation, invite you to the biggest event for stakeholders from mountain areas in 2010. Every two years, since 1998, the European Mountain Conventions organised by Euromontana gather European, national, regional and local key stakeholders, scientists and entrepreneurs. During 2.5 days, the participants discuss important issues for the development of mountain areas and communities.

In 2010 the theme selected for the Convention is **innovation, a key for the development of mountain areas**. Innovation, together with research, is part of the strategy the European Union and its Member States recently chose to respond to the economic crisis and to energize European businesses. For mountain areas it is also vital to develop endogenous innovation that can bring diverse and adapted solutions to mountain issues such as negative demographic trends, need of economical diversification, accessibility, etc.

The European Mountain Convention will focus on **two different themes**, dealt with in two workshops' sessions. **The innovation processes** will be explored in a first stage: how to innovate in mountain areas and what are conditions to foster innovation? In a second workshops' session, **the sectors** in which mountain areas can use best their specificities in order to innovate will be considered. Best practices from mountain areas will be presented and the main focus will be put on the transferability of these examples.

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Registration will be open on-line from 15th May to 15th August on www.euromontana.org



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