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Invitation  
to conference

**Date:** 10. and 11. June 2010;  
beginning: 10. June 2010 at 13:00; end: 11. June 2010 at 13:00

**Venue:** Renaissance Salzburg Hotel, Fanny-von-Lehnert-Straße 7, 5020 Salzburg

**Registration**

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**Closing date: Friday 4. June 2010**

**Please make your own hotel reservations:**

phone +43-(0)662 4688 2251; fax +43-(0)662 4688 228;

[www.renaissancesalzburg.at](http://www.renaissancesalzburg.at)

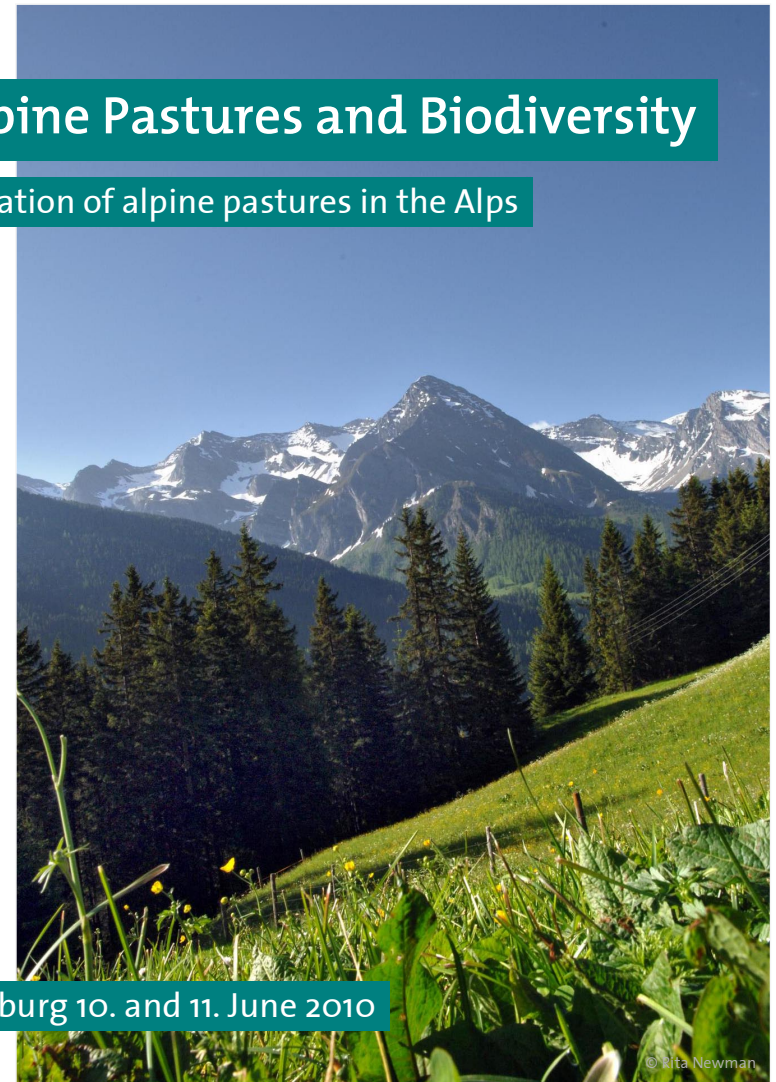
Please quote **“Alpenkonvention”** when making your hotel reservation.

For reservations until **21.05.2010** a special price has been agreed with the hotel for conference participants.

# Alpine Pastures and Biodiversity

## Situation of alpine pastures in the Alps

Map of the venue



Salzburg 10. and 11. June 2010

## The Background of the conference

Alpine pastures are century-old cultivated landscapes generated through agricultural management. The alpine landscape is of outstanding value for species and habitat diversity. The management of alpine pastures provides an important contribution to the conservation of biodiversity in sensitive alpine ecosystems. Alpine pastures are a characteristic feature of cultivated landscapes in alpine regions and they are of fundamental importance for tourism.

The current challenges for alpine pastures are manifold:

- Structural changes in agriculture in general
- Forest growth on abandoned alpine pastures, species decline and loss of adapted livestock breeds
- Over-exploitation of a few, easily accessible pastures or
- Shift/extinction of plant communities due to predicted warming in the Alps, changes in the water regime etc.

## The aim of the conference

The conference “Alpine Pastures and Biodiversity – Situation of alpine pastures in the Alps” provides an overview of the situation of alpine pasture management in the Alps and demonstrates the importance of alpine pastures, both for biodiversity and for cultivated landscapes. The event provides a forum for information exchange, opinion-making and networking. Courses of action shall be discussed relating to the maintenance of alpine pasture management under the Alpine Convention and, where required, further action shall be initiated.

## Topics of the poster presentation

- National park certificate for alpine pastures – an initiative of the National Park Hohe Tauern Tyrol
- Alpine pastures in Upper Bavaria – cultural landscapes with the highest level of biodiversity, shaped by farming (photo exhibition)
- ÖPUL alpine pasture evaluation project EVALM-Austria
- Quality and prioritization criteria for species diversity and landscapes in the alpine pasture area in Switzerland
- The nature conservation plan on alpine pastures, financial assistance for alpine pastures in protected areas in Carinthia
- Alpine pastures and the Alps. Cultural landscapes at high altitudes in the Alps. Ecology. Land use. Perspectives.
- KLIM Cultural Landscapes Inventory Montafon

## Programme –Thursday 10. June 2010

*Moderation: Elisabeth Schwaiger and Helmut Gaugitsch, Umweltbundesamt*

**13:00 Welcome**

Ewald Galle,  
*Austrian Lebensministerium, Abteilung Internationale Umweltangelegenheiten*  
Marco Onida, *Secretary General of the Alpine Convention*

**The importance of alpine pastures for biodiversity and nature conservation**

**13:15 Alpine Pastures – a central element of alpine landscapes**

Georg Grabherr, *Universität Wien – Department für Naturschutzbiologie, Vegetations- und Landschaftsökologie*

**Alpine pasture management in the countries of the Alpine Convention**

**14:00 Situation of alpine pastures in Austria – role of the farmers**

Barbara Kircher, *Kärntner Landesregierung – Almwirtschaft*

**14:30 Alpine farming/alpine pasture management in Bavaria**

Stefan Gabler,  
*Bayerisches Staatsministerium für Ernährung, Landwirtschaft und Forsten*

**15:00 Coffee break**

**15:30 Current situation and future challenges of alpine farming in Switzerland**

Maya Santschi, *Bundesamt für Landwirtschaft BLW, Bern*

**16:00 Situation of alpine farming in Liechtenstein**

Julius Ospelt, *Landwirtschaftsamt, Liechtensteinische Landesverwaltung*

**16:30 Current situation and perspectives for the management of alpine pastures in Italy – Situazione attuale e prospettive per la gestione dei pascoli alpini in Italia**

Josef Parente,  
*Dipartimento di Biologia e Protezione delle Piante – Università di Udine*

**17:00 Situation of alpine pasture management in Slovenia – Planine v Sloveniji**

Silvo Kranjec,  
*Sektor za sonaravno kmetijstvo, Ministerium für Landwirtschaft, Lubljana*

**19:00 Evening buffet with regional produce**

sponsored by the Austrian Lebensministerium

## Programme – Friday 11. June 2010

### Presentation of projects related to biodiversity, nature conservation and cultivated landscapes in alpine pasture areas

- 9:00** Alpine pastures activate new paths towards biodiversity –  
Interreg IV Project Salzburg/Bavaria  
*Günther Jaritz, Amt der Salzburger Landesregierung – Abteilung Naturschutz*
- 9:25** Development of criteria for the evaluation of ecology and landscape  
in the alpine pastures of Switzerland  
*Irene Weyermann, AGRIDEA, Lindau*
- 9:50** ERA (Eco Regio Alpe Adria) – Cooperation of three National/Nature Parks  
in the tri-border area to strengthen regional mountain farming  
*Daniel Bogner, Umweltbüro Klagenfurt*
- 10:15** The use of alpine pastures and ecological services as demonstrated by  
examples from South Tyrol and Tyrol  
*Erich Tasser, EURAC, Bozen*
- 10:40** Introduction to poster presentation
- 10:50** Poster presentation and coffee break
- 11:30** Discussion, dialogue and opinion-making with stakeholders  
and the audience:
- Is there a need for action? If yes – where?
  - What can the Alpine Convention and in particular its Protocols  
contribute towards the conservation of alpine pastures?
  - Is country networking desirable?

### **13:00** End of the conference

*The talks will be translated simultaneously into the languages of the  
Alpine Convention!*

*Financial support for the conference provided by  
the Austrian Lebensministerium and Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention*