

The Alpine Convention Newsletter is published quarterly by the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention.

[View this email in your browser](#)



**"What day is it?" asked Pooh.
"It's today," squeaked Piglet.
"My favorite day," said Pooh."
— A.A. Milne**

Many days have gone and come since I took office as Secretary General of the Alpine Convention in 2013. Yet, I do not remember a single one, where I felt bored or that I had the impression that the grip of routine would take over and exert an overwhelming force. Quite the contrary was true: working for the Alpine Convention was like an endless stream of lessons to be learned, people to be met, challenges to be understood and solutions to be discovered. Now this seemingly endless stream will slowly come to an end for me.

Together with the committed team of the Permanent Secretariat, the Contracting Partners, Observers and Partners Organizations – I had the opportunity to share this work and engagement for the last 6 years with you and we have, I believe, come quite a long way together for the protection and the sustainable development of the region we so cherish.

Apart from all the substantive work we did in the last years, there was one element that I consistently aimed at implementing as a *leitmotif*: strengthen cooperation, be constructive, work with not against each other. Today's challenges cannot be met by single countries, regions or municipalities – let alone individuals. If we want to succeed, we will have to do it together. For me that is the main spirit underlying practically all forms of international cooperation, it is also the spirit of the Alpine Convention! A spirit that requires to be constantly and thoroughly lived to become (and remain) reality.

With that in mind, I wish my successor, Ms Alenka Smerkolj, the best success for her term as Secretary General and I am confident that she will be able to rely on the support and cooperation of you all.

For me it remains to thank you all for the last years, to wish you all the best for the future and to end this foreword by another quote from one of the most beautiful books I know: "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard." (A.A. Milne, Winnie-the-Pooh).

Sincerely yours
Markus Reiterer



Farewell editorial by the Secretary General

News from the Secretariat

[Successful week of Alpine events in April!](#)

[Thank You!](#)

[New Secretary General appointed](#)

[Photo Contest 2019 "Textures and Patterns in the Alps"](#)

[Climate-neutral and climate-resilient Alps 2050: a new publication](#)

[EEA EIONET Workshop "Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation"](#)

[Alpine Convention WebGIS: new SPARE map on the ecological status of Alpine rivers](#)

[Permanent Secretariat and VAO \(Virtual Alpine Observatory\) looking for synergy](#)

[Farewell visit to Alpine Town of the Year Sonthofen](#)

News from the Thematic Working Bodies

[RSA8 kick-off meeting](#)

[Transport Working Group meeting in Grenoble](#)

[Start of the Working Group Soil Protection](#)

[Alpine Climate Board: Workshop on the implementation of the LAlpine Climate Target System 2050](#)

[PLANALP meets for the first time](#)

News from EUSALP

[Territorial Brands in the Alpine Region - A chance for better valorizing regional and local agri-food products](#)

[EUSALP AG4 Mobility](#)

News from the Delegations, Observers, Partners

[Recent changes in the German Delegation](#)

[Low carbon lifestyles in the Alps: LOCAL](#)

[PlurAlps Regional Workshop](#)

[Climate protection, a question of style?](#)

[Communicating climate change at local level](#)

[Pollinator havens created in the "BeeAware!" project](#)

[The Alps - A journey through maps and pictures: exhibition visits France](#)

[Promoting Education for Sustainable Development in the Alps](#)

[France, Italy and Switzerland discussing Transboundary Wildlife Management](#)

[Alpine school app: a smart way to discover, learn and experience the Alps](#)

[The transformation of Alpine Industrial Landscapes \(trAILS\) gets into action!](#)

[Alpine Soil Partnership in Aosta \(IT\): Caring for Soils - in practice](#)

[Key messages of the ForumAlpinum 2018 & the 7th Water Conference](#)

News from the Infopoints

[Sustainable development in the Alps as part of adult education programmes](#)

[Farewell visit of the Secretary General to the Infopoint Domodossola](#)

[Project 2019: the Alpine Convention presented in the schools of the Verbano Cusio Ossola Province](#)

[Info Point Award "Reading mountain" 2019](#)

[Info Point Villach](#)

Upcoming events in July



News from the Secretariat

Successful week of Alpine events in April!



At the beginning of April, the XV Alpine Conference made its mark on Innsbruck (AT). Thanks to the consistent and constructive engagement of the Contracting Parties, the outgoing and new Presidency, the Observers, the team of the Permanent Secretariat, as well as the support of the Land Tirol and the City of Innsbruck, the Conference and the week of Alpine events turned out to be successful. *"The Alpine Conference adopted the "Declaration of Innsbruck", by which the Contracting Parties formally approved the Alpine Target System for climate-neutral and climate-resilient Alps by 2050", so the Secretary General, Ambassador Markus Reiterer. "The task is now to communicate and disseminate these results and, above all, to get the job done: that is to make the target of climate neutral Alps a reality!"*

The [latest publication](#) of the Permanent Secretariat attempts to provide answers to the questions: *How can the goal of "climate-neutral and climateresilient Alps" be achieved by 2050? and what does modern natural hazard management look like?* A comprehensive report of the XV Alpine Conference and the different events can be found in the Special edition [Newsletter](#).

[Back to top](#)



Thank you!

Danke!

Merci!

Grazie!

Hvala!

New Secretary General appointed



The XV Alpine Conference, which took place in Innsbruck (AT) at the beginning of April, did not only bring us a new presidency and several important declarations, but also designated the next Secretary General of the Alpine Convention. After a six year term, Ambassador Markus Reiterer will officially hand over the baton to Mrs Alenka Smerkolj from Slovenia on 15 July 2019. Mrs Smerkolj has long-year experience in international banking and management and has also served as the minister responsible for development, strategic projects and cohesion in the Slovenian government between 2014 and 2018. The Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention wishes Mrs Smerkolj every conceivable success for the protection and sustainable development in the Alps!

[Back to top](#)

Photo Contest 2019 "Textures and Patterns in the Alps"



©Hannes Schlosser

The Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention has launched the 10th edition of the photo contest! This anniversary edition focuses on the subject **“Textures and Patterns”** in the Alps. We may not always consciously perceive them, but “Textures and Patterns” are omnipresent in our daily lives in the Alps. We can discover and recognize “Textures and Patterns” in:

- Settlements and cities: a watercourse, towns resembling a chessboard or a spider’s web, ...
- Nature: longitudinal section of a tree trunk, the bottom of a mushroom cap, ...
- Food: a nice plate arrangement, the leaf veins of mangold, ...
- Humans: wrinkles, iris, textile fabric of a dress, ...
- Transport: rails, hiking trails, ...
- Sports: tracks of a skier, waves of a sailboat, ...
- The air: clouds, sunrays, ...

The submitted photos will be competing for the nominations for the 2020 Alpine Convention calendar! We welcome pictures that translate this year’s theme “Textures and patterns in the Alps” in an original way before the closing date of 30th August 2019. Further information on how to participate can be found on our [webpage](#).

[Back to top](#)

Climate-neutral and climate-resilient Alps 2050: a new publication



Climate-neutral and Climate-resilient Alps 2050

Declaration of Innsbruck
Alpine Climate Target System 2050
7th Report on the state of the Alps "Natural Hazard Risk Governance"



Shortly after the XV Alpine Conference, its three main results in the field of climate action were gathered in a single brochure: The Declaration of Innsbruck, the Alpine Climate Target System 2050 and a summary of the 7th Report on the State of the Alps. A handy tool for dissemination and for reference to mainstream climate action throughout the work of the Alpine Convention, the A5, 28-page booklet is available online (EN, DE, IT, FR) and on paper upon request to the [Permanent Secretariat](#).

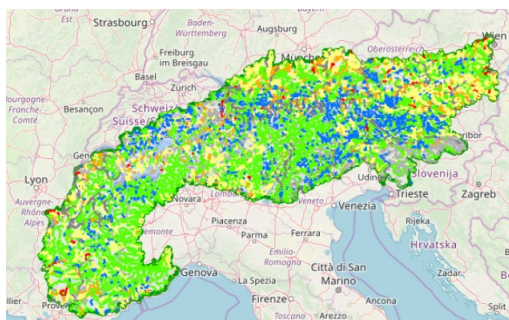
[Back to top](#)

EEA EIONET Workshop "Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation", Copenhagen, 12-13 June

On June 12-13, the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention participated in a workshop on "Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation", organized by the European Environment Agency (EEA). The workshop involved the members of the European Environment Information and Observation Network (EIONET), composed by 39 representatives from member and participating countries, as well as representatives of transnational and regional institutions and Conventions which are cooperating with the EEA and the EIONET. The state of the art regarding climate change vulnerability, impacts and adaptation was discussed thanks to inputs from, among others, the EEA, the European Commission and the Joint Research Center (JRC). The Permanent Secretariat participated in two break-out sessions. The first one concerned the upcoming edition of the report "Climate Change Impacts and Vulnerability in Europe" to whose last edition the Permanent Secretariat contributed to and for which it is supporting, together with other European transnational mountain areas, a mountain-based approach to the analysis, going beyond national borders. The second break-out session to which the Secretariat gave inputs concerned the [Climate-ADAPT Platform](#), which has recently been updated and features also a section dedicated to the Alps.

[Back to top](#)

Alpine Convention WebGIS: new SPARE map on the ecological status of Alpine rivers



After 2 years of work, the [Alpine Space InterregSPARE project](#) (Strategic Planning for Alpine River Ecosystems) came to an end in December 2018. The project was dedicated to the analysis on how strategic approaches for the protection and management of rivers can be improved across administrative and disciplinary borders and on the promotion of the services provided by Alpine rivers. Led by the Vienna *University* of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU) and supported by the work of nine other partners, the project had, amongst others, the following goals:

- A pan-Alpine overview of priority rivers with high protection need;
- Examples of successful river management in the Alps;
- Enable river managers in five pilot case study areas to plan, apply and evaluate participatory methods.

Amongst the deliverables of the project were a [pan-Alpine GIS database](#) and a [reference database](#). In this context, a mapping of the ecological status of Alpine rivers was carried out and [is now published also on the Alpine Convention WebGIS](#). Based on official data provided by national/regional administrations, the map classifies rivers into five ecological status classes ranging from high to bad based on biological quality indicators, such as fishes or benthic invertebrates. Find out more on our [WebGIS!](#)

[Back to top](#)

Permanent Secretariat and VAO (Virtual Alpine Observatory) looking for synergy



The [Virtual Alpine Observatory Board Meeting](#) took place on 7 June in Vipava (SI). Earlier this year the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention became an official observer of the Virtual Alpine Observatory (VAO), a network of high-altitude research stations, based in the Alps. As an observer we have joined the meeting to identify the possibilities for concrete cooperation regarding research, especially focusing on the topics currently at the forefront for the Alpine Convention – climate change and air quality.

[Back to top](#)

Farewell visit of the Alpine Town of the Year Sonthofen



Throughout the last years, the cooperation with the Alpine Town of the Year Sonthofen, in which the Alpine Town of the Year association is registered, has been outstanding. From the organisation of a fantastic framework program for the 61. Meeting of the Permanent Committee of the Alpine Convention in June 2016, occasion-related visits, planting an Alpine Town of the Year tree and cooperation in topics like cycling in the Alps, the exchange between Sonthofen and the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention had intensified. This is why the Secretary General of the Alpine Convention, Markus Reiterer visited the vibrant Alpine Town for a last time in his role as Secretary General to express his appreciation for the work done by the municipality and especially by the first mayor, Christian Wilhelm, third mayor, Ingrid Fischer and the Alpine Town of the Year core team Manfred Maier and Sonja Karnath.

[Back to top](#)



NEWS FROM THE THEMATIC WORKING BODIES

RSAS "kick-off" meeting

In the first week of June, the members of the ad hoc Working Group for the elaboration of the 8th Report on the State of the Alps met in Paris (FR) for the first time. Following the mandate, given by the Alpine Conference to elaborate a Report on the topic of air quality in the Alps, the group had the complex task of deciding upon the precise structure and content of the Report, the data to be analysed and the indicators to be taken into consideration. It was an intense and technical, but also fruitful discussion; the members agreed to address outdoor ambient air quality (excluding GHG emissions per se) and focusing on the EU regulated air pollutants. Specific attention will be devoted to the regulative framework (from local to international) as well as to smart solutions and best practices. The specificities of the Alpine region will be taken consideration, together with the analysis of the sources of air pollution. The output will also include the elaboration of a set of policy recommendations on how to improve Alpine air quality. The members of the group will meet again in early October in Annecy (FR) for their second meeting.

[Back to top](#)

Transport Working Group meeting in Grenoble



The members of the Transports Working Group met in Grenoble (FR) for the 40th (!) time since the group was established. The meeting was hosted by the Prefecture of Grenoble and was focused on the questions how to address the tasks of the Working Group, mandated by the XV Alpine Conference. Finally, four main topics were put on the agendas for the next two years:

- Modal shift of Alpine freight transit by 2050;
- Good practices in reducing transport;
- Potential of existing and new technologies for sustainable passenger transport in the Alps;
- Alpine-wide overview of the impacts of transport in the Alps on air quality and the effectiveness of impact mitigation measures.

The Members of the Group carried out a discussion about the detailed content of the studies ahead and took the opportunity to put forward their inputs and the potential sharing of information. The meeting also included a tour through the city of Grenoble to experience their bike policies on the spot. Since the new City Council implemented a comprehensive plan to foster soft mobility in the city. This plan includes short and long term bike rental solutions, the identification of new dedicated lanes, the creation of "bike highways" to allow fast transfers from the outskirts to the city center as well as the adaptation of traffic to bikers' needs in the city.

[Back to top](#)

Start of the Working Group Soil Protection



The first meeting of the Working Group Soil Protection of the Alpine Convention took place on the 18-19 June 2019 in the Bavarian State Ministry of the Environment and Consumer Protection in Munich (DE). With participants from Austria, Germany, Slovenia and ALPARC, the first steps in defining the work plan for the mandate period 2019-2021 were taken. The Deputy General Consul of France in Munich, Benoît Schneider, underlined that the issue of soil is of high importance in France and an active participation of France in the Working Group will be ensured.

Concrete ideas on fostering exchange and awareness-raising have been collected, procedures on tackling the tasks of facilitation of the implementation of Article 20 of the Soil Conservation Protocol (establishment of an harmonized databases) and of the implementation of the Article 21 (establishment of permanent monitoring areas and coordination of environmental monitoring) have been defined. Furthermore, many relevant aspects regarding interlinkages between qualitative and quantitative aspects of soil protection have been addressed. The chair of the Working Group, Christian Ernstberger, welcomed the first steps taken and is looking forward to the further development of the work plan with the involvement of a growing number of participants. The next meeting is foreseen for 16-17 October 2019 in Innsbruck (AT) back-to-back to the "Alpine Soil Forum – Soil management fit for the future".

[Back to top](#)

Alpine Climate Board: Workshop on the Implementation of the Alpine Climate Target System 2050

Contribution by the Board's Presidency



The Alpine Climate Board (ACB) initiated a workshop which took place on 13-14 May in Salzburg (AT). Members of the ACB as well as other experts in the fields of climate change adaptation and mitigation discussed the way towards implementing the Alpine Climate Target System ([EN](#), [DE](#), [IT](#), [FR](#), [SL](#)). The objective of the workshop was to test the method of implementation pathways for two sectors: energy and transport. As a next step, the same method will also be applied on the sectoral target "natural hazards", primarily as a test run in an adaptation sector. In addition, the workshop included a brainstorming session towards a comprehensive climate communication strategy for the target system. (*Photo: Helen Lückge, Climonomics, presents pathways for the energy sector.*)

[Back to top](#)

PLANALP meets for the first time



The first meeting of the Natural Hazards Working Group (PLANALP) in the new mandate period took place on 24 April at the Seggau castle near Leibnitz (AT). Together with a few new members, the Working Group also got a new chair, Mr Florian Rudolf-Miklau. On this occasion we would like to thank the former chairs, Mr Rudolf Hornich and Catrin Promper, for his work and contributions.

Besides the dissemination of the RSA7, the Working Group is now focusing on knowledge transfer and exchange of good natural disaster risk reduction practices, contribution of prevention in contingency planning and climate change adaptation on local level. Participants discussed how to approach contingency planning and agreed on further steps to be taken until the next meeting in October.

On the next day, natural hazard model exhibition and workshop took place. The exhibition was attended by around 100 students aged 10-14 to interactively learn about risk and natural hazards. Afterwards, the PLANALP members gathered in a moderated discussion about best practices for risk communication and natural disaster models.

[Back to top](#)



News from EUSALP

Territorial Brands in the Alpine Region
A chance for better valorizing regional and local agri-food products!



More than 80 practitioners of the agri-food sector and experts met on 13 May 2019 at EURAC Research in Bolzano/Bozen (IT) for the international workshop on “Territorial Brands in the Alpine Region”, organized by EUSALP Action Group 6, sub-group 2 “Future-oriented farming and forestry”.

Territorial Brands are commercial valorization instruments, which promote a multiplicity of products sustainably made in a specific territory. An umbrella organization coordinates the common marketing activities, involves and interfaces with the single producers.

The workshop provided insights into different ways of creating a successful Territorial Brand as well as into the framework conditions underpinning such processes and the impact of a successful Territorial Brand on the development of the corresponding territory. Contributions from Territorial Brand managers and experts on local development from all over the Alpine Region and presentations of good practices demonstrated the potential of development of Territorial Brands for local sustainable growth in the agri-food Intangible Cultural Heritage sector of the Alpine Region. After the workshop 35 participants seized the chance of a field trip to visit two concrete examples of Territorial Brands in the Province of South Tyrol.

The international workshop on “Territorial Brands in the Alpine Region” represents a key part of the activities of EUSALP Action Group 6 sub-group 2 aiming at further clarifying the subject and collecting best practices to be inserted in the Platform of Knowledge the EUSALP is currently establishing.

[Back to top](#)

EUSALP AG4 Mobility

The Permanent Secretariat participated as Observer in the 5th meeting of the AG4's Task Force on Project Assessment Methodology in Verona (IT) on 27 May and the 11th AG4 meeting in Innsbruck (AT) on 4 June. Both the definition of the assessment methodology and the preparation of the work plan 2019-2022 are still in progress.

[Back to top](#)



**News from Delegations, Observers,
Partners**



Recent changes in the German delegation

Contribution by the German Delegation

For more than half a year now, Martin Weiß has assumed the position as the new Head of Delegation for Germany. He has taken over from Christian Lindemann, who has contributed over many years to a successful implementation of the Alpine Convention. Martin Weiß has worked on climate and energy policy at the international, European and national levels and is now responsible, inter alia, for bilateral and regional cooperation at the Federal Ministry for the Environment in Germany. He is a political scientist by training.

As Silvia Reppe has left the Federal Ministry for the Environment for her well-deserved retirement, Christian Ernstberger has been appointed as the new focal point for the Alpine Convention for Germany. He is a passionate alpinist, a lawyer by training and has been working on European environmental cooperation for many years in different roles. He is also the chair of the new Working Group on Soil Protection during its current mandate period.

[Back to top](#)



Low carbon lifestyles in the Alps: LOCAL

Contribution by CIPRA

In the project [LOCAL](#), which stands for Low Carbon Alpine Lifesyles, young people from Slovenia and Liechtenstein discuss sustainable lifestyle in the Alps and start their own initiatives in their municipalities. From the collected ideas on the kick-off in Schaan (LI) they've selected one, which they work on during the summer and present on the final event in Maribor (SL). In Schaan, raised bed gardens are created with the aim to inspire the public growing their own vegetables. In Slovenia, parking slots were changed to play-grounds for one day to raise awareness on how much living-space is lost due to parking areas. Moreover, vertical gardens were built in a Slovenian school to test new ways of gardening and to show that even in schools, vegetable or herbs can be grown.

[Back to top](#)

PlurAlps Regional Workshop
Contribution by CIPRA



In the frame of the knowledge transfer activities of the PlurAlps project, CIPRA International Lab organized a workshop in Demonte, Valle Stura, Piedmont (IT) on 7-8 June. The first day was dedicated to the presentation of the PlurAlps project and of the activities of the Germinale Cooperative. CIPRA International Lab is supporting Germinale in the establishment a mountain farm and in the integration of one young migrant from west Africa in this Italian valley. Experts, practitioners and local participants discussed the topic of integration in the Alpine valley and gave feedback on the political recommendations listed in the white paper that had been drafted by some of the PlurAlps partners. The workshop of the second day saw the participation of both local representatives of the municipality and the local mountain union and some youth that are thinking about leaving the city to settle in the mountains. The group discussed the factors that can motivate this change of lifestyle and the solutions to make it possible.

[Back to top](#)

Climate protection, a question of style?
Contribution by CIPRA

© David Boyle



Will the Alpine Community succeed in reducing its emissions? Can it adapt to climate change and its effects? The answer depends on their future lifestyle. As part of the CIPRA project "Sustainable lifestyles in the Alps", the Swiss research institute WSL has written a report summarising basic knowledge on different lifestyles for the Alpine region. The report shows that the living conditions of the population in the Alpine region vary and that age, income and type of housing influence our energy consumption. Anyone who wants to promote sustainable lifestyles therefore needs specific approaches. Another result of the project is an [interactive Alpine map](#) that presents good examples of sustainable lifestyles in the Alps. The project "Sustainable lifestyles in the Alps" is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU). Read the [full report](#).

[Back to top](#)

Communicating climate change at local level

Contribution by Alliance in the Alps



© AGEDEN

The Alpine Partnership of Local Climate Action ([ALPACA](#)) focuses in 2019 on the question: "How can communities communicate in a more effective way on climate change in order to get political leaders, authorities, entrepreneurs and citizens to act?". The core group of the partnership met in May in Grenoble (FR) at the office of its partner AGEDEN. Together with local researchers, municipality representatives and NGOs, they discussed effective ways and challenges of communication on climate change. Over the next months, inspiring stories will be collected and evaluated. End of 2019/beginning of 2020 the partnership will hold a conference on the above topic.

[Back to top](#)

Pollinator havens are created in the "BeeAware!" project

Contribution by Alliance in the Alps



The German pilot regions “Nagelfluhkette Nature Park” and “Ökomodell Achantal” work together with municipalities, horticultural associations, beekeepers and farmers on the sustainable protection of bees and their habitat. The measures reach from an “Education house” with a demonstration beekeeping model to the creation of extensive flowering areas with suitable seeds and plants. Other activities include the creation of natural insect shelters, for example by planting flower strips or by building dry walls. In addition, measures on environmental awareness are carried out to provide children and adults, for example with info walks, hands-on workshops and awareness events. Read more about it [here](#) or follow the [blog](#).

[Back to top](#)



The Alps – A journey through maps and pictures: exhibition now in France

Contribution by CIPRA France

On Saturday, June 25, in Eybens (on the outskirts of Grenoble), CIPRA France presented the exhibition of the Alpine Convention for the first time in the French Alps. This event took place during the open-air Festival of the Environment, in which associations and local actors were presenting their roles and projects to a large public of all ages. Thanks to the 15 maps intersecting with many themes inherent to the Alps, exchanges, information and discussions have nourished the wandering of an assistance particularly interested in the issues of population distribution and global warming. Visitors gained insight into the Convention and its approaches to the various challenges.

[Back to top](#)

Promoting Education for Sustainable Development in the Alps

Contribution by ALPARC



More than one hundred people interested in education for sustainable development participated in the international conference “Learning and Networking for sustainable development in the Alps” from May 14-15 in Morbegno (IT). The conference marked the beginning of a new form of education as two of the main outputs of the [YOurALPS project](#). The Alpine School Model and the international network on Mountain-oriented Education ‘OurAlps’ were presented for the first time. The innovative approach of the Alpine School Model includes outdoor learning, interdisciplinarity methods and aims at integrating non-formal approaches into formal education in order to re-connect youth to their mountain territory. The second big conference input involved the presentation of OurAlps, a network which aims to bring together stakeholders from different domains to allow for exchanges to occur on the Alpine level.

[Back to top](#)

France, Italy and Switzerland discussing Transboundary Wildlife Management Contribution by ALPARC



About 80 hunters from the three regions Haute Savoie (FR), Val d'Aosta (IT) and Valais (CH) met in Chamonix (FR) on 21-22 May 2019 to share their experience about their respective hunting practices and to evaluate the impact of hunting on ecological connectivity in the transboundary area, which is one of the Working Regions of the ALPBIONET2030 project. This meeting, organized by the Hunters Federation of Upper-Savoie, was the first opportunity for many of the participants to discover how hunting is managed in the other regions across the border. A lot of similarities but also several big differences could be assessed in wildlife management practices. The picture was completed by the presentation of Jonas Kahlen from Veterinary University of Vienna (AT), who presented an overview of hunting practices in the Alpine countries and its effects on wildlife.

[Back to top](#)

Alpine school App: a smart way to discover, learn and experience the Alps Contribution by ALPARC



How to make learning approaches interactive and at the same time, effectively implement the principles of Mountain-oriented Education in school activities? These challenges, including the active involvement of students in field actions, were faced during the development of the Alpine School Model - one of the main outputs of the [YOUrALPS project](#). Under this project, the Alpine school App was developed, a practical pedagogical tool supporting the theoretical approach of the Alpine School Model. The interactive Alpine school App allows learners and educators to directly observe nature all along its life cycle. The user can also describe and upload Mountain-oriented educational activities carried out all over the Alps. The App can be used as the perfect complement to in-class lessons in order to explore the issues related to Alpine sustainable development.

Download the App: [IOS](#) - [Android](#) - [Computer or laptop](#)

[Back to top](#)

The transformation of Alpine Industrial Landscapes (trAILs) gets into action!

Contribution by lead partner, Technical University of Munich



The Interreg Alpine Space project “trAILS” aims to develop and test concrete and transferable strategies for the transformation of industrial brownfield sites in the Alpine region. For this purpose, a multidisciplinary international team of 10 project partners (5 research institutes and 5 regional development agencies) will cooperate until 2021 with local communities in four pilot sites in Austria, Italy, France and Slovenia. On 6-8 May 2019, the first test-design workshop took place in Eisenerz, the Austrian pilot. On this occasion, the trAILS project team met with local and regional stakeholders to discuss, outline and evaluate a vision for the future of the former Münichtal ironworks site and the Eisenerz region too, based on previous thematic assessments and analyses. Twelve stakeholders joined the event, among which the Municipality of Eisenerz, the Land of Styria and the Montan University of Leoben. The next test-design workshop will take place in September in Borgo San Dalmazzo, Italy.

[Back to top](#)

Alpine Soil Partnership meeting in Aosta (IT): Caring for Soils - in practice
Contribution by lead partner, Klimabündnis Tirol



Links4Soils is in its final year now. The [project](#) aimed to link soil knowledge with practice. The Alpine Soil Partnership meeting in Aosta (IT) showed applicable management guidelines that were developed in Links4Soils for different land uses and questions. 40 participants, including Links4Soils project partners and Italian representatives of regional administrations and soil organisations, took part in the presentation of the Links4Soils results followed by a hands-on excursion to local soil profiles in the Aosta valley.

[Back to top](#)

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

ForumAlpinum 2018 & 7th Water Conference
**ALPINE WATER – COMMON GOOD
OR SOURCE OF CONFLICTS?**

Edited by Leopold Füreder, Rolf Weingartner,
Kati Heinrich, Valerie Braun, Günter Köck,
Klaus Lanz, Thomas Scheurer

www.forumalpinum.org



Key messages of the ForumAlpinum 2018 & the 7th Water Conference

Contribution by the Interacademic Commission for Alpine Studies (ICAS) / ISCAR

The climatic changes and economic development expected for the future will alter the availability and demand for water in the Alpine region. This can lead to more competition or new conflicts in water use, both locally and across borders. This [Policy Brief](#) highlights the needs for political action and management options to avoid potential water conflicts in future.

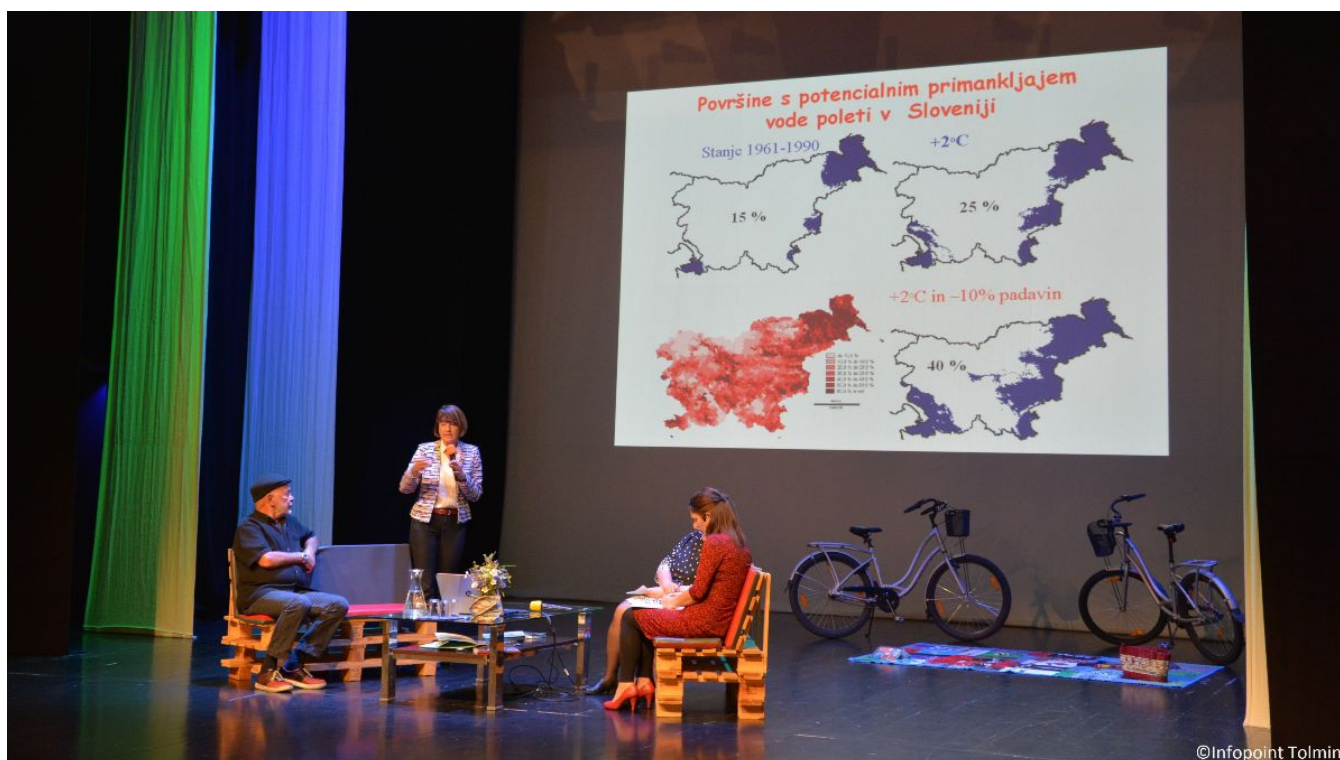
The Proceedings of the ForumAlpinum 2018 can be available [here](#).

[Back to top](#)



News from the Infopoints

Sustainable development in the Alps as part of adult education programmes



The conference with the challenge mentioned above took place in Tolmin, Slovenia, on the 30th of May. Participants were able to listen to renowned speakers such as climatologist Lučka Kajfež Bogataj and independent researcher Anton Komar that both highlighted the need for a societal change towards low carbon lifestyles. Some good practices from the Soča valley were presented to the audience by the Alpine Convention info point Tolmin and by the manager of the local dairy. In the afternoon, different workshops were organised and a study visit to the local fish farm that is dealing with the repopulation of the Marble trout. All cases demonstrated that true implementation of the Alpine Convention and its protocols happens on the local level.

[Back to top](#)



Farewell visit of the Secretary General to the Infopoint Domodossola

The Secretary General Markus Reiterer visited on June 26 the Infopoint Domodossola, managed by the Association Ars.Uni.Vco. The farewell visit provided the Secretary General with the opportunity to personally thank the staff of Ars.Uni.Vco. for their outstanding engagement in the promotion and dissemination of information regarding the Alpine Convention. During the meeting, the cooperation activities carried out in the last years were discussed, such as the many "reading Mountains" events and the hosting by the Infopoint of a meeting and workshop of the Platform "Large Carnivores, Wild Ungulates and Society" of the Alpine Convention. The Infopoint Domodossola also presented to the Secretary General the book "La Montagna e la Fantasia" (Mountain and fantasy), which is the result of a literary contest among students of local schools organized in the context of the 2018 edition of the "Reading Mountains" festival.

[Back to top](#)



In the months of April and May, as Info Point of the Alpine Convention in Domodossola, we continued the project started in February to bring in the schools of the Verbano Cusio Ossola Province the knowledge about the Alpine Convention and to raise awareness in the children' s minds and hearts on the issues of environmental protection and sustainable management of the resources in the Alps. As in the previous months, the book that collects the stories written for the edition 2018 of the Info Point Prize "Reading Mountain" was given as a present to the kids. The activities Info Point 2019 are sponsored by the Cariplo Foundation. During the project the elementary schools of Domodossola, Omegna-Cireggio, Re, Malesco, Toceno, Craveggia, Villette, Santa Maria Maggiore, Druogno, Verbania, Baceno, Cannobio, Villadossola and Vogogna-Ornavasso were visited.

[Back to top](#)

Info Point Award "Reading mountain" 2019



PREMIO INFO-POINT LEGGERE LE MONTAGNE 2019
Reading Mountain Info-Point Award 2019 - seconda edizione

The Info Point of Domodossola has recently published the second edition of the Info Point Award "Reading Mountain", thanks to the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention, the Fantasy Park "Gianni Rodari" in Omegna (IT) and with the contribution of Fondazione Cariplo. The Prize aims to promote mountain's literature, involving junior high school and high school students in the Verbano-Cusio-Ossola (VCO) Province for the 2019-2020 year.

It's a competition for unpublished narrative stories with the theme of "mountain". For this second edition we have the pleasure to celebrate the local writer Gianni Rodari, unique Italian winner of the prestigious Hans Christian Andersen Award in 1970, since the celebrations for the centenary of his birth - 23th October 1920 in Omegna (VB) - are approaching. The Award has 2 original categories: (1) "**FairyTales on the phone**" for the junior high school students and (2) "**The mountain in a post on Facebook**" for the high school students. Further information is available on the ARS.UNI.VCO webpage.

[Back to top](#)

Info Point Villach



©Infopoint Villach

On 3 April, Villach (AT) became the 7th and newest member of the Alpine Convention's Info Points. In the last months, practical preparations were made towards the implementation of the Alpine Convention Info Point, which is located at the office of the nature park Dobratsch and is scheduled for this autumn. The main activities in the last three months consisted of the official signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Permanent Secretariat on the eve of the XV Alpine Conference and the planning of the first activities like, amongst others, a presentation of the 7th Report on the State of the Alps and an event in the scope of the Reading Mountains Festival 2019. A visible presentation and corner with publications of the Alpine Convention will be set up in the visitor's centre of the nature park by mid-July.

[Back to top](#)



Upcoming events

Below you can find an overview of the upcoming events organized by the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention and its Partners. An updated list of events is available on the [webpage](#) of the Alpine Convention.

July 2019

1-2	EUSALP AG6 Meeting	Brixen/ Bressanone (IT)
3-4	Meeting of the Chairs of the Thematic Working Bodies of the Alpine Convention	Bolzano/Bpzen (IT)
4-10	Alpine Pearl E-Tour	Alps
11	Youth at the Top – In the Alps and Carpathians	Alps & Carpathians

[Back to top](#)

Copyright © 2019 Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention, All rights reserved.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)



This email was sent to

|EMAIL|

why did I get this?

unsubscribe from this list

update subscription preferences

|LIST:ADDRESSLINE|

|REWARDS|