

## Water and risk management facing climate change: towards the local adaptation

Climate change is already affecting many economic sectors and the ecosystems and, however mitigation efforts prove to be successful, according to the climate scenarios these impacts will anyway increase in the coming decades because of the delayed impacts of past and current greenhouse gas emissions. For this reason, only adaptation measures capable of dealing with the unavoidable climate impacts and their economic, environmental and social costs, will allow to guarantee safety and resources for the coming generations<sup>1</sup>.

In this context, under the framework of the Alpine Convention, the Conference of the Contracting Parties adopted an Action Plan on Climate Change in March 2009<sup>2</sup>, aimed at making the Alps an exemplary region in preventing and adapting to climate change. The Action Plan invites decision-makers and other stakeholders and helps them in mitigating climate change and adapting to their effects by sharing information on climate change in the Alps and on water and risk management, including the spreading of good practices.

At European level, the White Paper "Adapting to climate change: Towards a European framework for action"<sup>3</sup> has set out a two-phase strategy that complements actions taken by Member States through an integrated and coordinated approach. The first phase (until 2012) was focused primarily on improving the knowledge base on climate change, possible adaptation measures and means of embedding adaptation in EU policies. The second applicative phase has just started through the recent approval of the strategy on adaptation to Climate Change by the European Commission<sup>4</sup>. With this action, the EU intends to: a) assisting and funding the member states for the adoption of adaptation strategies; b) increasing the resilience of key vulnerable sectors and infrastructures and exploring the potential use of insurance against hazards; c) increasing the knowledge on adaptation through research projects and the use of the results of European climate adaptation platform (Climate-ADAPT)<sup>5</sup>.

This workshop intends to open the debate on the application and implementation of the adaptation plans, both at national and regional scale, with focus on the water and natural hazard issues. In particular, will be organized a session on national adaptation strategies, where each Alpine Country will illustrate the state of the art of adaptation plans on the water management issue in its territory. Then, two round tables will be organized: one will investigate the critical paths for complying quality, balances and monitoring in the adaptation plans for water issues, one will deepen the investigation on the adaptation plans to natural hazard (co-organized with the Platform on Natural Hazards of the Alpine Convention). Then there will be a presentation on the funding possibilities for the realization of the adaptation plans on IWRM (Integrated Water Resources Management) and some local adaptation plans will be outlined and discussed. Finally, there will be an ongoing poster session on test cases on adaptation plans in each member state provided by the partners.

The workshop is particularly devoted to Public Administrations and stakeholders involved in water and natural hazard management in the Alpine territory.

<sup>1</sup> EEA report N°12/2012. Climate change, impacts and vulnerability in Europe 2012

<sup>2</sup> Action plan on climate change in the Alps. Making the Alps an exemplary territory for prevention and adaptation to climate change, 2009 (<http://www.alpconv.org/en/climateportal/actionplan/default.html>)

<sup>3</sup> WHITE PAPER Adapting to climate change: Towards a European framework for action (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2009:0147:FIN:EN:PDF>)

<sup>4</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/articles/news\\_2013041601\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/articles/news_2013041601_en.htm)

<sup>5</sup> <http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/web/guest/data-and-downloads>

## **PROGRAMME OF THE EVENTS**

**what:** meetings of the Platforms “Water Management in the Alps” and “Natural Hazards” of the Alpine Convention (closed, on invitation) and public workshop on adaptation to climate change in the fields of water and natural hazards

**where:** Brescia (Italy), Centro Pastorale Paolo VI, Via Calini Gezio, 30

**when:** private meetings on October 9<sup>th</sup>, public workshop on October 10<sup>th</sup> 2013

**how:** the public workshop will be held in English and Italian languages; private meetings will be held only in English

### **WEDNESDAY 9 OCTOBER** **(closed events)**

#### **Meeting room A**

14:00-17:30 - meeting Platform Water Management in the Alps

17:45-19:15 – joint meeting of the two platforms

#### **Meeting room B**

14:00-17:30 - meeting Platform Natural Hazards “Planalp”

20:30 – business dinner on specific invitation

### **THURSDAY 10 OCTOBER** **(public workshop)**

#### **Conference room “Franceschetti”**

### **Water and risk management facing climate change: towards the local adaptation**

- 9:00-9:30 Greetings of the Authorities (*Ministry of the Environment – Italian Presidency of the Alpine Convention, Alpine Convention Secretariat, Platforms’ Presidents, Local Authorities*)
- 9:30-11:00 Elements from the national adaptation strategies to climate change with focus on water management (*M.Unterwainig – Lebensministerium, Austria; C.Wanger – STMUG Bayern, Germany; P.Angelini – MATTM, Italy; M.Bricelj – Ministry for Agriculture and Environment, Slovenia; H.Aschwanden\* – BAFU, Switzerland; chairman: R.Rigon – President of the Platform “Water Management in the Alps”*)
- 11:00-11:20 *coffee break*
- 11:20-13:00 First round table: the management of water issues in the adaptation plans: critical paths in quality, balances and monitoring actions (*R.Hornich – Region Steiermark,*

*Austria; C.Wanger – STMUG Bayern, Germany; P.Viaroli – University of Parma, Italy; A.Bizjak – National Institute for Water, Slovenia; H.Aschwanden\* – BAFU, Switzerland; chairman: A.Ballarín Denti – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore)*

- 13:00-14:00 *business lunch*
- 14:00-14:20 Alpine strategy for adaptation to climate change in the field of natural hazards (A.Pichler – Platform “Natural Hazards” of the Alpine Convention)
- 14:20-14:40 Presentation of the ongoing poster session: adaptation plans to climate change on water resources in the Alps, first experiences (each partner is invited to present practical cases of adaptation plans) (G.Grossi, University of Brescia)
- 14:40-16:20 Second round table: the management of natural hazards according to local adaptation plans (A.Pichler – Lebensministerium, Austria; A.Rimböck – LFU Bayern, Germany; A.Zischg – Autonomous Province of Bolzano, Italy; M.Slokar and J.Papez – Ministry of Defence and Hidrotehnik, Slovenia; H.Aschwanden\* – BAFU, Switzerland; chairman: B.Bacchi – University of Brescia)
- 16:20-16:40 *coffee break*
- 16:40-17:00 The funding possibilities to build up adaptation capacities and take action (F.Alcozer – Studio GAP associati, planning consultant)
- 17:00-17:20 Activities on water and adaptation to climate change in the framework of the UNECE Water Convention (S.Tiefenauer-Linardon - Consultant of the UNECE Water Convention Secretariat)
- 17:20-18:00 Presentation of two key-test-cases of regional adaptation plans: Regione Lombardia and a pilot site from C3-Alps (A.Ballarín Denti – Fondazione Lombardia Ambiente; E.Leroy – University of Savoie)
- 18:00-18:30 Open discussion

\* speaker invited

## **Platform “Water Management in the Alps”**

### **Agenda of the meeting**

**14:00-17:30**

1. Tour of the table of presentation
2. Approval of the minutes of the first meeting in Aosta
3. Update on the workshop on adaptation (October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013)
4. Update on the workshop on sediment transport (spring 2014, in Lyon)
5. Update on the cooperation with the UNECE Water Convention and on the 5<sup>th</sup> Water Conference
6. Brainstorming on possible future issues
7. Any other businesses

## **Joint meeting of the two Platforms**

### **Proposals for the agenda**

**17:45-19:15**

1. Tour of the table of presentation
2. Discussion on the first draft of “synthesis paper” of the Aosta’s workshop on flood management

**20:30 – business dinner for all the delegates of the two Platforms at the internal restaurant of the Centro Paolo IV**

## HOW TO GET HERE

Concerning how to get to Brescia, please consider that Brescia is 60 km far from the Verona Airport (flights from e.g. Munich and Paris), 130 km far from Milano Malpensa (all the links) and 180 from the Venice airport (all the links excepted for Slovenia).

Brescia lies on the A4 (E70) highway and it is very near to Verona (junction with the A22/E45 from the Brenner Pass).

Reaching Brescia by train it is very simple because all the trains stop there; with an high-speed train you can reach Brescia in 35' from Verona, 46' from Milano and e.g. 4h 30' from Innsbruck.

The meeting seat is the Centro Pastorale Paolo VI, in via Gezio Calini n° 30, in the town center. The meeting seat can be reached by foot from the railway station in only 10 minutes. Differently, you can find further information on how to get there at this link:

<http://www.centropastoralepaolovi.it/not-just-an-hotel-in-brescia.asp>

## ACCOMODATION

We suggest to all the participants which need to sleep in Brescia to stay directly in the Centro Paolo VI (which can offer 105 comfortable rooms at good prices - <http://www.centropastoralepaolovi.it/paolovi-center-brescia.asp> ).

The reservation procedure is up to the participants, as well as the room fees which need to be covered directly by the delegates.

**In order to facilitate the organization of the events, please fill the registration form at this link:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1OYoEuLcLdiBoTMPkZC7NurnIEoVTBxWG7Znsyq3-cOI/viewform>