



EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP)

Annual Forum

Thursday 10 December 2020 - *by videoconference*

Programme

Morning: EUSALP General Assembly: an Alpine region united and resilient in the face of crises

9:30 a.m. - 12:10 a.m.: EUSALP General Assembly

12:15 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.: Press Conference and Official Photos

Afternoon: thematic workshops

All action group members are welcome to contribute to these workshops.

Co-leaders of the relevant action groups are invited to co-host the afternoon webinars

1:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.: Alpine youth commit to a resilient Alpine region in the face of climate change

Alpine youth has talent! 'Pitch Your Project' and photography competitions, followed by the awards ceremony (1:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.)

- Presentation of the 5 finalist projects of the competition followed by a vote of the participants to select the 3 winners and Award Ceremony
- A sustainable journey through Contrasts in the Alps – Award ceremony & an invitation to stay grounded
- Presentation of European Commission 'Youth manifesto' followed by an interactive session to interchange with young people

Session organisers: Bourgogne-Franche-Comté region in conjunction with the Tyrol region, the Alpine Week and the Alpine Convention



3:15 p.m. – 3:25 p.m.: Break with broadcast of video clips on the resilience of the Alpine Region

3:25 p.m. - 4:25 p.m.: At the heart of the Alpine Green Deal - Three parallel workshops: Energy transition, forests, dialogue between young people and decision-makers

Macro-Regional Strategies, Interreg, and the EU sustainable energy policy agenda: why cooperation matters

The Workshop aims at demonstrating how Macro-Regional Strategies and Interreg programmes contribute to the implementation of the EU sustainable energy agenda and of the European Green Deal through presentations of good practices and an interactive discussion with the audience.

EUSALP will be presented as example of the Macro-regional Strategies contribution. Furthermore, in the framework of their 30 years celebration, Interreg projects from all the current three Interreg strands (Cross-Border, Transnational, Interregional) covering geographical areas other than the Alpine Region, different stakeholders and sustainable energy fields, will be presented as examples of the Interreg contribution and this will provide a unique opportunity for sharing of experiences with the Alpine Region.

Speakers: European Commission, AG9 co-leaders (Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Environment and Energy Agency and Energy Agency of South Tyrol - CasaClima) and AG4 (Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and Euroregion Tyrol-Trentino-South Tyrol) and partners of energy projects co-funded by the Interreg Cross-Border SE-DK-NO, Interreg MED and Interreg Europe.

Session organisers: DG Regional and Urban Policy, Units D1 (Macro-regions, transnational/interregional/external cooperation, enlargement) and D2 (Interreg, cross-border cooperation, internal borders), AG9 co-leaders (Energy Agency of South Tyrol - CasaClima and Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Environment and Energy Agency).

Multifunctional alpine forests: what contradictory interests & what solutions?

Moderator: Raimund Becher, Bavarian Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry

The lessons learned and findings from this workshop will be used for the further work of the 5 AGs shaping the TF on multifunctional forestry and sustainable use of timber. Thereby the economic, environmental and social benefits for the territories and people of the EUSALP regions are valorized and sustained. In alignment with the EU policies, the adapted measures also comply with the EU energy transition.

The ability and responsibility of forest owners to manage forests sustainably and keep them resilient, is crucial to protect biodiversity and to deliver ecosystem services to people, nature and the economy. Multifunctional forests **support** the photosynthesis or nutrient cycles; **regulate** the water cycle, temperature, or CO2 sequestration; **provide** timber, food, feed or fiber; **have** an heritage, aesthetic, spiritual and cultural impact, and **contribute** to recreation and health. Despite this, conflicting interests and risks create major challenges for setting priorities in multifunctional forest management. Because of the impact of climate change on the forest and timber value chains, innovative green business solutions are needed.

Speakers: European Commission, co-leaders of AG2 (Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes and Piémont), AG6 (Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention and Carinthia), AG7 (Slovenia and Bavaria), AG8 (Austria and Bavaria), and AG9 (Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes and

Trentin-Haut-Adige), CEPF.

Session organisers: Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region (Association of Forestry Municipalities, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region, and action groups 2, 6, 7, 8 and 9.

Prize-giving for the Alpine Convention “Young academics award” and presentation of the YAFA (Youth Act for Alps) project & At the heart of the Alpine Green Deal: dialogue between young people and decision-makers

- Prize-giving for the Alpine Convention “Young academics award” and presentation of the YAFA (Youth Act for Alps) project

Moderator: Alpine Convention

The Young Academics Award is a project of the Alpine Convention and its Presidency addressed to young researchers that dedicated their Master’s thesis to relevant Alpine topics: its aim is to promote and give visibility to young research on and in the Alps. The Award [focuses this year](#) on a particularly sensitive topic, that of “**Emissions in the Alps: climate change and air quality, measurement and measures**”.

An international jury has evaluated all the works received from all over the Alps and beyond over the last two years and identified the finalists. During the award ceremony, you will have the possibility to meet the finalists and to learn about their works and their most innovative conclusions and solutions thanks to a dynamic, “elevator pitch” style session! After this the winners will be announced and awarded.

- At the heart of the Alpine Green Deal: dialogue between young people and decision-makers

Moderator: Eurocircle and the Teaching League

The Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region designed the *Youth Act For Alps* project as part of the Erasmus+ programme. YAFA will enable meetings between Alpine youth and decision-makers in order to take into account the vision of young people in the policies of the Alpine region.

The YAFA project runs throughout 2021, by means of various meetings and work with associative partners from Italy, Germany and Austria. This collaborative work will lead to the production of recommendations for decision-makers and institutions.

Speakers: EU Commission in Marseille, project partners

Session organisers: Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region in conjunction with the Bourgogne-Franche-Comté Region

4:25 p.m. - 4:35 p.m.: Break with video clips on the resilience of the Alpine region

4:35 p.m. - 6:05 p.m.: The sustainable and resilient Alpine region is preparing in EUSALP action groups

Session organisers: Lombardy Region in connection with the action groups and the coordinators of the strategic policy areas of AlpGov 2.

Moderator: Maria Grazia Pedrana, Lombardy Region, AlpGov 2 lead partner

1. EUSALP feeding European policies: priorities and perspectives (5min)

How can the projects carried out with the action groups feed the policies at European level for a sustainable and resilient Alpine region?

Speakers: Giacomo Luciani and David Matzek-Lichtenstein, European Commission – DG Regional and Urban Policy

2. What have been the main achievements of the nine action groups in 2020? What projects are planned for 2021? (40 minutes)

The leaders or co-leaders of each Action Group present the main achievements and the program of action of the AGs in the context of the health crisis and its economic impacts, as well as the climate change and its sometimes-dramatic consequences which are more than ever present in the Alps.

Speakers: AG1 to AG9

3. Policy dialogues: triple helix approach for a sustainable and resilient Alpine region (40 minutes)

- Innovation as a key for sustainable development

Speakers: Philip Pfaller, Bavarian Research Alliance (AG1 expert), Luca Mion, HIT Trentino Hub Innovation (AG2 Member), Thomas Egger, SAB Swiss Center for Mountain Regions (AG5 Co-Leader).

- Tackling climate change in the EUSALP

Speakers: Tina Trampuš, Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation (AG7 Co-Leader), Wolfgang Lexer, Environment Agency Austria (AG8 Member), Etienne Vienot, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Energy Environment Agency (AG9 Co-Leader)

