



VIIth European Mountain Convention

"European Mountain Regions- A spirit of Innovation"

15th-17th September 2010, Lillehammer, Norway



Fjellregionsamarbeidet

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Languages of the conference: English, French, Norwegian

Wednesday 15th September: STUDY TRIPS

- Study visits from 8.30 to 16.00 for **Euromontana members attending Euromontana's General Assembly**
- Study visits from 8.30 to 19.00 for participants **not attending Euromontana General Assembly**
- Euromontana General Assembly from 17.00 to 20.00

Thursday 16th September

MORNING: DEFINING THE CONCEPTS

Objectives: Innovation: defining the concept and promoting a broader definition – the views and perspectives of high-level representatives

9.00 Welcome and opening

- **Audun Tron** - President of Oppland County Council
- **André Marcon** - President of Euromontana
- **Synnove Brenden** - Mayor of Lillehammer

9.30 ***Innovation at the centre of European policies for tackling economic crisis: what perspectives for mountain areas?***

European Commission representative, (tbc)

9.50 ***Promising examples of innovative development in the Norwegian Mountains,***

Liv Signe Navarsete, Norwegian Minister in charge of Local Government and Regional Development

10.05 ***Norway – Enhancing European mountain cooperation***

Jonas Gahr Støre, Norwegian Minister for Foreign Affairs (tbc)

10.20 Coffee break

10.50 ***Taking world class innovation and making it real in mountain areas***

Jose Pacheco, Program Manager, Entrepreneurship Center, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA

11.35 ***Environmental challenges in Europe: prospects for the green economy***

Jacqueline McGlade, Executive Director, European Environment Agency (EEA)

Launch of the EEA report *"Integrated assessment of European mountain areas"*

12.10 Lunch



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AFTERNOON: THEORIES AND METHODS OF INNOVATION

Objectives: To create a mutual understanding of innovation through the presentation of theories and examples. Debate around the differences between innovation in mountain regions and innovation in general; address special theories and methods we may use in mountain areas.

14.00 Introduction: *Territorial creativity and innovation: lessons for rural and mountain areas*

Michel Godet – Professor-Doctor, Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers, (France)

14.30 Parallel sessions: how to innovate in mountain areas?

Workshop 1 (Norwegian, English). Relationships between businesses, universities and public sector in the development of new ideas

Chair: Maud Skaringer, European Commission, DG Regio, thematic coordination and innovation unit

1. **"Establishing a new Basque society through public-private collaboration"** Xabier Maidagan, Director INNOBASQUE - Basque Agency for Innovation (Spain)
2. **"Progress through innovation - Creating business opportunities in the Highlands and Islands"** Joe Irvine, UHI Millennium Institute (Scotland)
3. **"VRI Programme – Promoting knowledge development, innovation and value creation through regional collaboration"**, Senior Researcher Hans Olav Bråtå, Eastern Norway Research Institute, Lillehammer

Workshop 2 (French, English). Education and training possibilities to stimulate development in mountain areas

Chair: Jose Pacheco, Program Manager, MIT Entrepreneurship Center

1. **"First results of an exchange of best practices in the field of training and education between seven European mountain areas"** Kay Bjerke, Buskerud County Council (Norway) member of PADIMA (Policies against depopulation in mountain areas) INTERREG IV C project
2. **"Connecting young people to STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) based industries in mountain areas"**, Donna Chisholm, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (Scotland)
3. **"Addressing the deficit of education, training and research activities in mountain areas, with a focus on health science"**, Lindsey Moodie and Gillian Galloway, Centre for Health Science, Highlands and Islands (Scotland)
4. **"Bi-formation to mountain jobs in Rhône Alps region – meeting young's training with businesses needs"** Philippe BEYLIER, Coordinator of high schools network, (France)

Workshop 3 (French, English). Involving mountain actors in clusters: how to foster innovation in a bottom-up approach?

Chair: Marc Richetin, Professor, Clermont-Ferrand University, regional delegate for research and technology, France

1. **"Innovative mountain Tourism – Actors joining forces within the triple helix"**, Kjell-Gunnar Dahle, Innovative Fjellturisme AS (Norway)
2. **"Added value of sustainable farming systems in mountain areas – from food production to economic diversification"**, Samir Sayadi and Pedro Ruiz Aviles, Andalusian Institute for Agricultural Research and Training, Fisheries and Food, and Ecological Production (IFAPA) (Spain)
3. **"Scotland's experience on how to reach excellence in health service delivery"** Steven Dodsworth, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (Scotland)



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Workshop 4 (Norwegian, French) Developing innovation through multinational cooperation

Chair: Thomas Egger, Director, Swiss Association for Mountain Regions (SAB), Euromontana Board member

1. **"Fostering innovation in the Alpine Area : the experience of the Alpine Space Programme - spotlight on the project AlpsBioCluster: e-Care & Environmental services for human health"**
Thomas Fleury, Joint Technical Secretariat and Valérie Ayache, ADEBAG
2. **"Supporting the development of mountain projects in Eastern European countries through the use of Norwegian Grants"**, Tore Lasse By, Norwegian Fund for Territorial Cooperation
3. **« Regional natural parks in Rhône-Alps: a network open to innovation, sharing experiences and experimentation in local development »** Eliane GIRAUD, Regional adviser to regional natural parks, Rhône-Alpes, France

16.00 Coffee break

16.30 Presentation of conclusions from the workshops

- Report of each workshop and immediate comments from innovation experts Michel Godet and Jose Pacheco followed by discussion with the audience.

17.30 End of the second day of the conference

20.30 Dinner

Friday 17th September

INNOVATING IN SOME KEY SECTORS IN MOUNTAIN AREAS

9.00 Parallel sessions:

Workshop 5 (French, English). Innovative processes in energy saving and renewable energies in mountain areas

Chair: Giovanni Scudo, Professor, University of Milan, Italy

1. **"Design of heat pump heating and air conditioning systems with heat accumulators for residential buildings and appliances in mountain areas"**, Danut Gatan, Director, CEFIDEC (Romania)
2. **"Creating the Bologna Apennine sustainable energy district"**, Sergio Palmieri, Province of Bologna (Italy)
3. **"Renewable energy sources and stimulating the rational use of energy in mountain communities to support their sustainable development"**, Alexandra Papadopoulou, European Renewable Energy Council

Workshop 6 (French, English). Innovating in the governance of rural protected areas and the relationship with sustainable tourism

Chair: Martin Price, Director, Centre for Mountain Studies, Perth College, UHI Millennium Institute, Scotland

1. **"Business development, tourism and conservation of nature – a paradox? NO"**, Zoltan Kun, Director, Pan Parks
2. **"Innovative tourism development bringing added value to a protected area"**, Ruth Moser, Park Manager Biosphereparc Großes Walsertal (Austria)
3. **"Improved local participation in the process of designating a national park in Western Norway"**, Marit Vorkinn, Vestlandsforskning (Norway)



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Workshop 7 (Norwegian, English). Forestry and wood-based products from mountain areas

Chair: Roland Beck, Unit "Bioenergy, Biomass, Forestry and Climate change", DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission,

1. **"Innovative forest management - developing new and innovative approaches for sustainable forest development"**, Dragan Matijašić, Director, Slovenian Forest Service
2. **"Innovating in the production of wood-based goods"**, Material Banken (Norway)
3. **"Adapting forest and water management to climate change impacts"**, Josef Herkendell, European Environment Agency
4. **"The wood chain for a new way of living"** University of Torino, (Italy) (tbc)

Workshop 8 (Norwegian, French). Innovative municipalities and links between the public and private sectors

Chair: Peter de Souza, Associate professor, Hedmark University College (Norway)

1. **"Peak innovation – A four-helix innovation system"**, Jan Andersson, Head of business service, Åre Municipality (Sweden)
2. **"New models of use of the ICT to strengthen local businesses and public service in remote mountain areas"**, Janne Mellum, Head of service, Stor-Elvdal Municipality (Norway)
3. **"Businesses development through the use of natural resources and cultural identity"**, Simen Bjørgen, Mayor, Lom Municipality (Norway)

10.30 Coffee break

11.00 Presentation of conclusions from the workshops

11.30 Round table discussion: Building an action plan for the development of innovative initiatives in European mountain areas

How to improve the policy framework? What should be included in an action plan for cooperation and partnership for innovation in mountain areas?

Chair: Sylvain Marmier, Euromontana Board Member

Introduction: "Opportunities in rural innovation: key findings from the NESTA study" William Roe

- National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts, Chair of Highlands and Islands Enterprise, United Kingdom,

- **Johann Friedrich Colsman**, Member of Cabinet, Vice-Pres. of the European Commission, Antonio Tajani,

- **Betty-Ann Bryce**, Regional Development Policy Division, **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**

- **Elisabeth Mellbye**, Board Member, **Innovation Norway**

- Boguslaw Sonik, **European Parliament** (tbc)

- Regional authority representative (tbc)

13.00 Concluding remarks:

André Marcon - President of Euromontana

Svein Borkhus - President of Fjellregionsamarbeidet (The Norwegian Mountain Region Cooperation)

13.20 Lunch

END OF THE CONFERENCE