

Youth to the top - the mountain path to the future!

VIII European Mountain Convention Chambéry 2-4 October 2012

Venue: Manège Conference Centre, 331 rue de la République, 73000 Chambéry, France

Languages: English, French, Italian, Romanian

Agenda

Tuesday 2nd October – Study trips

3 field visits will be organized ahead of the Convention. French-English translation is available. **The meeting point will be in front of the Conference Center.** Departure of visit 1 at 2 at 8.30 am and of visit 3 at 7.30.

- **1. Chartreuse mountains:** visit of the milk cooperative Entremonts, visit of the Museum of Cave Bear discovery of regional cultural heritage and discussions with local entrepreneurs, (Entremont le Vieux),
- **2. Tarentaise/ Maurienne mountains:** travel to Brides-les-Bains, discovery of the termas and spa, visit of the exploitation and discussions with Mr Patrice Deschamps, farmer
- **3. Chambéry/Aix les Bains:** meeting with a professional fisher, visit of the National Institute of Solar Energy, visit of the Technical Institute d'Annecy and presentation of new projects

Euromontana General Assembly (for Euromontana members only) from 5 pm to 8 pm.

Wednesday 3rd October

Morning – Opening plenary session - Challenges and opportunities for youth in European mountains

8.00 - Registration of participants

9.00 - Welcome speeches:

- Jean-Jack Queyranne, President of Rhône-Alpes Region
- André Marcon, President of Euromontana
- Bernadette Laclais, Mayor of Chambéry, Deputy of Savoie

9.30 – Young people's voice: « What do young people think of mountains as a living environment? »

Potential speakers: Youth Parliament, youth NGOs, young people from Euromontana member regions

- **Why do young people raised in mountain areas decide to stay or to come back after studying and working elsewhere? A case study of young people returning to the Dolomites, Italy,** by Elena Ferrario, Graduate of the Master "Managing Sustainable Mountain Development", University of the Highlands and Islands, Scotland.
- **What are young people's vision and expectations of mountains?** Results of works conducted by Euromontana network, Emmanuelle Picaud, Euromontana
- **What do young people think about mountain policies?** Buskerud representative, Norway, Tommy Haugen

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- **Presentation of the results of work undertaken by the region Rhône-Alpes in the frame of their "Mountain 2040" initiative**, Agathe de Montmorillon, sociology student, University of Grenoble

10.45 Coffee break

11.15 - Political opening by keynote speakers:

The vision of European top decision-makers on **opportunities provided by European policies for mountain youth**:

- **EU 2020 strategy and its implementation in new European territorial policies: what opportunities for European mountain youth?**
Wolfgang Streitenberger, Advisor to the Director General for Regional Policy, representing Johannes Hahn, European Commissioner for Regional Policy
- **Mountain areas: territories with a future for agricultural and rural youth?**
Michel Dantin, Member of the European Parliament, Member of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, reporter on the common market organisation regulation of the CAP
- **Improving the attractiveness of mountain areas for young people: what role for regions?**
Bernard Soulage, Vice-president of Rhône-Alpes Region delegated to Europe and international relations, Member of the Committee of the Regions

Question & answer session, first inputs to workshops' discussions

12.30 Lunch

Afternoon - Parallel workshops:

All workshops will be translated into English and French

14.00 - 1st workshop session – transversal approach: « What life projects for young people in mountain areas? »

1. **What education and career prospects for young people in mountain areas?** (+ translation to RO)

Moderation: Adrian Radu Rey, Romontana director, Romania

Youth exchange to enhance skills in entrepreneurship, Mr Holger Aasen, manager of the county-organisation Young Entrepreneurship, Sogn og Fjordane, Norway

How to train and to attract young entrepreneurs to mountain areas? Oana Crina Bujor, Neamt Mountain Forum, Romania

Reporter: Pires Jaime Camilo, Centro de investigação de Montanha CIMO (Portugal) (tbc)

2. **How to provide young active people with the living conditions they need to settle in mountain areas?** What specific public services do young people need in mountain areas? How can we improve access to public services in mountain areas (health, mobility and public transport, housing)?

Moderation: Thomas Egger, Director of the Swiss centre for mountain regions, Switzerland

Youth health prevention and promotion, Observatory on health, Rhône Alps, France

Light in windows or how to put secondary houses in the year-round rental market, Kjerstin Spångberg, project manager, Buskerud, Norway

Reporter: University of Savoie

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3. **How to create a favourable social environment for new generations?** What are the inter-generational links nowadays?

Moderation: Nicolas Evrard, Secretary General, European Association of Elected representatives from Mountain areas (AEM)

Empowering youth in mountain and rural areas – by helping them to reach self-reliance. Passing-on the Gift, Anahit Ghazanchyan, Country Director of Heifer International Armenia

How to promote strategies and synergies facilitating youth employment through raising ecological awareness? Laurent Burget, director of Mountain Riders, France

Starting youth education where school fails, Matthew MacIver, Highland Council, Scotland

Reporter: Mara Lai, youth coordinator, European Network for Rural Development

4. **How to encourage young people to get involved in their community life?** In which sectors is young people's guidance and involvement vital?

Moderation: Andreja Borec, associated professor, University of Maribor, Austria

Are young people represented in the local and regional decision-making bodies? How to encourage them to become real territorial actors? Hildegunn Rye, Hedmark Youth County Council, Norway

What involvement in community programmes thanks to LEADER? Veronika Korcekova, Slovakia, graduate of Central European University.

Reporter: Youth Parliament, Rhône-Alps, France

15.30 Coffee break

16.00 - 2nd workshop session – sectorial: « What implications and prospects for the youth in different sectorial activities with special attention to innovativeness? »

5. **Youth and agriculture: situation and prospects for young farmers' settlement in mountain areas (+ translation to RO)**

Moderation: François Thabuis, President of Young Farmers Association, France

Young people return to Dorna region and revitalize mountain agriculture, Mioara Bocanici, Ministry for Agriculture and Rural Development, Romania

Valorisation of products and setting-up of young farmers in the Northern Alps: which perspectives? SUACI Northern Alps and Young Farmers Savoie

Setting-up a new farm in a Nordic mountain environment: which challenges? Kristina Yngwe, President of Ordförande LRF Ungdomen (Young farmers Sweden)

Reporter: Lukáš Víšek, European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, Unit G.1 - Consistency of rural development,

6. **Youth and tourism: how to attract young people to work in mountain tourism? What solutions to the problem posed by the seasonality?** Cross-cutting views on summer and winter activities

Moderation: Councillor George Farlow, Highland Council, Scotland

Youth employment in mountain areas: results of surveys conducted by Euromontana, Thierry Percie du Sert, ARPE Midi-Pyrénées

Is seasonal work a problem or an opportunity to attract young people to mountain regions? Dr. Tanja Stuhec, Pohorje, Slovenia

How to propose an affordable offer of housing for young workers? The example of young workers residence in Rhône-Alpes, Mélanie Rousset, Regional Union of Youth Housing -URHAJ

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Reporter: Grégoire Bel, *La Grande Traversée des Alpes, France*

7. What are the opportunities for new jobs generated by innovation in European mountains? What successful initiatives in the field of health and care services, information and communication technologies, energy production and consumption?

Moderation: Jean Yves Bechler, Commissioner of the Massif Central, France

Climate Park 2469 innovative guidance about nature and enlightenment around climate change, Dag Inge Bakke, Nature guide in Climatepark, Norway

Job opportunities in the sector of ICT, Pascal Guittard, Regional Agency for the Development of Territories ARDTA (Auvergne, France)

New job opportunities in the sector of telemedicine and risk management: the opportunities open by the projects RESATER and STIRM - Sandra Ungemach-Bensaid – network Parcourir

Youth employment and innovation in health and care sector: a telemedicine project in Pyrenees (tbc)

Reporter: Sébastien Côte, European Mountain ICT Forum (EMICT) (tbc)

8. Youth and leisure: what are the possibilities to empower young people in mountain regions?

What local initiatives can improve access to leisure activities in the mountains? Assessment of young people's needs and wishes, projects undertaken by young people to diversify cultural activities in the mountains. (+ translation to IT)

Moderation: Martin Price, professor at the University of Highlands and Islands, Scotland

Rewild or computer games in alterned reality adapted to mountain culture & history, Muriel Faure, La Grande Traversée des Alpes, France

How to get young people to mountain areas and to have them enjoy snow sports, Andreas Wentzel, European Ski Federation

Sentieri Creativi - art moving exhibitions on Italian Mountain Paths, Paolo Valoti, Italian Club of Alpinisme, Municipality of Bergamo, Italy

Reporter: University of Savoie

20.00 Dinner and entertainment

Presentation of Heifer international by Pietro Turilli, Vice-president of Heifer International

Presentation of "Vivons montagne" fund, ISARA, France

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Thursday 4th October

Plenary session: Conclusions and formulation of policy recommendations

9.00 - Report of the workshop results (6-7 minutes/workshop), followed by on-the-spot-comments from young people representatives, experts and participants

10.15 Coffee break

10.40 - Final round table: “What policies are needed to increase the attractiveness of mountain areas for the next generation?”

Moderation by François Constantin, professional journalist

Introductory speech: **What strategies should we develop in order to increase the attractiveness of mountain areas for youth?** Ancuta PASCA, coordinator of INTERREG IVC PADIMA (Policies Against Depopulation in Mountain Areas)

Panellists:

- **Guy Palluy**, Regional Councillor, president of the commission mountain and tourism, Region Rhône-Alps, France
- **Luciano Caveri**, Member of the Committee of the Regions and AEM (Val d’Aoste, Italie) (tbc)
- **Achim Irimescu**, State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Romania (tbc)
- **Joël Clergue**, Vice-president of Young Farmers Association, France
- **Jan Edøy**, Councillor for Regional Policy and Local Government, Mission of Norway to the EU

12.30 Closure of the event

- **Claude Comet**, Regional Councillor in charge of mountain and tourism, vice-president of the Regional Council of Rhône-Alpes, France
- **Euromontana President: Declaration of the VIII European Mountain Convention**

13.00 Lunch, end of the conference