



VIIth European Mountain Convention

"European Mountain Regions- A spirit of Innovation"

15th-17th September 2010, Lillehammer, Norway



Fjellregionsamarbeidet

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Thursday 16th September

8.15 Conference registration

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

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

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

Peter Droell, European Commission, Head of Unit Policy development for industrial innovation at DG Enterprise and Industry, representing European Commission Vice-President Antonio Tajani

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***

Ronan Uhel, Head of Programme, Natural Systems and Vulnerability, European Environment Agency (EEA)

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

12.00 Lunch

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.

13.45 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?

Room Weidemann 3 - 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

Report: Frank Gaskell, Integritas, Euromontana Senator

Room Weidemann 4 - 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"**, Janice Wallace, 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. **"Dual training to mountain jobs in Rhône Alps region – a meeting between young people and businesses"** Philippe BEYLIER, Coordinator of dual-qualifying high schools network, (France)

Report: Nicolas Evrard, Secretary General of AEM

Room Lillehammer 1 - 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. **"Building a life science cluster in the Highlands & Islands of Scotland"** Steven Dodsworth, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (Scotland)
4. **"Passing of the gift - new concept in Carpathians' green development"**, Carmen Catuna, Farmers Federation Vatra Dornei (Romania)

Report: Patrick Salez, European Commission, DG Regional Policy

Room Birkebeiner 2 - 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. **“Experiences of The Norwegian Cooperation programmes for economic growth and sustainable development in Bulgaria and Romania. Opportunities offered for supporting projects in the new EU countries through the EEA Financial Mechanisms in the period 2009-2014”**, Tore Lasse By, Innovation Norway, Director of the Norwegian Cooperation Programmes with Romania and Bulgaria
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

Report: Axel Roed, Senior Advisor at Norwegian Ministry of Local government and regional development

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:

Room Weidemann 3 - 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, EPU/NTUA (Management & Decision Support Systems Laboratory of the National Technical University of Athens)

Report: Robin Clarke, Highlands and Islands Enterprise

Room Lillehammer 1 - 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. **“Using the nature and the culture heritage as a yield creator”**, Thor Flognfeldt, professor at the Lillehammer University College

Report: Dragi pop-Stojanov, Macedonian Chamber of Tourism



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Room Birkebeiner 2 - 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, Slovenian Forest Service
2. **"Innovating in the production of wood-based goods"**, Jakob Trøan, Material Banken (Norway)
3. **"Adapting forest and water management to climate change impacts"**, Josef Herkendell, European Environment Agency
4. **"Innovating forest management in Carpathians for keeping in use the last steam train for industrial and tourism purposes"**, Bucur Costel, Maramures Park Manager, (Romania)

Report: Roland Beck, European Commission, DG AGRI

Room Weidemann 4 - 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)

Report: Jan Edoey, Councilor in charge of Regional policy, Permanent representation of Norway to the EU

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" by Carol Buxton, Director of Regional competitiveness at Highlands and Islands Enterprise, representing **William Roe**, National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts, United Kingdom,
- **Betty-Ann Bryce**, Regional Development Policy Division, **Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)**

- **Elisabeth Mellbye**, Director of Brennabu,

- **Enrico Borghi**, President of National Union of Mountain Municipalities and Communities (UNCEM), Italy and Vice-president of the European association of elected representatives of mountain areas (AEM)

- **Maud Skaringer**, European Commission, DG Regional policy

- **Henri Malosse**, Chairman of the Employers' Group at **European Economic and Social Committee**

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