



## INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

### Sustainable management of grasslands in mountain areas.

#### Our structure

**Euromontana** is the European association for cooperation and development of mountain areas. Created as a non-profit organisation in 1996, it now has about 70 members in 17 European States, in and outside the EU. Its aims are to promote mountain territories as territories with a future and to improve the quality of life of mountain populations, building on sustainable development models.

To achieve these aims, Euromontana:

1. Represents mountain communities within European institutions
2. Conducts promotion actions (communication, events),
3. Organises cooperation among its members (networking and projects)
4. Contributes to studies on sustainable mountain development.

A key priority is to network with member organisations, to assemble knowledge from different mountain regions and to make this available to decision-makers and mountain people.

For more information, consult [www.euromontana.org](http://www.euromontana.org)

#### Position: Intern Study Officer

You will be under the responsibility of the Project Officer of Euromontana and your responsibilities will include:

- **European study on the sustainable management of grasslands**

Pastoralism is a traditional and extensive livestock farming activity, practiced in mountainous areas in particular. This form of breeding enables the development of territories with low agronomic value, difficult to access or non-mechanisable, and thus to maintain an economic activity in these areas. However, the continuation of pastoral activity is currently threatened by several challenges: difficulties linked to the economic context, difficulties in organising grazing herds in the context of seasonal use of the territory, difficulties linked to climate change, difficulties linked to the pressure exerted by other users of pasture land, etc.

“[Oreka Mendian](#)” is a LIFE project running from 2016 to 2021, which aims to develop a strategy for the conservation and the management of mountain pastures located in Natura 2000 areas in the Basque Country. This project implements preservation measures in 23 Natura 2000 sites in both the Spanish and French Basque Country. Euromontana is a partner of this project.

The role of Euromontana in this project is to conduct a study on the sustainable management of pasturelands throughout Europe (including non-EU countries), taking into account the different dimensions of this thematic such as climate change adaptation, ecosystem services, mountain quality food products, cultural landscapes, current policies at local/regional/national/EU levels, rural development and attractiveness of pastoral jobs, tourism, etc.

This study will constitute the main task of this internship (literature review, analysing data, collecting good practices, structuring and writing the study, conducting interviews if necessary, etc.). Candidates

need to be aware that the study will both relate to pastoralism as an agricultural system and to the policy aspects (Common Agricultural Policy measures especially, and reforms to come post-2020).

- **Other tasks:**

- Support to the team such as assisting in preparing the Board meetings, helping with logistics when events are organised, participating in the animation of the website and social media, helping out with administrative tasks, etc.
- Participation to EU conferences on subjects linked to your study

## Profile

You have a **tertiary education degree (Masters, 5 years)**, in domains matching the theme of the study (such as agronomy, food quality, landscape management, ecology, geography, EU policies, rural development, etc.).

You have an **excellent command of English and/or French** (the two working languages of Euromontana that you will have to use in your daily communication). Knowledge of Spanish would be a plus.

You have a **good command of Microsoft office tools** and can use these tools in autonomy.

**Dynamic, enthusiastic and motivated**, you know how to get fully involved in your function, face a heavy work load and effectively organise your own time taking into account interaction with other staff members and members of the network **Comfortable in a small organization (team of 2-5 people including the intern)**, you are not afraid of **multitasking** and are solutions-oriented.

**Open-minded**, you have **excellent relational skills** and can interact in a positive way with counterparts from different cultures and backgrounds, on complex political subjects. You have **good written and oral communication, analysis and synthesis skills**.

## Timing

- **Start:** Between mid-February and mid-March ideally, to be discussed with the candidate, for 6 months
- **Job location:** Euromontana Brussels office, eventually a few travels in Europe.
- **Remuneration:**
  - According to Belgian law, interns cannot directly be paid for an internship at Euromontana. However, we will support candidates who are eligible under funding programmes such as [Erasmus+](#), [European Voluntary Service](#), [Eurodysee](#), etc. Please precise which programme you will apply under in your application email.
  - Tickets Restaurant
  - 80% of the reimbursement of the transport costs (STIB, bike)
- **Interviews:** January 2018, in Brussels or by Skype

**Application to be sent by 13/01/2019 to:** Lauren Mosdale, Project Officer at: [lauren.mosdale@euromontana.org](mailto:lauren.mosdale@euromontana.org), – with the subject of the email mentioning “**Pastoralism internship at Euromontana – Your name**”, including a **concise CV** (Europass format not compulsory) and a **maximum 1-page cover letter** explaining why you are interested in working at Euromontana and why you think your profile matches our needs for this specific offer. Only targeted applications will be analysed. Please note that candidatures will be treated on a 1<sup>st</sup> come - 1<sup>st</sup> served basis.