

- Natura 2000
- needs people to function effectively
- Mountains are 2x as important as lowlands per sq km - change in balance of funding to reflect
- new rural development funds (EAFRD) provides new opportunities to support local custodians of natura - needs to be supported at European level and strongly advocated at Member state level

- Forests
- improve the quality of information (indicators etc) about mountain forests environmental, social as well as economic.
- Forests are multi-functional in themselves but need to be part of integrated land use
- Need to recognise the range of goods and services forests provide

- Renewable energy
- sustainable resource for mountain areas - can be used locally to directly benefit rural economies and nationally, but the additional costs must be borne by end user outwith
- biofuels particularly wood is well suited and is largely untapped in mountain areas
- Multiple use of sustainable energy sources

- Water
- integrated approach involving all stakeholders is particularly important for sustaining quality of water
- downstream benefits - upstream areas should be compensated for the input of mountain areas eg Switzerland and Italy

- Integrated management in mountain areas for multiple benefits.
 - Maximise positive externalities
 - partnerships
 - subsidiarity to all levels. Use local knowledge so local people control their own destiny. There are better opportunities but member states need to encourage and allow this to happen
- learn from those who already practice integration

- Communication (particularly in relation to Natura)
- Better quality of information to inform decision making
- benefits go not just to next generation but also to urban society in current generation
- Awareness raising about the link between rural activity and quality of environment
- Euromontana effective at political level in EC but can we consider helping to improve communication at the local level? The public appoint the politicians
- Sharing best practice (often traditional) across Europe
- More sensitive and participatory approach by governments to engage and not alienate

- Euromontana is seen as an effective vehicle for influencing and lobbying and informing members.
- We need to expand this now - the next meeting will be too late
- We can integrate approaches where Europe is still sectoral
- Multifunctionality is vital to the future of mountain environments