



CIPRA

NETWORKED FOR THE ALPS



ANNUAL REPORT 2016 CIPRA INTERNATIONAL

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www.cipra.org/switzerland



SCHAAN/LI, APRIL 2017

DEAR READERS

__This Annual Report is dedicated to a boat. Not the one that supposedly is now completely full, but the one where all those on board are working hard for a positive development in the Alpine region.

And they work hard across all linguistic and cultural boundaries, often ignoring political party boundaries, but always finding common ground between their various sectors: these are the networks and joint ventures that exist in the Alps, the ones that are so important for innovation, creativity, and progress. The map of the Alps on pages 34–35 shows just how varied and diverse the fruits of that co-operation can be.

CIPRA, itself constituted as a network, is involved in many of these other networks, too. CIPRA France is networked as part of an event on job opportunities that have arisen as a result of the energy transition; in the Swiss valley of Val Bregaglia countless organisations, including CIPRA Switzerland, discuss

the significance of culture for the development of mountain regions; the CIPRAs in Austria, Germany and South Tyrol are co-operating closely in the transport sector; and CIPRA International co-ordinates the network of the Alpine Towns of the Year – to mention just a few examples.

Looking beyond the immediate horizon (or, more fittingly, the immediate boundaries of one's own valley), learning from and working with one another, and, ultimately, achieving a greater political reach: these are just some of the positive aspects of those joint ventures. At the centre of it all is a shared interest in sustainable development to benefit both the Alps as a natural environment and the Alpine population as a whole.

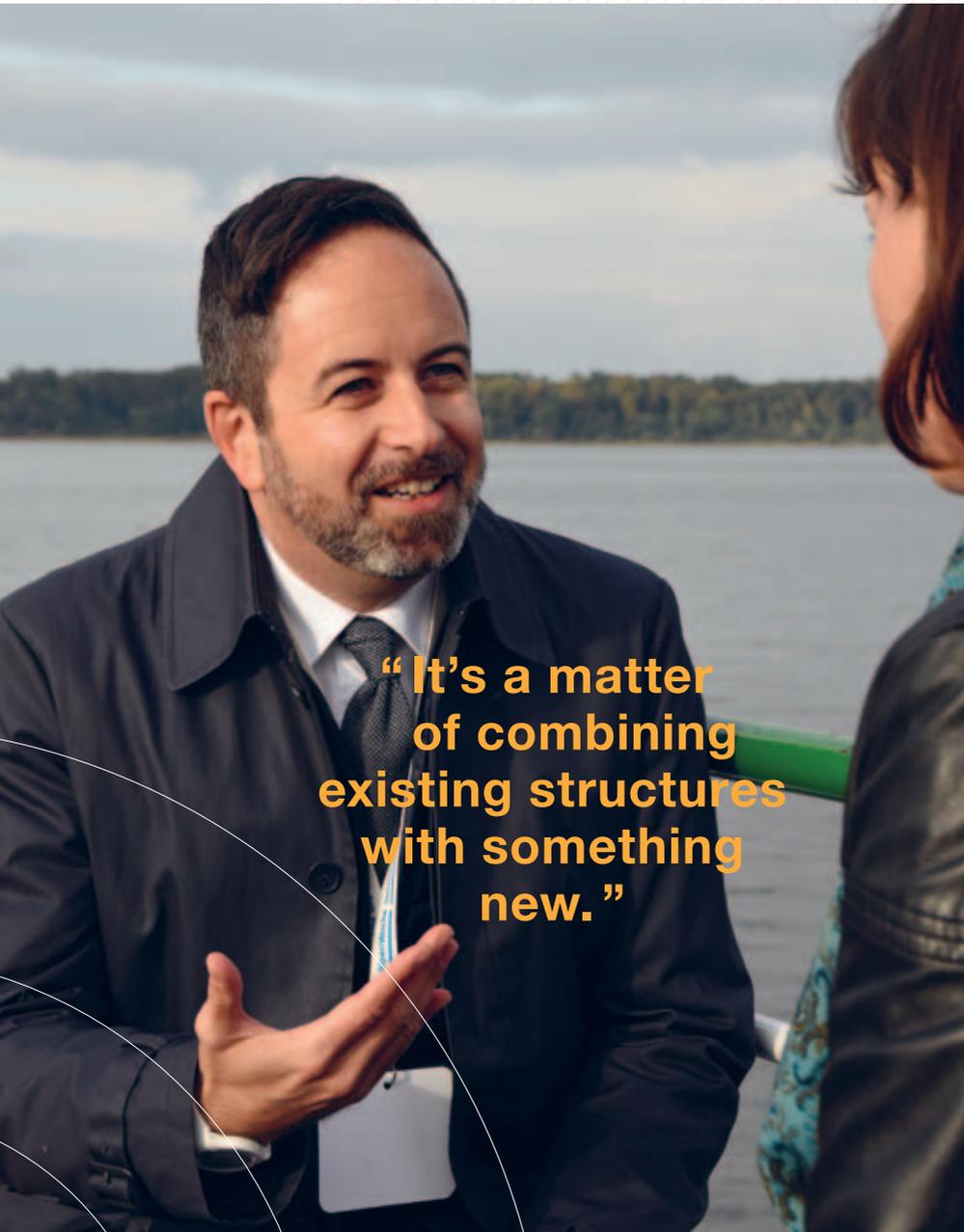
Wishing you an enjoyable read – and enjoy the networking, too!

Christian Baumgartner

Vice-President of CIPRA International

Music brought Cassiano

Luminati back to the
Swiss mountain valley Puschlav.



**“It’s a matter
of combining
existing structures
with something
new.”**

WHERE IDEAS MAKE WAVES

CIPRA is a small organisation with a large network. It enables people to tackle challenges together and learn from one another – like Sandrine Percheval and Cassiano Luminati, who met for the first time at the AlpWeek in Grassau/D.

— It’s late afternoon on a cold October day of blue and gold. The excursion boat of the Chiemsee navigation company is rocking gently to and fro at its jetty mooring at Prien, Germany. Some 400 people are walking down the wooden jetty to board the ship. Sandrine Percheval and Cassiano Luminati are already on board, resting their arms on the ship’s railing as they watch the passengers board: elegant men and women, impeccably dressed. Small groups of young people in knitted scarves and trendily ripped jeans. Women in traditional costume. Wafting above their heads, tufts of Gamsbart, or chamois beard, bristling from the hats of men in traditional Bavarian costume. All the heads turn in unison as the two German politicians step onto the boards: Barbara Hendricks, the Federal Minister for the Environment, and Ulrike Scharf, the Bavarian Minister for the Environment. The ship weighs anchor.

They have all travelled to Grassau for the AlpWeek, organised by many institutions, authorities and associations, including CIPRA. Numerous initiatives, cultures, languages, organisations and approaches to potential solutions that all come together around the theme of “People and the Alps”. Embedded into the Week is the 15th Alpine Conference, the principal body of the Alpine Convention. Today, under Germany’s chairmanship, the guests are invited to a state reception at the palace of Schloss Herrenchiemsee on the eponymous island. ▶

Sandrine Percheval, 35, and Cassiano Luminati, 45, sit down opposite each other at the stern of the ship. French and Swiss respectively, they both work within the ambit of CIPRA. This is the first time they have met in person. Cassiano Luminati – dark beard, mischievous smile – grew up in the remote valley of Valposchiavo near the border with Lombardy. At the age of 18 he left the valley to study architecture in the vibrant city of Milan. “All I wanted was city life!” he exclaims. “And all I wanted was sunshine and warmth, so I went to study in Southern France,” adds Sandrine.

She’s eager to know what brought Cassiano Luminati back to the mountains. “Music,” he answers. “In 1998 a friend asked me if I could help her organise a jazz festival in Val Poschiavo.” He could. It was a resounding success, and it also marked Luminati’s new start in life in the valley. It’s now fifteen years since he was first appointed director of Polo Poschiavo, a centre of excellence for further education. “The way I see it,” he explains, “it’s a matter of combining existing structures with something new.” Right now they’re working on cross-border vocational training schemes. In 2005 Polo Poschiavo was awarded a main prize as part of CIPRA’s Future in the Alps Project.

Rediscovering home from a distance

“Do you also work with young people?” Sandrine wants to know. “Yes. As president of the Val Poschiavo region and through CIPRA’s mediation, I met the Youth Parliament of the Alpine Convention on several occasions between 2011 and 2015. I got to put the wishes those young people had expressed before the decision-makers – for example the need for a night bus, an idea that was subsequently implemented.”

In 2012, he staged the AlpWeek and the Alpine Conference in Val Poschiavo with the help of the Swiss Federal Administration and observer organisations of the Alpine Convention such as CIPRA, Iscar and Alparc. Asked what he enjoys most about his work, Cassiano does not have to think long and hard. “It’s bringing people and ideas together!” For example, Polo Poschiavo, the local museums and the tourist organisation joined forces to bring buckwheat back to Val Poschiavo, allowing guests and visitors to experience it for themselves. And Cassiano wouldn’t be “Luminati” if he didn’t already have new objectives up his sleeve: “I want our entire valley to be awarded an eco label – a 100% organic smart valley.”



Sandrine Percheval
likes the social
aspect of her work.

**“We’re all in
the same boat.”**

Sandrine Percheval nods, flicking strands of dark hair aside, and then begins to tell her own story. She says she loves the green landscape of the Alps with its little towns and wild nature, especially in the South of France. But she’s also well aware of the fact that such authenticity comes at a price: “Remoteness means having to cover long distances.” Nonetheless it’s important for the rural population to have prompt access to information. That’s where the facilities provided by the Adrets Association come into play, which is where

Sandrine Percheval has been working since 2014: the Maisons de service public, information and care agencies that offer a sort of first aid for all kinds of issues, free of charge. Need an insurance policy? A medical specialist? Or an official document? “Instead of running from pillar to post people have the option of contacting these offices, which are usually based in the municipality itself,” explains Sandrine Percheval. It’s their job to ensure that the specialist staff – most of them women – are able to exchange information and are well trained to cope with this wide range of tasks.

Resourceful thanks to incentives

“And what do you like best about your work?” asks Cassiano Luminati. “The social aspect,” says Sandrine Percheval, with a big smile. The care agencies are there for all residents, but they’re particularly important for disadvantaged people such as seasonal workers. In summer and autumn, seasonal workers typically help out on the farms; in winter they work as ski instructors or ski lift operators. They’re often itinerant, badly insured, with few friends or family locally, and are often ill. “These people are always borderline in terms of poverty.” A few years ago Adrets became a member of CIPRA France. “That strengthened our legitimacy,” says Sandrine Percheval. She adds that, through CIPRA, she now gets lots of inspiring ideas for projects and joint initiatives in different areas, for example environmental protection.

The chugging of the engine slows down as the ship gently nudges the jetty. The crossing is over. There’s a chill in the air now, and the smart attire and knitwear are drawn closer. The passengers disembark and, in the fading light, make their way up the avenue to the Herrenchiemsee palace. There is a babble of German and Swiss German, English and French, Italian and Slovenian. And, among the hubbub, Sandrine Percheval and Cassiano Luminati as they continue their conversation, in French. From a slight elevation the young woman looks down over the procession to the jetty below, where the ship, now illuminated, awaits its returning passengers. “We’ve all come here from different countries and with different roles and hopes,” she says, “but in the end we’re all in the same boat.”

Margarete Moulin, freelance journalist, Munich/D (text) and
Caroline Begle, CIPRA International (photos)

During the AlpWeek

Sandrine Percheval and
Cassiano Luminati made
many new contacts.



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TOGETHER WE CAN ACHIEVE MORE

In a lichen a fungus works together with algae as part of a symbiotic community or biocoenosis: while the fungus binds the moisture, the algae produce the nutrients.

GOING FURTHER, TOGETHER

PAN-ALPINE NETWORKS

— There is an African saying that goes: “If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go with others.” And the trail to sustainable development in the Alps and to preserving the alpine natural environment, its habitat and its economic area is a very long one indeed. It is one the Alliance in the Alps network of municipalities and CIPRA International have been trekking along together since 1997.

In February 2016 the Executive Boards and Management of CIPRA International and the Alliance in the Alps met in Innsbruck/A to take a look at the future together. In a memorandum of understanding they renewed the foundation for their collaboration and specified a number of common objectives: a strong role in Alpine policy; a vibrant network beyond linguistic and cultural boundaries; and the exploration of new joint venture and topic areas. The agreement is trendsetting for their continued co-operation in the future.

Further networks like Alparc are also supporting CIPRA loyally along the way. One glittering highlight of that co-operation was organising the 4th AlpWeek from 11 to 15 October 2016 in Grassau, Germany (p. 4–9). Together with the EU’s Alpine Space Programme, the Alpine Town of the Year Association, the International Scientific Committee for Alpine Research (Iscar), the network of Alpine associations, the Club Arc Alpin and Germany’s chairmanship of the Alpine Convention, CIPRA drew more than 400 people to Grassau, under the motto of “Alps & People”. One key finding emerged from the many lectures and discussions: sustainable development in the Alps can only be achieved together and one small step at a time.

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CIPRA and the network of municipalities are like siblings: we have the same background and value the same ideals, but we also have our own minds, our own ideas and talents. By co-operating, we benefit from each other’s strengths; at the same time we’re able to consider and tackle problems from different perspectives.”

Katharina Gasteiger,
Alliance in the Alps,
Übersee am Chiemsee/D

RIVERS CONNECT PEOPLE

BIODIVERSITY & LANDSCAPE



“For geographical and cultural reasons, mountain regions are often isolated – co-operation as part of the Spare project is invaluable as it helps to establish personal contacts and promotes the exchange of knowledge and expertise. This in turn leads to better environmental management and better land management.”

Andrea Mammoliti
Mochet, Spare project partner, Aosta Valley/Regional Office for Environmental Protection

__The partners of the Spare Project are as diverse as they are at home in different Alpine countries, comprising as they do a university, two research agencies, two official bodies, a regional office, and two environmental organisations. Together they demonstrate how river management can be improved above and beyond administrative, cultural and technical boundaries.

Rivers supply clean drinking water to people living not just in the Alps and throughout Europe, irrigating fields and farmland and providing a habitat for many plants and animals. People use them for recreational purposes and to generate electricity. The comprehensive water course management scheme set out as part of the Spare Project is the basis for providing these ecosystem functions. The wide array of project partners means that stakeholders can be involved in many different sectors. Five pilot regions are testing methods for participating in river planning and drawing up solutions together.

For example in Dora Baltea, one of the Spare pilot regions. Over the past century the glacier river area in the north-west of the Italian Alps has been used intensively for economic and urban growth. Riverbank vegetation, flood areas and natural run-off and drainage areas have been lost as a result. But now, as part of the Spare Project, the local population, local administrations, agriculture, electricity suppliers, and many others are being involved in the river planning. In the ongoing investigations, flow data from the river bed is being monitored and new procedures for issuing water concessions are being jointly developed.

WWW.CIPRA.ORG/BIODIVERSITY

A WIND OF CHANGE FOR MUNICIPALITIES

YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE ALPS

__At the Nagelfluhkette Nature Park/A, young people are teaching primary schoolchildren for a day. Together, they study water courses as a habitat for plants and animals. In l'Argentière-la-Bessée/F, another group is creating an adventure trail to the entrance of a silver mine. These and other initiatives are the result of CIPRA's youTurn youth project, which has been implemented together with the Alliance in the Alps network, the Alpine Town of the Year association, the French municipalities of Chambéry and Argentière-la-Bessée, the Austrian localities of Nenzing, Nagelfluhkette and Montafon, and the Liechtenstein town of Schaan. As part of the project, young people, youth workers and representatives from the participating Alpine municipalities collated instances of good practice in youth participation, gaining inspiration from the initiatives of others and implementing their own ideas. As a result, young people felt more involved and more motivated to dedicate themselves to their community's sustainable development.

At the final meeting in Chambéry thirty or so young people aged 14 to 17 and accompanying adults came up with suggestions on how to improve youth participation in their municipalities. For example, by raising the awareness of politicians for their concerns and inviting them to attend their activities or calling in on them at their place of work – bringing cake along, of course. The general consensus in Chambéry was that a certain amount of incentive was of course needed from the political side, too, for instance the establishment and mentoring of a Youth Parliament.

WWW.CIPRA.ORG/YOUTH



“It is very important to involve young people in the life of the community; after all, young people are tomorrow's adults. The YouTurn project has shown me that, even if we are young, we're able to participate in the community.”

Clémence
De Langavant,
YouTurn participant,
Argentière-la-Bessée/F

SPACE IS FINITE

COMMUNICATION & NETWORKING

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It is part of CIPRA's remit to keep drawing our attention to the vulnerability and uniqueness of our Alpine habitats and to call for protection against irreversible damage, just as it has done with its constructively formulated and highly justified open letter entitled 'Space is finite'."

Astrid Rössler,

Deputy Governor for the Federal Province of Salzburg/A

__In 2016 CIPRA examined spatial planning from various perspectives. With the alpMonitor project for instance, it demonstrated under the Spatial Planning rubric how such processes can be tackled at the municipal level and what the potential stumbling blocks might be. With an interactive presentation anyone with an interest in the topic can accompany the fictional municipality of Alpwil through its decision-making process. The presentation is complemented by a poster illustrating the main steps and statements and a web dossier entitled Raumplanung in den Alpen [Spatial Planning in the Alps].

Under the "Nature and People" rubric of the alpMonitor project, a map of the Alps illustrates protected areas and those who are affected by change and keen to preserve these areas. After completing its review of the "Egarten" case CIPRA International examined whether such changes could be put before the Board of Review of the Alpine Convention and, if so, how. The result is a fact sheet with the relevant recommendations.

Particular attention was focused on the 101st edition of the AlpsInsight magazine entitled Raum ist endlich [Space is finite] and the open letter addressed to the spatial planning conference of the Alpine countries held in Murnau/D in April. In September CIPRA Germany, Austria, South Tyrol and International upped the ante by calling for a stop to large-scale extensions of skiing areas. CIPRA International added further emphasis with the event entitled Da röhrt der Hirsch, da rauscht der Bach [Roaring Deer, Babbling Brooks] at the AlpWeek in Grassau/D in October.

WWW.CIPRA.ORG/EN/INTERNATIONAL/PUBLICATIONS
ALPMONITOR.CIPRA.ORG

AWAKENING AND CHANGE

ALPINE POLICY

__"Us first" was the pervasive motto in 2016, more so than ever before. In the light of a global political and social climate of isolation it is all the more important for CIPRA to stand up for values such as solidarity, co-operation, environmental protection, and justice.

Which is why, in 2016, CIPRA International was focused particularly on working within networks. At the beginning of the year the action groups of the macro-regional strategy for the Alpine Region began their work. Between representatives of the regions, ministries, NGOs, municipalities and the scientific community, new stakeholders from the Alpine region were grouped together for the first time and therefore had to make their voices heard and establish their roles.

Within the framework of the Alpine Convention, CIPRA was – with the help of other observer organisations – able to contribute its expertise on key documents of the Alpine Convention and establish sustainable development issues. These included the Murnau/D declaration on sustainable regional development in the Alps, the ministerial declaration on the promotion of sustainable economy in the Alps, and the 2017-2022 multi-annual work programme of the Alpine Convention. Finally, in October, the Alpine Conference provided the opportunity to showcase the work that had been achieved.

Thanks to its involvement in various working groups, platforms, conferences and workshops CIPRA International was able to participate in the various themes and establish and consolidate its networks. The expertise of CIPRA was as much in demand as its clear positioning and demands.

WWW.CIPRA.ORG/EN/ALPINE-POLITICS

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For years we have been advocating closer co-operation in international sustainability policy between the state and civil society. CIPRA International plays a particularly important role here, in the Alpine region."

Panagiotis

Potolidis-Beck,

Principality of Liechtenstein's Office for Foreign Affairs

TURNING RISKS INTO OPPORTUNITIES

CLIMATE & ENERGY



“Our experiences with the Climate Toolbox in the Surselva region have shown that, rather than closing our eyes to climate change, we need to scan the horizon together and look for new opportunities. If all the region’s stakeholders join forces to work together on the solution, we can open up new avenues and seize new opportunities.”

Urs Giezendanner,
Director, Surselva/CH
Regional Development

“On this October afternoon in the Swiss region of Surselva, the hotel in Vals is a hive of activity as a group of people discuss and gesticulate in German and Romansh. They’re engaged in an exchange of views on the opportunities, risks, and future of the valley in the wake of climate change.

The workshop on “Adaptation to Climate Change in Surselva” as part of the Climate Toolbox Project provided an opportunity for regional decision-makers and stakeholders in agriculture, tourism and water management to join forces and draw up strategies for their region. The Toolbox was designed by the Surselva Region, the Swiss consultancy and project development company seecon, the environmental organisation Mountain Wilderness Switzerland, and CIPRA International.

Climate change is one of the 21st century’s greatest challenges. Global warming will have a far-reaching economic, ecological and social impact on the Alps as a living environment. But the phenomenon is so complex that it remains rather abstract and difficult to convey. There is often a lack of knowledge and of methods for offsetting the changes brought about by climate change. What resources are available within the region, and what can be done? Where are changes anticipated as a result of climate change? This is precisely the point at which the Climate Toolbox comes into play. Its aim is to provide a holistic understanding of climate change. On that basis the stakeholders involved are able to develop strategies for their region, as indeed they did at the Surselva workshop. The solutions jointly drawn up and implemented then become sustainable in the long term.

WWW.CIPRA.ORG/EN/CLIMATE-ENERGY

MOBILITY AS A STATE OF MIND

TRANSPORT & MOBILITY

“People very quickly forget about a traffic jam providing it doesn’t last longer than ten minutes.” 140 pairs of eyes were focused on the speaker Gerhard Fehr. At the international symposium on commuter mobility in Hard, Austria, in mid-November, Mr Fehr, a behavioural economist, was showing his audience why the choice of means of transport is often not a rational decision. Experts in economics, politics, administration and representatives of NGOs and associations from Germany, Switzerland, Austria and Liechtenstein were offered inspiring ideas on sustainable mobility as well as an opportunity to exchange views.

They found out that good mobility measures help commuters to fall back instinctively on alternatives to the car as they are not based on complex decision-making processes. Frank Burmeister from the Netherlands Ministry of Transport used his country’s mobility strategy to illustrate how this can be implemented. That strategy is aimed at shifting commuter flows over to bicycles, car pools and trains.

The symposium was an important stage in the cross-sector Pemo project, which CIPRA is conducting on behalf of Liechtenstein and the Canton of St. Gallen, in collaboration with the Vorarlberg Energy Institute and the administrative district of Lindau. Major employers play a key role in this regard. As part of the Pemo project nineteen companies and institutions are trialling analysis methods and measures for altering commuters’ behaviour. Pemo is building on the experiences of the Alpstär Alpine Space Project, which drew up methods for reducing CO₂ emissions in the mobility sector in the Alpine Rhine Valley pilot region to use these findings across the Alps.

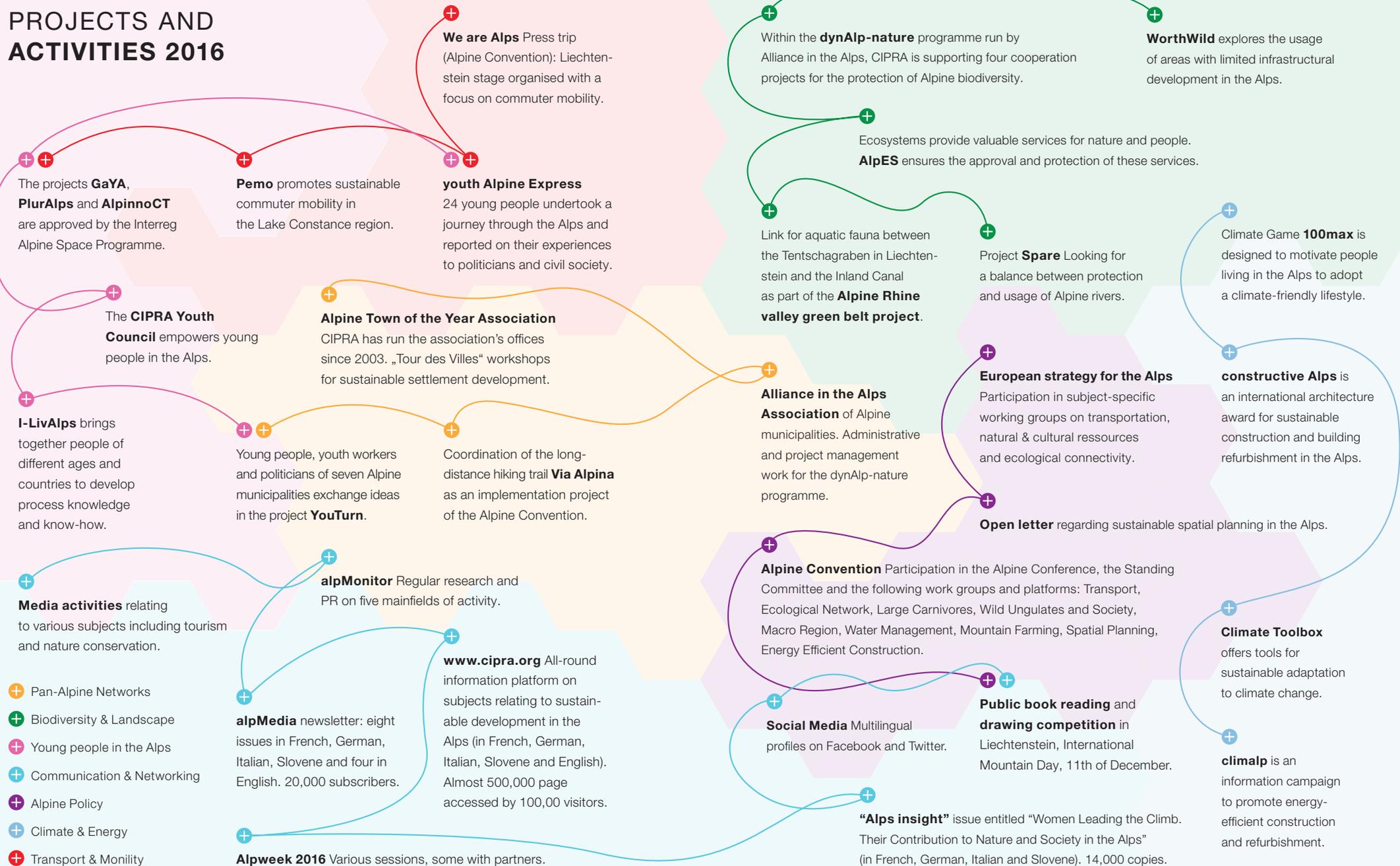


“For me, cross-border projects are certainly the watchword, particularly in a region that has such close cultural ties and is as narrowly confined as the Alpine Rhine Valley. Through our meetings with project partners such as CIPRA from neighbouring regions I have become acquainted with many new ideas that help to advance our work in Vorarlberg.”

Martin Reis,
Pemo project partner,
Vorarlberg/A
Energy Institute

WWW.CIPRA.ORG/EN/TRANSPORT

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES 2016



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WE RELY ON ONE ANOTHER

Green leaves use sunlight to produce oxygen,
which in turn is essential to produce the
air that people and animals need to breathe.

TOGETHER AGAINST TRANSIT TRAFFIC

CIPRA Italy While most of Italy is surrounded by the Mediterranean, to the north the country is encircled by a wide arc formed by the Alps. Goods shipped to Italy via sea routes are distributed onwards throughout Europe from Italy, with European products shipped out through Italian ports. Overall, around 90% of shipments, including passenger traffic, are transported by road, making transalpine traffic of paramount importance for Italy.

These road links are already well developed, and yet new projects aimed at building priority Alpine thoroughfares are being thought up all the time. In 2016 the Transport Committee of the European Parliament put before the vote of its plenary session a report which, among other things, provided for the extension of the Alemagna motorway as a new transalpine transit route between Munich/D and Venice/I. CIPRA Italy, together with other CIPRA representatives, interceded with the Transport Committee of the European Parliament against the further expansion of

transalpine transit routes – and its appeal did not fall on deaf ears: in a report the European Parliament rejected the relevant passages by a large majority.

With the support of transport experts, CIPRA Italy also published a report on the transit traffic situation at the crossing points through the Alps. It transpires that the Italian government has not yet implemented many economic, fiscal and organisational measures aimed at promoting the transfer of traffic from the roads to the railways. The other Alpine countries are also lagging behind in this regard. Indeed, without flanking measures, it will be impossible to achieve climate change objectives.

WWW.CIPRA.ORG/ITALY

LAUGHING, WALKING AND LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER

CIPRA Slovenia Increasingly, children are now being driven to school by their parents. CIPRA Slovenia is working to counter that trend by working with the Institute for Spatial Policies and the Association for Sustainable Development. And thanks to the Pedibus, schoolchildren get to exercise – and have more opportunities for contact with children of the same age.

The Pedibus is a children's group accompanied by an adult either on foot. The little ones are collected from "bus stops" at fixed times, taken to school and then brought back again. Workshops that are part of the Sustainable Mobility in Practice project offered stakeholder groups such as municipalities, school boards and teachers the opportunity to get to know new mobility concepts and try them out for themselves. The response from participants was entirely positive, and they are now planning to implement such measures at their schools too.

Good examples of sustainable mobility from Slovenia and other countries served as role models for new solutions as part of the project. Besides various workshops the project partners also organised a field trip to Bolzano/1 and published the collated mobility measures.

Members of the teaching body and municipality staff took part in the field trip to Bolzano. On site they visited municipal infrastructure solutions, travelled throughout the Vinschgau region by train, and found out how measures are implemented in practice at a school. With its "Sustainable Mobility in Schools" project, CIPRA Slovenia and partners are to continue their efforts for a more eco-friendly form of mobility in 2017.

WWW.CIPRA.ORG/EN/SLOVENIA

THE ALPINE RHINE FÊTE

CIPRA Liechtenstein Taming Europe's biggest torrent began some two hundred years ago. Today, the Alpine Rhine is a canal, its course lined for the most part by intensively used farmland and residual pockets of wetland forest. The constricted river is no longer able to fulfil its purpose as a lifeline for mankind and nature. To make people more aware of the usefulness of a more near-natural Alpine Rhine, CIPRA Liechtenstein teamed up with the Graubünden and St. Gallen WWF, Pro Natura Eastern Switzerland, Naturschutzbund Vorarlberg, Werkstatt Faire Zukunft and the Swiss water protection organisation Aqua Viva to put on a large fête.

At the spot where the Alpine Rhine flows in a wide arc around the Ellhorn, the organisers staged a varied programme on the banks of gravel and sand between the Liechtenstein municipality of Balzers and the Graubünden municipality of Fläsch: there were opportunities to canoe down small oxbows, study water-borne insects under the magnifying glass, stroke genuine beaver fur, and build sand castles and artworks out of stones. There was also plenty of time for a chat over food and drinks, and for interacting with the Rheinleben [Life on the Rhine] exhibition inside the marquee tent.



A joint effort:
Paddling the Alpine Rhine.

The many visitors at the Rhy-Fäscht fête were able to experience and enjoy the wide stretch of river and the near-natural setting of the river banks, the likes of which are normally only to be found in the Mastrilser wetlands along the Alpine Rhine. There is currently a great deal of discussion surrounding the widening of the river bed. It would benefit the local recreation area in the over-exploited valley area as much as it would biodiversity. The governments of the countries bordering the area provided for the relevant restoration measures some time ago. Which is why, next year, the organisers will once again put on another fête and campaign for effective implementation.

WWW.CIPRA.ORG/EN/LIECHTENSTEIN

THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY

CIPRA France The European Strategy for the Alps (Eusalp) examines answers to challenges such as demographic change, economic globalisation, climate change, and energy transition. CIPRA France and the French representative of Alliance in the Alps accepted the invitation of Eusalp to submit their implementation projects. In June 2016 they convened 40 participants from the worlds of politics, business and science in Bourg d'Oisans in France's Isère département. Twelve new projects were created, retained and published in a brochure. They included developing

With active support:

New project ideas arise.



interdisciplinary training courses that incorporate the natural sciences and the humanities. That way topics such as the energy transition in the Alpine region could be examined from different perspectives and implemented more effectively.

Shortly thereafter CIPRA France attended a meeting of the French working group on the European Strategy for the Alps organised by the commissioner's office for the equal treatment of regions. The project ideas were presented at the meeting; however, the political representatives of the three Eusalp regions of Franche-Comté, Auvergne Rhône-Alpes and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, who stood to benefit from project ideas such as these, did not attend. How can the awareness of the importance of participating in European political processes be strengthened at both the municipal and the regional level? CIPRA France continues to reflect and act on the matter – with a global perspective and a local sense of responsibility.

WWW.CIPRA.ORG/EN/FRANCE

Photo: CIPRA France

IDENTITY NEEDS CULTURE

CIPRA Switzerland Growth-orientated regional politics in Switzerland today are aimed first and foremost at economic development and at prioritising hubs and development axes. The potential afforded by mountain regions with their diverse culture is barely recognised. Together with Mountain Wilderness Switzerland and the Salecina Conference Centre, CIPRA Switzerland brought together people from the fields of science, culture, regional development and politics to sound out and highlight that potential. At the conference entitled "Mountain regions – where to now? The future of the Alpine valleys and the significance of culture" held in June 2016, forty or so experts discussed the significance of regional identity and the contribution of cultural initiatives towards sustainable regional development.

The participants were unanimous: culture must not be viewed merely as an economic contribution to regional development. Rather, a strong and vibrant regional identity of peripheral regions has to be the foundation from which to acknowledge and make constructive use of differences. They adopted a joint resolution aimed at enhancing the role of culture in Alpine regions. It set out among other things that Alpine cultural activities must be afforded a higher status within the realm of politics and regional development. Regional cultural initiatives have the capability of delivering the impetus for improvements in quality of life and of giving strength and dignity to regional identities.

CIPRA Switzerland will continue to expand its partnerships and contacts in the cultural sector in the years to come. The aim is to address Alpine policy issues and themes against the background of local and regional circumstances.

WWW.CIPRA.ORG/SWITZERLAND



With a unified voice:
CIPRA representatives at
the press conference.

RELIABLE PARTNERSHIPS RIGHT ACROSS THE ALPS

CIPRA Austria, CIPRA Germany, CIPRA South Tyrol Right now the cable car industry is all about superlatives. Indeed, the “world’s greatest glacier ski area” is to be created by linking up the ski resorts in the Austrian Pitztal and Ötztal valleys. Lech-St. Anton boasts “Austria’s largest ski area” and, following the link-up with Arosa, the Lenzerheide has become the “largest contiguous ski area” in Graubünden, Switzerland. In Bavaria/D, Tyrol/A and South Tyrol/I alone there are now 31 cable car projects waiting to be implemented. It’s an Alpine-wide predatory competition that’s driving investments ever upwards. The instant one ski region expands its area, other winter resorts feel compelled to make the next move. They too want to expand so they can keep up with the competition from abroad.

And so the battle waged by individual organisations against these serried ranks of development plans that are all similar in

argumentation, methodology and demands throughout the Alpine states becomes all the tougher. That’s why partnerships and networks such as CIPRA are urgently needed. The three CIPRAs of Austria, South Tyrol and Germany have joined forces to form a cross-border north-south axis. Their brief: to make the general public and the body politic aware of the unbridled exploitation of the Alps and, also, make it clear that international regulations are needed when it comes to answering questions relating to the development of ski areas and spatial planning.

In Germany these exploitation pressures never used to exist. Within the national planning framework, the Bavarian Alpine Plan is a prime example of Alpine spatial planning, with 43% of the total surface area earmarked for “quiet recreation”. No pistes or lift installations are to be built there. But now, at the Riedberger Horn in the Allgäu region,

Photo: Josef Essl

policymakers are calling this regulation into question and seeking to exclude areas from the protected Zone C of the Alpine Plan so that a cable car link can be built. As a result a planning instrument that has been tried and tested and unchanged for 44 years is now being called into question. The international set of agreements of the Alpine Convention forms the overarching framework for the implementation of Alpine-wide solutions. What is needed is a spatial planning architecture that is valid across the Alps and modelled on examples of good practice such as the Bavarian Alpine Plan. The appointment of a working group on “Alpine open-space planning/Alpine spatial planning” within the Alpine Convention would be a first step. Its remit would be to draw up proposals valid across the Alps to halt the ever spiralling plans to expand the growth of tourism.

Joint campaigns by CIPRA Austria, Germany and South Tyrol such as press conferences in Munich/D and Innsbruck/A, the call for an Alpine-wide debate on spiralling growth plans for cable car construction, and the demand for a serious application of the implementing protocols of the Alpine Convention have resulted in a sustained media response across the Alps. The three national CIPRAs also see themselves as a mouthpiece for civil society as a whole when it comes to highlighting problems and challenges and addressing solutions. “Working towards a form

Photo: ÖC, Tourism/Erber

of eco-tourism where offers are tailored to the natural and cultural assets of the Alpine region rather than impacting them would be a sustainable solution for nature and people alike,” says Peter Hasslacher, President of CIPRA Austria. Together with representatives in Germany and South Tyrol they will further strengthen that co-operation and act with a strong voice on behalf of the comprehensive protection and sustainable development of the Alps.

WWW.CIPRA.ORG/AUSTRIA
WWW.CIPRA.ORG/GERMANY
[WWW.CIPRA.ORG/SUEDTIROL \(DE\)](http://WWW.CIPRA.ORG/SUEDTIROL(DE))

Regardless of the consequences:
Plans for a cable car in the
Warscheneck/A nature reserve.



SPRAY-PAINTING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

CIPRA South Tyrol Urban Green – How does the young generation imagine its city of the future? It's a question artists chose to explore by creative means at the 2016 Graffiti Contest. In 2014 CIPRA South Tyrol as the umbrella organisation for nature conservation and environmental protection set up the first jointly organised graffiti competition, together with its local environmental group in Bolzano and the Murarte cultural association. In the interim the event has become well established and is now under the patronage of the municipality of Bolzano. The starting point for staging the competition was how to get a

Unlimited creativity:
exhibition of graffiti art in Bozen.



young urban target audience interested and involved in issues of environmental protection. To this end movable partition walls were set up in central locations in Bolzano so people could experience first-hand how graffiti is created. Riccardo Rizzo and Tobias Planer of the Murarte Association are in no doubt that young people are definitely interested in topical issues about nature conservation, environmental protection and the safeguarding of resources. The works created by the participating graffiti artists do not just consist of paint sprayed onto a wall; they comprise views, statements and messages. Urban Green stands for clever mobility solutions, building envelopes that are organic and living, zero-waste concepts, resource conservation; in other words, it stands for towns and cities that people want to live in. In their images the graffiti artists depicted what Urban Green might look like in the future. For CIPRA South Tyrol it was a matter of course that the entire event should be organised in a way that was as resource-friendly as possible. That's why the graffiti was created on completely reusable partition walls using eco-friendly water-based paints.

WWW.CIPRA.ORG/SUEDTIROL (DE)

Photos: CIPRA South Tyrol, Cristian Newman

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**WE CAN ALL
MAKE A
CONTRIBUTION**

Bees ingest the nectar they obtain from flowers.

The pollen adheres to the body of the bees and

is transported to the next flower, which is then pollinated.





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Witty (Director), Uwe Roth **CIPRA SOUTH TIROL Board** Klauspeter Dissinger (Chairmen), Johanna Ebner (Vice President), Judith Egger (until end of January), Klara Kofler, Elisabeth Ladinsler (until end of January), Wolfgang Niederhofer, Hanspeter Niederkofler, Anna Pichler, Stephan Platzgummer (until end of January), Martin Schöpf, Wilhelm Seppi **Office** Marion Auer, Griseldis Dietl, Andreas Riedl (Director) **CIPRA YOUTH COUNCIL** Laurent Buscat, Sara Cattani, Cristina Dalla Torre, Virgil Decourteille, Martina Eberle, Luzia Felder, Kristina Glojok, Katja Kosir, Andrea Müller, Eva Šabec, Ana Seifert, Luca Tschiderer, Max Vuillet, Caroline Vuillet, Elisa Zadra **NEDERLANDSE MILIEUGROUP ALPEN** Joop Spijker

WWW.CIPRA.ORG/EN/CIPRA/ABOUT

CIPRA INTERNATIONAL

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Photos: Darko Todorovic



CIPRA YOUTH COUNCIL

POSTING A PROFIT AT YEAR END ON THE RIGHT TRACK

The 2016 financial year was characterised by two main developments. Firstly, success in maintaining the high level of our funding and commissions. Secondly, our sphere of influence has been broadened further thanks to the founding of CIPRA International Lab GmbH, which is based in Dornbirn/A. As the project management arm of CIPRA International, this company is able to participate in joint venture programmes on a much larger scale.

The positive results for the year as a whole were possible thanks first and foremost to support and funding at many different levels. We would like to thank all the people, organisations and partners who stood by us with help and advice throughout 2016 and supported us with their funding. Thanks to their trust and support for the work we do, they were instrumental in enabling us to post a profit at the end of the 2016 financial year: i.e. revenues of around CHF 1,491 million against expenditure of around CHF 1,486 million, resulting in a profit of around CHF 5,300.

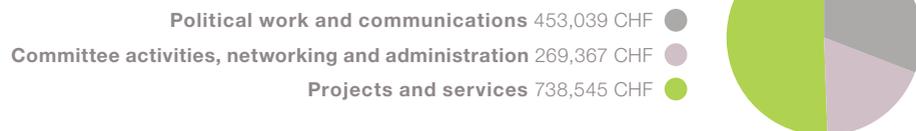
Compared with the previous year the number of financial backers and commissioning clients remained unchanged, at 35. Our

ambition is to plough this funding into initiatives and projects that are as effective and as beneficial to the Alps as possible. The funding contribution from our domicile state of Liechtenstein accounts for approximately one third of our revenues; it is the precondition on which our ability to operate on behalf of sustainable development right across the Alps is based.

Half of our funds are earmarked for political work, public relations, committee work, networking and administration. That includes our commitment to the Alpine Convention and our role within Eusalp, our media work, and the alpMonitor project where every year we conduct research on background information in several fields and put forward proposals for solutions. The other half is expended on project work and services with which we initiate and promote the implementation of sustainable solution strategies.

CIPRA International's assets amounted to around CHF 303,965 at the end of 2016. Detailed financial statements of account will be available at www.cipra.org once approved by the Assembly of Delegates in autumn 2017.

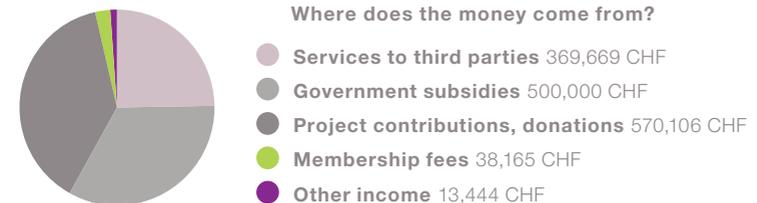
Where does the money go?



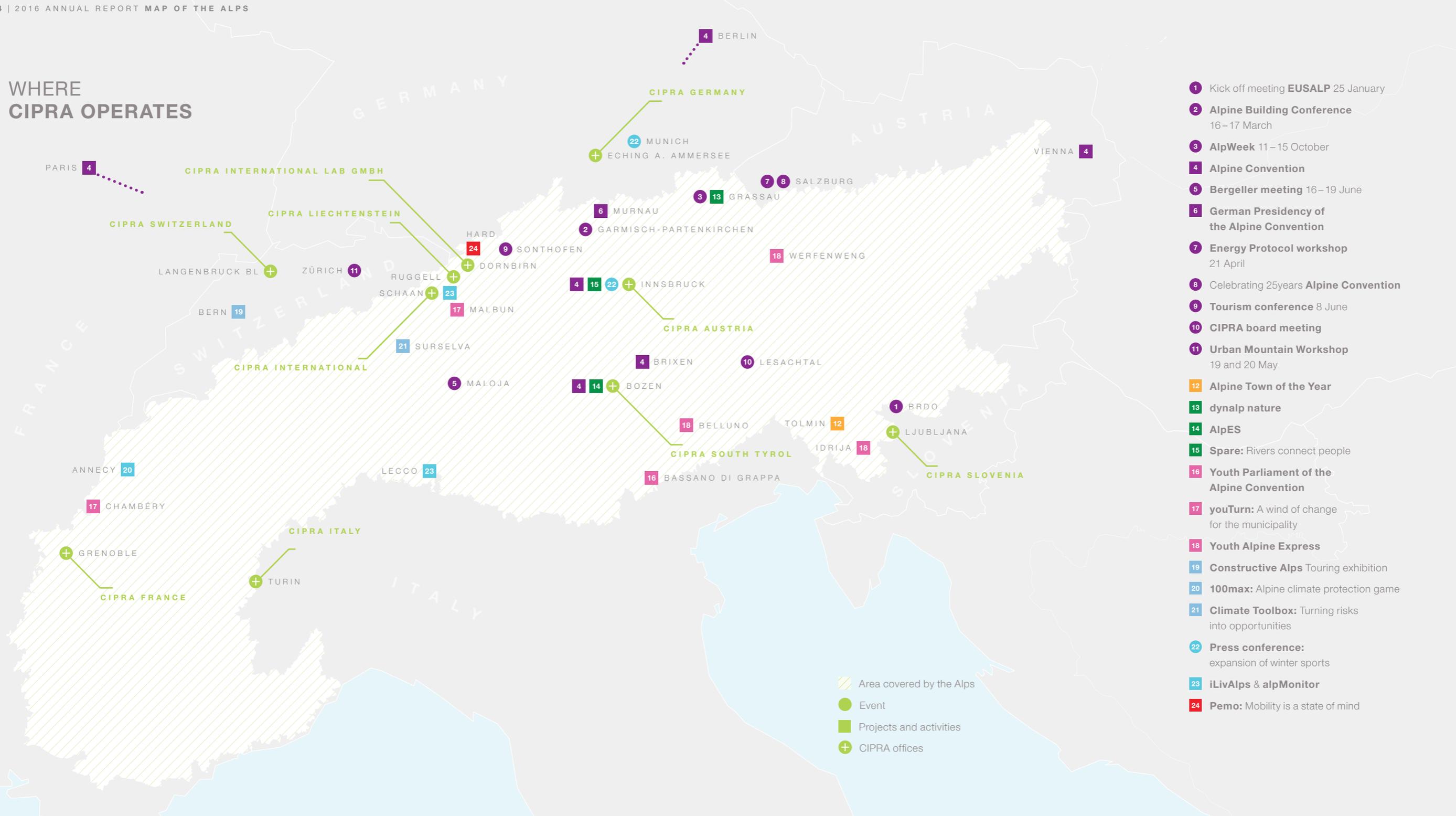
CIPRA INTERNATIONAL'S THANKS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND CONTRACTS GO TO

- LIECHTENSTEIN VADUZ/LI • OFFICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT VADUZ/LI
- FEDERAL OFFICE OF SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT BERN/CH • FEDERAL OFFICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT BERN/CH • FEDERAL MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT, NATURE CONSERVATION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY BERLIN/D • FEDERAL AGENCY FOR NATURE CONSERVATION BERLIN/D • BRISTOL FOUNDATION ZÜRICH/CH • NON-PROFITMAKING FOUNDATIONS IN LIECHTENSTEIN • ALLIANCE IN THE ALPS NETWORK OF MUNICIPALITIES ÜBERSEE/D • ALPINE TOWN OF THE YEAR ASSOCIATION BAD REICHENHALL/D
- STIFTUNG FÜRST. KOMMERZIENRAT GUIDO FEGER VADUZ/LI • GERMAN FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL FOUNDATION OSNABRÜCK/D • AAGE V. JENSEN CHARITY FOUNDATION VADUZ/LI • THE EU'S ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME • RICHI FOUNDATION VADUZ/LI • VIA ALPINA NATIONAL SECRETARIATS: SCHWEIZER WANDERWEGE, CLUB ALPIN MONÉGASQUE, SLOVENIAN TOURIST BOARD, GRANDE TRAVERSÉE DES ALPES, LIECHTENSTEIN OFFICE OF THE ENVIRONMENT • PAUL SCHILLER FOUNDATION LACHEN/CH • INTERNATIONAL CHARITABLE FOUNDATION VADUZ/LI • ALPINE INITIATIVE ALTDORF/CH • FUTURE FOUNDATION OF LIECHTENSTEINISCHE LANDESBANK AG VADUZ/LI • VILLAGE OF PLANKEN PLANKEN/LI • OFFICE OF SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT AND GEOINFORMATION, CANTON ST. GALLEN ST. GALLEN/CH • SCANDINAVIAN HEARTLAND FALUN/SWE • CCA CLUB ARC ALPIN MUNICH/D • INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE FOR ALPINE RESEARCH BERN/CH • FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND ENERGY BERLIN/D • INTERREG ALPINE SPACE PROGRAMME • FOUNDATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY RUGGELL/LI • FONDAZIONE CARIPLIO MAILAND/I • LIECHTENSTEIN NATIONAL LIBRARY VADUZ/LI • INTERNATIONAL CHARITABLE FOUNDATION VADUZ/LI • PERMANENT SECRETARIAT OF THE ALPINE CONVENTION INNSBRUCK/A • LEGACY MARIA KLARA FEHR SCHELLENBERG/LI • ALPS INSIGHT SUPPORTERS

Where does the money come from?



WHERE CIPRA OPERATES



- 1 Kick off meeting **EUSALP** 25 January
- 2 **Alpine Building Conference** 16–17 March
- 3 **AlpWeek** 11–15 October
- 4 **Alpine Convention**
- 5 **Bergeller meeting** 16–19 June
- 6 **German Presidency of the Alpine Convention**
- 7 **Energy Protocol workshop** 21 April
- 8 Celebrating 25years **Alpine Convention**
- 9 **Tourism conference** 8 June
- 10 **CIPRA board meeting**
- 11 **Urban Mountain Workshop** 19 and 20 May
- 12 **Alpine Town of the Year**
- 13 **dynalp nature**
- 14 **AlpES**
- 15 **Spare: Rivers connect people**
- 16 **Youth Parliament of the Alpine Convention**
- 17 **youTurn: A wind of change for the municipality**
- 18 **Youth Alpine Express**
- 19 **Constructive Alps** Touring exhibition
- 20 **100max: Alpine climate protection game**
- 21 **Climate Toolbox: Turning risks into opportunities**
- 22 **Press conference: expansion of winter sports**
- 23 **iLivAlps & alpMonitor**
- 24 **Pemo: Mobility is a state of mind**

- Area covered by the Alps
- Event
- Projects and activities
- CIPRA offices



CIPRA **LIVING IN** **THE ALPS**

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