



The Alps: a unique laboratory for sustainable development models

Milan, Italy, 29th November 2019

9.00 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.

EUSALP's region includes important and industrialized cities, but is also characterized by the presence of the Alps, a relevant mountain range that lies in the heart of the European Union. The workshop will focus on the challenge of valorizing this uniqueness, presenting this area as a special "living lab" where to find out and experiment actions and approaches useful to elaborate "sustainable development models". These sustainable models should aim at improving the region's competitiveness and territorial cohesion, bridging the gap between cities and small al-pine villages, reducing human impact and valorizing natural resources. Researchers, entrepreneurs, representatives from public administration and civil society will discuss on the role mountains can play in the third millennium and how EUSALP, its Regions and States could contribute.

Framework

The workshop will represent a concrete working session on the role mountains could play at the European level, in an historical period requiring urgently the definition of new development models, based on the principles of sustainability, for which mountains could be a unique and strategic laboratory. The main challenge now is to underline this opportunity to policy makers and public institution in order to convince them to give more attention to the role of Mountains in their National Strategic Agendas which are currently being discussed, in view of the next European programming period. During the workshop participants will be divided according to the quadruple-helix system (Academia, Business, Governance, Civil Society) in order to gain important notions from each group. The four different groups will work to define a set of priorities and key motivations as to why their State/Region have to include mountains in the National Strategic Plan. In order to aid the discussion, the tools developed by the Action Group 1 will be utilized: the interactive tool to map the governance in the Research and Innovation field in the EU-SALP area and Re-Search Alps, the platform that maps R&I centers and their competences in the 7 Alpine Region Countries. Finally, all the four groups will discuss the set of priorities in order to identify a common one which will be then presented to the EUSALP's General Assembly.

Programme

09.00 – 9.10 WELCOME

Anna Giorgi, EUSALP's Action Group 1 Leader – To develop an effective research and innovation ecosystem, University of Milan, Italy

9.10 – 9.30 FRAMEWORK

Europe's next programming period and the role of National & Regional Strategic Plans – Danilo Bertoni, University of Milan, Italy

09.30 – 10.10 WORKSHOP

The participants will be divided into four different groups and will work to find a set of 5 priorities as to why their Region and or State should include Mountains in their Strategic Plans.

10.10 – 10.45 DISCUSSION

The participants from each working table will present their set of priorities and will discuss in order to find a common set of 5 priorities.

Workshop organized in the framework of the Project "Italian Mountain Lab" – FISR, Fondo integrativo speciale per la ricerca del MIUR (UNIMONT, Università del Piemonte Orientale, Università degli Studi della Tuscia)