



PROJECT PART-FINANCED BY
THE EUROPEAN UNION



Horizontal issues from Euromountains.net

Basis for working groups

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Diversity



- Europe's mountain regions
- The partner regions
- The 3 themes
- The case studies
 - Not appropriate to transfer 'models' of sustainable development
 - Appropriate to transfer elements

Focus on mountains



- Territorial authorities (in this study) do not have specific 'mountain approaches'
- All challenges facing mountain areas are also found elsewhere
- Many challenges occur together in mountains
 - Mountains as 'laboratories' for sustainable development
 - Specific needs for support to mountain areas

Added costs in mountain areas



- Topography
- Sparse population
- Challenging climate
 - Higher costs for services/infrastructure
- Services are essential to maintain
 - Viable population
 - Thriving economy
 - Environmental quality

Uniqueness & Subsidiarity



Each region has

- Specific features & strengths
- Specific cultures
 - Avoid 'one size fits all'
 - Work at most appropriate scale
 - Find most appropriate mix of partners
 - Be flexible

1.1 Fostering effective partnerships



- New & existing partnerships
- Who to involve and how ?
- Transfer of knowledge, information, viewpoints
- Good relationships & communication
 - Trust, mutual understanding, certainty

1.2 Mountain – lowland linkages; environmental services



- Mountain → Lowland
 - Recreation, tourism, quality of life
 - Environmental services
- Lowland → Mountain
 - Financial, medical, cultural etc. services
 - Education, trade, employment
- Common interests and identity

1.3 Development and Conservation



Environment : often external (national +)

Development : often local / regional

- Finding a balance
- Integration
- Common interests
 - Most appropriate scale
 - Most appropriate mechanisms

2.1 Capacity in administrations



Territorial authorities need to be involved at all stages, from project ideas through development and implementation

- Limitations in capacity
 - Development
 - Support
 - Monitoring
 - Evaluation
- ‘Closer to the ground’?

2.2 Financial sustainability

High self-funding → innovation ?

Regular payments → success ?

Single funding source → success ?

(Financial) commitment by clearly-defined funder(s) and lead partner → success

- Responsibility
- Accountability
- Complementary benefits

2.3 Mountain needs, knowledge, innovation



Changes

- Gradual, new, rapid
- Threats and opportunities
- Innovations
- Local and scientific knowledge
 - Project implementation
 - Training
- Support for innovation

Aims of workshops

- 1) Validate conclusions
- 2) Explore and develop recommendations
- 3) Consider implementation of recommendations

Outcomes of workshops

- Report tomorrow
 - Contribute to final report
 - Contribute to Green Paper ?

Organisation of workshops



Two sessions