Promoting Green Infrastructure in a European Macro-region: The Alps

Markus Reiterer, Secretary General of the Alpine Convention

Developing an ecological network – an important objective of the Alpine Convention



First international treaty on a whole mountain massif (1991)

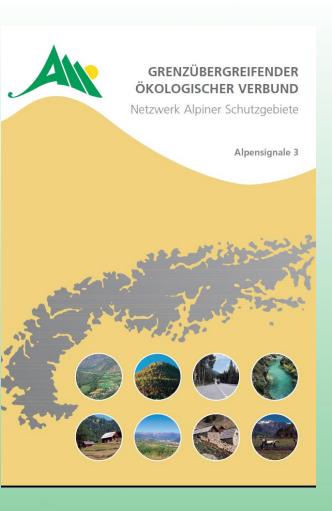
A specific protocol on Conservation of Nature and the Countryside

Article 12 : commitment to an ecological network

But green infrastructure also present in other protocols

- Tourism (balance between intensive and extensive, jobs creation and relation to nature...)
- Mountain forest (as a key green infrastructure...)
- Soil protection
- Spatial Planning
- Agriculture (multi-functionality, protection of the landscape)

An intensive work for more than 10 years



Report (2004)

Since 2007 an own Platform "Ecological Network"

Alparc as an important actor for the implementation of this objective

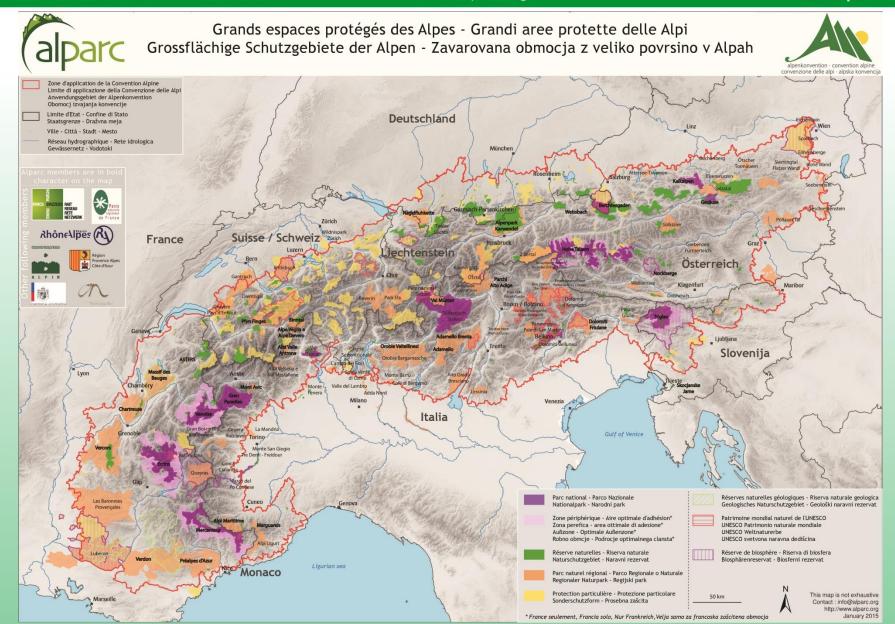
Importance of connecting the work from different types of actors

- politic / administration
- economic
- civil society / NGO
- scientific

Input also from Projects supported by the Alpine Space Program (e.g. ECONNECT, greenAlps...)

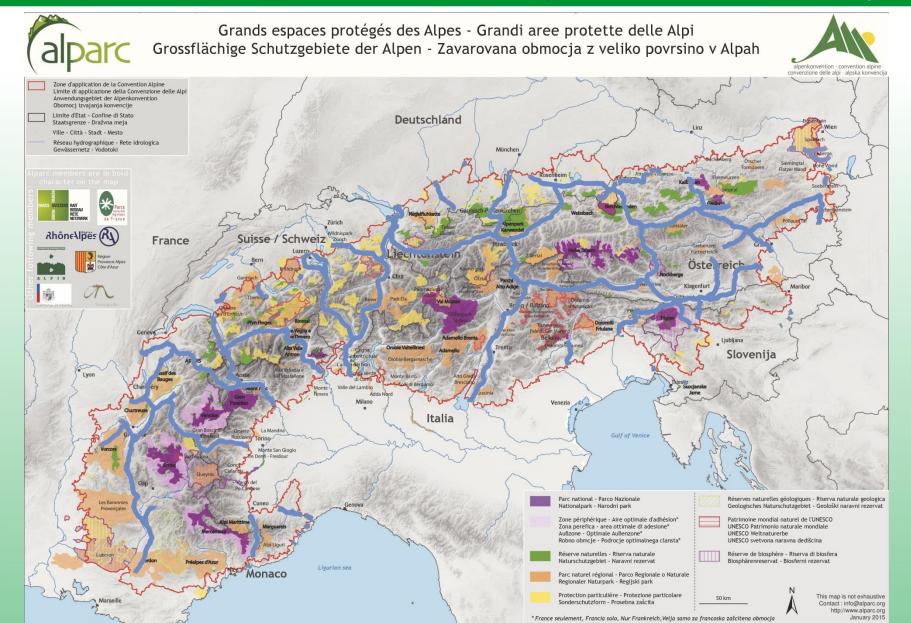
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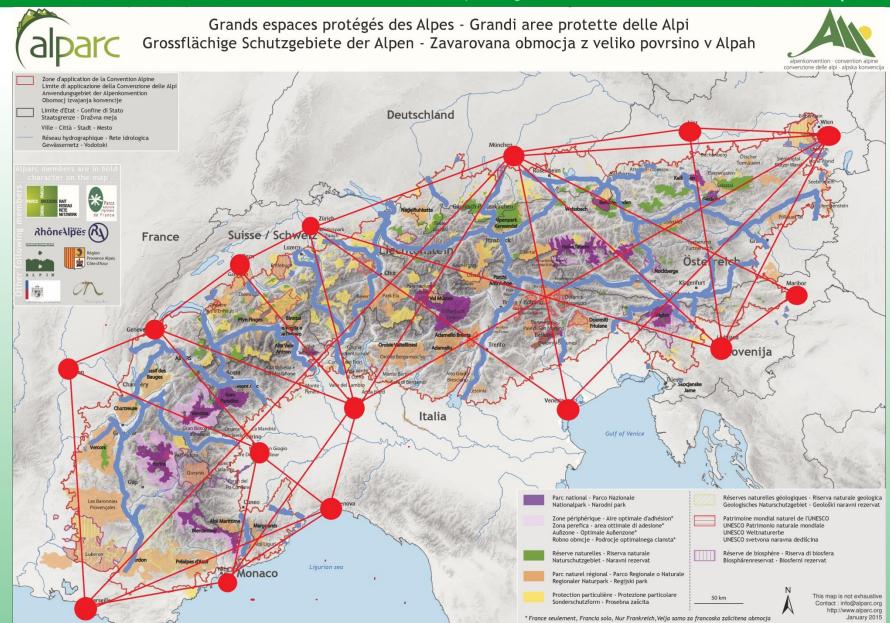
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Ecologic connectivity is a question of fine stitches

Some pictures of measures...



Calstrom warning system to prevent wildlife vehicle collisions in the Pilot Region Isere © M.-O. Guth



Green Brigde © S. Hoelscher

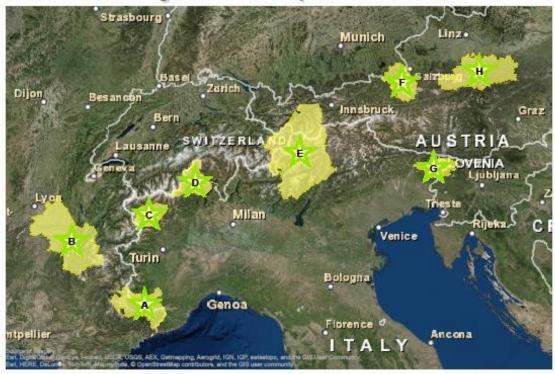


Noise protection wall in Lower Austria © Umweltbundesamt

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Official Pilot Regions of the Alpine Convention



- A South-Western Alps Mercantour Alpe Marittime, France/Italy
- B Department Isère, France
- C Gran Paradiso Mont Avic Mont Emilius, Italy
- D Alpe Veglia e Devero, Italy
- E Rhaetian Triangle, Switzerland/Austria/Italy
- F Berchtesgaden Salzburg region, Germany/Austria
- G Prealpe Giulie Triglav region, Italy/Slovenia
- H Northern Limestone Alps, Austria



Pilot Regions nominated by the Alpine Convention



0 50 100 150 200 Km





This map has been created in October 2014

Ecologic connectivity – a subject of exchange with other international organisations

Collaborations (MoU) with:

- Carpathian Convention
- CBD

=> These exchanges have also highlighted that there is a need to have a more global approach (EU, macro-regional strategy)

EUSALP as a chance to extend the work

Based on:

- its former experience
- the importance to extend the work besides the core area of the Alps



Interest of the Alpine Convention to play a leader role in the action aiming at develop ecological connectivity in the whole territory of the EUSALP

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Thank you for your attention!





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