



NEWSLETTER N°119 NOVEMBRE 2018



**UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI MILANO**

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NEWS HIGHLIGHTS



PROMOTING OPEN INNOVATION IN THE EUSALP MACRO-REGION: EXPERIENCES FROM THE ALPINE REGIONS

Action Group 1 - Research and Innovation, led by Professor Anna Giorgi, organized a workshop dedicated to the promotion of Open Innovation in the Alpine area through the presentation of different experiences in EUSALP Regions during the 2nd Annual Forum of the European Strategy for the Macro Alpine Region (EUSALP), on November 21st in Innsbruck

Various platforms and tools were illustrated to promote a **model of innovation in the Alpine area** during the meeting:

- **The Platform of Knowledge (PoK):** a virtual repository that supports EUSALP organizations, stakeholders, researchers and citizens, making available data relevant to the Macro-Region.
- **Research Laboratories in the Alpine Area (RE-SEARCH ALPS):** a project which aims to collect and make accessible information about laboratories, research and innovation centers active in the 7 countries of the Alps. The project is led by the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (UNIMORE) in collaboration with the Mountain University (UNIMONT) - University of Milan.
- **Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialization (RIS3) in EUSALP:** activities mapping regional development policies within the Alpine Region, to promote greater coherence with Research and Innovation strategies for Smart Specialization.
- **Lombardy Region's Open Innovation:** a collaborative network dedicated to the world of Research and Innovation.
- **The FVG Open Innovation System:** a project supported by the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region and promoted by all the Regional Science and Technology Parks.
- **The International Lake Constance University Network:** an example of cross-border cooperation between science and research in the Alpine Region.

The 2nd EUSALP Annual Forum held in Innsbruck on 20-21 October was also an opportunity to announce the forthcoming Italian Presidency led by the Lombardy Region. Raffaele Cattaneo, Lombardy Region Councillor for the Environment and Climate presented the objectives and future plans of the new presidency that will focus on the green economy for the sustainable development of Alpine territories.

WORKSHOP "START-UPS AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IN INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS IN SOUTH-EAST EUROPE AND ALPINE REGION"

The research center of the European Commission - Joint Research Center (JRC), organized a workshop on start-ups and technology transfer in innovation ecosystems in the Alpine Region and in South-Eastern Europe on 15th/16th November in Ljubljana in collaboration with the Technology Park Ljubljana, the Action Group 1 - Research and Innovation of the European Macro Strategy for the Region Alpina (EUSALP), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the SITTO consortium and Slovenian public research institutes.

The workshop "Start-ups and Technology Transfer in Innovation Ecosystems in the South-East Europe and Alpine Regions" will provide professionals with practical knowledge and insights regarding the use of **effective platforms for the development of start-ups and spin-offs**, as well as the transfer of knowledge. In line with the objective of developing an efficient research and innovation ecosystem, Action Group 1 - Research and Innovation, led by Prof. Anna Giorgi of UNIMONT, delegate of the Lombardy Region within EUSALP, presented two innovative technological projects developed within EUSALP: the **Platform of Knowledge (PoK)** and the **Re-search Alps project**.

- **Platform of Knowledge - PoK (AlpGov - Alpine Space Project):** a virtual repository in which useful and validated data and information on the entire Alpine Region converge. The PoK is equipped with several tools, including a 3D map of the Research Centers and Universities of the Alpine Region, an e-Learning section, virtual classrooms that facilitate exchange and cooperation between the 7 countries of the Alpine area, an area dedicated to strategic financing, an urban sensing tool and much more. Find out more: www.alpine-region.eu/p/dashboard

- **Re-search Alps** (Connecting Europe Facility CEF-TC-2016-2 - Public Open Data): a project that aims to collect and make accessible - through the creation of an open dataset - information about laboratories, research and innovation centers active in the 7 countries of the Alpine area. The data will be displayed and interrogated by the user through a Web platform. **Find out more:** <http://researchalps.eu/>

MOUNTAINS AND YOUNG PEOPLE - ENERGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

High school students who took part in the project "School and territory" - a pilot project that aimed to bring young people and their school skills to the Canavese territory and the mountains, were protagonists of an initiative dedicated to the role of the new generations in the development of mountain areas and new businesses in the mountains on Saturday, 10th November.

Five work teams of young people who took part in the project "School and territory" were evaluated by a commission, specifically appointed by the Ronco Canavese Municipal Administration, which decided the best integrated-global proposal and the best architectural and tourism proposals for mountain territories. The award ceremony of the competition is part of an initiative in which the new generations and the development of the mountain are the protagonists.

Thanks to the intervention of guests of national importance and the direct experiences of young "alpine" entrepreneurs, the "MOUNTAINS AND YOUNG PEOPLE" event is a unique opportunity for young people who live and want to set up a business in the mountains.

Considering the UNIMONT experience, which focuses on human capital and innovation as keys to the development of mountain areas, Professor Anna Giorgi was invited to participate in the round table dedicated to new generations and new enterprises in the mountains.

RESPONSIBLE ENJOYMENT OF MOUNTAIN AREAS IN THE AGE OF SOCIAL NETWORKS

A conference dedicated to new ways of visiting the mountains, some of which are induced by the dynamics of social networks, took place in the conference hall of Longarone Fiere in Longarone on Saturday 24th November 2018.

Considering the negative impacts on the natural environment that derive from a disorderly use of the Alpine environment by people often lacking in adequate sensitivity, training and citizenship, the Regional CAI of Veneto and Friuli Venezia Giulia intends to start a documented and proactive analysis to encourage an attitude of greater care for the environment.

The convention RESPONSIBLE ENJOYMENT OF MOUNTAIN AREAS IN THE AGE OF SOCIAL NETWORKS will, therefore, promote and disseminate the awareness that information and training are the most effective tools to create a mature conscience in all those who go to the mountains.

For this occasion, **Prof. Anna Giorgi of UNIMONT**, university center of excellence that testifies how the training of young people and method innovation are fundamental elements for the development and enhancement of the mountains, was invited to bring the contribution "Proposals for sustainable development in Mountain areas".

CALLS, INTERNSHIPS AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES



THE WINDTHROW PHENOMENON

Thesis proposal for 2 undergraduates (Reserved for students enrolled in the degree course in Conservation and Sustainable Development of Mountain Areas).

In literature, the term "windthrow" is often used to define a phenomenon associated with a meteorological event linked to exceptional winds and/or snowfall that cause extensive and large damage to the vegetation sector. Among the most common types of damage caused to plants, the complete overturning of the plant and of the relative root system without some types of breakage is certainly the most frequent.

The thesis proposal is for students of the degree course in "Conservation and Sustainable Development of Mountain Areas", will take place over a period of 8 months and will require the undergraduate to improve their skills in

data collection, in application of specific models already previously developed and in the use of statistical analyzes to determine differences and/or similarities in the data collected. Undergraduates will be asked to select specific areas regarding the problem described, and to organize and conduct simple field and laboratory measurements. Ability to work independently and problem solving skills will be necessary for completing the work.

Required skills: use of GIS (QGIS) and GoogleEarth systems, basics of programming languages (Microsoft Excel, R, MATLAB), bases of applied botany and forest management.

GERMINATION TESTING OF SEEDS OF ALPINE PIONEER PLANTS

Places available: 2 (Reserved for students enrolled in the degree course in Conservation and Sustainable Development of Mountain Areas)

Germination tests of seeds of herbaceous/shrubby pioneer plants that live in the limestone screes of the alpine environment will be conducted during the internship in order to better define some aspects related to the germination of these seeds and to understand if these species can be grown ex situ and used in bioengineering projects aimed at stabilizing slopes.

The internship is aimed at students of the degree course in "Conservation and Sustainable Development of Mountain Areas" and will take place at the CRC laboratories Ge.S.Di.Mont. (Edolo - BS) from the first months of 2019.

Candidates must report their interest by 31st January 2018 and will be selected according to their university career, skills, interest and availability.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION



Collaboration agreement between the Lombardy region and CRC Ge.S.diMont., for scientific and applied research activities and for the dissemination of knowledge regarding the mountain territory of Lombardy

13th December - Young entrepreneurs and innovative businesses of Lombardy mountain areas

Final event and presentation of the survey "Young entrepreneurs and innovative companies in the mountains in the Lombardy Region", carried out as part of the agreement between the Lombardy Region and Ge.S.Di.Mont.

The objective is to give centrality and voice to the young entrepreneurs and innovators who are revitalizing the mountains of Lombardy, facilitating meeting and sharing of ideas between entrepreneurs and stakeholders of a territory, the mountains, with undoubted potential still too little expressed. The meeting will be an opportunity for networking - which is an essential key to success in a knowledge society - and for identifying possible synergies and tools to support young and innovative entrepreneurship for the enhancement of mountain areas.

Finally, the meeting will provide a unique opportunity to all those young people who aspire to do business in the mountains and who want to be informed and get in touch with the world of young entrepreneurs in mountain areas, discovering the characteristics, the complexities, the opportunities, the challenges.

Series of seminars "Administrate and manage the mountains"

A series of meetings aimed at the administrators of mountain territories (councilors, assessors, mayors) to introduce principles and methodologies for the improvement and innovation of intervention strategies and the management of municipal administrations. All meetings are available both on-site in the Main Hall of the Mountain University in Edolo (BS), and live through streaming and the virtual classroom.

ITALIAN MOUNTAIN LAB



The Italian Mountain Lab project - FISR project, special supplementary research MIUR fund, headed by UNIMONT-University of Milan in partnership with the University of Eastern Piedmont and the University of Tuscia, aims to

establish a high level training and research laboratory for the Italian mountains.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT FOR MOUNTAIN AREAS

The Advanced Course in Project Management for Mountain areas will begin in January 2019. The advanced course in "Project Management for the mountain areas" is a way to deepen and gain a greater systematization of professional knowledge and skills on the topic of project planning and management, in response to European, national and regional calls on issues related to the development of Mountain areas.

The main objectives of the course are:

- to reinforce technical-professional knowledge, useful for orientation in the panorama of mountain planning financing programs;
- deepen knowledge of the specific phases of management of European and international financial programs;
- improve skills in the phases of stakeholder engagement, of building local, national and international networks.

Coordination of Italian Networks for the Mountains - CO.R.I.MONT.

Thanks to its consolidated experience in the analysis and study of complex issues concerning the mountain territory, as well as in the promotion and provision of initiatives regarding research and training, knowledge dissemination and enhancement of these areas, **UNIMONT promotes networking and the activation of Coordination of Italian Networks for the Mountains - CO.R.I.MONT.** - to promote interaction between networks already active in the development of mountain areas, laying the foundations for new future alliances.

SEMINARS AND WEBINARS



racCONTA LA MONTAGNA

19 dicembre - PLANT REVOLUTION - STEFANO MANCUSO

A book that explores the plant world in order to imagine the future of humanity. "Plant Revolution. "Le piante hanno già inventato il nostro future" is the essay by Stefano Mancuso, a world-renowned scientist who explains that to improve our lives we cannot help but be inspired by plants. Because plants are sophisticated and evolved social organisms that offer the solution to many technological problems, and are also much more resistant than animals. Plants have extraordinary adaptability, can live in extreme environments, camouflage themselves to escape predators, move without consuming energy, produce chemical molecules with which to manipulate the behavior of animals (and humans). Real living networks, plants are organisms built on a model totally different from ours. "Verde brillante" marked a turning point in the way we look at plants, "Plant Revolution" shows how there are already technological solutions in the plant world that we cannot do without for the future.

Administrate and manage the mountains:

SAFETY

- 3rd December - The Gabrielli newsletter regarding safety at public events and the new Civil Protection Code

ANCI

ASSOCIATED EXERCISE OF MUNICIPAL FUNCTIONS

- 10th December - Associated management: from duties to opportunities. The peculiarities of a distributed model applied to the mountains. Alessandro Pirani, COgruppo - consultant for institutional innovation in the National Internal Areas Strategy

- 17th December - Meaning, opportunities and risks of associated management for "small" mountain municipalities. Organizational aspects. Lombardy law and associated management initiated in the Lombardy Region

Gianmaria Ventura, University of Bergamo

PSR 2014 - 2020 "Good practices for the recovery, cultivation and enhancement of local traditional Lombardy cultivars (RELiVE -L)"

- 4 December - Saffron: collection of the flower, cleaning, drying and packaging of the spice

Valeria Leoni, UNIMONT - University of Milan; Antonio Croce, President Associazione Produttori di Zafferano di Terra di Lavoro; Augusto Parente, Associazione Produttori di Zafferano di Terra di Lavoro

The cultivation of saffron (*Crocus sativus L.*) is in continuous expansion in Lombardy and in Italy where a spice of excellent quality can be produced to integrate the income of small and medium-sized farms.

The seminar presents the production stages of saffron from the collection of the flower to the packaging of the spice. In particular, the testimony and experience of some members of an association of saffron producers who have been operating in central and southern Italy for years will be shared. Good practices which farmers must follow to cultivate the plant and produce a high quality spice also in territorial contexts such as the one in Lombardy will be presented.

- **18 December - Analysis of saffron quality**
Luca Giupponi, UNIMONT - University of Milan

The seminar will illustrate the production phases of saffron focusing on the aspects that can affect the quality characteristics of the spice and the good practices to be adopted to obtain a quality product. Particular attention will be paid to the chemical characteristics that the spice must have to be included in the three quality classes in accordance with the specifications indicated in ISO 3632 1,2: 2010-2011.

Finally, the methods used to carry out ISO analyses and data concerning the quality of Italian saffron produced by Italian farms will be briefly illustrated.

NEW PUBLICATIONS



Carrer M. (2018). **Diritto e montagna. Elementi per un'indagine costituzionale**. Aracne editrice, Canterano (RM). ISBN: 978-88-255-1199-4

Giupponi L., Borgonovo G., Giorgi A., Bischetti G.B. (2018). **How to renew soil bioengineering for slope stabilization: some proposals**. Landscape and Ecological Engineering xx: xx-xx (online September 2018). DOI: 10.1007/s11355-018-0359-9.

ABOUT US



Corso per operatori di montagna
AltaReziaNews - 25 novembre 2018

Franco Brevini, la montagna raccontata in dieci parole
Settimo Bollettino - 14 novembre 2018

Franco Brevini, la montagna raccontata in dieci parole
Giornale di Brescia - 14 novembre 2018

UniMont Edolo, corso di Perfezionamento in Project Management per la Montagna
Gazzetta delle Valli - 10 novembre 2018