

## Toward Mountains 2020 Capitalising our knowledge to inspire programming

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### What is Euromontana?



- European **multisectoral** association for cooperation and development of mountain areas (since 1996)
- Around **65 members from 15** countries
  - Comprising :
    - regional development agencies,
    - regional authorities,
    - chambers of commerce and industry
    - agriculture organisations,
    - environmental organisations,
    - research organisations...



#### **Our mission**

- 14 nations assembled in Rome on 4 march 1996 to declare themselves founding members of Euromontana... (actual foundation in April 1996 in Krakow)
- ... to promote:
  - living mountains,
  - integrated and sustainable mountain development
  - and quality of life in mountain areas











#### Our vision : Mountains are potential Mountains are worth investing in

- Our mountains are territories with a future and opportunities for Europe
- Strengths:
  - The **positive image** of mountain areas
  - Intense community life
  - Very rich culture, traditions and heritage
  - The quality of life of mountain population
  - Rare, preserved and renewable resources
  - Production of quality goods and services
  - Modern and often dynamic governance
- Weaknesses:
  - Remoteness and accessibility
  - Sparseness of businesses and population
  - Competition between economic development and environment
  - Sensitivity to climate change



#### **Mountains : a significant part of Europe**

#### • EU:

- 29% of EU territory
- 17% of EU population
- Europe:
  - 41% of territory
  - 25% of population
- Strategic places, which do not stop at borders



## The EU Treaty acknowledges the need for specific attention to mountain areas

- Article 174: "In order to promote its overall harmonious development, the Union shall develop and pursue its actions leading to the strengthening of its economic, social and territorial cohesion. In particular, the Union shall aim at reducing disparities between the levels of development of the various regions and the backwardness of the least favoured regions. Among the regions concerned, particular attention shall be paid to rural areas, areas affected by industrial transition, and regions which suffer from severe and permanent natural or demographic handicaps such as the northernmost regions with very low population density and island, cross-border and mountain regions."
- Article 175 (ex Article 159 TEC) : Member States shall conduct their economic policies and shall coordinate them in such a way as, in addition, to attain the objectives set out in Article 174. The formulation and implementation of the Union's policies and actions and <u>the implementation of the internal market shall take into account the objectives set out in Article 174 and shall contribute to their achievement.</u>

## Beyond the treaty, demonstrate that mountain can contribute!

- For the treaty to be respected we need to:
  - explain, demonstrate reflect why 'paying specific attention' will deliver results
  - Investigate how mountains can contribute to the goals set for 2020
  - Analyse what they need in order to contribute
  - Assist managing authorities in the elaboration of programmes
- The 'Toward Mountains 2020' process



### Working themes: Main transversal themes





TERRITORIAL COHESION Mountain people have the right to the same opportunities POSITIVE EXTERNALITIES Mountains deliver goods and services to society

## Agriculture and rural development

Mountain products

#### **Education and training**

Local development

R&

**Mobility** 

**& ICT** 

Forestry & wood

Energy

All themes are interrelated

Need for an Integrated approach!

Sustainable tourism

Services of general interest

Me

**Environment & Climate change** 

## How to build a vision for 2020? How to best prepare programming?

#### A new framework

2014-2020 EU 2020 strategy

Common strategic framework

Common provisions regulation for all funds



Mountains results and

recommendations



# 3 EU 2020 strategy components



#### Smart growth

- Education
- Research/innovation
- Digital society



#### Sustainable growth

- Low-carbon economy, Protecting environment, New green technologies
- Efficient electricity grids
- Improving business environments
- Helping consumers make well-informed choices



#### Inclusive growth

- More and better jobs
- Investments in skills
- Modernising labour markets
- Benefits of growth reaching all parts of the EU



EU Priorities for 2014-2020 ERDF Priority (50-80%) Actions listed for this fund under CSF, not earmarked 4 priorities/ETC programme (A or B)	E R D F	E S F	E A F R D	E T C
1. STRENGTHENING RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION				
2. ENHANCING ACCESS TO AND, USE AND QUALITY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES				
3. ENHANCING THE COMPETITIVENESS OF SMES, THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR (FORTHE EAFRD) AND THE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SECTOR (FOR THE EMFF)				
4. SUPPORTING THE SHIFT TOWARDS A LOW-CARBON ECONOMY IN ALL SECTORS	<b>20</b> %			
5. PROMOTING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND RISK PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT				
6. PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROMOTING RESOURCE EFFICIENCY				
7. PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT AND REMOVING BOTTLENECKS IN KEY NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURES				
8. PROMOTING EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORTING LABOUR MOBILITY				
9. PROMOTING SOCIAL INCLUSION AND COMBATING POVERTY		<b>20</b> %		
10. INVESTING IN EDUCATION, SKILLS AND LIFELONG LEARNING				
11. ENHANCING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY AND ENSURING AN EFFICIENT PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION				Å

### **Toward Mountains 2020 step 1**

- For each thematic objective:
  - What the EU wants to deliver?
  - How mountains can contribute?
  - What do they need in order to contribute?
  - Examples of actions and practices



European Rosociation for Cooperation and Development of Mountain areas source communications

### How can mountains contribute? What do they need?

- Highest potential contribution:
  - Innovation (bioeconomy, social innovation, services innovation...)
  - Low-carbon economy
  - Renewable energies
  - Rich environmental heritage
  - Welcoming territories, a
     refuge in a period of crisis

• Highest needs:



- Protection and reward for public goods
- Broadband and ICT development
- Skills development : a more diversified offer of education & training
- Services of general interest
- Support entrepreneurship
  & innovation

### P1 - Research & development & Innovation

- Why mountains can contribute?
  - Constraints stimulate creativity
  - Ideally placed for some key sectors (bioeconomy, ehealth, social innovation, tourism...)
- What do they need in order to contribute?
  - Create the conditions for innovation to happen!
    - Services
    - Infrastructures
  - Develop human capital
  - Access of SME to finance



# P1 - Research & development & Innovation

- What key actions for mountain areas?
  - Regional development (ERDF):
    - Ease cooperation between businesses, research and education on subjects related to specific mountain economic structure and assets
    - Invest in research infrastructures and equipment in mountain areas (regional university branches)
  - Rural development (EAFRD):
    - Support to innovation in development of new food products (see EuroMARC) or forestry products (forestry study)
    - Establishment and use of advisory services adapted to small diversified rural farms & businesses
    - Setting-up operational groups specialised on research needs of mountain farmers & foresters
  - → Identify research priorities for Horizon 2020



# P2 – Enhance Information and communication technologies



- ICT can shrink distances
- ICT can bring mountain people closer to other people, markets, services, tourists
- What do they need?
  - That the next generation access technologies be rolled out in priority in remote areas!
    - Infrastructures
    - Training
    - Development of applications
  - Worries on budget allocations (EAFRD only?)



## P2 – Enhance Information and communication technologies

- Examples of growth creating applications:
  - E-health
  - Mobility
  - E-learning
  - Smart grids for energy
  - Smart applications for rural tourism
  - On-line marketing of mountain products



# P3 – Supporting SMEs & agriculture

- How mountains can contribute?
  - Most mountain businesses are SMEs
  - Mountains are well located next to sources or renewables, pure air, cool temperatures
  - A significant economy:
    - 11.4% of EU agricultural output (DG AGRI, 2013)
    - Major place for tourism (10% of EU GDP)
    - Forests
  - Quality of life



# P3 – Supporting SMEs & agriculture

- What do they need?
  - RECOGNITION OF THEIR POTENTIAL
  - Helping overcoming handicaps (ICT, infrastructures, equipment)
  - Support diversification
  - Support entrepreneurship (inc women!)
  - Support creation of new products:
    - agriculture, forestry
    - Tourism
    - Health care and services
    - Energy!



#### P4-6 – Low carbon economy, climate change, environment & resource efficiency

- How mountains can contribute?
  - "Europe's ecological backbone"
  - Major role in provision of ecosystem services
  - Huge sensitivity to climate change
  - Extensive production systems
- What do they need?
  - Reward for services provided
  - Synergy between economic development and environment
  - Protection





## P4-6 – Low carbon economy, climate change, environment & resource efficiency

- Action examples:
  - Energy: mountains have huge energy needs and reduced choice in energy mix:
    - Invest in energy efficient buildings
    - Rationalise energy use (SEAPs)
    - Develop renewables
  - Forestry: ensure sustainable exploitation optimising
     carbon storage, efficient supply chains & protection
  - Farming: support farming systems benefiting the environment!
  - Reduce transport needs via ICT, e-services, egovernment
  - Prevention against hazards (fires, avalanches)





### P7 – Sustainable transport

- How mountains can contribute?
  - Mountain people have great transport needs and little alternatives to private cars
- What do they need?
  - Appropriate strategies & sustainable alternatives
    - Energy efficiency
    - Car-sharing and pooling
    - Dedicated transport
    - Transport on demand
    - Intermodality/redesign
- Worries:

– Absence of concern for rural transport in CSF!



# P8-10 – Employment, social inclusion & education

- How mountains can contribute?
  - Inclusive welcoming territories:
    - Migrants, refugees, 'returnees' → people move to the mountains!
    - Mountain development can reduce urban congestion
  - Wide potential for improvement:
    - Lower education level
    - Mismatch between available education and economy
    - Poor access to services
    - Many poor isolated rural families
    - Lack of highly qualified jobs



# P8-10 – Employment, social inclusion & education

Required actions:



- Ensure minimum delivery of services of general interest
- Enlarge provision of education & training
- Foster relations between education & businesses
- Facilitate job search, competence mapping
- Welcoming policies
- Inclusion of migrants
- Reduce impacts of seasonality (multi-skills, job combinations...)

#### The towards "mountain 2020" process





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To find our document, google "Mountains 2020"

www.euromontana.org

