



alpenkonvention • convention alpine
convenzione delle alpi • alpska konvencija

Ständiges Sekretariat • Secrétariat permanent • Segretariato permanente • Stalni sekretariat

together with the

**Monitoring
Institute** for Rare Breeds and Seeds in Europe
with

in collaboration

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and

AUTONOME
PROVINZ
BOZEN
SÜDTIROL



PROVINCIA
AUTONOMA
DI BOLZANO
ALTO ADIGE

Cordially invite you to the conference:

The Alpine Convention and Agrobiodiversity

**Implementing the Alpine Convention and the Protocol on mountain agriculture
Long-term monitoring and promotion of agrobiodiversity**

Bolzano, operational office of the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention,
viale Druso1, 39100 Bolzano (EURAC)
20th-21st May 2008

The Alpine Convention's Protocol on mountain agriculture frequently refers to the importance of genetic diversity of domesticated livestock and cultivated plants for the development of mountain agriculture in the Alps. The suitability of farm animals to the different areas is considered a key component in mountain agriculture. The parties committed to the adoption of appropriate measures, for example, they shall choose the areas to be destined to agriculture respecting the specific characteristics of the different areas and in accordance with the territorial planning. Furthermore, they shall commit to preserving the traditional elements which characterizes rural landscapes, to keeping its cultivations and promote its typical products. At the same time, the genetic biodiversity of domesticated species as well as plants shall be protected. Furthermore, the commercialization of agricultural products shall be promoted through the creation of a trademark which will certify their origin, state their provenance and guarantee the quality. Another crucial study which shall be part of the research and monitoring activities in the field of mountain agriculture under the Alpine Convention is that on genetics and consultancy, tailored towards the preservation of diversity of domesticated species and plants and diversification. These activities will always take into account the environmental compatibility and the suitability of all natural and non-natural elements in the environs.

The Protocol on mountain agriculture has been signed by the European Union and all the countries of the Convention. So far it has been ratified by Austria, Germany, Liechtenstein, Slovenia, France and the EU.

At the conference different models for the preservation and support of agrobiodiversity of the Alpine Region will be presented. Moreover, the conference will promote cooperation amongst Alpine States, experts and the different stakeholders in the field of agrobiodiversity. This is in order to encourage cross-boarder cooperation and to promote agrobiodiversity in the Alpine States. Finally, the debate will make suggestions for the creation of an optimal monitoring system of the alpine agrobiodiversity. The monitoring system could be supported by or become a part of the SOIA system (System for the Observation of and Information on the Alps). Experts in the field of agrobiodiversity and representatives of the Alpine Convention have been invited to the conference. The conference outcomes will be used in the drafting of an action plan on promotion of agro biodiversity in all the Alps.

About 50 participants from all the Alpine States, especially from Alto Adige, are expected to take part to the conference. The Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention, the Autonomous Province of Bolzano-Bozen (Alto Adige) and the Monitoring Institute for Rare Breeds and Seeds in Europe have cooperated in the organization of this event.

Simultaneous interpretation into Italian, German and English will be provided.

Agenda

Day 1 - Tuesday 20th May 2008

15:00 Welcome Speech

- Italian representative
- Hans Berger, member of the Government of Bolzano-Bozen Autonomous Province (Assessore provinciale), Department of agriculture, information technology and land registry
- Marco Onida, Secretary General of the Alpine Convention

15:15 Introduction

- The significance of agrobiodiversity in the Alto Adige region and strategies for its promotion
Josef Dalla Via, Director of the Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry Laimburg
- Long term monitoring of agrobiodiversity in the alpine region. Outcomes of the study “The Alpine Delphi”
Waltraud Kugler and Elspeth Broxham Stahl from the Monitoring Institute for Rare Breeds and Seeds in Europe
- The Alpine Convention, Protocol on mountain agriculture and the SOIA system for the Observation of and Information on the Alps.
Regula Imhof, Vice-Secretary General of the Alpine Convention

Coffee Break

17:00 Long-term support and monitoring of agrobiodiversity in the Alpin States. Three suitable future approaches.

- The Swiss Commission for the Preservation of Cultivated Plants (SKEK)
Beate Schierscher, SKEK Director
- Interreg Project “Gen-save and the Tyrolean Genbank” (North and South Tyrol)
Christian Partl, Office of the Tyrolean government, Department for agricultural education, hunting and fishing
- Breeding of sheep and goats in the Veneto - Region with a particular view on the contributions of the region
Emilio Pastore, Padua University
- Debate

19:00 Dinner

Day 2 – Wednesday 21st May 2008

During the second day of the conference, each speaker is asked to give a 10 minutes speech suggesting, each in their own area of expertise, ways to carry out optimal promotion and support activities on agrobiodiversity in the Alpine Region. The experts attending the conference will then analyze the different arguments and integrate their own suggestions. The resulting conclusions will be included in the action plan draft on promotion of agrobiodiversity in the Alpine States, which will be the theme of the conference throughout the afternoon.

9:00 – 12:00 Conclusions and activities for the optimal promotion and long-term monitoring of agrobiodiversity in the alpine region.

1. Facilities and Stakeholders

- Support and structural measures for the strengthening of agrobiodiversity in the Alpine Region
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- Databanks and genealogy records as crucial elements for the support of agrobiodiversity
Barbara Mock, Small livestock breeding association
- The consumers' role in the protection of rare animal species and cultivated plants
Frowin Oberrauch, Association "Sortengarten – South Tyrol"
- Inter-institutional and international definition in agrobiodiversity (animal sector) and its objectives; some consequences in mountain regions
Jean Gault, Sard-M, FAO

Coffee Break

2. Agriculture, Environment and Protection

- Traditional agricultural practises, landscape diversity and agrobiodiversity
Artur Kammerer, Department of Nature and Landscapes of the Autonomous Province of Bolzano (Alto Adige)
- Traditional man-made landscapes and tourism labelling for different offers by the Alpine Agriculture
Jutta Staffler, Bioland Alto Adige, Director and Consultancy

12:00 – 13:00 Refreshments

13:00 – 13:30 Debate and consultation on the action plan discussed

15:00 – 16:00 Summary and Conclusions (also an occasion to raise new issues)

16:00 Conference closing

Moderation: Marco Onida, Regula Imhof and Marcella Macaluso