

## **International Workshop within the Alpine Space Project ECONNECT – Restoring the Web of Life**

### ***Sharing knowledge for the implementation of an ecological continuum within and beyond the Alps***

**Grenoble, November 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

The project **ECONNECT** aims at the enhancement of ecological connectivity in the Alps. Protection of biodiversity and natural heritage requires an integrated approach which beyond protected areas considers high biodiversity areas and corridors as linking elements of an Alpine ecological network. International umbrella organizations linked to the Alpine Convention, scientific institutions and local implementation partners have joined forces to demonstrate needs and options for action and develop innovative instruments for ecological connectivity. The Alps are one of the most intensively exploited mountain ranges and one of Europe's largest biodiversity pools. As animals and plants need to migrate - even more in times of climate change - between habitats, it is essential to maintain, improve and create ecological networks across the entire Alpine region and to surrounding lowlands and mountain ranges.

As part of the actions in **ECONNECT WP 8 “Knowledge Transfer”**, University of Innsbruck, Cemagref Grenoble and Conseil Général de l'Isère (Pilot Region, France), are organising an international workshop. This workshop will take place in Grenoble surrounding area in November 2009. International umbrella organisations linked to the Alpine Convention, scientific institutions and local implementation partners are invited to share their knowledge with the ECONNECT consortium. In order to discuss and demonstrate needs and options for actions as well as to develop innovative instruments for ecological connectivity. An important aim of the workshop will be to discuss and exchange on common tools and concepts for a common understanding of the project aims. A knowledge transfer action will then be discussed for other mountain regions. Knowledge-transfer activities are targeted to reach key actors at all levels regarding their roles as stakeholders, conservation managers, NGOs, GOs, scientists, or opinion leaders. Also a multilevel spatial dimension will be targeted at local, Alps region and European levels. We aim at creating during the workshop a group dynamic to promote exchange and discussion among all participants.

# DRAFT AGENDA

For attending the plenary day of work on November 4<sup>th</sup>, please arrange your travel to arrive in Grenoble on November 3<sup>rd</sup> in the evening!

## DAY 1 Wednesday 4 November 2009

8:45                      **Welcome**  
9:00 – 10:00           **Introductions to ECONNECT and to the Workshop**  
10:00– 11:30           **Plenary session about corridor knowledge tools  
(3 Key speakers to be announced)**  
11:30 – 12:15           **Round table discussion**  
12:45 – 18:00           **Field trip with a pic nic**  
*Evening dinner & entertainment*

## DAY 2 Thursday 5th November 2009

9:30 – 11:30           **Plenary session about corridor knowledge and key case  
studies (4 speakers)**  
11:30 – 12:30           **Round table discussion**  
*Lunch*  
14:00-18:00           **Break-out working groups on terrestrial corridors, aquatic  
corridors and local stakeholder involvement**  
*Evening dinner & entertainment*

## DAY 3 Friday 6th November 2009

9:00-10:00           **Restitution of working groups**  
10:00-12:00           **Inputs for ECONNECT (working groups & speakers)**  
*Lunch*

14:00 *Departures from Grenoble railway station and Satobus shuttle to airport*

For more information please contact:

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