

ECONNECT project is financed with 3.198.240,00 € by

EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL COOPERATION



The partnership is composed by 16 partners:

AUSTRIA

- University of Veterinary Medicine of Vienna - Research Institute of Wildlife Ecology;
- Hohe Tauern National Park;
- Federal Environment Agency;
- Gesäuse National Park;
- University of Innsbruck - Institute of Ecology

FRANCE

- CEMAGREF
- Council of the Department of Isère;
- Task Force for Protected Areas - Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention



The partnership is composed by 16 partners:

ITALY

- Alpi Marittime National Park;
- Regione Autonoma Valle d'Aosta;
- European Academy of Bozen;
- Ministry for the Environment;
- WWF Italy

LIECHTENSTEIN

- CIPRA International

SWITZERLAND

- Swiss National Park



To overcome physical barriers...



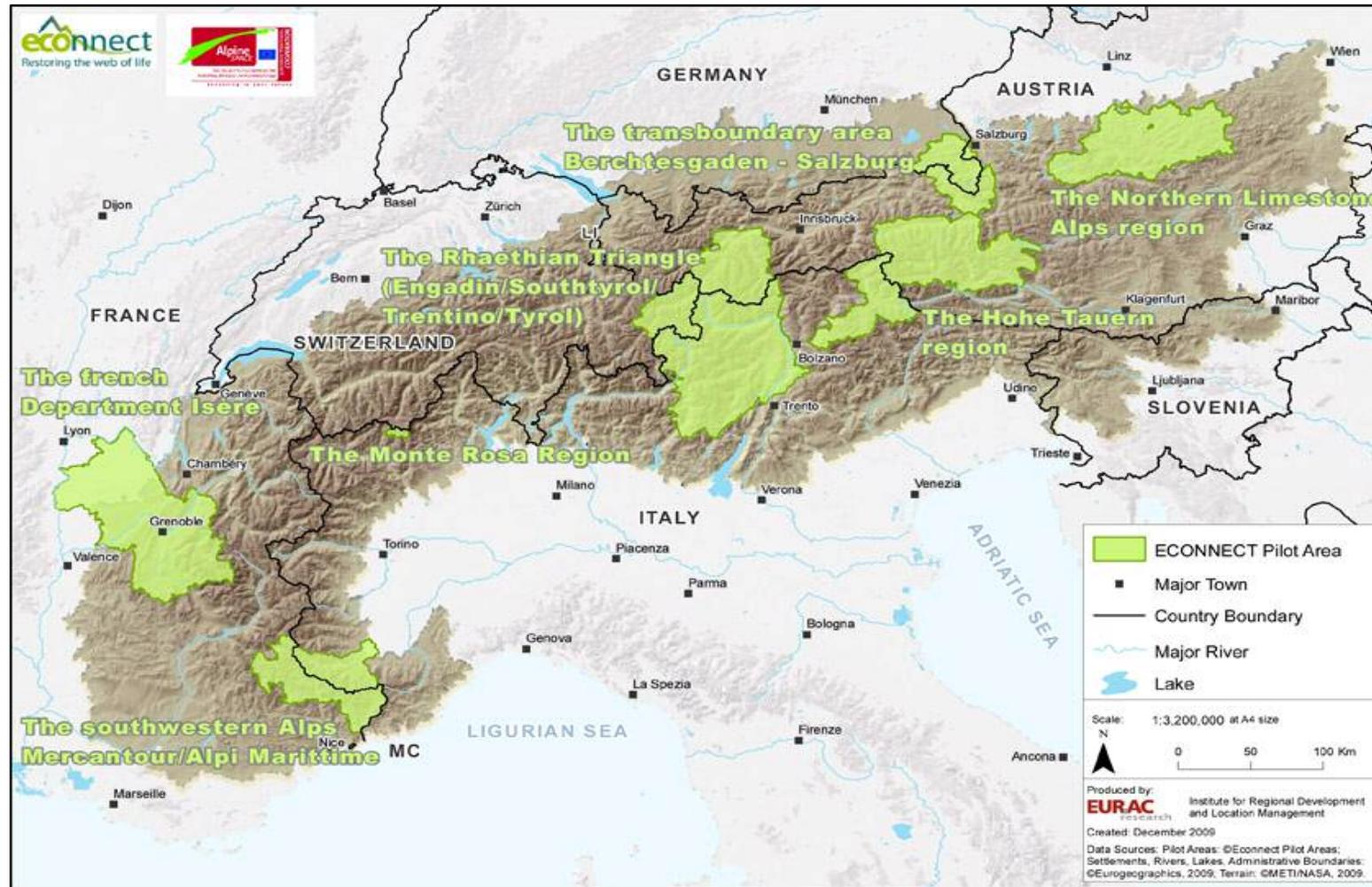
...and create connections between habitats



ECONNECT takes action in 7 Pilot Regions rich in biodiversity with an urgent need to improve their ecological connectivity:

- The Southwestern Alps (F-I)
- The Monte Rosa Region (I)
- The French department of Isère (F)
- The Rhaethian Triangle (CH-I-A)
- The Hohe Tauern region (I-A)
- Berchtesgaden-Salzburg transboundary area (D-A)
- The Northern Limestone Alps region (A)





ECONNECT project started in September 2008 and will end in August 2011



WP1: Project Preparation (CIPRA International)

WP2: Project Management (University of Veterinary
Medicine, Vienna)

WP3: Information and publicity

WP4: Data Management

WP5: Barriers and Corridors

WP6: Legal Barriers

WP7: Implementation in the Pilot Regions

WP8: Knowledge Transfer

WP responsible: WWF Italy (I)

Main tasks:

- Dissemination of the project by a media-approach;
- Raise decision-makers' and stakeholders' awareness;
- Disseminate the results of the project;
- Organizing the final conference (mid 2011).



WP responsible: EURAC, European Academy of Bozen (I)

Description: setting up and managing a GIS platform to carry out Alpine-wide analysis of ecological networks

Main tasks:

- Collect existing spatial data set;
- Adapt, integrate and harmonise the existing data;
- Provide support to the PRs for analysis and mapping tasks;
- Set up a web-based geodata catalogue.

WP responsible: Austrian Federal Environment Agency (A)

Description: identifying barriers that prevents species from migrating, developing measures to improve connectivity

Main tasks:

- Select a meaningful list of species;
- Analyse species needs in terms of habitat connectivity, migration needs and ecosystems requirements;
- Analyse the reasons of the lack of connectivity of habitats;
- Classify barriers and develop measures to overcome them.



WP responsible: Italian Ministry for the Environment (I)

Description: identifying legal barriers between protected areas that might prevent the creation of ecological networks

Main tasks:

- Analyse the legal framework of protected areas in each Alpine state;
- Study the main legal tools for transboundary cooperation;
- Compare the legal frameworks of transboundary protected areas;
- Use the PRs as case-studies for the comparison, propose models.

WP responsible: Task Force for Protected Areas (F)

Description: provide a detailed planning process in the PRs, implementing measures to improve connectivity.

Main tasks:

- Analyse the ecological connectivity situation in the PRs;
- Implement concrete planning measures at local level;
- Involve the stakeholders within the PRs;
- Organize training sessions, meetings and workshops.



WP responsible: University of Innsbruck, Institute for Ecology

(A)

Description: prepare the results of the project to make them understandable by other regions.

Main tasks:

- Elaborate the results from the PRs and WPs about methodologies, activities, achievements;
- Distribute implementation guidelines and project summaries to key stakeholders at local, Alpine and European level;

-Interact with other similar project initiatives in the Alps.

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ENJOY THE WORKSHOP!

