

ISCAR Goals and Working programme 2019–2022

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Based on objectives of ISCAR-Convention (1999), the goals of ISCAR (2007), the mission statement (2008), the tasks related to the official observer status of the Alpine Convention (ISCAR principles, 2012), and with reference to the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), the following goals and priorities are set up for the coming four years (2019-2022):

1. Identify and promote future research on topics of relevance for the Alps and address emerging issues to the Alpine Convention and to EUSALP

Target public: scientific community, Alpine Convention, policy/decision makers

1.1. *Convention partners and ISCAR office organise at least one annual scientific symposium (including ForumAlpinum and AlpWeek) or workshop on scientific topics of political and alp-wide relevance and present state of the art reports with recommendations for science and policy.*

Focus activities: AlpWeek Intermezzo 2019 in Innsbruck; AlpWeek 2020 in France; ForumAlpinum 2022 if possible in Slovenia (in close cooperation with the Slovenian Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Slovenian Presidency of the Alpine Convention (2021-2022); contribution of ISCAR to the International Mountain Conference 2019 in Innsbruck (Perth 4) with the option to organize an ISCAR workshop for celebrating the 20th anniversary of ISCAR, ; Workshop 2021 on a topic to be decided.

Responsible: ISCAR delegates, Partner institutions of the ISCAR Convention

Partners: Alpine Convention, Observers of the Alpine Convention

1.2. *Prepare mountain topics for international (European) research programmes or contribute to comparable initiatives.*

Focus activities: a) profit from the Academies contacts to ALLEA and EASAC for bringing mountain topics into policy reports and science advice to the EU; a) collaboration with NEMOR (Network of European Mountain Research); b) collaboration with the Virtual Alpine Observatory (VAO); c) take up topics related to the Multi-annual Programme of the Alpine Convention (2017-2022) and to the EUSALP action plan; d) offer opportunities for cooperation to young scientists.

Responsible: ISCAR delegates, ISCAR office

Partners: NEMOR and other international initiatives, national initiatives like Labex ITEM Grenoble, Mountain University Edolo, etc.

2. Provide scientific support to Alps-wide and interdisciplinary initiatives and networks

Target public: scientific community, Alpine Convention, Protected areas, stakeholders

2.1. *Protected area research: Continue cooperation with the Network of Alpine Protected Areas (ALPARC) on protected area research by the common working group ISCAR-P (scientists and park managers).*

Focus activities: a) eco.mont: give support to the editors as a scientific board and promote the publication of scientific articles in this journal; b) be part of the scientific board of the research symposium 2021 organised by National Parks Austria; and c) up to date of the SCNAT-database on research projects in alpine protected area (access by IGF and ALPARC has to be checked following new European legislation).

Responsible: IGF Innsbruck, ISCAR Office; Partners: ALPARC, National Parks Austria

2.2. *Coordination in planning of scientific events in the Alps and setting tools to enable this.*

Responsible: ISCAR office

3. Act as an interface between science and the Alpine Convention & EUSALP

Target public: Alpine Convention, Alpine Space Programme, scientific community (experts)

3.1. *Mobilise scientific expertise for the Alpine Convention and EUSALP. ISCAR, as an official observer of the Alpine Convention, will cooperate in the bodies of the Alpine Convention (working groups, platforms) and, as far as proposed, in Action groups of EUSALP*

Focus activities: ISCAR delegate experts from the scientific community into selected Working Groups, Platforms or Experts Groups of the Alpine Convention & EUSALP and take up topics interest from these bodies in ISCAR activities.

Responsible: ISCAR office and delegates, delegated experts

3.2. *Use the ForumAlpinum & AlpWeek as an opportunity for bringing science and emerging mountain topics to policy and to engage in the science – policy dialogue.*

Focus activities: a) AlpWeek Intermezzo 2019 (ISCAR show case with WWF: Inn river dialogue); b) AlpWeek 2020: Cooperate with AlpWeek partners (CIPRA, AIA, CAA, AidA, etc.) and the French Presidency of the Alpine Convention in preparing the AlpWeek 2020 in France; organise public events on alpine research in the frame of the AlpWeek; c) Organisation of a *policy session at the ForumAlpinum 2022*.

Responsible: ISCAR Office, ISCAR Partners (ÖAW, University Grenoble Alpes, IRSTEA)

4. Address young scientists

Target public: young scientists

4.1. *Find means and funding to involve young scientists in ISCAR activities and for integrating them in pan-alpine cooperation (e.g. exchange of students), and create attractive environments for presenting results (e.g. awards, articles in journals).*

Focus activities: a) Organise young scientist poster sessions during ISCAR events (mainly AlpWeek and ForumAlpinum); b) support the Alpine Convention in organising the Young Academics Award; c) support young scientists to publish in journals like JAR and eco.mont; d) consider a grant for young scientists with respect to topics in the interest of ISCAR.

Responsible: ISCAR delegates, ISCAR office, research institutes;

Partner: Secretariat of the Alpine Convention; ISCAR partners

5. Continuity of ISCAR activities

Focus activities:

- a) ISCAR Delegates stay in contact with national ISCAR partner;
- b) ISCAR Delegates maintain national networks with experts in mountain research;
- c) ISCAR Partners assure financial support and the replacement of delegates;
- d) ISCAR Office takes in hand needed coordination and administration for operation;
- e) ISCAR Office provides communication on ISCAR activities and keeps the ISCAR Website up to date.