

ISCAR Goals and Working Programme 2011-2014

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Based on objectives of ISCAR-Convention (1999), the goals of ISCAR (2007), the mission statement (2008) and tasks related to the official observer status of the Alpine Convention, the following priorities and actions (revised after ISCAR meeting 6.10.2010) are set up for the coming 4 years (2011-2014):

ISCAR goals and focus activities 2011-2014:

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

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

1.1. Convention partners organise at least one annual scientific symposium on politically relevant scientific topics and present state of the art reports with recommendations for science and policy.

Responsible: Partner institutions of the ISCAR Convention, ISCAR delegates

1.2. Prepare mountain research topics for international (European) programmes

Responsible: ISCAR delegates in cooperation with SOIA and international initiatives

1.3. Identify 50 most important questions on alpine ecological networks (2010-2011)

Responsible: ECONNECT, ISCAR Office, Platform Ecological Network of the Alpine Convention

1.4. Select main research topics of interest concerning the inter-actions between the Alps and adjacent regions (issues from the ForumAlpinum 2010)

Responsible: ISCAR Office, SOIA

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

Target public: scientific community, stakeholders, NGO`s

2.1. Ecological connectivity in/to the Alps: Continue cooperation within the Continuum Initiative (with CIPRA and ALPARC) following the work programme 2011-2014 (will be developed). Bring scientific expertise into Continuum activities. Collaboration in the Platform Ecological Network of the Alpine Convention.

Responsible: ISCAR-Office, ISCAR delegates, research institutes

2.2. Protected area research: Continue cooperation with the network of Alpine Protected Areas (ALPARC) on protected area research by the common working group ISCAR-P focusing on

- a) a research workshop on regional development & alpine protected areas (2011),
- b) scientific support to the research symposium 2013 in National Park Hohe Tauern
- c) promoting the publication of scientific articles in the journal eco.mont, and
- d) the up-date of the database on research projects in alpine protected areas.

Responsible: IGF Innsbruck, ISCAR Office, ALPARC

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

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

3.1. Mobilise scientific expertise for the Alpine Convention: Cooperate in the bodies of the Alpine Convention and with SOIA, and delegate experts from the scientific community into selected Working Groups, Platforms or Experts Groups.

Responsible: ISCAR office and delegates, delegated experts

3.2. Use the ForumAlpinum & AlpWeek as a show case for alpine research and as opportunity for bringing science and emerging mountain topics to policy:

a) AlpWeek 2012: Cooperate with AlpWeek-partners (CIPRA, ALPARC, AIA, CAA) and the Swiss Presidency of the Alpine Convention in preparing the AlpWeek 2012 in Switzerland; organise a public event on alpine research the frame of the AlpWeek.

Responsible: ISCAR delegates, ISCAR-Office, Swiss ICAS

b) look for partners for organising the ForumAlpinum 2014

Responsible: ISCAR

3.3. Support SOIA in evaluating topics in the interest of the Alpine Convention and address them to science.

Responsible: ISCAR, SOIA

4. Address young scientists

Target public: young scientists

Find means and funding for integrating young scientists in pan-alpine cooperations (e.g. exchange of students), for creating attractive environments for presenting research results (e.g. poster awards) and for offering integrative education (e.g. summer school).

Responsible: ISCAR delegates, ISCAR office, research institutes

Extension of the ISCAR-Convention 2011-2014

Application to the Convention Partners

The present partners decide:

1. to extend the ISCAR Convention from 1999 until 2014;
2. to mandate ISCAR to achieve the work programme 2011-2014 listed above;
3. to leave the annual budget for common office and activities to 40`000 Euros as before (20`000.- Switzerland, 4`000 further partners).

Munich, October 6, 2010