



International Scientific Committee on Research in the Alps
Internationales Wissenschaftliches Komitee Alpenforschung
Comité scientifique international recherche alpine
Comitato scientifico internazionale ricerca alpina
Mednarodni znanstveni komitee za preuèevanje Alp

ISCAR Focus Activities 2023-2026

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Based on objectives of ISCAR-Convention (1999), the mission statement (2008) and tasks related to the official observer status of the Alpine Convention (ISCAR principles, 2012), the following priorities are set up for the coming 4 years (2023-2026):

1. Identify future and promote current research on topics of relevance to foster transition in the Alps and address emerging issues to the Alpine Convention

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

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

Focus activities: ForumAlpinum 2024 in Austria, Alpweek 2026, Workshop 2023 and 2025 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. Contribute to the preparation of mountain topics for international (European) research programmes.

Focus activities:

- a) take up topics related to the Multi-annual Programme of the Alpine Convention (2023-2030);
- b) collaborate with other Mountain Research Networks like NEMOR, MRI, S4C or Scientific Network for the Caucasus Mountain Region

Responsible: ISCAR delegates, ISCAR office

Partners: NEMOR, MRI, Science for the Carpathians (S4C), Scientific Network for the Caucasus Mountain Region and other international initiatives, national initiatives like Labex ITTEM Grenoble, Mountain University Edolo, CIRM, etc.

2. Provide scientific support to Alpine-wide and inter- and transdisciplinary 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) Cooperate with the working group Swiss Parc Research from FoLAP

Responsible: IGF Innsbruck, ISCAR Office

Partners: ALPARC, National Parks Austria

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: 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

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) Organisation of a policy session at the ForumAlpinum 2024.

b) AlpWeek 2026: Cooperate with AlpWeek-partners (CIPRA, AIA, CAA, AidA, etc.); organise public events on alpine research in the frame of the AlpWeek

Responsible: ISCAR Office, ISCAR Partners (ÖAW, University Grenoble Alpes, INRAE, Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri - Dipartimento per gli Affari regionali e le Autonomie, Bavarian Academy of Sciences and Humanities)

4. Address young scientists

Target public: young scientists

4.1. *Find means 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;

b) support the Alpine Convention in organising the Young Academics Award;

c) support young scientists to publish in journals like JAR and eco.mont;

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 ISCAR contact points;

b) ISCAR delegates maintain national networks with experts in mountain research;

c) ISCAR Partners assure financial support and provide for renewal of delegates;

d) ISCAR Office takes in hand needed coordination and administration for operation;

e) ISCAR office provides communication on ISCAR activities and keeps up to date the ISCAR Website.

Bern, July 2022