

The Alpine Convention and the Soil Conservation Protocol

The convention is a framework that sets out the basic principles of all the activities of the **Alpine Convention** and contains general measures for the sustainable development in the Alpine region. It entered into force on March 1995. The core of the implementation of this international treaty are the eight Protocols. In the Protocols, concrete steps to be taken for the protection and sustainable development of the Alps are set out.

Aims of the **Soil Conservation Protocol** are amongst others to decrease quantitative and qualitative soil impairments, especially by using soil conserving production methods, economic use of land and soil, as well as the control of erosion and the restriction of soil sealing. The Soil Conservation Protocol has therefore the aim to reconcile the different land-use demands with economic and ecological requirements. Given the fact that the Alps are a region with a high ecological diversity, contain vulnerable ecosystems and that the formation and generation of Alpine soils takes place very slowly, the reduction of pollutant inputs in soils need to be reduced and the functionality of Alpine soils need to be permanently maintained. The Alpine Convention's Soils Conservation Protocol therefore seeks to discuss common Alpine solutions for similar soil protection challenges and to elaborate common implementation measures.

Background and aim of the Alpine Soil Symposium

Background

The German Presidency of the Alpine Convention supports within the context of the UN year of soils 2015 an assessment of the Soil Conservation Protocol. The project "Assessment of the Soil Conservation Protocol with regard to its implementation and effectiveness in the Alpine region" is financed by the Federal German Environmental Agency within the framework of its Environmental Research Plan.

Aim of the Soil Symposium

The symposium aims to discuss, elaborate and demonstrate the Alps-wide demands and the implementation status of the Soil Conservation Protocol together with experts from public authorities, researchers, NGOs and private soil stakeholders. Alpine soil protection challenges are going to be discussed in several workshops. The development of joint recommendations for future activities for an enhanced Alpine soil protection and an improved implementation of the Protocol are part of the symposium.

Discuss with us and share your experiences regarding the practical implementation of

- quantitative soil protection,
- qualitative soil protection,
- Alps-wide cooperation and
- (non-)application of the Soil Conservation Protocol and knowledge transfer!

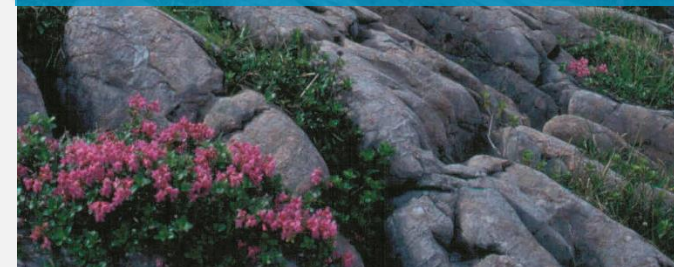


Invitation to the Alpine Soil Symposium

„Soil Conservation Protocol of the Alpine Convention - between demand and reality“

23 - 24 June 2016

Bad Reichenhall, Germany



Programme “Soil Conservation Protocol of the Alpine Convention – between demand and reality”

Moderation: Marianne Badura - blue! advancing european projects, Renate Leitinger - Land of Upper Austria, Department of Environmental Protection

Day 1 Thursday, 23 June 2016

- 13.30 Registration & Coffee
- 14.00 Welcome and Introduction
Frank Glante, German Federal Environment Agency, Head of Section Soil State and Soil Monitoring
- Moderators: What to expect?
And organisational introduction*
- 14.15 The Soil Conservation Protocol of the Alpine Convention - Current challenges
Wolfger Mayrhofer, Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention
- 14.35 Soil protection in Europe and the Alps - How far are we and what is missing?
Luca Montanarella, European Commission, Joint Research Centre - Land Resources Management Unit, European Soil Bureau
- 15.00 Presentation of the project
“Assessment of the Soil Conservation Protocol”: first results - future activities
Contractors of the project: Marianne Badura, Nina Kuenzer (blue!), Gertraud Sutor (LAND-PLAN), Roland Kals (arp), Sebastian Schmid (University of Innsbruck)
- 15.45 Coffee break

- 16.15 Introduction in World-Café sessions: Method and key-note presentations of each World-Café
Moderators of the workshops
- 16.45 Four parallel World-Café workshop sessions with key-note presentations
- 18.15 Summary of day 1 and closing remarks
- 19.00 Common dinner & informal get-together

Day 2 Friday, 24 June 2016

- 09.00 Introduction in day 2
- 09.15 Four parallel World-Café workshop sessions with key-note presentations
- 11.15 Coffee break
- 11.45 Podium discussion and presentation: Results of the four World-Café sessions - Which future activities need to be taken?
Moderators and minutes taker of the World-Cafés
- 12.45 Concluding remarks & outlook
Moderators & Frank Glante
- 13.00 End of the Soil Symposium
- 13.15 Lunch-Snack (also for take-away)

Four parallel World-Café workshops

World-Café 1: Quantitative soil protection

Moderator: *Claus Hensold, Bavarian Environment Agency, Unit Sustainability, Indicators and Intermedia Environmental Protection*

Key-note: New approaches in Bavarian land management – Alliance for land conservation
Minutes taker: *Roland Kals, arp – alpen.raum.planung*

World-Café 2: Qualitative soil protection

Moderator: *Georg Juritsch, Land of Salzburg, Head of Unit Agriculture, soil protection and mountain pasture*

Key-note: Soil functions and ecosystem services - experiences from the Land of Salzburg
Minutes taker: *Gertraud Sutor, LAND-PLAN*

World-Café 3: Alps-wide cooperation

Moderator: *Borut Vrščaj, Agricultural Institute of Slovenia, Department for Agroecology and Natural Resources*

Key-note: The Interreg VB Alpine Space soil project “Links4Soils” - common activities for the Alps
Minutes taker: *Nina Kuenzer, blue! advancing european projects*

World-Café 4: (Non-)application of the Soil Conservation Protocol and knowledge transfer

Moderator: *Liliane Pistotnig, Land of Styria, Department 13 - Environment and Regional Planning*

Key-note: The (non-)application of the Soil Conservation Protocol by the Land of Styria and the regional / spatial planning
Minutes taker: *Christian Steiner, Land of Lower Austria,, Head of Department Land Development*

Information on the Soil Symposium

Online-Registration

The Soil Symposium is free of charge. The number of places is limited. We therefore kindly ask you to register soon under:

<http://www.umweltbundesamt.de/anmeldung-alpenweiten-bodenschutzworkshop>

Languages

English and German

Questions regarding the symposium

In case of any technical or content-related questions, please send an email to:

soilsymposium@the-blue.net

Realised in the framework of the German Alpine Convention Presidency 2015-2016 by

- Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety
- Federal Environmental Agency

Organisation and implementation

- blue! advancing european projects GbR
- CIPRA Österreich
- LAND-PLAN Büro für landschaftsökologische Planung und Gutachten
- arp - raum.landschaft.mobilität
- Universität Innsbruck

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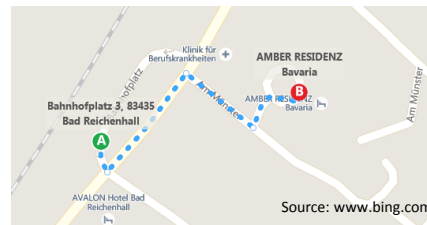
Venue and arrival: How to find us?

Venue

Amber Residenz Bavaria Bad Reichenhall
Am Münster 3

DE - 83435 Bad Reichenhall

www.amber-hotels.de



Arrival - How to find us?

You can reach the conference hotel within 300m walking distance from the central station of Bad Reichenhall. The location can be reached easily by public transport / train (www.bahn.de). By car you reach the conference hotel via railway A8 Munich-Salzburg. Parking-spaces are available in the hotel's underground parking. The nearest airports are Salzburg or Munich.

Overnight stay

All participants are kindly asked to independently reserve your accommodation. The conference hotel Amber Residenz Bavaria provides a room contingent for 88 € per single room. Please send your reservation with the keyword "Bodenschutzkonferenz" via email to: reichenhall@amber-hotels.de

GERMAN PRESIDENCY
2015-2016



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Source: blue! advancing european projects GbR