

Dear Colleague,

We are pleased to inform you that the International Final Conference of the "COMUNIS" Project will take place on 8 March 2012 in Bolzano (Italy), in the premises of the EURAC Convention Centre, Viale Druso 1. Considering that you may be interested in participating and the relevance of your experience with regard to these topics, we would be glad to see you at the Conference!

Having recognized the economic competition existing among adjacent municipalities in the Alpine Space, the COMUNIS Project ([www.comunis.eu](http://www.comunis.eu)), launched in the framework of the "ETC Alpine Space Programme 2007-2013", has aimed at developing cooperative strategies for inter-municipal Commercial Location Development (CLD) in mountain areas.

To this end, it has developed guidelines for devising and applying these strategies that can be adapted to the challenges, conditions and potentials of its pilot regions in particular and to the typical features of mountain regions in general. The project outputs will be presented and publicly discussed by project partners and a panel of international experts on the occasion of the project's Final Conference.

Looking forward to see you in Bolzano!  
Best Wishes,

*The COMUNIS Partnership*



**In order to join the Conference, please fill the on-line registration form by 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012:**

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/viewform?formkey=dHFud2hQeFhpRnNDS1lzZkwzaDk4QWc6MQ>

Please, do not forget to **specify into the form the language in which you require the translation according to their order of preference**, so to provide for the correct interpreting service in your own country's language.

For this event, we suggest the possibility to **book a room at a special price for you in three hotels with which agreed conventions exist with the Conference's organization:**

- Hotel Città, Piazza Walther 21, 39100 Bolzano  
+39 0471 975221 - [www.hotelcitta.info/it/hotel-citta.html](http://www.hotelcitta.info/it/hotel-citta.html)
- Hotel Laurin, Via Laurin 4, 39100 Bolzano  
+39 0471 311000 - [www.laurin.it/it](http://www.laurin.it/it)
- Hotel Alpi, Via Alto Adige 35, 39100 Bolzano  
+39 0471 970535 - [www.hotelalpi.info](http://www.hotelalpi.info)

Please, remember that, given the time remaining and the hotel needs, **we kindly advice to book your rooms by February 29<sup>th</sup> 2012, by quoting the key words for the Conference's agreement ("EURAC/COMUNIS Project")**, so to avoid any possible restrictions in their availability.



## COMUNIS Project

### Inter-municipal Cooperation for strategic steering of SME-oriented location development in the Alpine Space



FINAL CONFERENCE

## Inter-municipal Commercial Location Development in the Alpine Space

8 March 2012 - EURAC Research  
Viale Druso 1 - Bolzano (Italy)

**EURAC**  
research



MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE  
E DELLA TUTELA DEL TERRITORIO E DEL MARE

**Al**  
alpenkonvention - convention alpine  
convenzione delle alpi - alpska konvencija  
[www.alpconv.org](http://www.alpconv.org)

**ipla** istituto per  
le piante da legno  
e l'ambiente ipla spa  
società controllata dalla Regione Piemonte



# AGENDA

## 8<sup>th</sup> March 2012

### MORNING SESSION

- 08:30-09:00 Registration
- 09:00-09:15 Welcome statements and opening  
*Stephan Ortner* (Director European Academy Bolzano)  
*Paolo Angelini* (Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea)  
*Miriam L. Weiß* (EURAC-Institute for Regional Development and Location Management)
- 09:15-09:30 The COMUNIS project and the role of inter-municipal cooperation for a resource-saving and vital commercial/industrial location development in mountain areas  
*Marie-Françoise Perruchoud-Massy* (Lead Partner, University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland)
- 09:30-09:50 Business location in South Tyrol the location development project "STEP"  
*Martha Gärber* (Business Location Südtirol-Alto Adige)
- 09:50-10:10 Best practices of economic development in view of environmental sustainability of mountain areas worldwide  
*Olman Serrano* (Coordinator, FAO Mountain Partnership Secretariat)

- 10:10-10:50 Municipal development in alpine regions  
*Christian Habermüller* (E<sup>2</sup>M research & consulting GmbH)
- 10:50-11:10 Coffee break
- 11:10-11:30 Demographic viability and differences in attractiveness in the Alps: interrelations, constraints, opportunities  
*Pier Paolo Viazzo* (Italian President of the Alpine Convention Working Group "Demography and Employment")
- 11:30-12:30 Inter-municipal cooperation for CLD:  
- Concept  
- Models of inter-municipal CLD  
- Approach to and process  
*Stefan v. Andrian-Werburg* (Bosch & Partner GmbH)  
*Peter Steurer* (Regionalentwicklung Vorarlberg)
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch break

### AFTERNOON SESSION

- 14:00-15:00 Pilot area activities representing different approaches to inter-municipal CLD:  
• *Gewerbeverband / Special Purpose Association*, pilot area Alpsee-Grünten, Bavaria  
*Fritz Weidlich / Sandra Feuerstein* (Stadt Sonthofen)  
• *Projekt- und Standortgenossenschaft / Project and Location Association*, pilot area Großwalser Valley, Vorarlberg  
*Franz Rüf / Peter Steurer* (Regionalentwicklung Vorarlberg)  
• *Industrial ecology*, pilot area Martigny-Sion-Sierre, Valais  
*Nathalie Stumm* (University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland)

- 15:00-15:40 Poster session  
Coffee break
- 15:40-16:40 Panel discussion  
Theses on inter-municipal CLD  
Participants: *Martha Gärber, Christian Habermüller, Marie-Françoise Perruchoud-Massy, Andreas Raab, Olman Serrano, Pier Paolo Viazzo*  
Moderation: *Miriam L. Weiß*
- 16:40-17:00 Outlook and closing remarks  
*Nicolas Délétroz* (Lead Partner, University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland)



MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE  
E DELLA TUTELA DEL TERRITORIO E DEL MARE

