



Summit Meeting
L'EAU EN MONTAGNE

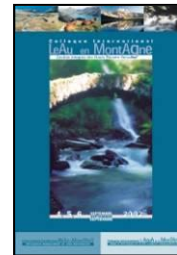
3rd international congress of integrated management in high watersheds

MEGEVE (FRANCE) - 22, 23, 24 SEPTEMBER 2010

To deal with the increasing demand for water and the challenges of climate change, new political strategies have to be promoted in mountain areas

The preservation of water resources is crucial for the future development of mountain regions. Water is a central pre-requisite for spatial development in mountain areas. Consequently an integrated water management strategy/ policy is required to cover the range of different needs: provision of food, economic development and tourism, environmental protection, energy production...

➤ In 2002, the International Year of the Mountains, the first international symposium «l'Eau en Montagne» was organised in Megève by the "Société d'Economie Alpestre" and the "Société d'Equipement Départementale" of Upper Savoy, in order to start reflections concerning water management. One outcome of this event was the creation of the pilot site «**Pays de Savoie – Annecy – Mont-Blanc – Léman**» to promote integrated water management in high river basins.



➤ In 2004, this pilot site was chosen by UNESCO as an operational framework for the HELP programme (Hydrology for the Environment, Life and Policy). This programme is based on the involvement of local policy makers and scientists within the study area. The willingness of local stakeholders to participate and to apply their knowledge within the different activities as well as the desire to define a new integrated management approach for high river basins are at the core of this project.

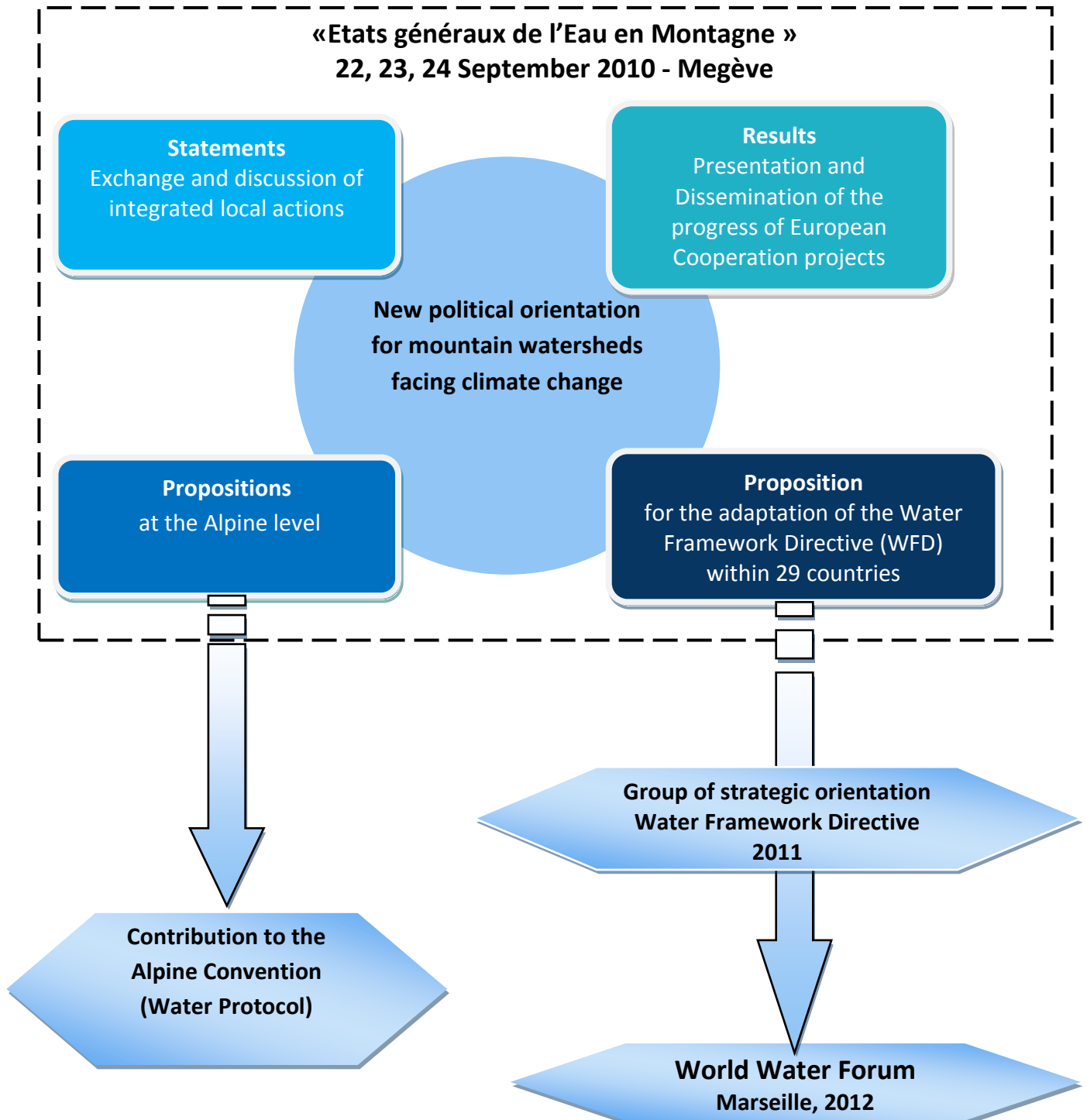
➤ In September 2006 the international congress «l'Eau en Montagne», **took place for the second time in Megève** allowing further development of the work already started and presentation of examples of integrated water management in 33 different countries as well as their respective basin organisations.



Furthermore, in order to take into account the impacts of climate change on watersheds, it is crucial that mountain communities and their representatives act together and share their experience. This would then allow the proposition to politicians but may also support a collective mobilisation at the highest level for shared and sustainable water resource management.

On the 22, 23 and 24 September 2010, the "Etats généraux de l'Eau en Montagne" will hold the 3rd International Congress on integrated management in high watersheds to initiate a new water governance in mountains and to address the challenges of climate change.

From field investigations to the highest decision-making bodies.... To give mountain communities a voice!



Statement and Results

Statements

Exchange and discussions of integrated local actions

To put the term «water» in the centre of the discussion...

Following the work performed in the Pilot Site «**Pays de Savoie – Annecy – Mont-Blanc – Léman**» since 2006, workshops dedicated to increasing the exchange of experiences between the participants took place. Representatives of different organisations as well as scientists and water managers participated at these events. From these workshops it has been possible to compare the results gained in the different regions and with regard to different topics and to learn from each other: risk assessments (floods, torrents, droughts...), preservation of wetlands and the lakesides environment, resource sharing (drinking water, agriculture, artificial snow, aquatic environments,...).

Pilot Site members

- ✧ **Contrat de rivière de l'Arly**
- ✧ **Syndicat intercommunal des eaux des Moises (SIEM)**
- ✧ **Régie des eaux de Megève**
- ✧ **Syndicat mixte du lac d'Annecy (SILA)**
- ✧ **Syndicat mixte des affluents du Sud-Ouest lémanique (SYMASOL)**
- ✧ **Syndicat d'aménagement de l'Arve et de ses abords (SM3A)**
- ✧ **Syndicat intercommunal du Foron du Chablais Genevois (SIFOR)**
- ✧ **PNR du Massif des Bauges**

Results:

Presentation and Dissemination of the progress of the European cooperation projects

A mobilisation of mountain people concerning water issues, by fostering the European cooperation.

The Summit Meeting of Megève will also be an occasion for dialogue between representatives of different European cooperation projects.

2008-2011 ☞ Alp-Water-Scarce: The aim of the project is to develop water management strategies and an Early Warning System against water scarcity in the Alps.

The 17 consortium members of this Alpine Space project from 5 different countries will use this opportunity to present the structure of the project and the first results.



2005-2008 ☞ AlpLakes: Sustainable management of **lakes** and their environments.

2006-2008 ☞ ClimChalp: **Climate change**, impacts and adaptation strategies within the Alpine Arc.

2008-2011 ☞ Alp'Eau: To foster and preserve the protective role of **forests** and the preservation of water resources.

2009-2012 ☞ SHARE: To develop, test and promote a tool system to harmonize the demands of **hydropower generation** with fluvial ecosystems.

2009-2012 ☞ Silmas: sustainable development of **alpine lakes**.

Specific propositions

Propositions at the Alpine Level

Can the area of the Alpine Arc be taken as a model for the implementation of a common water governance?

The representatives of **AEM** (*European association of elected representatives from mountains regions*), and **ANEM** (*National association of elected representatives from mountains regions*) as well as the representatives of the Alpine Convention will discuss the possibility of defining common political strategies concerning water issues. Can the Alps be regarded as a study area for water governance? The European Union promotes coherent transversal and sectoral policies on the Alpine level. Furthermore AEM is working on the European cooperation project **SHARE** (part of the Alpine Space Programme), coordinated by ARPA¹ Aosta Valley, to bring the different points of view closer and to provide input for the discussion of the **Water Platform of the Alpine Convention**.



Proposition for the adaptation of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) within 29 countries

*Mountains at the forefront
of a common orientation on water ?*

After its meetings in Megève in 2006, Rome in 2007, Sibiu in 2008 and Stockholm in 2009, the group of «**EURO-RIOB**» (European Network of Basin Organizations) will organize its annual meeting in Megève for a second time. EURO-RIOB contributes actively to adaptation measures against the effects of climate change including:

- ☞ Support of programmes/projects to identify risks (floodings, droughts,...)
- ☞ Increased dissemination activities to inform the public about the risks presented by climate change
- ☞ Protection of the natural aquatic environments
- ☞ Promotion of water saving techniques

**All the work performed at the Summit Meeting is important for the forthcoming "World Water Forum" that will take place in Marseille in March 2012...
One more opportunity for mountain people to raise their voice!**

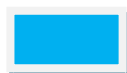
¹ Agenzia Regionale per la Protezione dell'Ambiente (Agence régionale pour la protection de l'environnement)

Practical Information

Preliminary program

Meeting Venue: Palais des Sports et des Congrès – Megève

Wednesday 22 September		Thursday 23 September				Friday 24 September	
Common framing						General Conclusions and common progress	
School activities		School activities				School activities	
Review of the day		Review of the day					
Reception in Megève		Gala Dinner				Public Reception	



Statements – Integrated Actions



Propositions – Alpine Convention



Results – European Projects



Proposition DCE– Euro-Riob

An event open to the general public

Because the event in Megève is free of charge, a broad public can participate. Furthermore, the event is also open to schools in the Mont-Blanc region which guarantees an audience apart from scientists, representatives from different organisations and technicians. Pupils accompanied by their teachers are also invited to participate in the workshops and the exhibitions which are organised in cooperation with the media centre of Megève.

And last but not least, an evening reception for the general public with a final debate will take place on Friday the 24th of September.

Registration for the Summit Meeting is obligatory but free of charge!

Technical and Scientific Committee of the Summit Meeting

Under Constitution

PRESIDENCE

ROUX	Albert-Louis	<i>Académie de l'eau</i>	
RAYNAUD	Dominique	<i>CNRS – LGGE – Membre du GIEC</i>	Reserach Director Emeritus
DANTIN	Michel	<i>Comité de bassin Rhône-Méditerranée</i>	President

MEMBERS

AMOUDRY	Jean-Paul	<i>Société d'Economie Alpestre de la Haute-Savoie</i>	President
BIGUE	Julien	<i>Association Rivière Rhône-Alpes</i>	Director
BOIS	Jean-Philippe	<i>Conseil général de la Haute-Savoie</i>	Manager of water service
BRELOT	Elodie	<i>GRAIE</i>	Director
BRESSO	Mercedes	<i>Association européenne des Élus de Montagne (AEM)</i>	President
CASSAYRE	Yves	<i>Génie Rural des Eaux et Forêts</i>	Ingenier
CASTAING	Patrick	<i>Electricité de France</i>	Officer basin
CHARNAY	Bérengère	<i>Université de Savoie</i>	Scientist
CHOMIENNE	Jean-Pierre	<i>DATAR</i>	Commissioner of the Alps
COMET	Claude	<i>Région Rhône-Alpes / Regional representative for the mountain and tourism</i>	
DELANNOY	Jean Jacques	<i>Université de Savoie</i>	Director of EDYTEM
DONZIER	Jean-François	<i>Office International de l'Eau - EuroRIOB</i>	General Director
EVRRARD	Nicolas	<i>Forum européen de la montagne - AEM</i>	President – Secretary General
FLEURY	Thomas	<i>Programme ALPINE SPACE de l'Union Européenne</i>	Team coordinator
GRANGE	Anne-Marie	<i>Territoires 38</i>	Director of the physical planning service
GROSSET-JANIN	Sylviane	<i>Commune de Megève (Haute-Savoie / France)</i>	Mayor
HARUM	Till	<i>Joanneum Research</i>	Hydrologist
HOFER	Thomas	<i>Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture</i>	
IMHOF	Régula	<i>Convention alpine</i>	Deputy general secretary
KHAN	Shahbaz	<i>UNESCO - Division des sciences de l'eau</i>	
MOLETTA	René	<i>INRA – International water association</i>	Correspondant
MOUREMBLES	Christian	<i>Conseil général de la Savoie</i>	Manager of water service
NAYROU	Henri	<i>Association Nationale des Elus de la Montagne</i>	President
PEILLOUD	Fernand	<i>Vice-président du conseil général de la Haute-Savoie</i>	President SED Haute-Savoie
PIALAT	Alain	<i>Agence de l'eau Rhône Méditerranée et Corse</i>	Director General
PIGNON	Martin	<i>Agence de l'eau Rhône Méditerranée et Corse</i>	Expert
PLASSMANN	Guido	<i>Réseau alpin des espaces protégés</i>	Director
RICHARD	Didier	<i>Cemagref – Unité érosion torrentielle, neige et avalanches</i>	Unit chief
ROUILLON	Antoine	<i>Lycée agricole de Poisy</i>	Responsible of formation "natural space"
ROUSSEL	Pierre	<i>Office International de l'Eau</i>	President
SADDIER	Martial	<i>Conseil national de la montagne</i>	President permanente commission
TRIOI	Christian	<i>Compagnie Nationale du Rhône</i>	Director
TURQUIN	Olivier	<i>Institut de géographie alpine de Grenoble</i>	Associated Professor
VERMONT	Sibylle	<i>Federal Office for the Environnement (FOEN) – Suisse</i>	Scientifique collaborator

COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

FRANCILLARD	Pierre	<i>Société d'Équipement Départementale Haute-Savoie</i>	Environmental Service
LACHENAL	Pierre	<i>Société d'Economie Alpestre de la Haute-Savoie</i>	Director

Why this Summit Meeting?

- For mountain communities to show their concerns but also to mention their propositions to answer one of the emerging questions of the 21st century: the question concerning water.
- To bring to mind the essential values of mountain communities like solidarity between populations living in the high altitudes and those living in towns.
- To remind that mountains keep resources like space, water, wood, produces of agriculture and that mountains must keep alive despite the major changes. These regions want to participate actively in a discussion on sustainable development as well as to profit of the richness of the area.

A manifestation that celebrates the year 2010 as the year of the “French-Russian” relationship

The Baikal Lake comprises the largest quantity of freshwater of the Earth. The Institute of Limnology of Irkoutsk will present its work at the conference. The organisers of the conference will therefore welcome representatives of this Russian town under the partnership of the Conseil Général de Haute Savoie. In 2010 a number of cooperation activities will take place to celebrate the French – Russian relationship.



More information is provided under www.france-russie2010.com

Organisers:



Contact:

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