imProved Accessibility: Reliability and security of Alpine transport infrastructure related to mountainous hazards in a changing climate

FINAL CONFERENCE
Grenoble, 23 April 2011

First Announcement

PARAmount is supported by means of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

The Management Committee is pleased to announce the Final Conference of the PARAmount Project funded by the Alpine Space Programme.

Date ***23 April 2012***

Venue ***Alpexpo***
avenue d'Innsbruck
Grenoble (France)
(http://www.alpexpo.com/Accueil_fr_1000.html))

Conference Programme

09:15 – 10:00	Opening and Introduction to the Conference	
10:00 – 12:00	Session 1:	**Decision analysis and support systems for an effective management of transport infrastructure threatened by natural risks**
12:00 – 13:15 14:30 – 15:00	Session 2:	**New concepts and approaches for assessing and monitoring natural risks**
15:00 – 16:45	Session 3:	**Guidelines and Recommendations for the implementation of innovative measures to protect transport infrastructure against natural hazards**
17:00 – 18:15	Panel Discussion	

The detailed programme will be circulated by mid-February 2012

For any further information please contact

Günter Siegel
Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry,
Environment and Water Management
Marxergass 2, 1030 Vienna (AT)

Email: guenter.siegel@lebensministerium.at
Phone: +43 1 711 00 7221

Translation will be offered for English and French

No registration fee will be requested

Detailed information about the project can be found at the following Web-site:

www.paramount-project.eu

PARAmount

Well-functioning passenger and freight links are vital for European undertakings and citizens. The efforts of the European Union and its member states are aiming at fostering clean, safe and efficient travel throughout Europe, underpinning the internal market of goods and the right of citizens to travel freely throughout the EU.

The transport system of the Alps has to fulfil a multitude of functions. Due to its central geographical position the transport system in the Alpine area has a vital role in the transit of passenger and freight from north to south and east to west as approx. 200 Mio tonnes of freight and 100 Mio passengers are transported annually by road and rail across the Alpine Arc. Furthermore, the transport infrastructure and its capacity is of greatest importance for the development of the Alpine region.

As society increasingly develops into areas affected by natural physical processes, the frequency as well as the magnitude of natural hazards threatening transport infrastructure are rising. Climate change may increase climate variability beyond the limits of past experience. Most critically, extreme events are likely to become more common and more intense in the alpine area, threatening the livelihoods of the people living in that area. Vital communication routes may face a more frequent occurrence of natural hazards.

To support the providers of transport infrastructure, transport operators as well as regional/national authorities in their efforts to offer also in future under changing climate conditions high transport security and accessibility PARAmount is promoting comprehensive, cross-sectoral risk analysis of natural hazards with a specific focus on their impacts on transport infrastructure as well as the improvement of risk management tools designed for the preparation of infrastructure specific measures including the support of decision makers in the specific hazard situations.

The **Final Conference of PARAmount** is designed to bring together experts, researchers, policy and decision makers, practitioners from various disciplines as well as concerned stakeholders for an interdisciplinary, transnational exchange of views on the further development of strategies and technologies for the management of natural hazards threatening transport infrastructure and to present the results of the project concerning the

- Assessment of the vulnerability of transport infrastructure to natural hazards
- Improvement of the efficiency of measures necessary to protect transport infrastructure against natural hazards and to increase its reliability and security
- Advancement of Decision analysis and support systems for an effective management of transport infrastructure threatened by natural risks
- Development of new concepts and approaches for assessing and monitoring natural risks.

The objective of the concluding round table discussion will be to elaborate recommendations for overcoming the identified barriers that might impede the adoption of the developed approaches and concepts as well as to ensure a successful knowledge transfer.

The Final Conference of PARAmount will be held in parallel with the 12th Congress of INTERPRAEVENT (Grenoble, 23 – 26 April 2012).