

Common Charter of the ACCESS2MOUNTAIN Partnership

DECLARATION FOR SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY IN TOURISM

Tourism is inevitably linked to transport and mobility. Negative consequences of motorized transport affect mountain regions' ecosystems and diminish their recreational value. To mitigate environmental damages and health hazards caused by transport, **sustainable tourism needs sustainable transport and mobility**: environmentally friendly, energy efficient, smooth and flexible door-to-door transportation.

We, the undersigned partners of the ACCESS2MOUNTAIN project and stakeholders – ministries, tourism and transport businesses, destination management and regional development organizations, NGOs and academia –, declare our commitment to sustainable tourism mobility development in the Alpine and the Carpathian Convention areas.

Mountain regions belong to what the European Commission considers **sensitive areas with regard to transport**. They are particularly vulnerable to and thus highly affected by environmental impacts from transport and tourism (e.g. noise, air pollution, barrier effects, etc.) due to their territorial morphology, biological and landscape diversity.

The **Alps** belong to the ecologically most sensitive areas in Europe and are the natural, cultural, living and economic environment for nearly 14 million people. They are Europe's most important recreation area with about 95 million long-stay

tourists and additional 60 million same-day visitors per year.

The **Carpathians** are Europe's largest mountain range, a unique natural treasure of great beauty and ecological value, and home of the headwaters of major rivers. They are home to about 18 million people and host around 31 million guests a year.

Thus, we seize the opportunity offered by the Southeast Europe Programme and beyond this framework to improve sustainable accessibility and connection to, between and in sensitive mountain regions benefiting all (potential) users. We contribute to improving the sustainable accessibility of the **Alpine** and the **Carpathian Convention** areas and foster **cooperation among the two**. We do so by working together in **transnational partnerships** to plan and implement measures and projects for environmentally friendly, flexible and demand-oriented transport and mobility.

We seek to raise people's awareness for health issues since transport has harmful effects on our health through accidents, pollution, reduced physical activities and greenhouse gases. Thus, the ACCESS2MOUNTAIN project is in line with the goals of the UNECE WHO **Transport, Health and Environment Pan European Programme (THE PEP)** and contributes to improve environmental and health issues.



RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend the following key aspects for sustainable mobility in the Alpine and Carpathian Convention areas to policy makers, the public and private sector determining and influencing infrastructure, transport and tourism planning, based on experiences gained in the ACCESS2MOUNTAIN project.

At transnational/EU-level, the European and national authorities must increase awareness of the mobility challenge in the Alpine and Carpathian Convention area in particular, and of the Alpine Convention and the Carpathian Convention in general.

The role of the Alpine and the Carpathian Convention areas as functional socio-economic, ecological and political entities needs to be strengthened with the aim to enhance cooperation within and between the mountain regions. Cooperation among authorities at EU, national and regional level should be fostered in planning and realizing measures for integrated, environmentally friendly transport networks and related mobility management on national and cross-border level.

At national level, political, tourism and transport authorities, as well as the tourism, transport and technology sectors must work on a comprehensive understanding of the mobility challenge and on vertically and horizontally integrated solutions.

It is crucial to strengthen cooperation of stakeholders and policy makers from the

transport, environment, economic, technology, tourism and regional development sectors in the process of setting up policies and frameworks supportive of sustainable mobility. To foster the integration of transnational tourism and soft mobility objectives in national plans and strategies is indispensable. Likewise, transport infrastructure networks should be better adapted to the special needs of the mountain environment, its inhabitants and guests, considering also ecological connectivity in transport and spatial planning.

At the regional level, political authorities, regional development organizations, public transport service providers, and tourism destinations must cooperate on realizing sustainable mobility solutions.

For mobility initiatives to be successful and increase their viability, it is essential to initiate on time public participation procedures (empowerment of the local population). Transport infrastructure networks need to be adapted to the special needs of the mountain environment, its inhabitants as well as guests, considering also ecological connectivity in transport and spatial planning. Additionally, destinations must provide adequate connections to local and regional transport, enable easy arrivals and departures, guarantee environmentally friendly mobility including the ‚last mile‘ (public transport, flexible traffic systems, shuttle-services, rental of non- or low-polluting conveyances, footpaths, cycle tracks, horse carriages etc.).



The partners of the ACCESS2MOUNTAIN project

Environment Agency Austria (AT)



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Mag. Georg Rebernig

Name of legal representative

i.v. ype
Vienna, 25 03 14

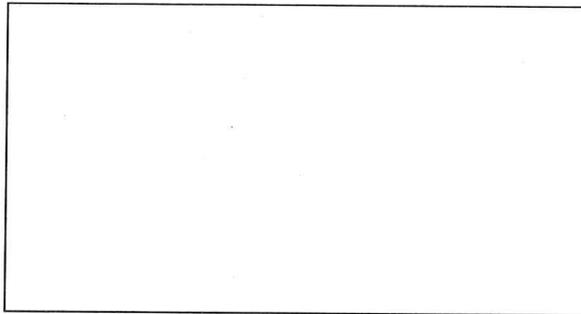
Place, date



The partners of the ACCESS2MOUNTAIN project

~~Environment Agency Austria (AT)~~

Ministry of transport,
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The partners of the ACCESS2MOUNTAIN project

National Park Gesäuse (AT)



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Dipl. Ing. Herbert Wölger

Name of legal representative

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Signatory of the ACCESS2MOUNTAIN Common Charter

**Mostviertel Tourismus GmbH
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Wieselburg, 27.03.2014

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Camerino, March 27, 2014

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The partners of the ACCESS2MOUNTAIN project

European Academy Bozen/Bolzano (IT)



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Dr. Werner Stuflesser

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Bolzano, 27.03.2014

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The partners of the ACCESS2MOUNTAIN project

County Center for Tourism Information
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Name of legal representative

Baia Mare, March 28th 2014

Place, date



The partners of the ACCESS2MOUNTAIN project

Agency for the Support of
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Admonk, 02.04.2014

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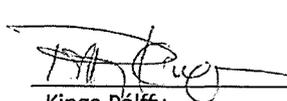


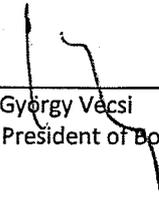
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Miskolc Holding Plc (HU)

Miskolc Holding Zrt.
MISKOLC HOLDING ÖNKORMÁNYZATI
VAGYONKEZELŐ ZÁRTKÖRŰEN MŰKÖDŐ
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Kinga Pálffy
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György Vecsi
President of Board

Miskolc, 2014. April 4.,



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Rzeszow Regional Development
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The partners of the ACCESS2MOUNTAIN project

Carpathian Foundation Ukraine (UA)



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Uzhhorod, 31.03.2014

Place, date



Signatory of the ACCESS2MOUNTAIN Common Charter

Organisation



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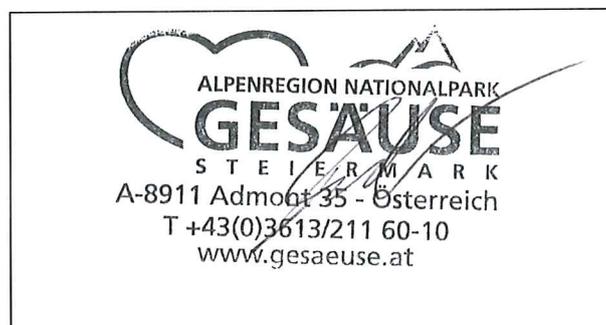
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The partners of the ACCESS2MOUNTAIN project

Tourist Board Alpine Region
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Thomas E. DRECHSLER (CEO)

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The partners of the ACCESS2MOUNTAIN project

Climate Alliance Austria (AT)
REGIONAL OFFICE OF STYRIA



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GRAZ, 1.4.2014

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