

Policies and Strategic Options for Mountains

Spring School 2024

April 29th – May 3rd

Context

Mountains make up 36% of the European Union's landscape and are essential providers of public and private goods. For centuries, mountain communities have forged pioneering ways of life, adapting, and thriving in harsh natural conditions. In the face of rapidly evolving climate change, mountains are now at the forefront of efforts to build resilience to the disasters it brings. Despite their deep understanding and ability to navigate delicate ecosystems and exploit valuable recreational landscapes and food webs, mountain communities lack up-to-date and comparable knowledge of the different aspects of their regions. This lack of knowledge poses significant challenges to their resilience and the long-term sustainability of their communities.

An in-depth understanding of the complex fabric of mountain communities, territories and businesses is not just a necessity, it is an imperative. As the landscape of these majestic regions continues to change under the pressure of the effects of climate change, there is a unique opportunity to develop policies that protect these areas while harnessing the potential of emerging policy options.

The challenges facing mountain regions are not isolated; they have repercussions on natural landscapes, affecting resources that are vital to the health of our planet. Tackling these challenges head-on is essential, not only for the livelihoods of mountain communities, but also for the well-being of all those living in rural and urban areas. This collective effort requires tailored policies that resonate with the unique dynamics of rural and mountain terrain - a challenge that reverberates across Europe and beyond.

MOVING (MOUNTAIN VALORISATION THROUGH INTERCONNECTEDNESS AND GREEN GROWTH), a Horizon 2020 project (2020-2024), aims to build capacities and co-develop – through a bottom-up participatory process that involves value chain actors, stakeholders, and policy-makers – relevant policy frameworks across Europe for the establishment of new or upgraded/upscaled value chains that contribute to the resilience and sustainability of mountain areas to climate change.

Learning process

Unlock the Secrets of Mountain Sustainability at the European MOVING Spring School!

Are you ready to delve into the heart of mountain resilience and innovation? Join us this spring for an immersive learning experience like no other, brought to you by the groundbreaking European MOVING project.

Embark on a journey of discovery as we unveil transdisciplinary insights and cutting-edge tools designed to illuminate the intricate values of mountain value chains. From combating global warming to fortifying the resilience of mountain communities and businesses, this is your chance to gain invaluable expertise on the pressing challenges facing these majestic landscapes.

Nestled amidst the breathtaking scenery of Grisons lies our playground for exploration: the enchanting Valposchiavo valley. Here, you will witness first-hand the remarkable synergy between agriculture, tourism, and energy sectors, fostering a model of sustainability that stands as a beacon of inspiration for mountain regions worldwide.

Through a dynamic blend of theoretical learning, hands-on field visits, and collaborative group sessions, you will not only expand your knowledge but also forge meaningful connections with fellow participants from across Europe. Guided by esteemed academics and experts, you will unearth insights, share experiences, and co-create solutions that will shape the future of mountain economies.

Don't miss this unparalleled opportunity to be part of a transformative learning experience. Join us at the European MOVING Spring School and become a catalyst for positive change in mountain regions everywhere. Register now and embark on a journey that promises to ignite your passion for mountain sustainability.

Audience

This training is addressed to **experts, stakeholders, Master and Ph.D. students, post-Ph.D. researchers, young researchers, and professors:**

- with a focus on mountain and rural development, agricultural sciences, environmental sciences, social sciences, marketing and business, ecology, geography, conservation biology, and forestry,
- interested in studying in an interdisciplinary environment for the sustainable development of mountainous areas and the shape of resilient mountain value chains.

Official course language

Speakers and facilitators from various European countries will communicate in English.

Learning Goals

Dive deep into the heart of mountain sustainability and policy development at the MOVING Spring School—an unparalleled opportunity to shape the future of our beloved mountain landscapes.

Here's what awaits you:

Uncover Challenges & Solutions: Delve into the main challenges and vulnerabilities facing mountain landscapes and communities in the era of climate change. Gain insights into innovative solutions and resilience strategies that are shaping the future of mountain regions.

2. Foster Long-Term Vision: Acquire invaluable knowledge of foresight approaches tailored to mountain regions. Develop a strategic long-term vision to ensure the sustainable development and resilience of mountain ecosystems and communities.

3. Learn from Local Initiatives: Immerse yourself in the success stories of local initiatives from the picturesque Valposchiavo valley. Explore their innovative practices and engage in discussions on how to adapt and replicate these “Strategics Options” in other mountain regions and socio-ecological systems.

4. Craft Policy Recommendations: Hone your skills in designing strategic options and crafting policy recommendations for sustainable mountain areas. Learn how to leverage transdisciplinary approaches to address complex challenges and foster holistic, inclusive policies.

5. Collaborate & Innovate: Collaborate with like-minded individuals in interactive group sessions designed to foster transdisciplinary approaches. Exchange ideas, share experiences, and co-create innovative solutions that will shape the future of mountain sustainability.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to be part of a transformative learning experience.

Join us at the MOVING Spring School,

become a catalyst for positive change in European mountain regions.

Register now and embark on a journey of discovery, learning, and inspiration!

Location

Valposchiavo, Graubünden, Switzerland.



View of the village of Poschiavo, a garden in a neighbourhood and the entrance to the Polo Poschiavo training centre.

Insight from Valposchiavo

At the Forum Origin, Diversity and Territories held in the Valposchiavo in 2021, the organising team produced explanatory videos with local actors active in the valley.

To get a flavour of this unique place and its promoters, take some minutes to look to the short video for discovering a local [aromatic plant farm](#) with Reto Raselli, [learning about the concept of territorial marketing](#) with Diego Rinaldo, and [explore the activities of Polo Poschiavo](#) with Cassiano Luminati.

All the videos have subtitles in English, French and Spanish.

Agenda

Draft Timing – Programme with speakers to be consolidated.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9am		Session 1 <i>Conceptual Framework for Mountains How to empower the mountain communities?</i>	Session 3 <i>Strategic Options: how to elaborate and combine strategic options at local level, and scale-up</i>	Session 4 <i>Mountains Policies</i>	Optional Visit to Cottiviamo Sogni in Campiascio
10.30am		Visit to Gran Alpin and Casa Tomé: Patrimonial food, food culture and tourism, ancient varieties, marketing the local to the local	Work in group	Work in group on local, regional, national, and European support	
12pm	Arrival	Lunch		Lunch	
2pm	Optional visit Village of Poschiavo	Session 2 <i>Designing the future – Modelling* the effect of Climate and Demographic Changes</i>	Learning Journey to Bernina Pass in the historical train: learnings about UNESCO cultural heritage labelling and how to strategies this to empower the mountain communities (with lunch-bag)	Sharing the results of the groups' work	Agriturismo Miravalle in Brusio
3.30pm	Optional session The 100% local Project	Work in group to apply the concepts and tools to your region*		Visit	
7pm	Welcome Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	

(*modelling results of the BioNext Model are available to each region)

Fees of Participation

Participation fee: **200 euros**, including the 2 optional visits of Monday afternoon and Friday.

Package for 4 nights of accommodation (double room) at Hôtel Suisse, and 7 meals (from Monday evening to Friday morning): **450 euros** – (in single room: 600 euros)

Travel costs of the participants estimated to be 300 euros/travel. Please have a look at the Logistic Note further in this document to plan your arrival and departure to/from Valposchiavo.

Organizers

- Marco Trentin, ODT Forum (coordinator)
- Cassiano Luminati, Polo Poschiavo
- Dominique Barjolle, UNIL, MOVING-WP-leader on Foresight
- Isabel Jaisli, ZHAW, Leader for the MOVING Swiss Case study “Gran Alpin”
- Mark Redman, Highclere Consulting, MOVING WP-leader on Policy

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USEFUL LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

How to get to Poschiavo

By train - Bus

From Switzerland

There is a railway station in the village of Poschiavo. It is the line that connects Pontresina to Tirano and is operated by the historic "Bernina express". Depending on the time of day, there is a bus connection from Samedan station.

You can plan your train journey from all stations via the [Swiss Railways website](#).

From France

If you are arriving from France, you can check the train timetable on the [SNCF website](#).

From Germany

If you are arriving from Germany, you can check the train timetable on the [Deutsche Bahn website](#).

From Italy

The easiest way to get there from Italy is to go to **Tirano station** on the Italian-Swiss border.

You can plan your train journey from all stations via the [Italian Railways website](#).

For example, from Milano Centrale station (nearest to Malpensa airport, see next point).

From Tirano, you have to change stations to take the **train or bus to Poschiavo**. The journey takes about 50 minutes.

It is also possible to take a taxi from Tirano to Poschiavo. The journey costs 35 euros and takes about 20 minutes. You can contact the following taxi: Taxi Rinaldi +39 349 534 49 35.

By air

For long-haul travel, we recommend arriving at either [Milano-Linate](#) or [Milano-Malpensa](#) airport.

For intra-European and low-cost travel (Ryanair Hub), [Orio al Serio Bergamo airport](#) is often suggested.

→ Either if you arrive to Milano Malpensa/Linate or Bergamo Orio al Serio the remaining bus/train journey to Poschiavo takes about 3.5 hours.

Arrival at Milano-Malpensa Airport

You can land at either Terminal 1 or Terminal 2. There are shuttle buses between the two terminals: <https://www.milanomalpensa-airport.com/en/from-to/connections-with-terminals>

Once you have landed at Milano-Malpensa (terminal 1 or 2) you will need to take a shuttle bus to Milan's central station (Milano Centrale). This connection is provided by :

1. the "[Malpensa Express](#)" which serves Milan's central station 7 days a week. The journey time is 57 minutes and costs 13 euros.

2. "[The Malpensa Shuttle](#)" timetable can be downloaded here.

Arrival at Milan Linate Airport

If you arrive at Linate Airport, you can reach Milan Central Station with the shuttle bus. You can find all the information here: <https://www.milano-aeroporti.it/liniate-shuttle/index.html>

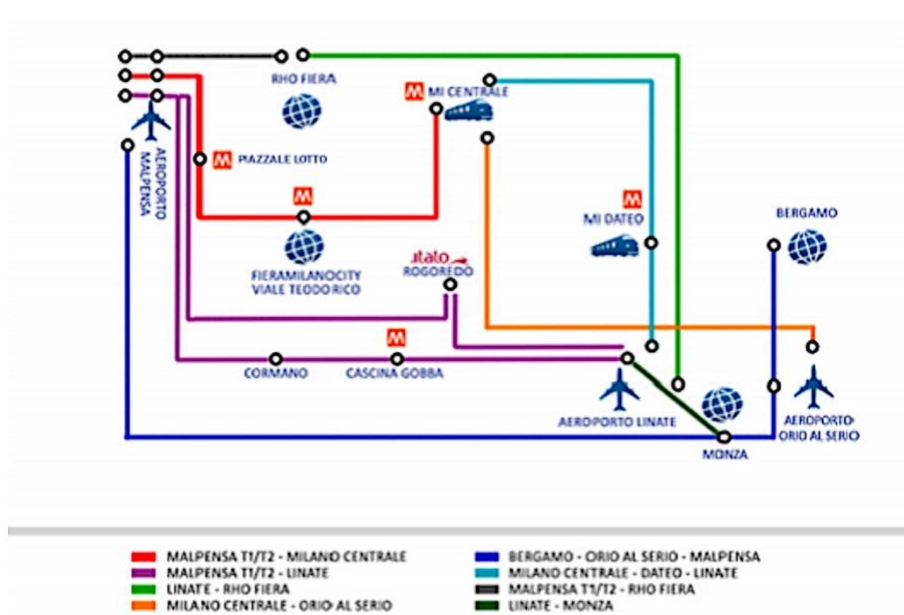


Figure 1: Overview of shuttle routes from Milan airports

Arrival at Bergamo Airport - Orio al Serio

If you arrive at Bergamo Orio al Serio Airport, there will be some more steps. You can reach the Bergamo train station in 6 minutes with a bus. From Bergamo you can reach Lecco, and from Lecco you reach Tirano, and finally Poschiavo, all by train. The journey last almost 4 hours.

Journey steps can be calculated on GoogleMaps or RometoRio website.

By car

You can get to Poschiavo by car but be aware that it is a remote valley in the south-east of Switzerland and the journey can be quite long!

In Switzerland, in order to use the motorway, you will need a "vignette" which authorises you to drive on Swiss motorways. It is the equivalent of a toll, but the fee is unique and annual and amounts to 40 CHF for any vehicle.

Remember to equip your car with snow tyres and chains as the route requires crossing several passes and in Mai it is quite possible that there will be still snow.

Poschiavo

Poschiavo (1'014 m a.s.l.n.m.) is a village of about 1'700 inhabitants in the heart of a remote valley near the Italian border. The Spring School takes place in the village, so all travel can be done on foot from your chosen accommodation. The village of Poschiavo is quite small and all the shops, bars and services are concentrated there.

For all information on the village, you can consult the website of the municipality of Poschiavo (website in Italian): <https://www.valposchiavo.ch/it/>

If you need a transport service, the company Balzarolo SA provides a taxi service in Poschiavo and surroundings. Please visit their website. <https://www.balzarolo.ch/it/trasporto-persone>

On arriving at the Polo Poschiavo

The training sessions will take place in the different classrooms of the Polo Poschiavo.

You can find the location of **Polo Poschiavo** on the following google maps link: <https://goo.gl/maps/jhaHRT6WY1k6m6A26>