mountain.TRIP
mountain sustainability: Transforming Research Into Practice

Summary of **mountain.TRIP** results regarding the fit between research results and practitioners' information needs

2009-2011 | FP7 | Coordination and Support Action

Knowledge Transfer and uptake of EU research results

Sophie Herbert, Ecologic Institute

Our goals

1. Provide readily **accessible and understandable** forms of research-based information

2. Setting best practice **examples**

3. Initiate **ongoing dialogue** between research and practice:

   www.mountaintrip.eu

Consultation Workshops:

Iterative interaction and feedback cycles

➢ Brussels workshop
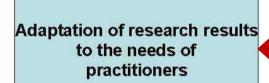
• 4 Regional workshops in 2011

Review:

➢ Information strategies

➢ Product ideas
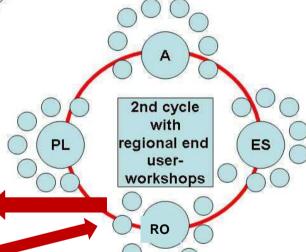
Retrieve, analyse and summarise research results

1st cycle with stakeholder associations

2 interaction cycles with practitioners

2nd cycle with regional end user-workshops

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Adaptation of research results to the needs of practitioners

Information NEEDS:
Telephone interviews
Online questionnaire
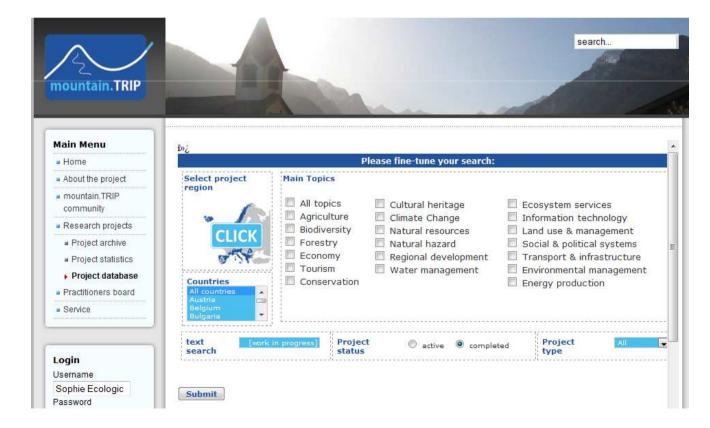
PRODUCTS

Matching supply and demand

- **Supply**: project results available and <u>relevant</u> to sustainable development in mountain areas

- **Demand**: survey of practitioners

1. Target group of practitioners
2. Identify relevant project results
3. Develop "internal" communication goals and select key messages to transmit
4. Create product ideas (content, format, dissemination channel)
5. Output: create information products

Supply: Research results

- Database of 110 projects identified as potentially relevant
- Results of 54 relevant projects processed – online version
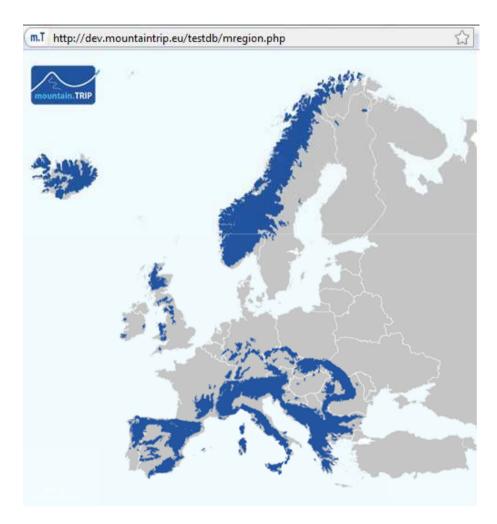
Supply: Research results

First findings and challenges:

- **availability** and technicality of results

- **spatial distribution** of projects - cluster mostly around the Alps, Nordic Mountains, British Isles, Iberian Mountains

- **Topics** addressed

Demand: practitioners survey

- **170 respondents**: Online questionnaire and interviews

- From Spain, Romania, Poland, Austria and from EU level

- From universities, regional development agencies, local/regional/national administrations, NGOs

Main findings of the survey

- Challenges for sustainable development

- Field of work

- Information use and needs

Challenges in analysing results:

1. identifying clear-cut target groups & needs

2. Finding trends in group responses

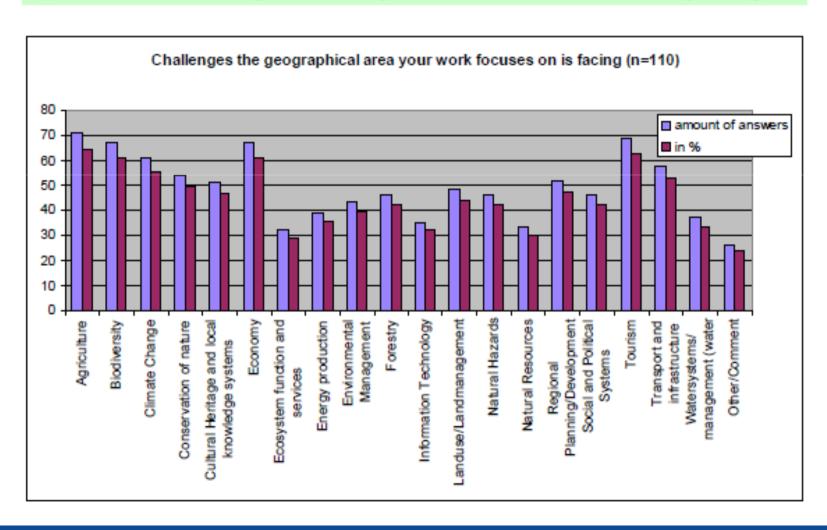3. Topic worked on differs from information needed

Workshop topics

- Review of the information strategies
- Four tables - four strategies, different approaches, regional focus
1. Climate change clearinghouse
2. Indicators and instruments of alpine regional development
3. Quality mountain food products in Romania
4. Sustainable olive farming in Spain

- Overarching issues: Bridging the gap & Wish list

„What are the challenges the area your work focuses on is currently facing?"

Challenges the geographical area your work focuses on is facing (n=110)
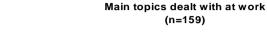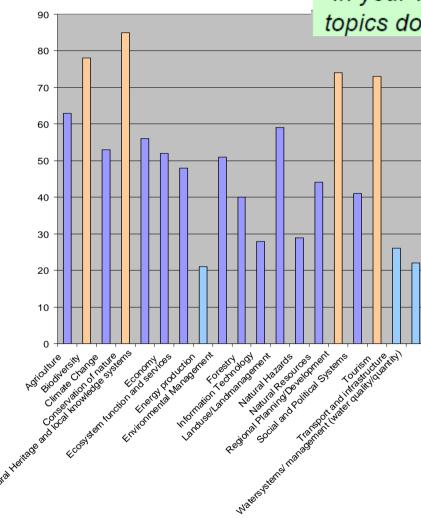
Main topics dealt with at work
(n=159)

"In your work in mountain regions, which main topics do you deal with?

Information use and needs

"What sources do you typically consult to obtain the data and information you need for your work?"