



DIAMONT Project

MINUTES OF THE THIRD PROJECT MEETING

Friday/Saturday 10th-11th March 2006

AMGI, LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA

Participants of the meeting

Axel Borsdorf, UIBK
Sigrun Lange, UIBK
Ulrike Tappeiner, Eurac
Erich Tasser, Eurac
Marc Zebisch, Eurac
Christina Seidl, Eurac
Delia Gramm, Eurac
Anna de Marchi, Eurac
Mimi Urbanc, AMGI
Drago Perko, AMGI
Primož Pipan, AMGI
Konstanze Schönthaler, Bosch & Partner
Stefan v. Andrian-Werburg, Bosch & Partner
Vincent Briquel, CEMAGREF
Stefan Marzelli, ifuplan
Claudia Schwarz, ifuplan
Tommaso Dal Bosco, UNCEM
Martin Boesch, FWR-HSG (only Friday)

Minutes taken by Primož Pipan and Sigrun Lange.

March 20th 2006

FRIDAY, 10th OF MARCH 2006

1. Status quo of DIAMONT (Axel Borsdorf)

1.1. Strengths:

- Good culture of discussion
- Good collaboration, based on best will of all partners
- Passionate struggle for the best solution
- Good administration
- Public relations
- Interchange of information between the AC and DIAMONT

1.2. Challenges:

- Communication problems due to different disciplines, scientists & practitioners, different languages, different project experiences and different expertises;
- Certain delays:
WP5 – delay of 6 months (due to the adaptation to the internal quality control)
WP6 – delay of 2 months from internal planning, but not with respect to the official deadline!
- Lack of a stringent logic in the sequences of the projects progress: WP5 and 6 did not serve as a base for the following WPs
- Expectation horizon differed to achieved methods or results

1.3. Lessons learned:

- Be more modest with respect to expectations
- Start earlier with reflections what to do and how to proceed
- Adapt project continuously to achieved results
- Accept the Steering committee or managing committee as “peers” in the evaluation of products

2. Main results of WP5: Martin Boesch

2.1. Personal remarks:

Martin encountered difficulties in performing the task; he had no funds at all and thus has to pay everything himself (no institutional help); further there was a project delay from the beginning (as we started later);

Difficulties with Dominik Siegrist: he should do the work and should be paid for it; as there were no funds a student had to do the work; WP5 report was delivered in time but in an insufficient quality; now Martin is revising the whole report alone but it is a lot of work to do; the first 50 pages are already done, 30 pages are still to **be expected in April**;

2.2. Methodological considerations:

- Title of WP5 was not clear enough, caused confusion; motive for WP5 was not clear;
- Culture is a fuzzy word; it covers religion, language, attitudes, values, etc.; currently there is a tremendous shift in the scientific community with respect to the meaning of the term “culture”: it shifts from traditions and languages towards values and attitudes
- There are also diverse concepts of the term “regional development” (e.g. enhancing the possibilities of options → improving the situation; demographic development, important in Slovenia, but not in Switzerland; changes in land use, etc.); DIAMONT did not agree on a certain definition of the term.
- “Sustainable” regional development is also only a fuzzy idea, no clear concepts!

→ The relation between “Culture” and “Regional development” means a relation between two fuzzy concepts → tautological trap: impact of regional differences on regional differences!

2.3. Enquiry & results of national reports

The final WP5 report is **only** based on the national reports; the partners had the possibility to compare the first national reports and to develop certain aspects but there are still possible lacks in the national papers; Martin incapable to search for additional information in the library.

In the final report the **results** are arranged in a different order than in the questionnaire: Q I, VI, VII and II are already analysed, chapter III is still missing;

Problem: One mistake of the scientific concept may have been that it is not sufficient to describe the situation in own country; if everybody just describes his own situation it can be difficult to compare the answers in the end; (example: one team describes tigers as animals with four legs, another team describes antelopes also as animals with four legs → analysis: there is no difference between the animals)

The answers were often not based on facts; mechanisms were not explained at all;

Influence of specific values and attitudes (Q VII)

	Importance		
Economic progress at large / extra-alpine growth	F A D SLO I CH		
Economic innovation / regional productivity	CH A F D I SLO		
Strengthening the regional economy	A CH D F SLO I		
cooperation with extra-alpine partners	F A D SLO CH		

All partners agreed that the **influence of values and attitudes** is getting **more and more important**, e.g. the influence of economic progress or economic innovation and regional productivity. In all countries it is considered important to strengthen the regional economy and cooperate with extra-Alpine partners → this was expected by Martin and was proofed by the national reports → **no cultural differences between the countries**

	Importance		
Ecological sustainability	A I CH F SLO D		
Cultural identity & social sustainability	A I CH F SLO D		
Minority rights	SLO A I CH F D		
Good education of local population	CH SLO A F I D		
Good public services for local population	I SLO A CH D F		

Sustainability: Only the French experts admitted that sustainability is not a very important concept for the real activities in France; all other countries assumed that the importance of sustainability will grow in the future → maybe this is only a vision and not reality?

2.4. Concluding remarks:

It can be remarked that the traditional influences of most cultural factors on regional development are decreasing (while still intuitively present in our perception), leaving an open trail to a generalized development, which generates its peaks and shallows more from globally determined location qualities (like easy access and urbanization, i.e. along the village-metropolis gradient) than from local or regional culture, which in itself tends to become more uniform.

Traditional cultural differences then are more an expression of time lags and bound to diminish on the long run.

This in turn is a clear signal to DIAMONT: For monitoring regional development in the Alpine Convention context we must not spend too much effort on indicators based on traditional cultural differences, but more on indicators measuring sustainable progress in a globalizing world, based on attitudes and values. However, this may well include information on regional identity, provided it means not a mere leftover from times past or folklore, but a conscious profile and strategy to future challenges.

2.5. Discussion:

Axel explained that WP5 was included quite late in DIAMONT proposal because it was requested by the Alpine Convention. They hoped to analyse why the AC is perceived so differently in the different countries. Axel would interpret the national answers different from Martin and would not conclude that the importance of cultural factors is diminishing completely; from the beginning the partners criticised that the questionnaire determined too much the results. Axel considered the WP5 report a high standing paper, which will influence the scientific discussion about the globalisation processes replacing local structures.

Stefan: If there is a tremendous shift from religion & languages towards values & attitudes why not having a look at these attitudes and their influence on regional development; there are e.g. green groups in France, Germany, etc. even if in one region there are quite different attitude- and value-groups

Ulrike considered the questionnaire to be too open; some questions were not perceived correctly; the partners had some questions after the pre-test but did not get enough answers from Martin, just the advice to answer the questions freely; the Italian partner for example signalled that there are great differences between the regions, but it was too much work to answer all questions for each of the Italian regions;

Martin stressed that they did not want to know all cultural differences, but only those which have impact on regional differences.

3. Main results of WP 6: Vincent Briquel

3.1. Method and application of Delphi principles

- No structured vision of the subject at the beginning;
- Variety of Alpine issues (gathered in first round) and differences in understanding;
- Formulation of theses to give a concrete meaning to some issues (second round);
- Invention of phenomena (third round) which should be rated to get operational results for subsequent work packages;

3.2. Did we attain our objectives?

- We did not get a prospective vision on the major problems of the Alpine Space. We know if the current issues will be more important in the future or not, but we did not ask the experts about new issues which will probably arise in the future.
- We had difficulties in ranking Alpine issues and phenomena.
- It will be difficult to assign Alpine issues to EU issues (comparison of DIAMONT results with prospective study of Alpine Space Programme).
- Chances or new opportunities were not evident in the survey.

3.3. Observations

- Differences in appreciation between experts within each country; but there were no significant differences between scientists and stakeholders
- Differences in sensibility to certain issues, that seem more in relation with differences in values and attitudes underscored in WP5 than with differences in 'culture'

- No strict relation between the appreciations and their regional dimensions
- More convergences in the irrelevance of some issues than in the agreement on their relevance

3.4. Which ones are the most important Alpine issues?

- Main issues help to structure series of detailed issues named in the first round
- Second round revealed complexity of issues
- Phenomena evaluated in the third round have to be assigned not only to main issues but also to more detailed issues
- Most relevant phenomena can mean that some issues are only clearly perceived, but not that they are most important

3.5. To develop final report

- Identifying those phenomena which have a particular significance for the main issues
- Assessing further these issues, taking into account their perceived importance at the moment or in the future
- Underscoring main differences in appreciating these issues, noticeable between countries
- Revealing links between the issues – as far as possible

3.6. Discussion

Axel repeated that WP5 emphasised the impact of globalisation versus regional differences whereas WP6 detected regional differences with respect to the main Alpine issues: Both results are an important input for the selection of indicators and data in the subsequent WPs.

Konstanze asked how to deal with the additionally introduced level “detailed issues” but *Vincent* attested that it is just a means of grouping and structuring the WP6 results. It does not have to be used in the following work packages.

Vincent stated that it is difficult to analyse the future problems of the Alpine Space as WP6 was not a prospective study. However *Axel* reminded that Delphi is a qualitative method and that there is a lot of leeway to analyse the answers.

Vincent invited the partners to give further critical comments on the final report.

The final WP6 report has to be prepared until middle of May (deadline of 3. progress report) but corrections (e.g. adaptation after quality control check) can be made even after this date if necessary.

4. Report on WP12 contacts of each partner

4.1. AMGI: Personal meeting with SOIA contact point (Mimi Urbanc and Peter Gulič); Mimi presented DIAMONT and they discussed about the availability of data which is quite a critical point; Slovenia just established a working group on data availability; Peter Gulič was not very positive with respect to a possible input of DIAMONT to SOIA → DIAMONT is an interesting scientific project but it will not support the SOIA process significantly.

4.2. EURAC: Italian contact with Paolo Angelini (SOIA contact point); he also was one of the Italian WP6 experts → he is informed about the project; he also wrote an article for our newsletter (February 2006) and expressed a positive attitude towards DIAMONT.

4.3. CEMAGREF: Contact with Armelle Giry (French Ministry for Environment in Paris); at the moment SOIA is not one of the top priorities of the Ministry but there is an expectation to develop SOIA more as an issue oriented than as a data driven information system.

4.4. GERMANY (Ifuplan): So far there have been no formal meetings in Germany with Silvia Reppe (National Focal Point); but Erich Weihs (SOIA contact person) is involved in DIAMONT (databank) and in the “Report on the State of the Alps” → good contact between German DIAMONT partners and the German SOIA contact point;

4.5. Switzerland: Email-contact with Maria Senn (Federal Administration) but there was no feedback so far and no discussion about data availability.

4.6. Austria: Email contact with Bernhard Schwarzl; feedback that he is interested in the project; he receives DIAMONT newsletter and will be updated on the progress of the project; there have been personal contacts between our German partners and Bernhard Schwarzl in Vienna (meeting on the Report of the State of the Alps) and contacts between Marc Zebisch (EURAC) and Schwarzl with respect to data availability.

5. Status quo of WP 7: Schönthaler & v. Andrian-Werburg

5.1. Main activities

- Establishing a conceptual model idea to focus the selection of DIAMONT indicators
- Updating the meta database on indicator systems and starting work on indicator selection
- Starting the discussion on indicator interpretation / aggregation
- Development of a common conceptual structure for a fruitful division of labour between WP 7 and WP 8

Basic problem: Lack of a conceptual model → WP7 had to spend too much time to develop such a model, now there is only few time left for the selection of the indicators

5.2. Structure of conceptual model idea (different levels)

- Main issues
- Dimensions, introduced to guarantee that all pillars of sustainability were covered;
- Phenomena
- Indicators

The term “dimension” should not be used in different ways in WP 7 and 8 (this would be too confusing) → use of the same dimensions OR if they differ, WP7 and 8 should use different terms.

5.3. Main issues

The main issues were discussed during several meetings (e.g. Bolzano Sept. 2005, Innsbruck Oct. 2005, Munich Nov. 2005); we agreed on common main issues for WP6 and 7 in Munich. Reacting on several comments expressed by the partners in the context of the phenomena weighting, the more sector oriented interpretation of main issues has been substituted once again by a more problem oriented vision, as it has been conceived at the beginning of the whole discussion on main issues. In another meeting in Innsbruck (February 2006), it has been decided to replace the term “main issue” with the term "main trend".

Revised list of seven main trends (WP7):

1. Tourism: the Alpine experience
2. Congestion of transport system
3. Innovation and competitiveness
 - a) Modernisation of agriculture in favoured areas
 - b) Increasing importance of innovation technologies
4. Urbanisation
5. Marginalisation of rural areas
6. Shrinking glaciers
7. Increasing generation of renewable energy

5.4. Ongoing process

Fine-tuning of phenomena (maybe reformulation): clear specification of state and development phenomena → Selection of well formulated phenomena which shall be indicated

5.5. Analysis of the weighing of phenomena by the partner

Problems:

- Not all partners weighted exclusively considering the respective main issue.
- It seems that some main issues had not been focussed sufficiently.
- The formulation of some phenomena provoked misunderstanding / problems for interpretation.
- The different partners weighted on different levels, some using generally higher, other generally lower scores.

Consequences:

- The weighting results may be only an orientation for the selection of phenomena. The quantitative interpretation of scores must be realized very carefully.
- Some main issues must be focussed more.

The weighting results of the experts have been put together to identify the phenomena evaluated as the most important. The process of junction does not consider only the average of all weighting values, but more the range of different weightings. Based on this the phenomena were divided into three groups according to the estimation of the DIAMONT partners:

- Grey colour: rated as very important
- Yellow colour: controversially rated phenomena
- Not marked in any colour: rated as less important → these were not considered

Comparison between weighting of DIMAONT partners and Delphi experts:

- grey colour: high importance (combined results partner and experts)
- green colour: future importance (results from Delphi survey, 3rd round)
- yellow colour: controversially rated phenomena (DIAMONT partner rating)
- no colour: minor importance (combined results partner and experts)

(A phenomena was regarded as important if at least two of the three following criteria were fulfilled: appreciation higher than 50%; Rating average > 2,5; Highest value > 3,5).

Methodological details of the interpretation of the weighting results will be presented in the final report of WP 7.

5.6. Objectives of indicators

Indicators shall describe sustainable regional development:

- with reference to "sustainable": using a problem oriented approach based on the consideration of the three pillars of sustainability;
- with reference to "regional": proposing indicators for the municipal and local level (LAU 5), but if there are no data available also for NUTS 3, adding also indicators for background analysis on the national level (→ to be able to integrate globalisation efforts mentioned by Martin Boesch);
- with reference to "development": using different types of indicators as "status indicators", "development indicators" and "response indicator". Response indicators will be only defined in the context of WP 9.

5.7. Selection of indicators:

1. Assignment of indicators to phenomena
 - WG EOI indicators
 - Alpine wide available indicators proposed by EURAC
 - Indicators of the database on indicator systems
 - Indicators of further analyses and investigations
2. Check of data sources
 - Following proposal of WG EOI: further data investigation
 - Integration of data requested by SOIA

(Information of Ulrike who spoke to Ruggero some days ago: **if SOIA will get data from the nations and if the data is included in the database, we can be sure that DIAMONT can use it!**)

- Metadata information of DIAMONT partners

5.8. Aggregation and Interpretation of indicators

Useful if

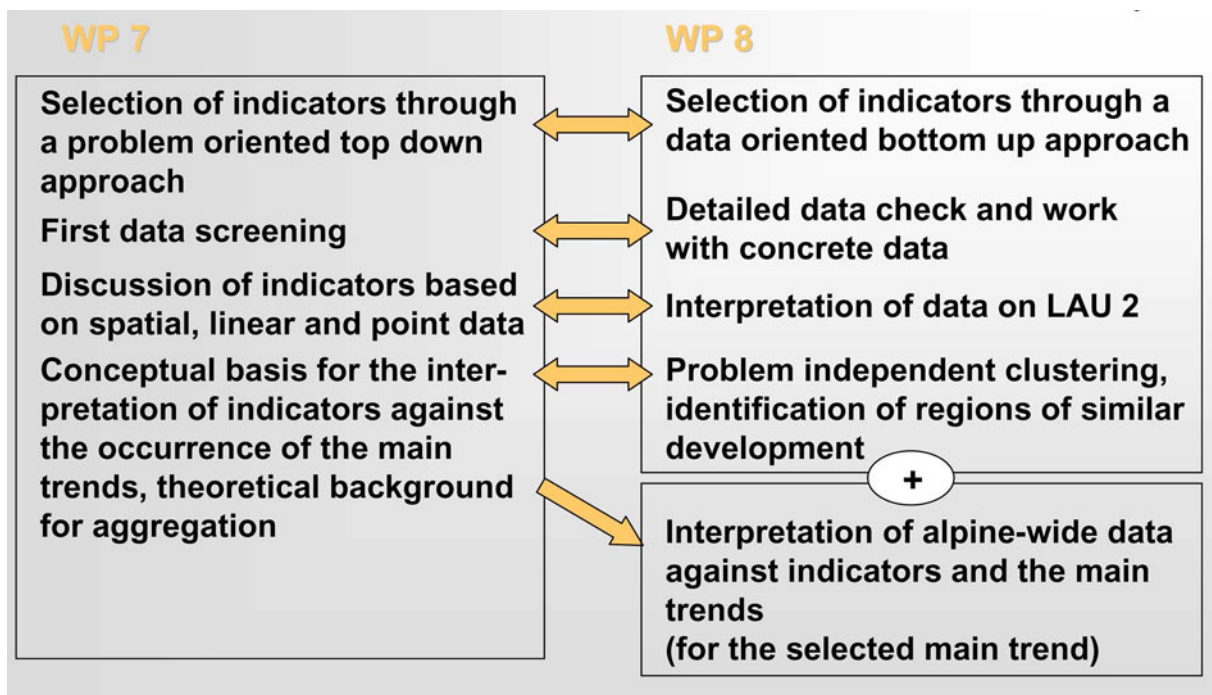
- one phenomenon can be described by several indicators
- or if we want to describe a main trend by several phenomena

Work steps

- Investigation of common aggregation / interpretation methods (scientific literature, statistics, planning methods)
- Critical reflection of aggregation methods
- Elaboration of proposals for aggregation / interpretation processes in DIAMONT
- Testing aggregation / interpretation methods in WP 8 for the selected main trend if data availability does permit it;

We hope that there will be enough data to do some tests!

5.9 Common conceptual strategy for WP 7 and 8 is regarded as important!



5.10. Open questions

- 1) In application form it is mentioned that the selection of a main trend should influence WP7 → but as WP7 is almost finished and the main trend is not yet selected, it is hard to fulfil this objective
- 2) What can we do in the test regions? It would be a great chance to test the results of WP7 in the test regions, but Konstanze fears that this may not be interesting for the mayors.

5.11. Timetable

	WP 7		WP 8
03/05	Finalising conceptual model (main trends, dimensions) Revision of the formulation of phenomena Assigning indicators Analyses and discussion of aggregation methods	Contents: Objectives of the DIAMONT indicator system Conceptual model idea and methodology of indicator selection	Analyses of possible data sources
04/05	First draft of indicators		
05/05	Draft of the report of WP 7	First set of indicators	
06/05	Further discussion of indicators and data sources	Results of screening of data availability	
07/06	Revision of the draft of report	Theoretical background of interpretation / aggregation (against main trends and phenomena)	Interpretation of alpine-wide data against indicators and the main trends
08/06	Final report of WP 7		

5.12. Discussion

Ulrike agreed that the lack of a conceptual model is a major problem. But it was commonly decided that there is no need of a conceptual model; DIAMONT opted to rely on the results of WP5 and 6. With respect to the research area we also have to consider the extra-Alpine development; but we agreed that DIAMONT will focus ONLY on the area defined by the AC and thus tries to assign as precisely as possible indicators to the AC area, even in case of change of territorial delimitation of some communities or regions.

Martin stated that for the establishment of an indicator system you have to be sure, what you want to measure → we need a clear concept of the meaning of the term “sustainable regional development”. He added that the chosen WP7 dimensions are mixed up, like “social equity” which is a goal and “population” which is an issue → Consistent dimensions are essential to structure the indicator system properly. Concerning the problem of lack of objectives mentioned by Konstanze, Martin remarks, that if we speak about a problem oriented approach (main trends) we automatically have objectives in the background. These objectives shall be made more transparent and attributed to the respective dimensions.

Ulrike confirmed that we should search only for objectives related to our chosen main trend / integrative issue. An important deliverable for SOIA is a survey of the most important key issues in the Alps and the related phenomena and indicators for their description. In reality there will be data available only for some of these indicators. She also explained that aggregation is not the main focus. The indicators should be aggregated only if there is enough time to do so.

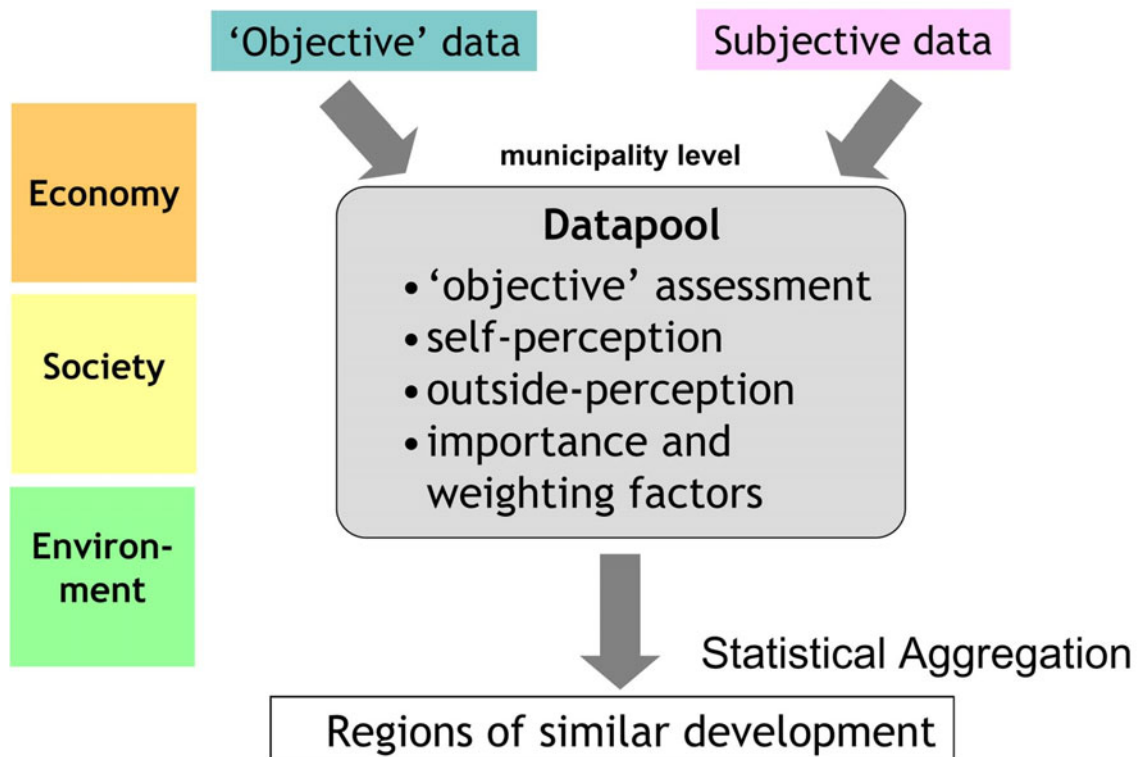
SATURDAY, MARCH 11th 2006

6. Status Quo of WP8: Ulrike Tappeiner & team

6.1. Main objective

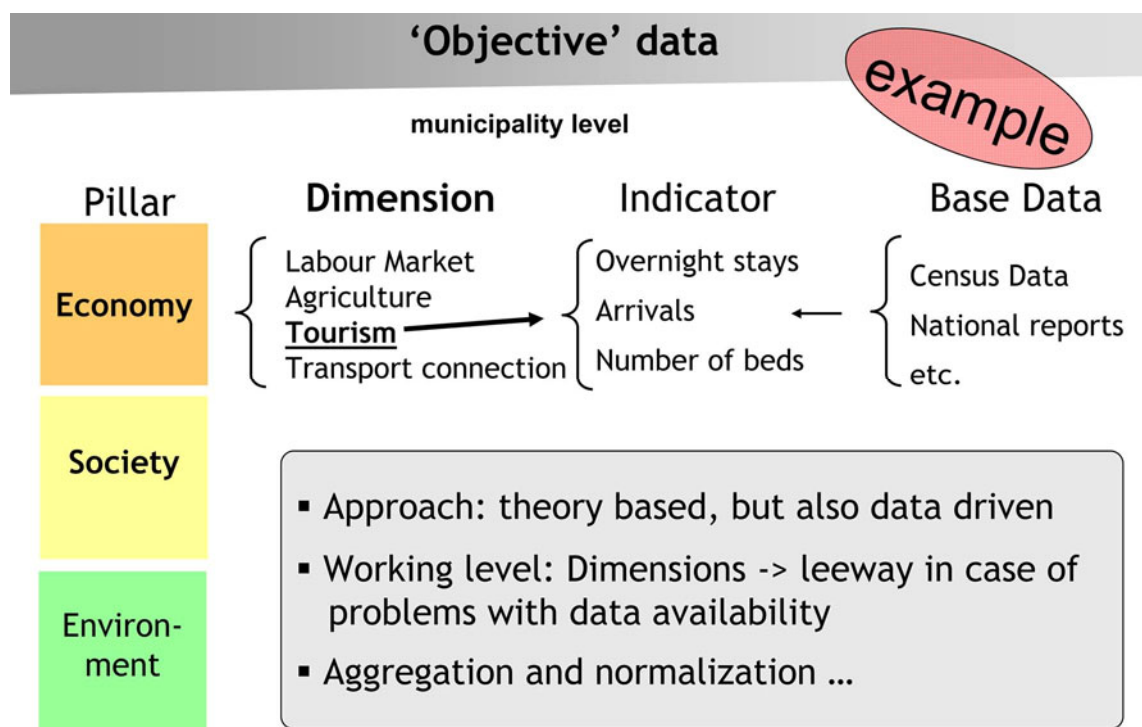
Identification of similar development regions under consideration of the relevant driving forces and landscape-factors

6.2. Methodology: Combination of objective (statistical data from census, etc.) and subjective data (survey amongst political stakeholders) on municipality level → datapool → regions of similar development in the Alps



6.3. Structure of data-pool

Three pillars of sustainability (economy, society & environment); within these pillars there are certain dimensions and for those we will find indicators, driven by the availability of data.



6.4. Data availability

There are problems with Germany (no current census data, last census in 1987) and Italy/Switzerland (many changes in administrative structure, creating of new / merging of municipalities).

6.5. Status quo of the survey

- Collection of addresses almost complete
- First consultation of French partner: how to promote survey in France
- Further consultation and cooperation with other partners necessary to promote the survey
→ partners function as national contact points for the survey

Next steps

- Development of questionnaire
- Refinement of methodology
- Pre-test in Austria and Italy
- **Survey will start in June → results are expected for end of 2006**

6.6. Requirements form the partners

Objective data:

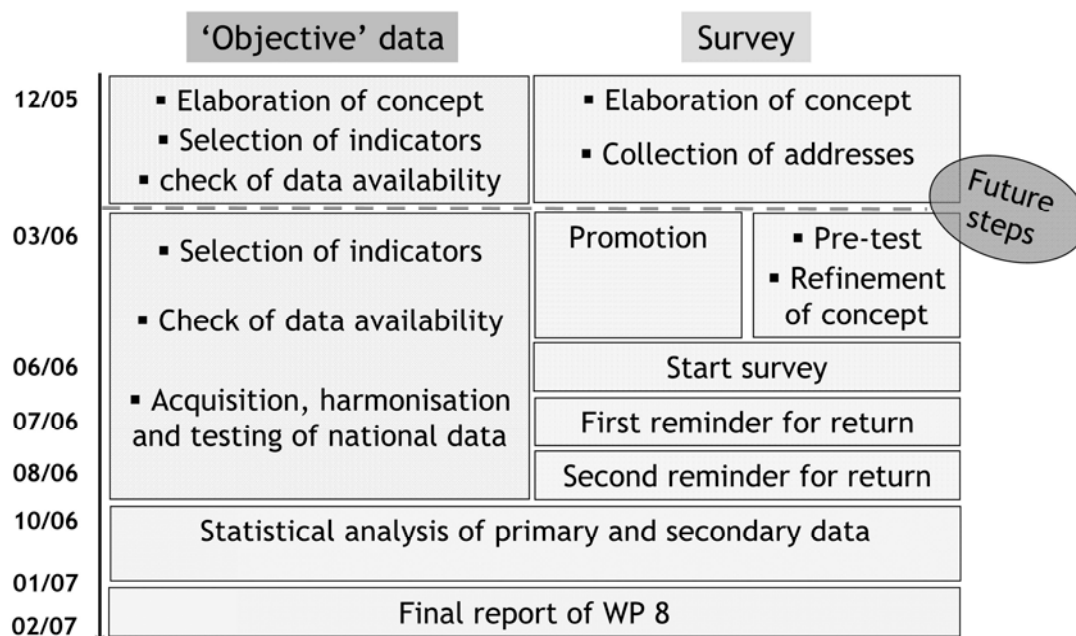
- Search for national data and check of data availability

Survey:

- Promotion: motivation of the mayors to participate
- Translation of questionnaire (France and Slovenia)
- Function as point of contact for the dispatch and return of questionnaires

→ Check of plausibility of the results of the regionalization in the respective countries

6.7. Timetable



6.8. Group work on measures how to motivate mayors

National teams reflected on how to convince mayors to participate in WP8.

6.9. Discussion

Ulrike strengthened the importance to keep the questionnaire simple and easy; answering should only last about 15 minutes; if it is too long, the mayors can not be motivated to answer.

Axel asked how to deal with Switzerland. *Marc* explained that Switzerland is not part of the Corine land cover map, but they have a similar map → Switzerland will not be a white spot; there are also census data available;

Vincent's main concern have been the 1750 Alpine municipalities in France; he does not consider it relevant to send the questionnaire to all of them, only to selected ones; possible selection criteria could be chosen with respect to the impact of the relevant dimensions or maybe with the help of mayor associations; the survey could be focused on a short list of dimensions (only on the essential ones for the selected main issue);

Ulrike answered that the dimensions are only working titles; WP8 has to deal with all pillars and should not focus on a special dimension and leave out others only because a municipality is e.g. not involved in tourism; WP8 needs an overall overview to detect the clusters of similar development! *Ulrike* expects a rate of return of 30% of the answers; the cluster analysis is not based only on the selected main issue but on a broader base;

7. Status quo of WP9: Stefan Marzelli

Officially, WP9 did not start yet, but previous work has already been done

7.1. Objectives

- Elaboration of practical pilot tools for regional development in a selected problem area
- Elaboration and discussion of tools serving to stimulate and steer sustainable development in these particular environments
- Elaboration of a method adaptable to other European mountain areas
- Provide an overview of instruments supporting regional progress
- Elaborate proposals for tools facilitating trans national regional development

7.2. Proposed work steps

- Screening of regional development instruments
- Request for sustainable development at regional level
- Analysis instruments
- Proposal, further development and new design of instruments
- Feed back from workshops and improvement of instruments

7.3. Definition

“Regional development instrument” = any instrument which is dedicated for intentional stimulation and steering of regional development;

“Measure” = individual action taken to implement specific things;

The term “tool” is often used a synonym for “instrument”

→ In future only the terms “instrument” and “measure” will be used

7.4. Types of instruments:

- (Traditional) Regional planning → hard instruments
- Economic instruments (taxes, subsidies, incentives)
- Soft instruments (development concepts, regional identity, common marketing, cooperation with local actors)
- Legal instruments (Planning and land use laws, protection of sites)

7.5. Interface with other work packages

Defining a main issue, for example:

Declining winter tourism due to global change

Finding phenomena:

- Declining occupancy of accommodations,
- decrease in number of arrivals,
- Decrease of employment possibilities
- Afforestation of ski runs, etc.

Defining the objectives:

- Finding economic substitutes for winter tourism,
- new employment possibilities,
- Elongation of summer tourism offers etc.

Identification of instruments and measures:

- Regional marketing
- Incentives for new enterprises
- several single measures in dependence on the possibilities of the test regions

7.6. Open questions:

- Can instruments be selected and evaluated without knowing what the objective of the desirable development is?
- May we face contradicting objectives (and instruments)?
- In which WP are such objectives defined?
- How to deal with not measurable instruments?
- What is the size of the region we assume to deal with?

7.7. Time schedule

04/06	➤ Information on subjective perceptions of stake holders towards dimensions + factors of influence for selection of instruments (from WP 8)
to	➤ Evaluation of promising development projects / literature
07/06	➤ Refining the typology of instruments
	➤ Development of guidelines for further investigation of instruments by partners
08/06	➤ Completion of instruments for the selected sector / main issue (input from the partners)
09/06	➤ Analysis of the compiled instruments (measurability, success criteria)
11/06	➤ Selection of suitable instruments and measures for the test regions
02/07	➤ Transfer and application of instruments and measures in the test region (WP 10)

Main issue?

7.8. Discussion

Vincent argues that the main concern is not existing instruments, but their effective implementation, since it's a matter of political will. Besides, some instruments exist already in one region but in the other not: it could be interesting to evaluate what would happen if the instrument of one region/country would be implemented in another region/country;

Stefan hoped that WP8 would reveal to which degree the mayors are interested in implementing the proposed instruments; on the other hand DIAMONT is a scientific project → we provide information and it's up to the mayors if they apply our results or not; it might be illusive to transfer one instrument from one country to another; we can show only scenarios: what would happen if a municipality applies a certain instrument.

Axel regarded WP9 as a very important work package – it is the interface to the public and the JTS to proof that we are doing applied research; but it is also strongly linked to the following WPs and has a strong relationship with the data/indicators from WP7 and 8;

Ulrike answered to one of the open questions: the objectives have to be defined by the mayors, not by DIAMONT project.

8. Coordination issues: Sigrun Lange

8.1. Second progress report

The second progress report was officially accepted by the JTS/MA. The payment arrived already and was distributed by the Leadpartner.

	currently re-reported costs	currently re-requested ERDF	eligible costs	eligible and paid ERDF
EU – Member States				
LP: UIBK (A)	64.242,01	32.121,01	64.242,01	32.121,00
PP1: EURAC (I)	6.671,90	3.303,35	6.671,90	3.303,35
PP2: AMGI (Slo)	12.965,17	9.723,88	12.965,17	9.723,87
PP3: Bosch & Partner (D)	13.465,77	6.732,89	13.465,77	6.732,88
PP4: CEMAGREF (F)	32.303,33	16.112,19	32.303,33	16.112,19
PP5: ifuplan (D)	35.862,05	17.931,03	35.862,05	17.931,02
PP6: UNCEM (I)	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
Non – Member States				
NM-P1: FWR-HSG (CH)	14.989,50			
TOTAL	180.499,73	85.924,34	165.510,23	85.924,31

8.2. Third progress report

Accounting period: Sept. 2005 – End of February 2006

Due-date of 3rd progress report: May 19th 2006

- Submission of partner activity reports to LP: **April 17th**
- Submission of financial reports (certifications): **April 28th**

Deliverables (three forms of reports mentioned in AF for each work package):

Decision: We will have only one final report and an executive summary (→ SOIA report)

8.3. I&P Measures

- Agreement with Thomas Fleury that the **web site will remain in English** only, but the project **folders** as well as the **newsletter** have to be translated in **five languages as FORESEEN IN THE APPLICATION FORM**;
- Translation of Italian newsletters shall be substituted with DIAMONT articles in a new UNCEM publication;

- Newsletter May 2006:
 - * contribution Silvia Reppe about progress on “Report on the state of the Alps” → Stefan
 - * contribution president UNCEM → Tommaso
- Planned articles: article in Revue Geographique Alpine in June 2006 (Vincent)
- Idea of starting an own publication series on the results of DIAMONT (Axel/Ulrike)

8.4. Corporate Identity

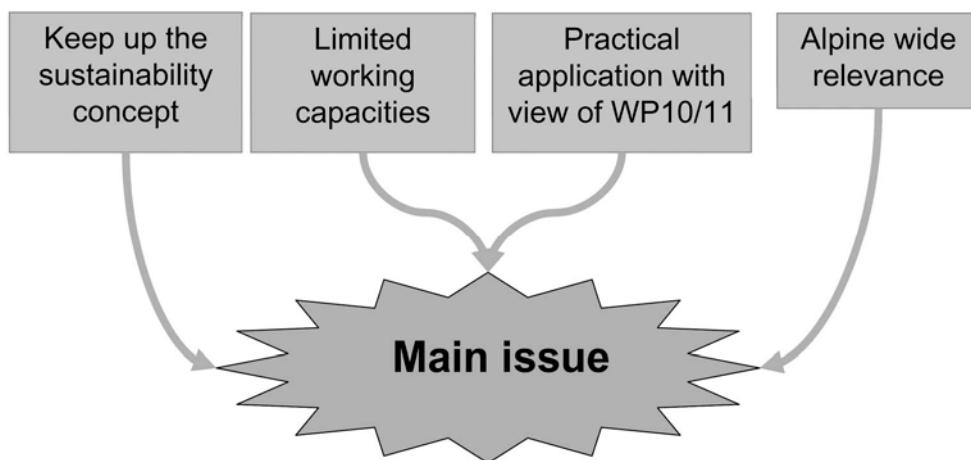
Each partner shall answer two questions **until Monday 27th of March** (maximum 1 page):

- What is the main purpose of DIAMONT
- Who benefits?

9. Selection of specific sector or main issue

9.1. Why do we need a main issue

Definition: Main issue = integral description of an Alpine wide development problem



9.2. Suitable criteria for the selection

- Good relevance for all partner-countries
- Indicators and data available
- Development objectives can be defined clearly
- Instruments for a regional scale exist and/or can be developed
- Implementation in the test regions is practicable and desirable
- Benefits for the test regions are noticeable (for a better acceptance in the test regions)
- Scientific competence of partners is met
- Extra value (originality, new...)
- Problem level in all countries similar
- Main issue should imply working with an integrative view concerning the three pillars of sustainability (Ulrike)

9.3. Suggested and discussed main issues:

- (Development and conservation of winter tourism regions)
- (Adaptation or regional development around large protected areas)
- (Modal split improvement in Alpine rural areas)
- Concentration of the urbanisation process
- (Aging of population)
- Supply of services in peripheral areas
- Fear of losing substance growth
- Mono-structured versus poly-structured economies
- Energy, technology

9.4. Selection of an integrative issue/main trend for DIAMONT

Basic idea: Combination of “marginalisation of rural areas” and “urbanisation processes”
→ “Urban centres and fringes between competence and co-operation - Steering towards sustainability”

→ **Decision on this main trend without any rejection**

→ **Axel will provide a description of the main trend until the first week of April**

10. Postponement of midterm meeting in Bolzano

Ulrike proposed to postpone the midterm meeting in Bolzano (planned for Sept. 2006) as the results of the mayor survey will not yet be available in September.

→ **We skip Bolzano meeting and extend the Grenoble meeting from two to three days: Thursday 25th of January 2007 (2 p.m.) till Sunday 28th of January 2007**

→ **Sigrun will communicate this to Thomas Fleury**

BUT: Friday 21st of September shall be reserved by all partners (in case there is an urgent reason to meet)