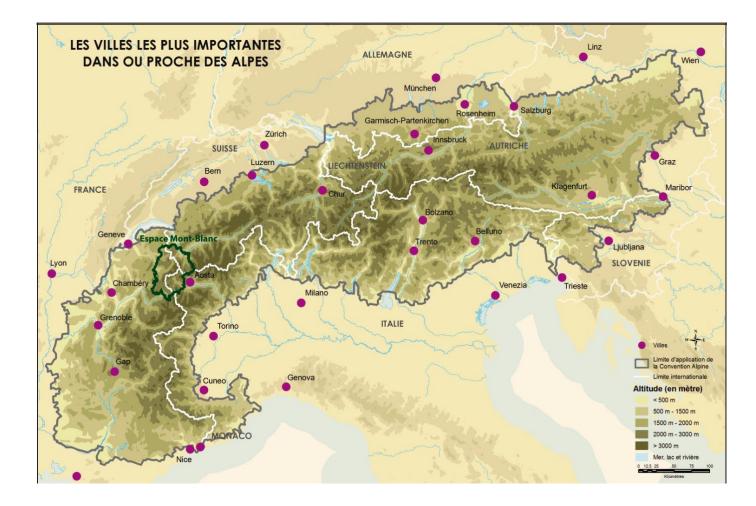
Governance of tri-national Mont-Blanc area





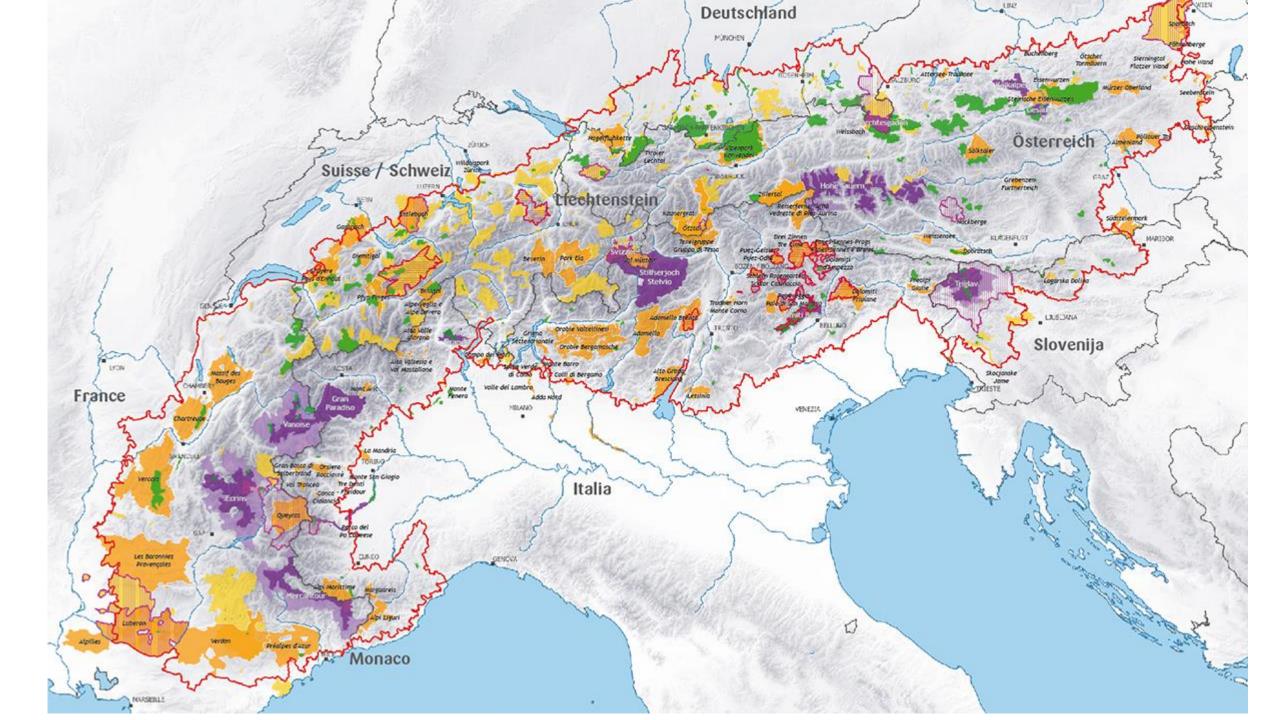
Wilderness and Mass tourism

- in heavily populated Europe near central airline hub Geneva

-Cradle of alpinism/mountaineering and of mountain research since 18th century

-Lonely adventure in altitude and3rd most visited site of the globe





Diversity and Unity

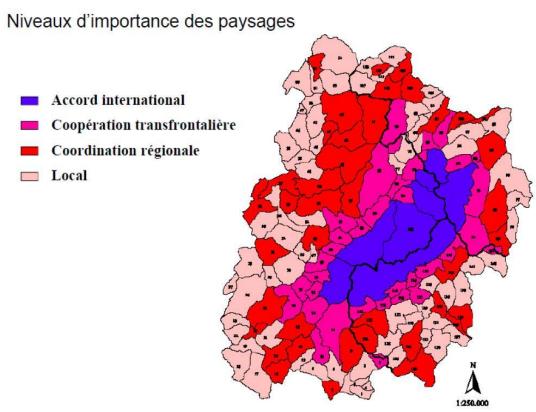
Stretching vertically over 4300 m Mont-Blanc offers <u>high diversity</u> of Habitats, Geo-Morphology, Glaciers and landscapes

climate change: Threat and Chance Espace Mont-Blanc:

3 Border regions – **same** culture + language, same opposition to World Heritage site, to international protection and to transborder management



Programmes financed by EU/INTERREG - Implementation 0 or minimal



- Milieux Sensibles 90s-2000
- Schéma de Développement
 Durable 2000-2005
- PIT Plan de Gestion Transfrontalier 2005- 2013
- Stratégie du Mont-Blanc since 2013

INTERREG -Funds ca. 40 Mio €



Long-term Vision

vs. Local politics

Our umbrella NGO Pro MONT – BLANC: 20 years volunteer advocacy for transborder conservation of massif and a more sustainable development in valleys But **no** financial and political POWER

Within tri-national governance body

of **local** mayors and administrators

3 **States** proposed International Park, But do not dare to convince mayors

EU - funding without monitoring



Bottom-up, top-down or joint governance ?

My own conflict:

While in Latin America, Africa and Asia I tried to convince "hard-line" environmentalists to **include** local communities in conservation,

To respect prior informed consent from Indigenous People

But now – involved in local/regional politics -

I rather call for stronger participation of **State** representatives, of **international experts**, for **monitoring** of implementaion from funders

At least, for the conservation of **globally unique, but vulnerable nature**

