

Youth at the Top 2022

8th Edition - July 12th 2022

PROJECT SHEET

I. The Event

An excursion in the mountains for young people in every Alpine country and in the Carpathians on the common date of **July 12th 2022**. Please be aware that the terms of the 2022 edition might depend of the evolution of the covid-crisis.

Youth at the Top has a highly symbolic dimension: hundreds of young people can experience and live the mountains on the same day.

Youth at the Top 2022 includes:

- A hike with an **overnight stay** in the mountains with groups of young people
- Educational activities to let the younger generation discover and experience the Alpine and Carpathian natural and cultural heritage
- Educational activities on the **common theme: “Water in all its forms”**
- Common communication tools shared with all the partner organisations

II. Aims

- To strengthen the relationship of the younger generation with nature and the mountain environment
- To raise young people’s awareness on nature protection and conservation
- To reinforce young people’s feeling of belonging to one common area, the Alps, as well as their feeling of being part of the European area
- To reinforce the notion of solidarity and share a moment in a group with the young participants
- To mobilise Alpine stakeholders around a unique and unifying project
- To make visible the educational initiatives of the Alpine protected areas and of all the organisations taking part in the event

III. Target Group

- Formal or non-formal groups of young people aged **from 6 to 25 years old**.
- Groups of young people living in the Alpine valleys or with fewer social/economic opportunities are highly encouraged to get involved.

IV. Activities

A common general framework is given. However, the development of Youth at the Top at local level is flexible; it depends on the needs and the aims of each group of young people and the educational approach of the adult responsible for the event. Especially in the context of the Corona crisis, the organisers are highly encouraged to plan their event according to national regulations.

During the day

- Going outside for a walk or a trek to reach a summit, a mountain hut or a refuge;
- Enhancing the ascent with games or nature-spotting activities;
- To raise awareness of the importance of water in the mountain environment, through activities on the common theme of "**Water in all its forms**" (all the organisations registered will be provided with a collection of activities on the topic – **Appendix 3**);
- Sensitizing and disseminating knowledge about the common cultural and natural heritage of the Alps via the pedagogical tool "The Alps in my Backpack" (**Appendix 2**)

During the night time

- Experiencing **the mountains** and nature with the group of young people by
 - gazing at the stars;
 - observing the mountains at twilight or dawn;
 - going on walk at night;
 - making a fire (if allowed in the protected area) and sharing tales around the fire;

V. Communication

Each organisation that is registered as a partner for Youth at the Top 2022 has at its disposal.

Common communication tools

- A common graphic identity: the Youth at the Top logo (available for download [here](#))
- An [official website](#) in 5 languages including:
 - an event session in which is presented briefly each local event/ per country
 - an interactive map of the Alps and Carpathians on which each local event is visible
- A common customized poster
- A [Facebook page](#) administered by ALPARC

All the partners are invited to make use of these tools to communicate with the young participants.

Shared communication material

Each organisation registered officially as a partner of the event commits itself to:

- communicating locally about its action via press release, articles or social networks
- sharing/informing the material with ALPARC to allow for keeping track of an international press review
- sharing some communicational material with ALPARC according to the details described in the **Appendix Sheet 1**
- taking part in the online survey after the event. This feedback will help us improve the event for the next edition.



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VI. Coordination

ALPARC is responsible for the general management and international communication of the project. In particular, ALPARC collects the registration form, shares and updates the common communication tools and is responsible for the regular update of the website and social networks.



Edition 2021 : Naturpark Nagelfluhkette (DE) © Theresa Hilber
Réserve Naturelle de Passy (FR) © Lucie Rousselot / © Nationalpark Gesäuse (AU)

VII. Registration & Financial Support

The Youth to the Top initiative is open to any organisation in the Alps or Carpathians that promotes the values detailed above. In order to benefit from the joint coordination of the project, each organiser of a local event is asked to **register on the official website** (<https://youth-at-the-top.org/en/>), before **15 April 2022**.

ALPARC members can benefit from financial support for the organisation of their local events. They must apply for this when they register.

FOR ALPARC MEMBERS

The 2022 edition will receive less external funding than previous editions. In order to ensure the continuity of the project, it will therefore be financed exceptionally from ALPARC's own funds. In this context, the financial support granted for the organisation of local events has had to be reduced compared to previous years.

An envelope of **5000€** will be divided **equally** between ALPARC members who request it. The maximum amount granted to each event will therefore depend on the number of requests for co-financing received by ALPARC at the time of registration and will be communicated by **6 May 2022** at the latest. Members who do not need financial support are invited to refrain from applying, in order to **leave funds available for smaller structures**.

In return, members requesting co-financing commit themselves to

- To make the participation free of charge for the young participants (as far as possible)
- To provide proof of expenses incurred after the event (invoices), for an amount at least equal to that granted

For information, in 2021, 15 ALPARC members received financial support to organise their events.



Youth at the Top 2021 - Naturparks in Südtirol
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Contact

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