

Plenary Session 2: **Transformation Processes**

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Concept:

The Alps are experiencing an accelerated rate of social, economic and climate processes, which are transforming landscapes. Although change is a natural state of the landscape, the speed at which this is happening makes it difficult to monitor, evaluate and react to these changes. The Plenary Session 2 "Transformation processes" will be focused on current and future changes in mountain landscapes. It is to highlight the transforming driving forces and processes, and to try to identify the most notable changes in the traditional alpine landscape landscapes («cultural» aspects, traditional patterns, scenery) that we are probably going to face in the next decades. The Plenary Session is asking:

1. Which are the most important driving forces of land use and landscape change in mountain regions and in the Alps?
2. In which way current and future transformation processes are going to change mountain landscapes? Do some of these changes especially need attention, because they mean threats for people and environment? What are potential threats and benefits to people and selected species?
3. How far policy measures (e.g. agricultural, transport or energy) are adequate to guide or ameliorate the effects of these transformation processes on landscape?