



Preserving our mountains and its environments



**KILIAN
JORNET**
FOUNDATION

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A letter from

Kilian Jornet



“For next year I can just wish for more collaboration between all of us, private, public and non profits, with all the individuals and the ones who care for our mountains.”

This past year 2025 has shown again the challenges we are facing fighting climate change and environmental problems around the world. The year closes with more uncertainty than directions after the COP, but also with some green spurs and mostly seeing more and more people taking action at all levels with strong determination.

I'm very proud of what the people involved with the KJF has accomplished this year. We have been present in many different locations around the world, learning from their local issues, educating kids and adults, getting our hands on the ground to restore. It's a drop in the ocean, but thanks to all of you this drop is growing quickly and encouraging many more to join our efforts.

During the year we have been working on creating more content to educate on the issues and the solutions and reached

thousands of kids in schools, runners in educational runs and in conferences in many countries. We have been restoring trails in 6 different countries and learned from scientists about the state of the glaciers and ecosystems in the pyrenees.

For next year I can just wish for more collaboration between all of us, private, public and non profits, with all the individuals and the ones who care for our mountains, because it's working hand by hand when we can reach further.

Thanks for being part of our path,



Introduction



01

Our Goals

We exist to protect mountain ecosystems and its environments through science, education and direct actions, so that future generations can keep living, exploring and thriving in these places.

We want to turn outdoor passion into real change. Supporting research on climate impacts in the mountains, empowering communities and athletes with knowledge, and restoring damaged landscapes.

About this portfolio

This portfolio is an invitation to collaborate.

It shows who we are, what we do and how communities, companies and organisations can join us to co-create projects with real impact in mountain environments.

You'll find our core pillars, key projects and results, as well as clear ways to work together.



Our 2025 progress by the numbers



Research

3

Active research programs on glaciers, microalgae and permafrost.

3

Years of monitoring of Pyrenean permafrost.

Education

+175

Schools involved in KJF education projects.

+6.850

Students participating in the development and use of our educational materials.

Direct Actions

12

Trail restorations completed.

+170

Volunteers taking part on-the-ground restoration work.

Our work



03



Research

We support active research programs on glaciers, microalgae, permafrost, and ecosystem conservation.

This knowledge shows us what is changing, how fast it is happening and which actions are most effective to protect these fragile ecosystems.

Education

We create tools and experiences for schools, young athletes and outdoor communities to understand their impact on the mountains.

By turning science into clear, accessible stories, we help people change everyday behaviours and build a culture that truly cares for mountain environments.

Direct Actions

We carry out concrete interventions wherever mountain landscapes are under pressure.

Restoring trails, improving how natural areas are used and collaborating with local actors allows us to reduce erosion, protect biodiversity and make outdoor sport more responsible.

Research



04

Permapyrenees

Preserving our mountains and its environments.

The Pyrenees are the mountain range where the cryosphere has a greater presence and impact on environmental processes.

The Pyrenees are one of the mountain ranges in southern Europe where snow, glaciers and permafrost have the strongest influence on water, landscapes and ecosystems. While glacier retreat and reduced snow cover are already clearly visible, what happens in the frozen ground beneath our feet remains much less understood, even though permafrost degradation can trigger landslides, rockfalls and other risks on popular routes and infrastructures.

Permapyrenees (EFA 063/01) is a three-year Interreg POCTEFA project (2024–2027), co-financed by the European Union, dedicated to studying permafrost in the Pyrenees in detail. The project uses innovative monitoring techniques and deep drillings to detect where permafrost is present, how it is changing with warming and which areas are most exposed to future instability. This work will generate new climate indicators and risk maps that are highly



relevant for climate adaptation in mountain regions.

The results are being shared with local and regional authorities, land managers and the wider public, so that decisions about trails, huts, infrastructure and safety can incorporate this new knowledge. By the end of the project, the aim is to have a clearer, science-based picture of how permafrost is evolving in the Pyrenees and to use it to prevent accidents, plan more resilient mountain activities and protect these landscapes in a changing climate.

Support this project



Interreg
POCTEFA



Cofinanciado por
la UNIÓN EUROPEA
Cofinancé par
l'UNION EUROPÉENNE

PRESAPTER

PRESAPTER studies mountain communities to tailor health and activity recommendations.

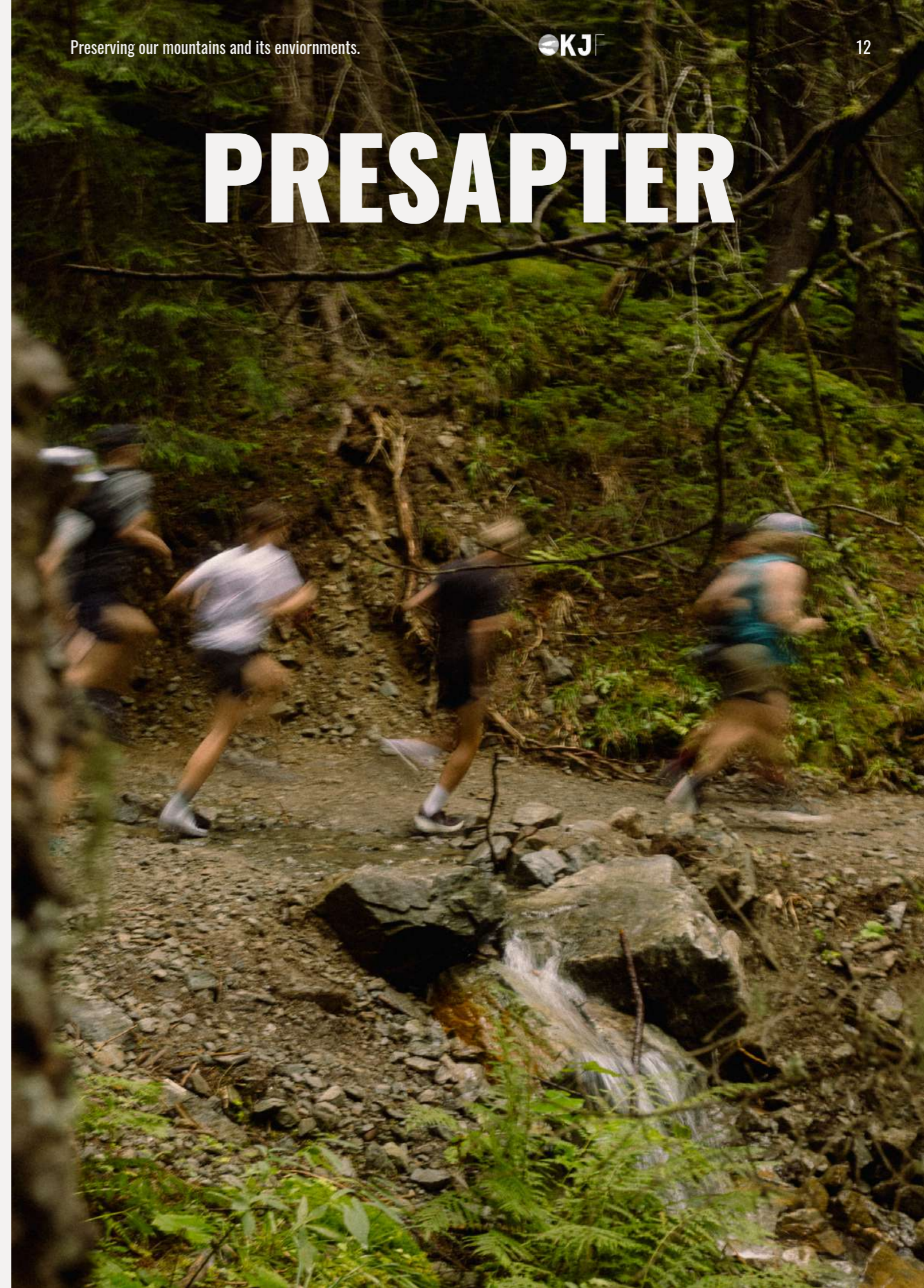
Health and physical activity are strongly shaped by where people live, and this is especially true in mountain regions. In the Pyrenees, we still have limited data on how people actually move in their daily environment, how factors like altitude and climate affect them, and what different communities need to stay active in a safe and healthy way.

PRESAPTER was created to study this link between territory, physical activity and health across the Pyrenees and to move towards more personalised recommendations. The project collects and analyses information from residents and athletes in several valleys to understand where, how and under which conditions they exercise, then uses this knowledge to design activity guidelines that are adapted to each local reality.

The goal is to give health professionals, sports

organisations and public authorities better tools to prescribe physical activity with the mountains as an ally for prevention. As the project advances, its insights are expected to inspire new programmes and policies that connect sport, healthcare and land management, making active lives in the Pyrenees healthier, safer and more accessible.

Support this project



World Glacier Monitoring Service (WGMS)

Tracking melting ice to protect the world's freshwater.

Glaciers are one of the most visible signs of climate change and store between 60 and 80% of the planet's freshwater. Their rapid retreat threatens water availability, ecosystems and communities downstream, but we still need high-quality, long-term data to understand how fast they are melting and what this means for the future.

We partner with the World Glacier Monitoring Service (WGMS) at the University of Zurich, a program that has been collecting standardized observations of glacier changes for more than 125 years. Through this collaboration, we help fund tools and initiatives that improve glacier monitoring worldwide. Measuring devices and

field equipment for researchers and educational programs brings glacier science into schools.

We aim to support the purchase of 20 autonomous "smart-stake" measurement stations that can monitor glacier surface melt at a temporal scale never reached before and send data in real time.

Each unit costs 10,000 €, and every new station installed brings us closer to understanding and ultimately mitigating the impacts of global warming on the world's ice reserves.

[Support this project](#)



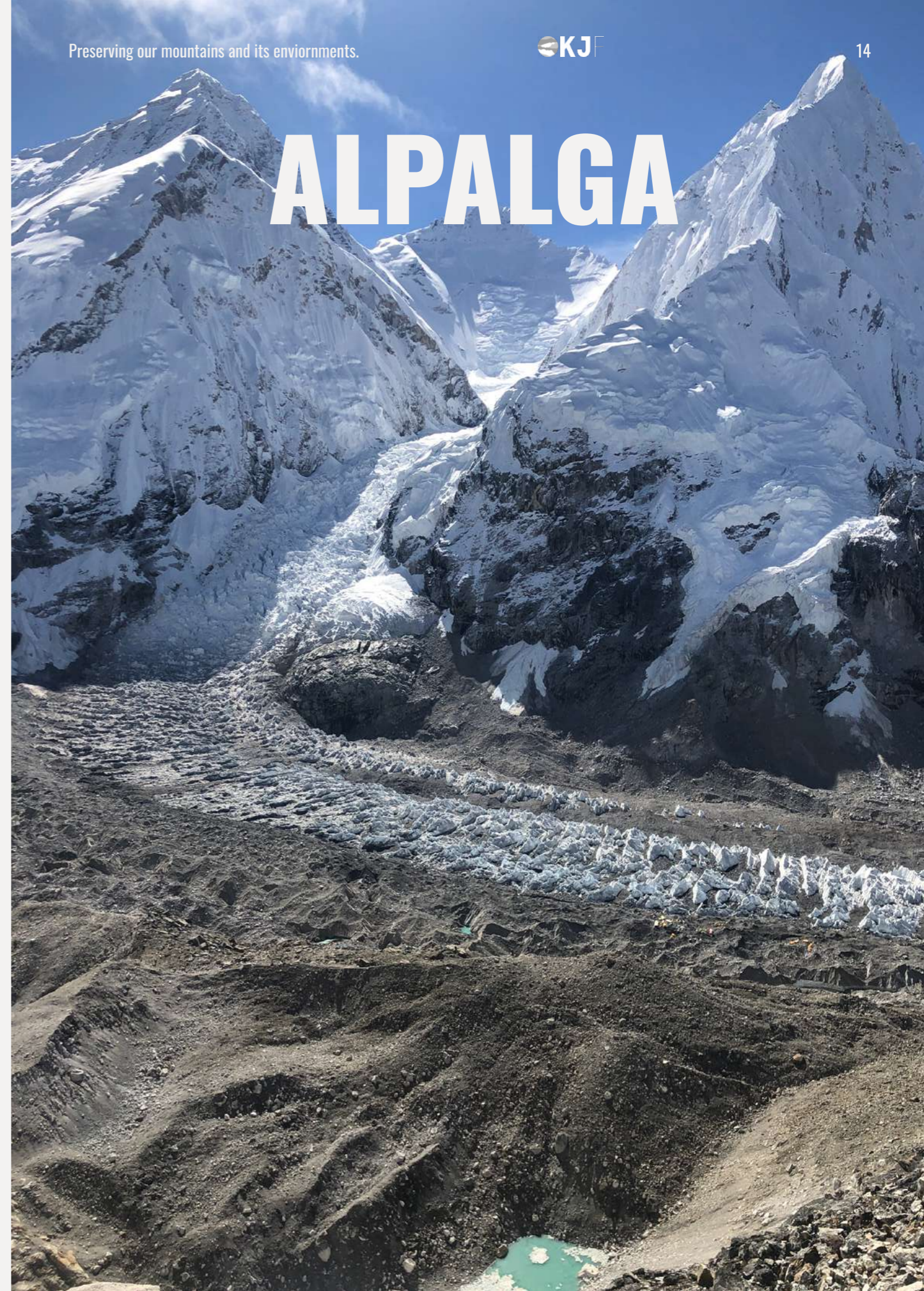
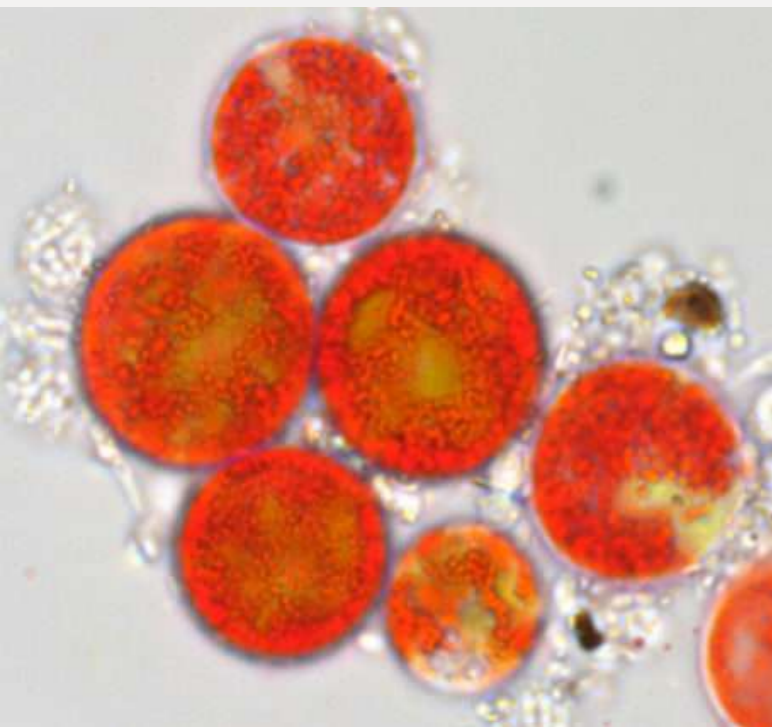
The invisible organisms, which are at the heart of environmental changes.

Climate change is transforming mountain landscapes in ways we can see and in ways we cannot. Among the invisible changes, the communities of microalgae that live on soil, snow and ice are especially important: they capture CO₂, open the door for other life forms and help shape how these ecosystems function, but their biodiversity and behaviour are still largely unknown.

With ALPALGA, we support research focused on these microscopic organisms in high-mountain environments. The project studies which species are present, how they respond to rising temperatures and changing conditions, and how their activity may accelerate or slow processes like glacier and snowmelt. To move this science forward, we have helped fund the genetic sequencing of two microalgae species that had never been studied before, opening a new window into this hidden biodiversity.

The next step is to expand this work to more species and more sites, so researchers can build a clearer picture of how mountain microalgae are changing and what this means for water resources, ecosystems and climate feedbacks. This knowledge will be essential to design future conservation strategies that also take into account what is happening at the microscopic scale.

[Support this project](#)



Education



05

Alpine Connections

Alpine Connections links Kilian's human-powered Alpine traverse with science to show how climate change is transforming the Alps and how we can protect them.

The Alps are changing fast, glaciers are shrinking, permafrost is degrading and many species are losing the cold habitats they depend on. Alpine Connections was created to make these changes visible by combining a human-powered traverse of the Alps' 4,000 m peaks with science and storytelling, showing what climate change looks like on the ground.

Following Kilian's 2024 traverse, the project brought together researchers and mountain experts to study four key themes along the route: human impact, glaciers, permafrost and biodiversity. Their findings were turned into a communication campaign and an

interactive map that traces Kilian's journey while highlighting fragile areas, scientific data and local conservation efforts.

The project invites outdoor enthusiasts, brands and institutions to use this map and story as a tool for awareness and action. By linking endurance, science and concrete examples of good practice, Alpine Connections points towards a way of experiencing the Alps that respects natural limits and supports long-term conservation.

[Support this project](#)





A human-powered journey linking the highest peaks of the US West to explore both physical limits and our relationship with wild landscapes.

In fall 2025, Kilian crossed the western United States linking 14,000-foot peaks only by foot and bike, turning a demanding human-powered expedition into a moving classroom about mountains, public lands and climate. Supported by NNormal and in collaboration with more than 25 local organisations and storytellers, the project set out to build an environmental movement across states and continents, listening to communities, amplifying local voices and connecting global lessons with local realities.

Framed around three ideas. Restoration,

Resilience and Reconnection.

States of Elevation combined conversation, trail work and advocacy. Along the route, more than 700 people joined five Running Minds events and two trail work days, and 79 signed cards were delivered to lawmakers to call for stronger protection of public lands. The journey showed that endurance, storytelling and community action can work together to inspire people to care for the places they move through and to rethink their relationship with the natural world.

[Support this project](#)



States of Elevation

“I’m not just trying to reach summits; I’m trying to draw the most meaningful lines that connect them, using only my own energy to move through these mountains.”

Running Minds



Running Minds uses community runs to connect sport, science and environmental action.

Running Minds turns a simple run into a space for learning, reflection and action. Through guided runs in cities and mountain areas, people move together while talking with scientists, local experts and organisers about climate change, biodiversity, land use and the pressures on the places where they train and race. The project started as an experiment and has grown into a global community: in the last year, over 1,100 participants joined 33 actions in 7 countries, from Barcelona, Chamonix, Zegama, Colorado and China, multiplying its reach and diversity.

Each session is designed to be accessible and informal. No podiums, no slides, just

conversations on the move that connect personal experience with scientific insight and local initiatives. By combining physical effort with ideas and stories, Running Minds helps runners understand how their sport interacts with the environment and how small decisions can add up. The long-term aim is to weave a network of runners, clubs, brands and researchers who see outdoor sport not just as a way to enjoy nature, but as a way to protect it.

[Support this project](#)





Athlete Climate Academy helps athletes understand climate science and turn that knowledge into more sustainable ways of training, competing and influencing their sport.

Athlete Climate Academy is a learning space where sport and science meet. Through a podcast hosted by Kilian Jornet and Huw James, video interviews, live webinars and in-person events, the project helps athletes understand what climate change means globally and locally, how it affects ecosystems and what they can do to reduce their footprint. The content is designed with high-level athletes in mind but remains accessible to anyone who wants to align their passion for sport with a more sustainable way of living and competing.

By turning complex science into practical

conversations, Athlete Climate Academy aims to build a sports community that knows the environment it depends on and feels responsible for it. Episodes and sessions explore topics such as emissions from travel, gear and events, as well as solutions and examples of positive change in the outdoor world. The long-term goal is simple: give athletes the knowledge and tools they need so that their influence and choices can help drive the transition to a more environmentally friendly sport.

Support this project



Athlete Climate Academy



ATHLETE CLIMATE ACADEMY

WITH KILIAN JORNET FOUNDATION AND ANTURUS EDUCATION

FOR SCHOOLS

European Week of Winter Sports



Preserving our mountains and its environments.



European Week of Winter Sports promotes fun, accessible winter activities while helping events and communities make snow sports more sustainable.

The European Week of Winter Sports brings together the joy of snow with a clear focus on sustainability. Co-funded by the European Union, it connects sports organisations, universities and local authorities to raise awareness about the environmental impact of winter sports and to promote more responsible ways of enjoying mountain and snow environments. Through research, education and collaboration, the project looks at how winter sports affect climate, biodiversity and resource use, and turns this knowledge into practical tools and solutions for events and communities.

In 2025, together with eight consortium partners, we launched the first pilot edition across more than 10 countries, with 36 events and 2,147 participants of all ages taking part. In 2026, the European Week of Winter Sports grew into an eight-day programme with 310 events, bringing together 10,000 participants across 16 countries. Associations and municipalities

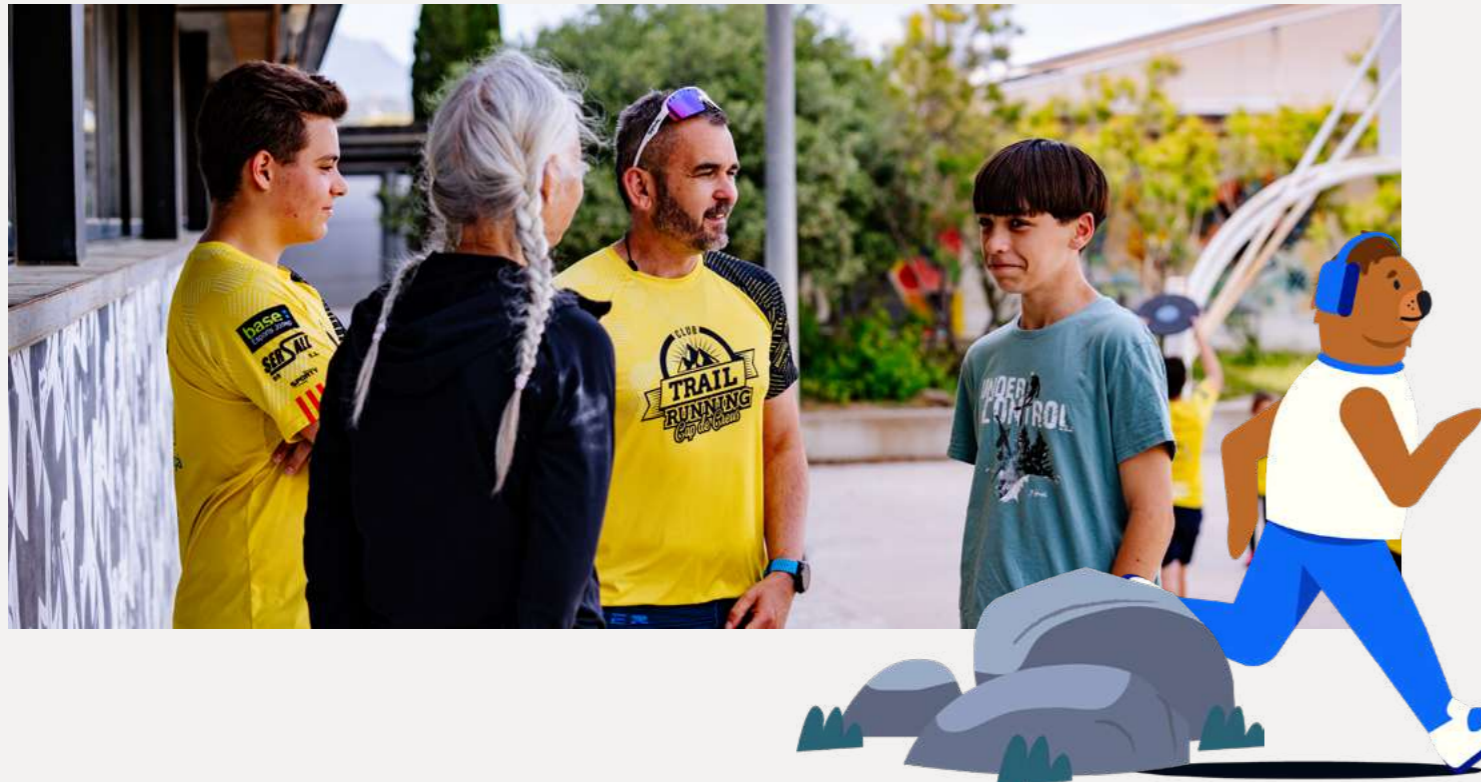
received support in organising more sustainable activities, from toolkits and video tutorials to workshops and an interactive platform that shares best practices and innovative ideas, and more than ten sustainable practices were tested and implemented on the ground. The European Week of Winter Sports is steadily becoming a reference point for making winter sport both accessible and climate-conscious.

Support this project



**EUROPEAN WEEK
OF WINTER SPORT**





Kids Athletes works with trail running schools to teach children how to enjoy the mountains while reducing their environmental impact.

Kids Athletes brings environmental education into trail running schools so that the next generation of runners grows up understanding how their sport affects the mountains they love. The project combines a three-minute video for children aged 8 to 16, focused on simple actions that reduce the impact of trail running, with a practical guide for coaches that includes activities and discussion prompts before and after watching it. Together, these tools help young athletes see the link between their everyday habits and the health of mountain ecosystems, and give trainers an easy way to open conversations about care and responsibility on the trails.

In 2025, Kids Athletes reached 21 trail running schools and clubs in five countries. Spain,

France, Italy, Sweden and Indonesia. Connecting around 340 children with these materials. Sessions in clubs and schools used running and outdoor play as an entry point to talk about waste, erosion, wildlife and respect for local environments, turning training time into a space for both physical and environmental learning. The long-term ambition is to grow a network of trail running schools that share best practices and make low-impact behaviour part of how young runners are taught from the very beginning.

[Support this project](#)



Kids Athletes



Direct Actions



005

Restore the Trails



Restore the Trails brings people together to repair, maintain, and keep mountain trails accessible for all, while placing ecosystems at the heart of their efforts.

Restore the Trails is our most hands-on project, focused on repairing damaged mountain paths and degraded natural areas so that people and ecosystems can share the same space with less impact. Through trail work days, restoration camps and collaborations with local organisations, we fix eroded sections, remove abandoned infrastructure and improve signage to keep walkers and runners on the most sustainable lines, protecting soils, water and wildlife.

In the last year, more than 170 people joined 12 trail work days across six countries—Spain,



France, Sweden, Japan, China and the USA—showing how care for the mountains can travel far beyond one region. We also hosted our first trail restoration camp in Sweden and a camp with Transpirenaica Social Solidaria and Wikiloc, working with young people at risk of social exclusion to show that restoring nature can also be a way of restoring ourselves and our connection with others.

Support this project





Green Trail Concept helps trail running races measure, improve and certify their sustainability and social responsibility.

Green Trail Concept works with trail running organisers to turn races into more sustainable, inclusive and responsible events. As an Erasmus+ project co-funded by the European Union, it is developing a practical certification scheme that helps races plan, measure and improve their environmental, social and economic performance, from how they treat the landscape to how they engage communities, volunteers and participants. Over three years, a consortium of partners has been testing indicators at emblematic events like Zegama and building a web-based tool that organisers will be able to use from 2026 to register their races, analyse their practices and receive guidance on how to reduce their impact and increase their positive contribution.

By combining technical criteria, stories and participation strategies, the project aims to make sustainability a central, visible part of how trail running races are designed, experienced and evaluated, and to reward those who truly integrate care for nature, inclusion and local economies into their events.

Support this project [↗](#)



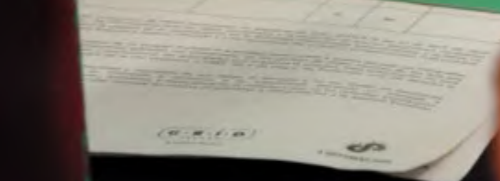
Green Trail Concept

REGÍSTRATE

RELLENA EL FORMULARIO



¡Visita www.greentrailconcept.com!



Preservation and management of Tossa Plana de Lles–Puigpedrós and Tossals d'Isòvol–Olopte

Adaptive management to keep two iconic Pyrenean mountain areas wild while balancing farming, tourism and outdoor sport.

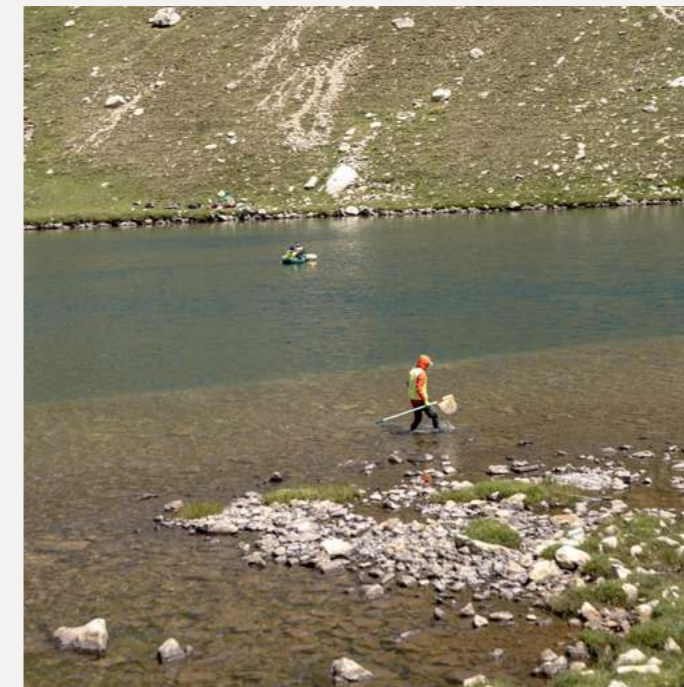
This three-year project focuses on two high-mountain areas in Cerdanya and Alt Urgell that are ecologically rich but under growing pressure from farming, tourism and outdoor sports. The aim is to apply adaptive management so that human use of these landscapes stays within the limits that local biodiversity and natural values can sustain, rather than eroding them over time.

The work combines research, habitat protection and public engagement. It looks at key conservation targets such as the white partridge, designs and implements measures to reduce overcrowding and habitat degradation, and adjusts access and uses so they better align with conservation goals. At the same time, communication campaigns and collaboration with local communities and businesses help raise awareness and invite people to take part in looking after these places, so that recreation and conservation can reinforce each other instead of competing.

Support this project



Finançat a càrrec dels Fons de Patrimoni Natural amb el suport de:



Muntanyes Vives shows outdoor athletes how to enjoy their sport while respecting the mountain environments they depend on.

Muntanyes Vives was created to talk honestly about the impact that outdoor sports can have on the very mountain environments that attract us. As more people ski, climb, run and explore outdoors, many are still unaware of the natural values of these areas or of the damage that certain behaviours can cause. The project uses simple, accessible storytelling to show both the beauty of these places and the risks of practising sport without care.

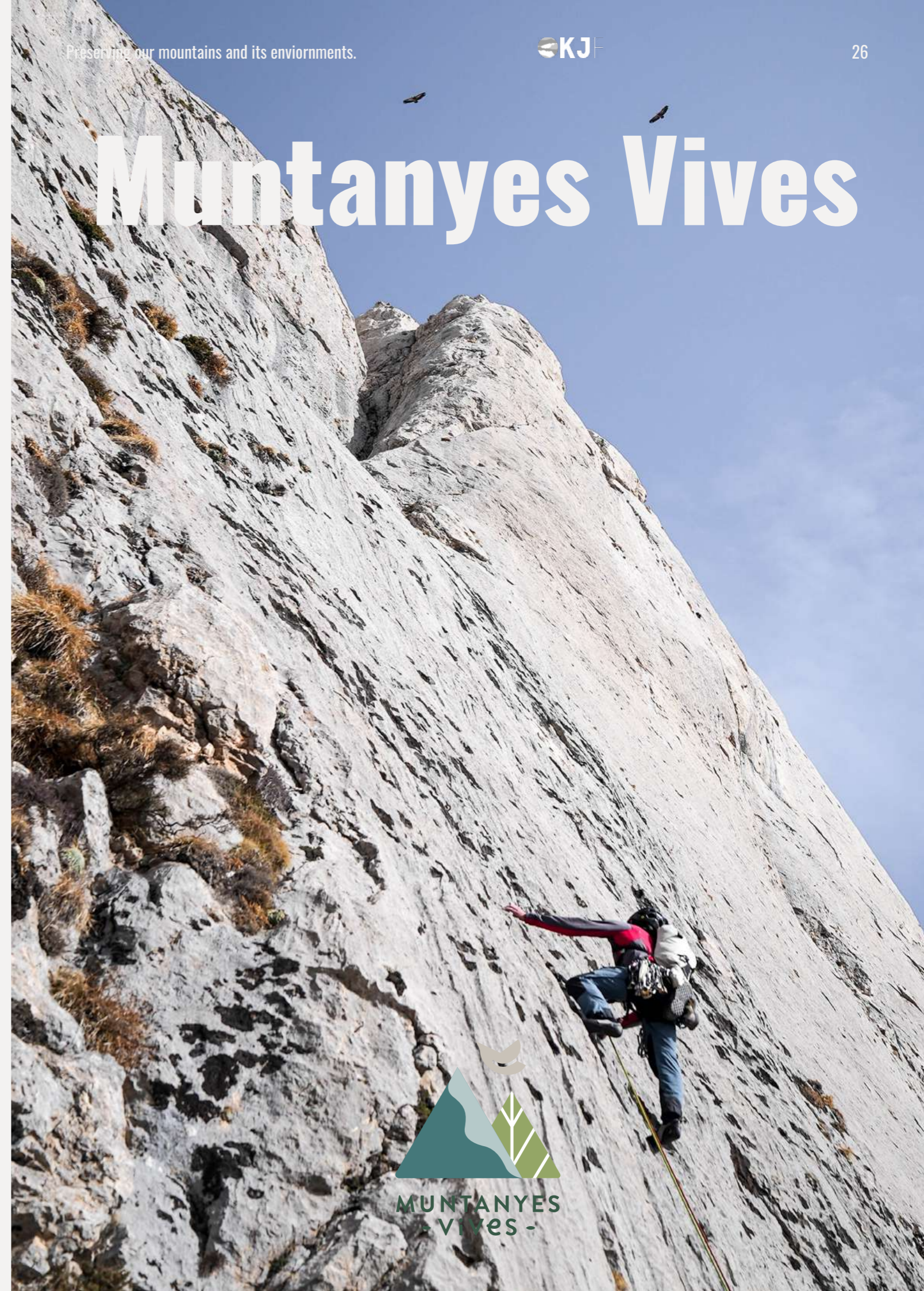
In its second phase, Muntanyes Vives focuses on four disciplines—ski mountaineering, climbing, canyoning and trail running—through short

videos where an environmental specialist meets an athlete in their usual activity. Together, they explore how that sport affects the local ecosystem and what can be done differently, from route choices to daily habits. Around these stories, the project shares guidelines and recommendations so that practitioners better understand the species and habitats they move through, rethink their impact and feel part of the conservation of mountain values.

[Support this project](#)



Muntanyes Vives



MUNTANYES
- VIVES -

Our team



Kilian Jornet
President



Jordi Lorenzo
Trustee



Núria Brugada
Trustee and Educational Project Coordinator



Joan Solà
Collaborator



Gerard Vila
Director



Laura Vinyals
Project Manager and Communications Manager



Anna Manjón
Scientific Project Developer



Carla Carrillo
Communications Assistant

Behind these projects there is a small, committed team and a growing network of allies. The Kilian Jornet Foundation brings together mountain lovers, scientists, educators and communicators who share the same goal: to protect mountain ecosystems and the communities connected to them. Around this core team, partners from brands, institutions, research centres and local organisations make it possible to turn ideas into real change on the ground and in people's lives.





Our partners

We collaborate with organisations that understand mountains as living ecosystems that deserve long-term care. Together with brands, events, institutions and local groups, we turn their resources, experience and visibility into projects that support science, education and concrete work on the ground. Each partnership is built on shared values such as transparency, scientific rigor and respect for nature, so that joining the Kilian Jornet Foundation means contributing to real and tangible change in mountain environments.



It's your turn now

Take your first step!

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Preserving our mountains and its environments



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