

# Working group for high altitude restoration

The working group for high altitude restoration (AGHB) promotes ecological and sustainable revegetation at elevation above approximately 1500 m asl. Restoration measures should provide an optimal protection from erosion and should at the same time be considerate with respect to nature and landscape. The working group for high altitude restoration was founded in 1996 within the Swiss Association for Biological Engineering. The group consists of members from restoration corporations, seed producers, producers of erosion protection measures, agencies (communities, cantons and federation), research institutions, universities, tourism organisations and environmental planning offices.



Foto: N. Locher Oberholzer, Working group for high altitude restoration  
Planting of steep slope, ski world championship 2003, St. Moritz, 2800 m ü. M.

## Contact

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## **Mission statement**

The working group for high altitude restoration (AGHB) promotes ecological and sustainable revegetation in the alpine environment.

## **Goals**

1. We want to enhance the understanding for the necessity of environmentally appropriate restoration measures in alpine terrain. Our main target groups are agencies, mountain railways, tourism organisations, planning offices and private construction clients.
2. We want to promote the quality and sustainability of high altitude revegetation measures of restoration companies through:
  - Professional improvement
    - of project planning
    - of the technical realisation
    - and of the quality control of a restoration measure
  - Definition of quality standards regarding erosion protection, vegetation cover, target vegetation (resemblance to natural vegetation), landscape including micro-relief, aesthetic aspects and land-use requirements
  - Improvement of current restoration techniques and product
  - Development of innovative solutions in collaboration with universities and research institutions

## **Target groups**

1. Restoration companies
2. Local, cantonal and federal agencies
3. Tourism organisations
4. Mountain railway companies
5. Forest holding in the alpine space
6. Planning offices
7. Railway companies (SBB, BSL, RhB)
8. Electrical power plants

## **Activities**

- Guidelines for high altitude restoration
- Platform for exchange of experience
- Platform for the presentation of successful restoration projects
- Dissemination of knowledge and publication of articles
- Conferences and symposia
- Price for best-practice examples in high altitude restoration