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Research

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) further promoted the “Global Change in Mountain Regions (GLOCHAMORE)” initiative which was jointly developed with the Mountain Research Initiative (MRI) and other partners to prepare a *Research Strategy* assessing the impact of global change on the biophysical environment and socio-economic conditions of mountain inhabitants. An international UNESCO-MAB workshop entitled “Research Strategy on Global Change in Mountain Biosphere Reserves” has been held at ICIMOD (Kathmandu, Nepal) on 19 November 2008 in conjunction with the International Mountain Biodiversity Conference jointly sponsored by ICIMOD, IUCN and UNESCO. During the UNESCO workshop (attended by 45 participants from 13 countries), participants fine-tuned implementation modalities of the GLOCHAMORE *Research Strategy* so as to render the Strategy operational in mountain biosphere reserves and other mountain protected areas. Consequently in early 2009, ten mountain biosphere reserves (in China, India, Germany, Peru, Russian Federation, Spain, Switzerland, USA) started implementing the GLOCHAMORE *Research Strategy* in their respective biosphere reserves. Using a coherent approach in different mountain biosphere reserves as research and monitoring sites the world over, this project will provide information on how to cope with global and climate change in mountains.

Education

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is currently preparing a “Teaching Resource Kit for Mountainous Countries” in English, French and Spanish thanks to funding provided by the Flemish Government of Belgium. The kit targets school teachers and their pupils in secondary schools in mountain countries the world over and will be diffused in late 2009/early 2010 through the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network (ASPNet). The kit offers a creating approach to environmental education and is designed to arouse pupils’ curiosity, appeal to their artistic sensibilities, and provide leverage for better transmission of scientific information and environmental knowledge.