

A preliminary portfolio analysis of World Bank investments relevant for Sustainable Mountain Development (SMD) indicates global investments of about USD 344 million globally for the period 2007-2009. In terms of regional focus, investments in SMD in the Latin America region are leading with about USD 93 million, followed by Eastern Europe and Central Asia with about USD 63 million. The Middle-East North Africa region received investments in mountain regions amounting to about 40 million, while for Africa and South Asia only smaller amounts were directly associated with SMD in the time period under review.

The main sectors supported over the period of analysis are integrated land and water management, especially sustainable watershed management, forestry and biodiversity conservation, transport and energy, and community development. A large share of investment are resources provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) implemented by the World Bank with Africa and Latin America regions leading in receiving GEF support.

In recent years, many climate change mitigation and adaptations projects have been developed and it is expected that this area of investments will continue to grow over the next years. Additional investments from new, innovative financing mechanisms such as carbon-trading are also expected to be increasingly available for mountain regions.