



Third meeting of the Open-ended Scientific Committee (OESC) for the International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development 2022 (IYM2022)

Summary report
29 April 2022 – Zoom meeting

Chair:
Michele Freppaz, University of Turin (Italy)

AGENDA

- 1. 15:30-15:35** Opening, introduction and adoption of the agenda
- 2. 15:35-15:40** Tour de table – quick round of introductions of new participants
- 3. 15:40-16:20** Policy brief presentations
- 4. 16:20-16:40** Next steps and discussion
- 5. 16:40-16:55** Other issues
- 6. 16:55-17:00** Conclusions



Opening

Michele Freppaz, professor in the University of Turin's Department of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences, opened the meeting. The agenda was adopted without change.

Policy brief presentations, next steps and discussion

The following organizations briefly presented the status of the policy briefs that they have volunteered to lead, co-lead or contribute to:

Policy brief topic	Presenter	Notes
Mountain wetlands and peatlands	Maria Nuutinen, Global Peatlands Initiative, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many have volunteered, looking specifically for wetland experts • Brief will summarize particularities of mountain wetlands/peatlands; highlight importance of mountains wetlands and peatlands as providers of ecosystem services; challenges and recommendations • Target audience: policymakers • Looking for a main writer • Possible launch events: Ramsar Convention COP14 in November; G20 Bali summit in November; MRI Synthesis Workshop on carbon dynamics in high-Andean tropical cushion peatlands in October
Disaster risk reduction (DRR) in mountains	Paola Fontanella Pisa, Global Mountain Safeguard Research (GLOMOS) programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting point: 2002 DRR policy brief • Brief will introduce general DRR concepts, add UNDRR GAR2022 as a cross-reference, link to climate change, emphasize mountain specificities, and include a box on COVID-19 • Possible launch event: International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction in October
Sustainable tourism in mountains	Sandra Carvao, World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief will pursue issues raised in 2021 tourism publication: lack of data, pollution, climate change, sociocultural impacts, economic sustainability • Will infuse data from 2022 follow-up UNWTO/Mountain Partnership study • Possible launch: December, event TBD
Waste-free mountains	Björn Alfthan, GRID-Arendal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief to cover all types of waste, not only plastic; challenges and drivers; areas of intervention and success stories; levels



		<p>of intervention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch event: side event at Mountain Partnership Global Meeting in Aspen
Mountain grasslands and their pastoralists	Eric Chavez, Mountain Partnership Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief will summarize the uniqueness of mountain pastoralism and its role in the maintenance of ecosystem services, carbon sequestration in grasslands, and the conservation of locally adapted breeds as a strategy for climate change adaptation and food security • Target audience: policymakers • Possible launch: UNFCCC COP 27 - Sharm el Sheik Climate Change Conference, November 2022 (tentative)
Ecosystem restoration in mountains	Fabio Parisi, Mountain Partnership Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline developed, brief in initial research phase • Brief will address what makes mountain ecosystems unique, and how restoration in mountains should be developed • Target audience: policymakers • Possible launch: October 2022, event TBD – UNEP may launch flagship mountain ecosystem publication at Mountain Partnership Global Meeting
Financing sustainable mountain development	Alex Mackey, Zoï Environment Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief will address the information and policy gaps to attract investments in mountain regions, and show the potential opportunities for the development of a self-driven mountain economy • Target audience: policymakers • Possible launch: UNFCCC COP 27 - Sharm el Sheik Climate Change Conference, November 2022 (tentative)
Mountain food systems	Abid Hussain, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changed name (not only about <i>agrifood</i> systems) • Brief will address why mountain people and food systems are important, how to make more sustainable, inclusive and resilient and ensure food security • Target audience: policymakers, Mountain Partnership member governments; Target group: mountain people and institutions • Launch: Mountain Partnership Global



		Meeting in Aspen
Mountains' contribution to One Health	Eric Chavez, Mountain Partnership Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief will address the importance of mountains on the delivery of health determinants, and the need of health governance in mountain areas using the One Health approach where animals, humans, plants and environmental health are taken into consideration. Target audience: Health practitioners, policymakers
Biodiversity conservation in mountain biosphere reserves	Maria Rosa Cárdenas, UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief proposes to empower mountain biosphere reserves and expand their role in biodiversity conservation by giving host countries tools to meet CBD 30% conservation target by 2030 Target audience: mountain biosphere reserve managers and MAB national committees, as well as mayors, Indigenous and local communities and civil society Possible launch dates: first International Day for Biosphere Reserves in November, or Mountain Partnership Global Meeting
Mountains and heritage-making	Bernard Debarbieux	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief will address opportunities and risks, case studies Consider to add cultural heritage aspect and case study on alpinism
Climate change	Carolina Adler, Mountain Research Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief to include global and regional inputs, possibly national Meeting to coordinate inputs: mid-May 2022 Possible launch: UNFCCC COP27 Suggestion to engage youth as additional possible target audience (e.g. Conference of Youth)
Sustainable management of mountain soils	Silvia Stanchi, University of Turin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief will focus on specificities of mountain soils, ecosystem services, main threats, and opportunities for adaptation
Mountain Indigenous Peoples	Nicole Olivier, Canadian Mountain Network (CMN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interested in contributing outcomes of CMN's work on bridging Indigenous and "Western" knowledge to a brief on topic of mountain Indigenous Peoples



The presentations are [available here](#). The list of policy brief lead/co-lead organizations and contributors is [available here](#).

The OESC participants recalled the idea of using a unified template for all of the policy briefs to show their belonging to a family of publications.

Due to the length constraints of the policy briefs and the diversity of topics, the question was raised how to avoid repetition across the briefs. One suggestion was to include an infographic on the back of all the briefs showing the major opportunities and challenges for mountains.

Other issues and conclusions

Carolina Adler of the Mountain Research Initiative provided an update on the recent discussions of the Mountain Partnership Steering Committee, wherein she represents Global Major Group Organizations. The Mountain Partnership Steering Committee discussed the high number of topics identified for policy briefs for the IYM2022 and suggested that some topics be combined or consolidated. Noting that several of the identified topics do not yet have a lead organization identified to produce the brief, she shared that no decision had been taken on how to resolve this issue other than to leave it to OESC to decide.

The next meeting of the OESC will be convened in early June 2022. Tomas Greene of the Deutsche Schule Chicureo in Chile volunteered to chair the next meeting.



Annex 1: Meeting participants

Last name	First name	Affiliation	Country
Adler	Carolina	Mountain Research Initiative (MRI)	Switzerland
Alfthan	Björn	GRID-Arendal	Norway
Anino	Maureen	Ministry of Water and Environment of Uganda	Uganda
Barrot	Julia	Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)	Sweden
Canciullo	Silvio	University of Rome Sapienza - Department of Environmental Biology	Italy
Cardenas	Maria Rosa	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	France
Carvão	Sandra	World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)	Spain
Debarbieux	Bernard	University of Geneva	Switzerland
Defago	Marie		
Dube	Monique	Canadian Mountain Network (CMN)	Canada
Fellendorf	Ansgar	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Switzerland
Flores	Patricia	IFOAM-Organics International	Peru
Fontanella Pisa	Paola	United Nations University (UNU) and Global Mountain Safeguard Research (GLOMOS)	Italy
Fouinat	Laurent	GRID-Arendal	Norway
Freppaz	Michele	University of Turin - Department of Agricultural, Forest & Food Sciences (DISAFA)	Italy
Gaido	Maria Soledad	World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)	Spain
Greene	Tomas	Deutsche Schule Chicureo	Chile
Hansen	Melissa	Afromontane Research Unit	South Africa
Hussain	Abid	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)	Nepal
Jurek	Matthias	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Austria
Kanyamibwa	Sam	Albertine Rift Conservation Society (ARCOS)	Rwanda
Li	Xuan	FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific	Thailand
Mackey	Alex	Zoï Environment Network	Switzerland
Melfo	Alejandra	Consortium for Sustainable Development of the Andean Ecoregion (CONDESAN)	Ecuador
Mishra	Udayan	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)	Nepal
Murer	Carlo	NaturaSi	Italy
Nuutinen	Maria	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	Italy
Olivier	Nicole	Canadian Mountain Network (CMN)	Canada



Pancordo Olivera	Marggiori	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	Peru
Pons	Marc	Andorra	Andorra
Ruto	Caroline	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	Italy
Saalismaa	Nina	Zoï Environment Network	Switzerland
Shatberashvili	Nina	Sustainable Caucasus & Scientific Network for the Caucasus Mountain Region (SNC-mt)	Georgia
Simonett	Otto	Zoï Environment Network	Switzerland
Stanchi	Silvia	University of Turin - Department of Agricultural, Forest & Food Sciences (DISAFA)	Italy
Vasily	Laurie	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)	Nepal
Vivien	Luc	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	France
Young	Marisa	Fundación Agreste	Argentina

Mountain Partnership Secretariat staff:

Samantha Abear
 Valeria Barchiesi
 Allison Bozzi
 Eric Chavez
 Sara Manuelli
 Fabio Parisi
 Rosalaura Romeo
 Antonella Sorrentino