



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

Summary report  
28 October 2022, 15.30–17.00  
Zoom meeting

### **Agenda**

**15.30–15.35** Opening, introduction, and adoption of the Agenda

**15.35–15.45** Report from the Sixth Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership

**15.45–16.15** Independent Advisory Body, presentation of the proposal discussed during the Global Meeting – discussion among OESC members

**16.15–16.45** Policy briefs – reports from policy brief authors

**16.45–16.55** Other issues

**16.55–17.00** Conclusions

### **Opening, introduction, and adoption of the Agenda**

The fifth meeting of the Open-ended Scientific Committee (OESC) for the International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development 2022 (IYM2022) was co-chaired by Paola Fontanella Pisa, Programme Associate, Global Mountain Safeguard Research (GLOMOS) Programme, and Nina Shatberashvili, Executive Director, Caucasus Network for Sustainable Development of Mountain Regions.

Opening remarks were made by Livio Spadavecchia, representative of the Government of Italy to the Mountain Partnership and Chair of the Mountain Partnership Steering Committee, who confirmed the Steering Committee's support to the OESC.

The newest members of the OESC briefly introduced themselves (see participants list in annex 1).

The agenda was adopted without change.

## Report from the Sixth Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership

Sara Manuelli, Mountain Partnership Secretariat, reported on the main outcomes of the Sixth Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership held on 27-29 September 2022 in Aspen, Colorado, United States of America. The meeting elected a new Steering Committee for the Mountain Partnership, updated the Mountain Partnership's strategy documents, endorsed the Aspen Declaration and appointed two new Mountain Partnership Goodwill Ambassadors. The summary report is available [here](#).

Two policy briefs of the OESC were launched at the Global Meeting:

- [Inclusive and resilient mountain food systems: Opportunities and best practices](#)
  - Authors: ICIMOD, MPS
- [Keeping our mountains plastic waste free](#)
  - Authors: GRID-Arendal; Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, MRI, UIAA, UNEP, MPS

## Independent Advisory Body, presentation of the proposal discussed during the Global Meeting

Fabio Parisi, Mountain Partnership Secretariat, reported on the Global Meeting's discussion of the proposal for the creation of an independent advisory body to support the Mountain Partnership. The body would contribute to the science-policy dialogue, be independent and open to Mountain Partnership members and non-members, and its functioning would be the responsibility of its members.

The following are the main points discussed by the OESC:

- While the OESC's Terms of Reference (ToRs) end in December 2022 at the end of the IYM2022, there is a clear need for a group like the OESC to contribute to the mountain agenda. There is also a need to maintain the momentum created by the OESC and the IYM2022.
- The OESC could continue after the IYM2022 (this is for the OESC members to decide). Likewise, the creation of an independent body could be modelled on the experience of the OESC, i.e. a multistakeholder dialogue that contributes to and substantiates advocacy efforts.
- The members of the independent advisory body should be balanced to ensure geographic representation and to include both scientists and practitioners.
- The mandate of the new body should not overlap with that of the Mountain Partnership Steering Committee.
- The Mountain Partnership Steering Committee should participate in the formulation of the body's ToRs, and this should be an item on the agenda of the next Steering Committee meeting.
- Given the amount of discussion on the name of the body during the Global Meeting (i.e. whether to call it *scientific* or *independent* advisory body), this should also be further discussed by the Mountain Partnership Steering Committee.
- Deciding the name of the group and how it is constituted should be done in functional terms. The revised strategy documents endorsed by the Global Meeting could provide the basis for

advocacy and communications priorities and objectives to strengthen the science-policy dialogue.

- Two bodies could be created: a scientific/technical group and a strategic advisory group that refer to each other and complement the work of the Steering Committee. However, the prior work commitments and busy schedules of the members should be considered.

A working group to discuss the future of the OESC will be established and will meet in January after the UNFCCC and CBD COPs. Those interested in participating may send an email to [Fabio.Parisi@fao.org](mailto:Fabio.Parisi@fao.org) at the Mountain Partnership Secretariat.

### Policy briefs – reports from policy brief authors

Eric Chavez, Mountain Partnership Secretariat, provided an update on the recently and soon-to-be published policy briefs of the OESC for the IYM2022. He requested that the OESC members review the [table of policy briefs](#) and provide updated information on the anticipated launch dates of their briefs.

Allison Bozzi, Mountain Partnership Secretariat, briefly updated on the next steps for the layout and social media promotion of the policy briefs.

The OESC discussed the following points:

- There needs to be a strategic and holistic plan for the promotion of the briefs to make the case for mountains looking at upcoming opportunities in the near future, such as the proposed Bishkek+25 conference.
- Those briefs that are produced by the OESC but published in 2023 can still be seen as contributions to the IYM2022 and should therefore be branded as such.
- It is still possible to contribute to the briefs that have not yet been published. Those interested are encouraged to get in contact with one another.

The following individuals provided updates on the policy briefs they are working on:

- Carolina Adler, Mountain Research Initiative, shared that the climate change policy will be launched after the UNFCCC COP 27 to propose recommendations for the next five years based on the COP's outcomes. The data and monitoring brief is also set to be launched soon.
- Luis Llambi, CONDESAN, shared that CONDESAN has published three policy briefs on biodiversity, climate change and people in the Andes, available on CONDESAN's website.
- Silvia Stanchi, University of Turin, expressed that the policy brief on soil management in mountains is underway.

### Other issues and conclusions

The next meeting of the OESC will be held in January 2023. Hugo Mantilla-Meluk, CEAM, and Gobinda Shahi, KIRDARC, volunteered to co-chair the meeting.

Paola and Nina thanked all those who attended for participated and extended their thanks to Counsellor Spadavecchia for his opening remarks and to the Mountain Partnership Secretariat for facilitating the meeting.

## Annex 1: Meeting participants

Last name	First name	Affiliation	Country
Adler	Carolina	Mountain Research Initiative (MRI)	Switzerland
Alfthan	Björn	GRID-Arendal	Norway
Agostini	Paola	World Bank	USA
Aitmurzaev	Nurlan	Government of Kyrgyz Republic	USA
Ddich	Mohamed	Coalition Civile pour la Montagne	Morocco
DeVore	Karinjo	Aspen International Mountain Foundation (AIMF)_	USA
Dhungana	Sindhu	Government of Nepal	Nepal
Dittkrist	Jost	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Austria
Dube	Monique	Canadian Mountain Network (CMN)	Canada
Felipe Cesar	Luis	Crescente Fértil	Brazil
Fellendorf	Ansgar	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Austria
Fontanella Pisa	Paola	United Nations University (UNU) and Global Mountain Safeguard Research (GLOMOS)	Italy
Greene	Tomas	Deutsche Schule Chicureo	Chile
Hofer	Thomas	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	Italy
Jurek	Matthias	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Austria
Kushlin	Andrey	Mountain expert	Russian Federation

Lecaros	Ana Teresa	National Institute for Research on Glaciers and Mountain Ecosystems (INAIGEM)	Peru
Leucci	Cristiana	National Institute for Research on Glaciers and Mountain Ecosystems (INAIGEM)	Peru
Llambi	Luis Daniel	Consortium for Sustainable Development of the Andean Ecoregion (CONDESAN)	Venezuela
Liniger	Hanspeter	World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT)	Switzerland
Mackey	Alex	Zoï Environment Network	Switzerland
Mantilla-Meluk	Hugo	Centro de Estudios de Alta Montaña (CEAM), University of Quindío	Colombia
Olivier	Nicole	Canadian Mountain Network (CMN)	Canada
Pinho	Simão Pedro	Centro de Investigação de Montanha (CIMO)	Portugal
Quenta	Estefania	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Bolivia
Schmoeker	Genevieve	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Austria
Scheiderbauer	Stefan	Eurac Research	Italy
Shahi	Gobinda	Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Centre (KIRDARC)	Nepal
Shatberashvili	Nina	Caucasus Network for Sustainable	Georgia

		Development of Mountain Region (Sustainable Caucasus)	
Smith	Eric	Aspen International Mountain Foundation (AIMF)	USA
Spadavecchia	Livio	Government of Italy	Italy
Stanchi	Silvia	University of Turin	Italy
Ungiadze	Ana	Caucasus Network for Sustainable Development of Mountain Region (Sustainable Caucasus)	Georgia
Vicioso	Julia	Permanent Representation of Dominican Republic to FAO	Italy
Vignais	Charlène	Government of Andorra	Andorra

**Mountain Partnership Secretariat staff:**

Samantha Abear  
Valeria Barchiesi  
Allison Bozzi  
Eric Chavez  
Zoe Cuthbert  
Sara Manuelli  
Fabio Parisi  
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