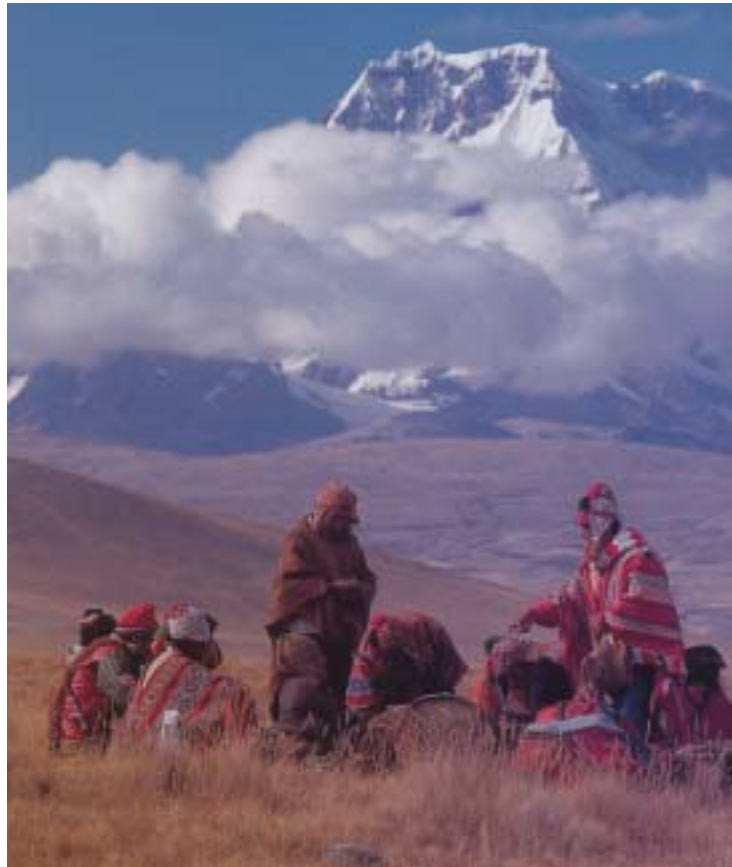




Mountain Forum



Annual Report 2002

www.mtnforum.org

Foreword

The year 2002 was both a year of productivity and transition for the Mountain Forum. The Mountain Forum played an active role in the International Year of Mountains 2002. The Secretariat and the Global Information Server Node (GISN), in conjunction with all regional nodes, planned, participated in and or provided technical communications support to all the major global events throughout the year.



The Mountain Forum has improved communications at the grassroots level. This has been possible with the support and commitment of all our members and partner organizations and through continued efforts to reach out to the grassroots in local languages. We encourage others to access information on our web site or use the postings in our on-line discussion lists, asking only that they give due credit to the authors and let us know when they are using the materials. This is one way of knowing that we have served the people where they most need and value the information.

For the second year running the Board of Directors met in conjunction with the Node Managers in Rolle, Switzerland for the Annual Board and Node Managers' meetings. This annual collaboration provides a critical means for interaction among the Board and the Node Managers, who are on the frontlines working everyday to provide the most innovative and comprehensive information about mountain people and regions around the world. This dynamic relationship between the Board and the Node Managers maintains the Mountain Forum as a unique and effective network.

The Global Activities of the Mountain Forum are supported by the Secretariat, located in Kathmandu, and the Global Information Server Node located in West Virginia, and are carried out by the regional nodes in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America. The Forum works together to provide comprehensive and up to date information regarding mountain communities, environments and sustainable development. Using the power of Internet, the Mountain Forum is able to link people from and or advocating for mountain regions around the world.

The activities of the Forum have focused on advocacy for mountain issues at various international meetings and conferences as well as through e-consultations, e-workshops, e-discussion lists and e-conferences. The Mountain Forum continues to use innovative communication technology to further the mission of information sharing, mutual support and advocacy.

Our immeasurable gratitude is extended to the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation for its continued support and role as lead donor. Through the years various other partners have also emerged to support the efforts of the Mountain Forum. It is with all of their valued support that we can continue to provide state-of-the-art services and engage in new and creative activities.

It is with pride that I pass the honor of being the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Mountain Forum to Dr. Martin Price. I have appreciated my time as Chair, and look forward to the International Potato Center's continued role with the Mountain Forum as a member of the Board of Directors. I wish Dr. Price great success in his efforts and will be glad to work alongside him throughout the coming year.

At the end of the year we bid farewell to our Executive Secretary as his term came to an end. Dr. Alejandro Camino faithfully dedicated his energies to establishing the Secretariat of the Mountain Forum, and he deserves the gratitude of the Board and Forum members. We look to the coming year with hope and enthusiasm that the newly chosen Executive Secretary will lead our network towards continued success, productivity and innovative endeavors.

Let us all commit to work together to nurture and strengthen this very exciting network.

Dr. Hubert Zandstra
Chair, Board of Directors, Mountain Forum
Director General, International Potato Center (CIP)

Mountain Forum Mission

The Mountain Forum promotes global action toward equitable and ecologically sustainable mountain development. This is achieved through information sharing, mutual support and advocacy. In order to achieve these objectives the Mountain Forum uses modern and traditional communications, supports networking and capacity building and encourages members to be proactive in advocating sustainable development of mountain areas.

Membership

Membership of the Mountain Forum is open to individuals and organizations concerned with sustainable mountain development and conservation. No fees are necessary to become a member of the Mountain Forum, nor does a member need full Internet connectivity or e-mail access.

The Mountain Forum's electronic information services include global, regional and thematic e-mail discussion lists, focused electronic conferencing, a calendar of events, and a rapidly growing on-line library of mountain resources. Currently, over 7,000 documents are hosted on its website, <<http://www.mtnforum.org>>.

Awareness Raising

The Mountain Forum seeks to raise mountain issues on the agendas of local and national decision makers, donor agencies, and international organizations. Members are encouraged to take action! Here are some ways to get involved.

- Facilitate dialogue and improve communications between mountain communities and decision makers.
- Convene local, regional, and global workshops and task forces around important and relevant mountain issues
- Advocate to decision makers and the public through workshops, briefings, and the media.
- Encourage the formation of a mountain caucus of stakeholders and decision makers.
- Plan and implement activities that are directly related to the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg in 2002.
- Clarify and build on the existing relationship between the Mountain Forum and the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions to better coordinate efforts to provide advocacy and support for sustainable development in mountain regions around the globe.
- Work with other members to form alliances, partnerships and joint research activities at the local, regional and global levels.

Information Sharing/ Mutual Support

Through improved communications and information exchange, the Mountain Forum seeks to empower and strengthen its members by sharing experiences and lessons learned. Members may contribute by:

- Sharing knowledge, information and experiences with the mountain community and interested parties;
- Requesting and providing support, advice, and information useful for and relevant to improving livelihoods of mountain communities;
- Collecting and disseminating relevant and important information to those Mountain Forum members who do not have Internet access; and
- Identifying potential members and involving them in Mountain Forum activities.

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Layout and Design: Punam Pradhan

ISBN: 99933-53-56-6

Mountain Forum's Intrinsic Collaboration

The Mountain Forum is a dynamic association of technical and support offices working together to promote sustainable development within communities and environments in mountain regions around the world. The regional nodes undertake activities that directly impact mountain people and environments both at the global scale and in their specific regions. The Global Information Server Node (GISN) and the Mountain Forum Secretariat (MFS) supplement the efforts of the nodes by providing crucial technical and administrative support. It is through this intricate web of reciprocal collaboration that the Mountain Forum provides effective services and access to information on mountain issues to its members and partner organizations.

Mountain Forum Contributions to IYM 2002

The Mountain Forum collaborated with the United Nations to bring mountains to global attention during the International Year of Mountains (IYM) 2002. In so doing, the Mountain Forum participated in all of the milestone events. Mountain Forum institutions and members played a significant organizational role in the official launch of the International Year at the UN in New York in December 2001 which included arranging speakers, presentations, displays and artwork, and providing documentation and support to country delegations at the UN Commission on Sustainable Development.

The official IYM calendar was maintained by the Mountain Forum, helping organizers reach out to the public through more than 350 events worldwide during 2002. The final event of IYM 2002 was the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit. The Mountain Forum conducted an e-consultation on ten thematic issues that was facilitated by international experts which resulted in the production of the *Bishkek Mountain Platform*.

Regional meeting facilitation and communications support were provided by the Mountain Forum to the “High Summit” (organized by the Italian Committee for IYM), a live television and web-cast event occurring simultaneously on four continents.

The Mountain Forum coordinated broad-based global feedback on the *International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions*, a blueprint document which formed the basis for the commitment to mountains at the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development.

The Mountain Forum assisted with organization of the Celebrating Mountain Women event which brought together women from mountain regions in different developing countries. It was a colorful event as women shared their concerns about human rights, economics and the environment through workshops, discussions and cultural exchanges. The Mountain Forum hosted a web page for this event and has built a special section of its on-line library devoted to gender issues in mountain regions. The *Thimphu Declaration*, the first global declaration on mountain women, was created out of this event.

Networking outreach and presentations on mountain issues were made at numerous regional events, including the International Seminar of Mountains (Nepal); the Appalachian Conference (USA); the Second World Encounter of Mountain People (Ecuador); Country of Mountains toward 2020: Water, Life and Production (Peru); official launches of IYM in Poland, France and Germany; and the “High Summit” (Kenya, Argentina and Nepal).

Mountain Forum and the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit (BGMS)

The Mountain Forum regional nodes along with the GISN and MFS collaborated to provide an e-consultation on ten themes for the BGMS which was organized by the Government of Kyrgyzstan with technical assistance from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The e-consultation was a success. Mountain Forum members from around the world contributed their input which laid the foundation for the future direction of sustainable development in mountain regions. The final document, the *Bishkek Mountain Platform*, was posted on the Mountain Forum web site, to Mountain Forum members via e-discussion lists and made available to all the participants of the BGMS.

A Dynamic and Successful Fusion of Contributions from the Mountain Forum Network to BGMS

- **GISN** developed the cooperative work plan, budget and shared systems for the e-consultation; provided an administration list for coordinating the partners involved; provided cross-posting services to all Mountain Forum lists; negotiated technical issues with UNEP and the Mountain Forum Board Chair; provided significant technical training to nodes, especially with moderation; loaded the ten background papers onto the Mountain Forum's on-line library; provided inputs from global and thematic e-discussion lists; archived results (structured compilation, case studies, e-discussion lists) in the on-line library; and provided a special web page for BGMS. GISN was the lead moderator for the themes, 'Conflicts and Peace in Mountain Areas', 'Sustainable Livelihoods and Poverty Alleviation', 'Institutions for Democratic and Decentralized Sustainable Mountain Development', and 'International and Regional Agreements and Cooperation and Sustainable Mountain Development'.
- **MFS** participated in the proposal writing and submission, organization of the schedule and negotiations with UNEP regarding the logistics of the e-consultation. The Mountain Forum Executive Secretary was a member of the International Advisory Board for the BGMS, and he and the Asia Pacific Node Manager chaired the session, 'Knowledge Management and Networking in Mountain Areas—Making It Work' at the BGMS.
- The **Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN)** moderated the thematic papers, 'Mountain Tourism and the Conservation and Maintenance of Biological and Cultural Diversity' and 'Mountain Infrastructure: Access, Communications and Energy'. APMN solicited input from its members which contributed to the *Bishkek Mountain Platform*. The APMN node manager presented a paper entitled, 'The Role of Alternative Media for Sustainable Mountain Development' at the BGMS.
- The **European Mountain Forum (EMF)** provided global moderation to the e-consultation and synthesis of member input which contributed to the *Bishkek Mountain Platform*. EMF also moderated the thematic papers, 'National Policies and Institutions for Sustainable Mountain Development (SMD)', 'Legal, Economic and Compensation Mechanisms in Support of SMD' and 'The Role of Education, Science and Culture for SMD'.
- The **Latin American Mountain Forum (LAMF)** distributed summaries of the thematic papers in English and Spanish to its Latin American audience from which member input helped formulate the *Bishkek Mountain Platform*. They moderated the thematic paper, 'Water, Natural Resources, Hazards, Desertification and the Implications of Climate Change'.
- The **African Mountain Forum (AMF)** and the **North American Mountain Forum (NAMF)** worked in collaboration with the GISN to encourage regional members, organizations and partners to participate in the BGMS e-consultation. There were significant key topics and contributors from Africa and North America.

Mountain Forum Training and Technical Support

The Mountain Forum is a leader in the field of networking and technical communication services in mountain regions. Its commitment to sustainable development and access to information in mountain regions has resulted in a global effort to provide training and technical support both to nodes within the network and partners around the world.

- **GISN** provided training to Mountain Forum partners and mountain networks in Spain, Switzerland, Canada and the USA on moderation and e-conferences, establishment of e-mail discussion lists and the creation of web pages. GISN also provided continued capacity building to the regional nodes in all areas of service carried out by the Mountain Forum.
- **APMN** provided technical training in information generation and dissemination to Central Asia Mountain Information Network (CAMIN) staff during the period, 24–30 April, 2002
- **EMF** provided technical training workshops in the Caucasus on the frame of the International Fund for Agricultural Development Mountain Program and to the EMF Board in Les Planes de Son, Spain. EMF also developed web sites for its partners, Training of Protected Area Staff (TOPAS) and South East European Mountain Network (SEMNET). EMF developed the training course, Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions, which was tested in Italy within the European TOPAS project.
- **LAMF** provided several traveling workshops on sustainable development in mountain regions to secondary Andean cities and worked together with EMF and GISN on several fundraising projects.
- **AMF** and **NAMF** participated in technical training sessions and workshops provided by the staff of the GISN. AMF also participated in virtual training sessions and began development of an African mountain website. The North American node was in its initial year and as a result of such training became fully capable to function on its own.

MOUNTAIN FORUM GLOBAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

The global activities of the Mountain Forum are managed in two segments. The global coordination, governance, fund raising, partnership building and advocacy responsibilities are managed by the Secretariat at the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development in Kathmandu, Nepal. The Global Information Server Node located at The Mountain Institute in Harrisonburg, Virginia, USA, manages the primary information management services, capacity building, advocacy and support to nodes.

The five regional node offices operating in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America work diligently to put the Mountain Forum mission into action.

Mountain Forum Global Information Server Node (GISN)

The Mountain Forum Global Information Server Node (GISN), hosted by The Mountain Institute, provides the network's central Internet services, training and technical support to mountain networks around the world. GISN also provides direct networking services to members with global interests and members whose regions do not yet have a fully functioning Mountain Forum node.

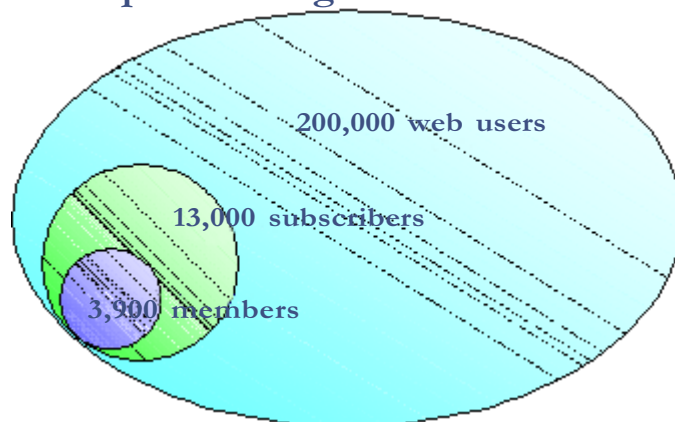
Objectives

- ▲ Create, implement, coordinate and support demand-driven communication services to effectively facilitate exchange of information and best practices among members in order to promote the well-being of mountain communities, environments and sustainable development; and
- ▲ Advocate the Mountain Agenda in the international and inter-regional arenas.

Activities & Achievements

- ▲ Expanded outreach by way of membership and e-mail discussion lists. Global membership grew to 3,600 individuals and 310 organizations from 128 countries. Subscription to the Mountain Forum's e-mail lists grew to more than 13,000, and the number of distinct users accessing the Mountain Forum web site totaled nearly 200,000.
- ▲ Provided core Internet services to the Mountain Forum network, including the on-line membership database; on-line library; e-mail list hosting; mod-

People and Organizations Served



eration for the following lists: global, summary, Africa, North America, mountain women and mountain geography; maintenance of the official calendar of the events for the International Year of Mountains 2002; and expansion of the web site to more than 10,000 pages.

- ▲ Partnered with Mountain Forum regional nodes to (a) conduct a global e-consultation on ten themes for UNEP's Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, (b) link the "High Summit 2002" to the Mountain Forum network, and (c) prepare for the global Celebrating Mountain Women conference. GISN developed the detailed cooperative work plan, budget and shared systems for the Bishkek e-consultation which was a successful exercise in inter-regional cooperation.
- ▲ Provided training and technical support to Mountain Forum partners and mountain networks around the world, helping them set up their own e-mail lists, create web pages and moderate thematic electronic

conferences. In addition to numerous “virtual workshops”, GISN staff provided on-site training in Spain, Switzerland, Canada and the USA.

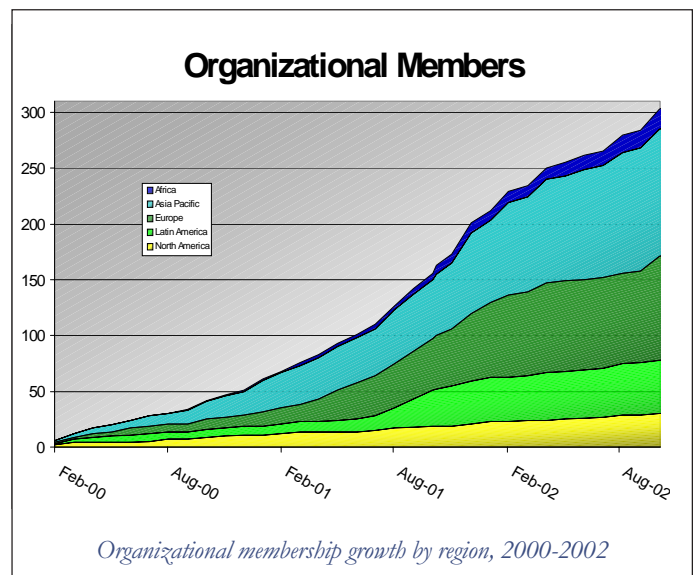
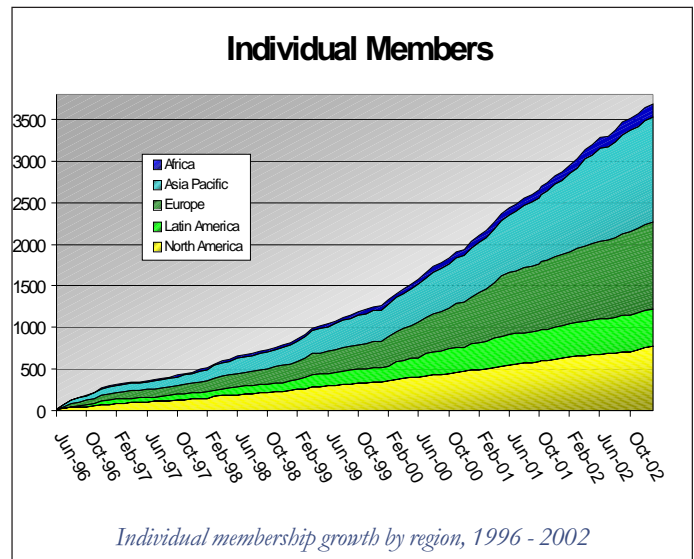
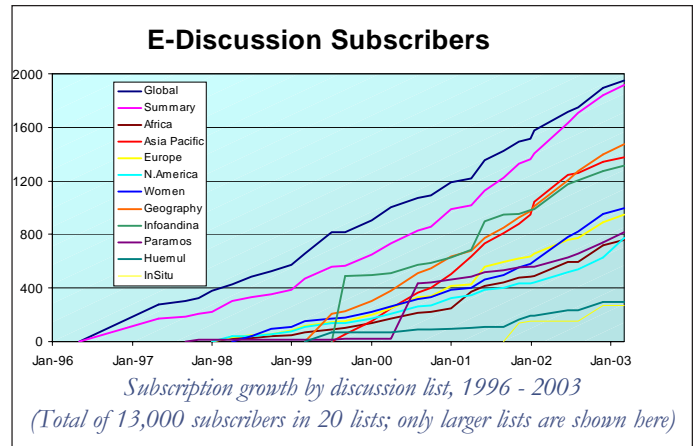
- ▲ Provided interim regional services to members in North America and Africa, where regional networks were not fully staffed.
- ▲ Conducted a network-wide multi-lingual evaluation survey in July 2002. Survey results indicated that 65 new partnerships and 58 new projects were initiated as a result of Mountain Forum activities. For example, coffee growers in the Atakomo Mountains of Togo gained development partners to help with an eco-tourism project that sought to replace some of the income lost when the price of coffee fell steeply. In another example, a new plant biodiversity/goat production project in Peru was able to avoid early mistakes by learning from similar projects in Nepal.
- ▲ Collaborated with the United Nations to bring mountains to global attention during the International Year of Mountains 2002. GISN assisted with the UN mountain focus group and the launch of the International Year at the UN in New York. GISN maintained the official calendar of events for the year and coordinated global feedback on the *International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions*, a document which formed the basis for the commitment to mountains at the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development. An article on the Mountain Forum was published by GISN in the UIAA journal.

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Mountain Forum Secretariat

The Mountain Forum Secretariat (MFS) is the global coordinating and facilitating unit of this unique and creative network of networks. MFS is an autonomous structure hosted by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Objectives

- ▲ *Governance*
- ▲ *Fundraising*
- ▲ *Coordination and Mutual Support*
- ▲ *Fostering Relations and Partnerships*
- ▲ *Advocacy*

Activities & Achievements

Governance

- ▲ Finalized and distributed the terms of reference (TOR) for the Mountain Forum Board, the TOR for the MFS, the TOR for the MFS Executive Secretary and the memorandum of understanding (MoU) between nodes and the Secretariat;
- ▲ Explored registry in Switzerland and/or England;
- ▲ Finalized all necessary TOR's, MoU's and draft statutes for registration; and
- ▲ Provided regular reports to the MF Board, donor organizations and institutional host, ICIMOD.

Fundraising

- ▲ Participated in 21 meetings in Nepal with representatives from various international and regional organizations to explore potentials for fundraising;
- ▲ Updated the donor database to include over 120 potential institutional donors;
- ▲ Secured partial donations to support activities of the MFS;
- ▲ Secured a grant from SDC for partial funding of the 2003 work year;
- ▲ Secured a signed agreement with ICIMOD to provide financial, administrative and legal support throughout the 2003 work year;
- ▲ Secured support from UNEP to fund the Annual Board and Node Managers meetings; and
- ▲ Submitted project proposals to international donor organizations such as the Shell Foundation, the Ford Foundation and various UN-related organizations.

Coordination and Mutual Support

- ▲ Successfully planned and facilitated the Annual Board Meeting and Node Manager's Meeting in Rolle, Switzerland in September 2002.
- ▲ Maintained frequent communication between Board members and node managers and disseminated information/direction to the Board/nodes as required;
- ▲ Discussed the establishment of new sub-nodes at the Board and Node Managers meetings;
- ▲ Engaged in a collaborative effort with the GISN in exploring the option of transferring the GISN to Kathmandu, Nepal;
- ▲ Edited, formatted, designed, printed and distributed the 2001 Annual Report;
- ▲ Updated, designed, printed and distributed a new three-tier Mountain Forum brochure; and
- ▲ Incepted and developed a Mountain Forum photo archive.

Fostering Relations and Partnerships

- ▲ Strengthened relationships among partners through regular meetings, communication and participation in international, regional and local events;
- ▲ Explored and developed new relationships with organizations on the local, regional and international levels; and
- ▲ Developed a partnership with the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions in which we are negotiating a working relationship.

Advocacy

- ▲ In collaboration with nodes, contributed significantly to the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit;
- ▲ Provided support to ICIMOD and nodes in the preparation of the Celebrating Mountain Women conference; and
- ▲ Collaborated with the UN in various activities during the International Year of Mountains 2002.

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African Mountain Forum

The African Mountain Forum (AMF) is a pan-African network of networks focusing on poverty and land use change issues, particularly those associated with the degradation of the mountain eco-systems. An interim Steering Committee administers the African node with a secretariat hosted by the International Center for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF).

Objectives

- ▲ *Build partnerships and cooperation among communities, practitioners and development agencies;*
- ▲ *Exchange knowledge, information, ideas and experience; and*
- ▲ *Raise awareness and advocate towards creating and enabling social, economic and political environments for sustainable mountain development.*

Activities & Achievements

Building Partnerships and Cooperation

In 2002 AMF initiated a membership recruitment campaign. Various stakeholders were invited to register as individual and or organizational members. As a result, individual membership rose from 97 to 153 during the year, and organizational membership rose from 8 to 19.

Exchanging Knowledge, Information, Ideas and Experiences

E-mail subscribers to the mf-Africa discussion list rose from 482 to 717 in 2002.

Awareness Raising and Advocacy

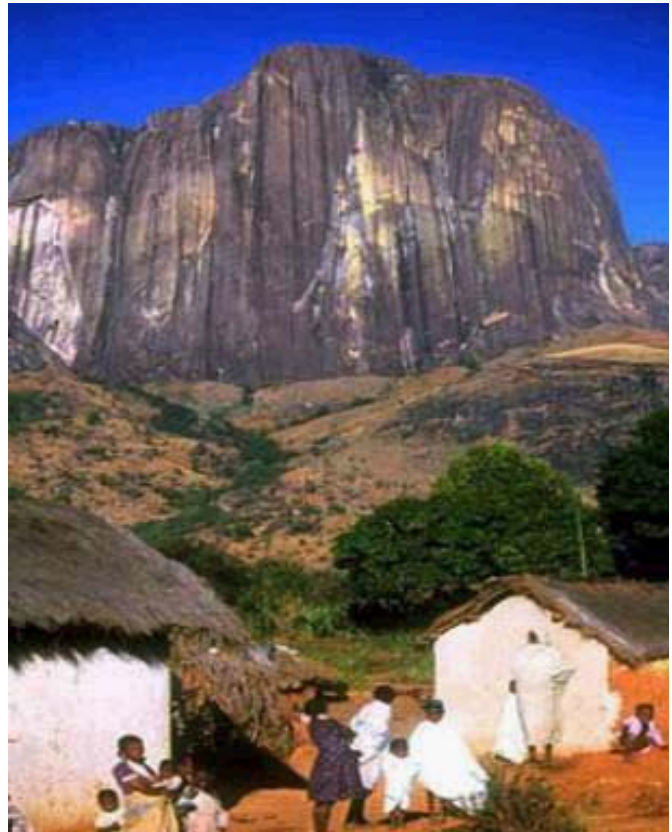
The AMF engaged in intensive efforts to establish its own website including access to information about the significant issues affecting the mountain regions of Africa. This activity was completed and the final website was put online.

Personnel

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Asia Pacific Mountain Network

The Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN) is a voluntary regional node of the Mountain Forum. APMN is a knowledge network of the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) as well under its Information and Knowledge Management Programme for generating, disseminating and sharing information on sustainable development in upland and mountainous areas of the Asia-Pacific region.

Objectives

APMN's main objective is to focus on information generation, dissemination and exchange on the issues recommended by the Sustainable Development of Mountain Areas of Asia (JUDEMMAA) Conference:

- ▲ *Poverty reduction and economic development;*
- ▲ *Sustainable management of natural resources;*
- ▲ *Gender-balanced decision making in environment and development policies and programs;*
- ▲ *Preservation of cultural heritage; and*
- ▲ *Reducing the vulnerability to mountain disasters.*

Activities & Achievements

IYM2002

The International Year of Mountains (IYM) 2002 provided an opportunity to the Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN) to provide e-communications support to partners for which APMN announced, publicized and shaped the IYM events and agenda. The APMN helped give shape to the emerging global mountain agenda at the regional level by participating in the global e-consultations on the ten UNEP-commissioned Bishkek papers from 11 February to 28 April 2002 in collaboration with Mountain Forum's other regional networks, including GISN. APMN members and MF-Asia discussion list subscribers provided regional input into all of the papers. APMN, moreover, took a lead role in moderating two of the papers, 'Mountain Tourism and the Conservation and Maintenance of Biological

and Cultural Diversity' and 'Mountain Infrastructure: Access, Communications, and Energy'. The input into these papers formed the basis for the *Bishkek Mountain Platform*, a blueprint for future sustainable mountain development, undoubtedly the most important outcome to have emerged from the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, 29 October – 1 November, 2002. The APMN organized a roundtable discussion entitled, 'Knowledge Management and Networking in Mountain Areas— Making It Work' during the summit jointly with Central Asian Mountain Information Network (CAMIN), a regional organization based in Bishkek. Mr. Ujol Sherchan of APMN and Dr. Sorokin of CAMIN presented the papers, 'The Role of Alternative Media for Sustainable Mountain Development' and 'The Role of the Central Asian Mountain Information Network in the Process of Obtaining and Dissemination of Knowledge' respectively, exploring alternative avenues of reaching out to the grass roots and highlighting the challenges of knowledge network management in the context of Central Asia. APMN also provided input into the *International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions* draft for discussion at the 4th session of the World Summit on Sustainable Development PrepCom, May-June 2002 in Bali through a regional e-consultation. Its role in the Asia "High Summit" involved feeding questions and feedback coming from outside of the summit venue into the plenary sessions of the Asia "High Summit" which were web-cast live, 6-9 May 2002 from Kathmandu, Nepal. This allowed those not able to attend physically to have some say in the summit.

The IYM marks the coming of age of APMN in the arena of knowledge management, electronic networking and information generation and dissemination at the regional level. APMN can in this way shape the mountain agenda by providing necessary linkages, technical support and information on critical mountain issues. The role of the Mountain Forum and its regional networks, including that of the APMN, was acknowledged by the United Nations General Assembly in its *Interim Report on the International Year of Mountains 2002*.

Capacity Building and Communication Services

- ▲ *MF-CAMIN Forum Management Training in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan:* APMN conducted training for CAMIN staff in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 23-31 May, 2002. The goal was to train staff to be able to operate the MF-CAMIN electronic forum geared mostly toward North-Central Asia for information generation and dissemination on mountain issues. With support from ICIMOD, CAMIN brought out CAMIN Bulletin No. 2 in Russian and English for its partners. Operationalization of the MF-CAMIN electronic forum is envisaged.
- ▲ *Information Packaging for Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) based in Chitral, Pakistan:* APMN and AKRSP-Chitral secured GTZ support for their joint project entitled, 'Protection of the Fragile Mountain Environment through Human Resource Development and Participation of the Community' for the year October 2002 – September 2003. Under the project, APMN will help with information packaging in Urdu on agricultural farm technologies such as SALT using sea-buck-thorn, beekeeping and plastic film technology with technical support from ICIMOD. AKRSP-Chitral will train Chitrali trainers and farmers on such

technologies. The information will be disseminated to other potential beneficiaries through the organization of the Interaction Programme and community radio in Chitral.

- ▲ *Involvement in ICIMOD's Alternative Media Project:* APMN's role within ICIMOD's three-year Alternative Media [Pilot] Project began delineation.
- ▲ *Prospecting for APMN's Phase III:* APMN successfully ended Phase II (1999-2002). It submitted a Phase III (2003-2005) proposal to SDC seeking funding to carry the minimum node functions of APMN for the next three years. Thankfully, Asia II Desk gave written confirmation of its support.

Personnel

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European Mountain Forum

The mission of the European Mountain Forum (EMF) is to promote the idea, processes and best practices of sustainable development in the mountains of Europe and to raise awareness of the importance of these mountains to Europeans.

Objectives

- ▲ Develop and implement new governance; and
- ▲ Develop and implement a new strategy.

European Mountain Forum's Governance

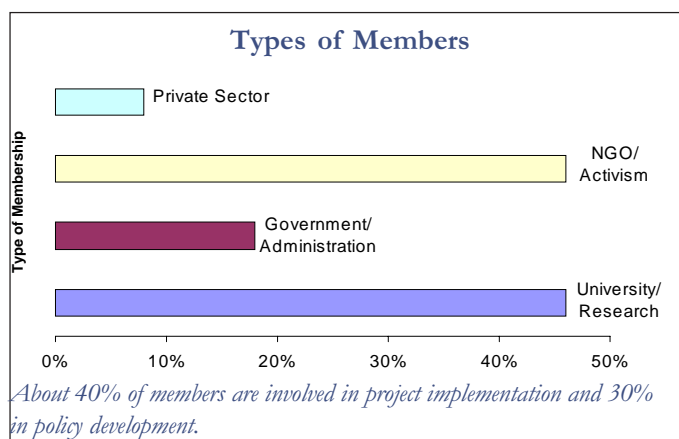
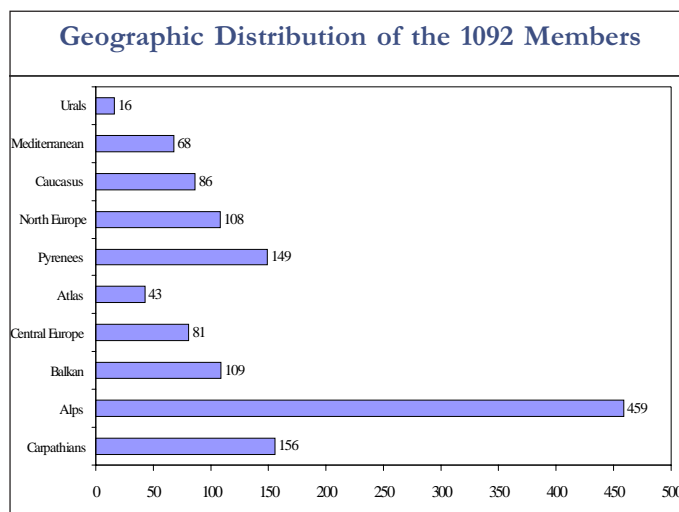
A new governance structure was elected electronically for the first time in May 2002 which resulted in the following Board of Directors:

Dr. Martin Price, who represents in the governance of the European Mountain Forum, was elected Chair of the Mountain Forum Board of Directors in August 2002.

Type	Name	Country	Position
European Organization Level	Euromontana	Belgium	-
Regional Organization Level	Sustainable Tourism Centre	Georgia	-
Regional Organization Level	Fundacio Territori i Paisatge	Spain	Treasurer
Regional Individual Level	Delfi Roca	Andorra	Vice Chair
Regional Individual Level	Krzysztof Komornicki	Poland	-
European Individual Level	Peter Ramsden	England	-
European Individual Level	Martin Price	Scotland	Chair

European Mountain Forum's Strategy 2003-2005

The new EMF Board defined a strategy for 2003-2005, with the assistance of external expertise (SEREC, Switzerland). It is as follows: EMF chose to diversify its existing membership and to increase its efforts in involving intermediate decision-makers at the regional and local levels and in eco-social fields including individuals and organizations from rural development agencies, economic sectors, businesses, employment agencies, professional unions, regional administrations, governmental offices and social project implementors.



Activities & Achievements

The EMF team participated in 47 seminars and meetings during 2002 in more than 19 countries.

With Support from UNEP:

- ▲ Prepared a Carpathian Convention; and
- ▲ Conducted an e-consultation for the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit.

Support to National Initiatives for the International Year of Mountains:

- ▲ Established Poland and Ukraine National IYM Committees; and
- ▲ Was the founding member of two NGOs, Montanea (Chambéry, France) and Montagna (Valais, Switzerland), which were created for IYM 2002.

Celebrating Mountain Women:

- ▲ Supported the preliminary regional European meeting in May 2002 with 45 participants from 16 countries in Chambéry, France; and
- ▲ EMF coordinator was elected to the steering committee of Celebrating Mountain Women to represent Europe in the final global meeting in Bhutan.

In the European regions, EMF accomplished the following activities:

Central Europe, represented by Krzysztof Komornicki:

- ▲ Sudety Summit was co-organized by Polish IYM National Committee (Zdanie Klub and local NGOs); and
- ▲ Polish Association for Mountain Elected Officials (PAMEP) was created.

Caucasus, represented by Sustainable Tourism Center:

- ▲ Provided several training workshops with the global Mountain Forum in the frame of the IFAD Mountain Program; and
- ▲ Conducted an international conference with participants from Azerbaijan and Georgia in Gudauri, Georgia in November 2002.

Mediterranean, represented by Fundacio Territori i Paisatge:

- ▲ Implemented the first Mediterranean EMF meeting in June 2002 in Les Planes de Son, Spain; and
- ▲ Facilitated the EMF annual training session and the EMF Board Meeting in June 2002 in Les Planes de Son.

EMF partnered with Different European Projects:

Training Of Protected Areas Staff (TOPAS):

EMF was the communications expert for TOPAS for the second year. This project was financed by the European Union's Leonardo program and involved 19 partners from 10 countries. During 2002, EMF developed the training course, 'Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions', which was tested in the Apennines (Italy) in October.

Réseau Alpestre Francophone (RAF):

EMF encouraged this pastoral network grouping of 11 organizations from France, Italy and Switzerland. EMF prepared concepts for European fundraising.

South East of Europe Mountain Network (SEMNET):

- ▲ Participated in a meeting in Macedonia in July 2002;
- ▲ Provided support to discussion lists; and
- ▲ Surveyed the needs and demands from local NGOs.

Electronic Activity of EMF:

- ▲ Provided inputs to the on-line IYM Calendar of Events and the Mountain Forum's on-line library; and
- ▲ Moderated and managed the following discussion lists:

mf-europe	(909 subscribers)
mf-topas	(124 subscribers)
mf-carpathian	(98 subscribers)
mf-semnet	(24 subscribers)
mf-raf	(12 subscribers)
mf-topas 1	(103 subscribers)

Personnel

Françoise Mees, European Coordinator

François Paris, Intern

Hana Petrikova, Project Officer

Andrei Vasile, Webmaster

Laure Soubrier, Project Assistant

Anne Pellier, Martina Stierlin, Anne Felix, Marie Valentin and Laurence Dailly: Students

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InfoAndina: The Latin American Mountain Forum

InfoAndina is the information network of the Consortium for Sustainable Development of the Andean Eco-region (CONDESAN). CONDESAN was born in 1992 as an organization that promotes cooperation among NGOs, universities, international research institutions and private companies, working for preservation of natural resources, agro-food chains, conservation of biodiversity, policy advocacy and facilitating exchange of information and communication through InfoAndina. Hosted by the International Potato Center (CIP) in Lima, Perú since 1997, InfoAndina has operated the Latin American Mountain Forum regional node. InfoAndina services are primarily in Spanish, and reach a wide Spanish-speaking audience far beyond the region.

Objectives

- ▲ *Increase membership and develop capacities of partners through traveling workshops in secondary cities in the Andes;*
- ▲ *Facilitate virtual interaction and dialogue on regional issues concerning sustainable development;*
- ▲ *Support regional initiatives for IYM2002;*
- ▲ *Promote partnerships among regional information networks; and*
- ▲ *Support the insertion of its members in global initiatives for sustainable mountain development.*

Activities & Achievements

Increase Membership and Develop Capacities through Traveling Workshops in Secondary Andean Cities

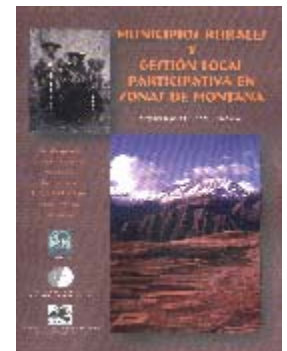
- ▲ During 2002, InfoAndina formal registration reached 416 individuals and 45 organizations. The regional InfoAndina list reached 1,200 subscribers.
- ▲ InfoAndina moderated the following regional e-discussion lists: InfoAndina-fm (1,400 subscribers), mf-paramos (867 subscribers), mf-insitu (266 subscribers) and PERU_AIM2002 (80 subscribers).
- ▲ During 2002, several traveling workshops were organized in secondary cities of Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia. As a result of these workshops, a total of 252 new individuals

and 52 organizations were registered in the Mountain Forum database from rural Andean locations, including 25 grassroots organizations.

- ▲ InfoAndina is the web master for the CONDESAN web site. Our web audience reached a total of 300,000 visitors during 2002, with an average of 2,000 visitors per day. An increased number of Spanish-speaking web visitors were registered from Europe (Spain) and North America (Mexico and the US), representing half of our total visitors. The most visited sections were: the photographic gallery of CONDESAN benchmark sites; the Cultural Landscapes section; the database of agronomic research theses of the University of Cajamarca which includes 925 theses; the Research and Development section which includes 200 reports sent by partners during the period, 1998-2001; and the InfoAndina Regional E-Conferences section.

Virtual Debates on Regional Sustainable Development Issues

E-Conference: Rural Municipalities and Sustainable Local Management of Mountain Regions: InfoAndina organized a bi-lingual electronic forum in May and June 2002 emphasizing sustainable development of Andean communities associated with decentralization and local management processes. The electronic forum, **Rural Municipalities and Sustainable Local Management of Mountain Regions** was co-sponsored by SDC, Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management (SANREM)-Andes and the Interministerial Commission on Employment and Well-being of Ecuador, moderated by Hernán Valencia (DSLGE, Quito). 310 representatives of local governments, NGOs and the education sector participated, collecting 52 case studies and comments which are available both on the web site and in printed form.



InfoAndina and IYM2002

During the International Year of Mountains (**IYM2002**), InfoAndina actively participated in national and regional events, cooperated in the organization and dissemination of agendas, results, and principal recommendations through regional IYM2002 newsletters. InfoAndina edited a regional IYM2002 web site available at

<<http://www.condesan.org/AIMLAC/aimlac.htm>>.

Bishkek Global Mountain Summit (BGMS). In coordination with all the Mountain Forum regional nodes, InfoAndina disseminated summaries of the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit (BGMS) thematic papers in English and Spanish to its Latin American audience and solicited case studies and commentaries which now form part of the *Bishkek Mountain Platform*. InfoAndina organized a competition among case studies on the Latin American reality, for which it collected representative cases on all 10 themes.

<<http://www.condesan.org/infoandina/foros/bishkek/>>

Supporting global initiatives in conservation of hydro-mountain resources, CONDESAN-InfoAndina led the preparatory e-consultation with the theme, **‘Water, Natural Resources, Hazards, Desertification and the Implications of Climate Change’**. This e-consultation was organized in collaboration with the nodes of the Mountain Forum

<<http://www.condesan.org/AIMLAC/aimlac.htm>>, under the auspices of UNEP and SDC.

“High Summit-Mendoza”, 6-10 May, 2002. InfoAndina supported the virtual and face-to-face debates in this regional event hosted by Centro Regional de Investigaciones Científicas y Tecnológicas (CRICYT) in Mendoza, Argentina. The video-conferences from Latin America were broadcast over five continents. The InfoAndina project leader moderated the regional video-casted interviews. In coordination with the Mountain Forum nodes and GISN, InfoAndina supported virtual debates which facilitated discussion among the global membership and the audience present in Mendoza.

II International Mountain Ecosystems Workshop.

InfoAndina supported the organization and dissemination of results of the II International Mountain Ecosystems Workshop in Peru. The National IYM2002 Working Group (GNTMP) in Huaraz organized it in June 2002. InfoAndina designed a web site for the main GNTMP activities:

<<http://www.condesan.org/peruaim2002>>

Personnel

Hector Cisneros, CONDESAN Coordinator
Elias Mujica, CONDESAN Deputy Coordinator
Ana Maria Ponce, InfoAndina Project Leader
Musuq Briceno, InfoAndina Assistant
Angie Laura, CONDESAN-InfoAndina Secretary
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North American Mountain Forum (Interim)

The North American Mountain Forum (NAMF) is a communication network through which people may share information and provide mutual assistance in support of North American mountain environments, communities and sustainable development. Mountain Culture at The Banff Centre in Banff, Alberta, Canada hosts the North American Mountain Forum.

Objectives

- ▲ *Establish a staffed coordination centre with institutional support;*
- ▲ *Transfer core functions from GISN to NAMF;*
- ▲ *Establish a North American Mountain Forum web presence;*
- ▲ *Raise awareness of mountain issues and the North American Mountain Forum; and*
- ▲ *Seek funding.*

Activities & Achievements

Establish a Staffed Coordination Centre with Institutional Support

- ▲ A node manager was hired in August 2002. Amy Krause began work as the North American Mountain Forum project officer in early September.
- ▲ The node manager was trained in October 2002 with generous assistance from the Global Information Server Node (GISN).



Transfer Core Functions from GISN

- ▲ Moderation of the <mf-america@mtnforum.org> email discussion list was transferred in December 2002.
- ▲ Membership correspondence was assumed in December 2002.

Establish a North American Mountain Forum Web Presence

- ▲ Global Mountain Forum web pages referring to the North American Mountain Forum were updated in November 2002.
- ▲ A North American Mountain Forum web page was created on the Mountain Culture web site in December 2002.

Raise Awareness of Mountain Issues and the North American Mountain Forum

- ▲ The North American Mountain Forum was launched in December 2002. Electronic letters and a press release announcing the launch of the North American Mountain Forum were sent to relevant Mountain Forum and Mountain Culture audiences reaching an estimated 4,000 people firsthand, and a substantial multiplier audience through media pick-up.
- ▲ 20 new membership registrations were received in December 2002.
- ▲ 20 new discussion list participants were received in December 2002 – for a total of 642 subscribers.

Seek Funding

- ▲ Mountain Culture at The Banff Centre is funding the North American Mountain Forum operations.

Personnel

Amy Krause, Program Officer

Leslie Taylor, Associate Director, Mountain Environment

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E-mail: Amy_Krause@BanffCentre.CA

Web: <http://www.banffcentre.ca/mountainculture/mtnforum>

2002 FINANCIAL REPORT

Global Information Server Node & Mountain Forum Secretariat

Cash Revenues (US\$)

(GISN)	SDC	113,739
	UNEP	26,465
	Stavros Niarchos Foundation	25,857
	FAO	8,621
	Donations & sales	200
	(MFS)	SDC
	ICIMOD	69,300
	UNEP	13,936
	Miscellaneous (UNEP, FAO, CIP, CECL, sales)	38,240
Total Cash Revenues		\$ 396,358

In-kind Revenues (US\$)

(GISN)	IDRC/Bellonet	3,000
	Gifts-in-kind	2,400
	The Mountain Institute (TMI)	10,000

Non-audited Expenses (US\$)

(GISN)	Personnel	129,453
	Travel/workshop	9,014
	Supplies/fees	7,250
	Publications	1,525
	Communications	8,540
	Overhead	19,100
(MFS)	Personnel	128,824
	Meetings (NMM/Board)	22,756
	Publications	959
	Operation office cost	4,574
	Travel	7,644
	IYM-related activities	2,956
	Overhead	33,894

Estimated Expenses 2002 **\$ 376,489**

Carry-over to 2003* **\$ 19,869**

* *The balance relates to the MFS budget and will cover partial expenses in 2003.*

Mountain Forum Budget Summary

	<u>Cash Revenues</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>In-kind Revenues</u>
	<u>(US\$)</u>	<u>(US\$)</u>	<u>(US\$)</u>
GISN	174,882	174,882	15,400
MFS	221,476	201,607	-
AMF	11,554	11,554	-
APMN	58,165	58,165	-
EMF	288,970	288,970	-
LAMF	120,748	100,046	10,000
NAMF	18,127	20,127	5,000
Totals	\$ 893,922	\$ 855,351	\$ 30,400

North American Mountain Forum

Cash Revenues (US\$)

Mountain Culture at The Banff Centre	20,126
Total Cash Revenues	\$ 20,126

In-kind Revenues (US\$)

The Banff Centre	5,000
Total In-kind Revenues	\$ 5,000

Non-audited Expenses (US\$)

Personnel	14,322
Publications	150
Training & set-up	3,287
Technology	636
Travel	1,720
Shipping	11
Estimated Expenses	\$ 20,126

The North American Mountain Forum was launched during the last quarter of 2002. It became fully operational in December 2002.

Asia Pacific Mountain Forum

Cash Revenues (US\$)

SDC (Central Asia project + APMN Phase II)*	46,071
UNEP	12,094
Total Cash Revenues	<u>\$ 58,165</u>

Non-audited Expenses (US\$)

Personnel	10,285
Coordination, communications and planning	8,411
IYM Support	6,454
Travel	4,483
Evaluation/assessment	2,519
Technical Resource Centre	4,215
E-conference	5,000
Publication	4,863
Regional training workshop	5,487
On-site training	1,291
CAMIN web site development	2,500
Overhead	2,657
Estimated Expenses	<u>\$ 58,165</u>

* *This is a consolidated income statement.*

European Mountain Forum

Cash Revenues (US\$)

Non-audited figures	
Switzerland (SDC/Buwal)	159,305
IFAD/Caucasus	32,121
European Union/TOPAS	23,152
UNEP	23,152
Total Cash Revenues	<u>\$ 237,630</u>

In-kind Revenues (US \$)

IUCN / equipped office	34,683
FTP / annual meeting	17,378
Total In-kind Revenues	<u>\$ 52,061</u>

Non-audited Expenses (US\$)

Travel	28,940
Promotion	14,470
Administration	32,220
Staff	162,000
Estimated Expenses	<u>\$ 237,630</u>

Latin American Mountain Forum

Cash Revenues (US\$)

SDC	101,048
Third Party Contributions to Operating Budget	
UNEP (BGMS e-consultation)	13,500
SAMREM-Andes (e-conference, Local Governments)	2,500
Ecuador Ministry of Welfare (e-conference, Local Governments)	1,000
MOS-Andes (advance for e-conference, Soil & Fertility in the Andes)	2,000
Virtual bookstore sales	400
Web hosting (PERU IYM2002 Web site)	300
Total Cash Revenues	<u>\$ 120,748</u>

In-kind Revenues (US\$)

CONDESAN (Senior Staff time)	10,000
Total In-kind Revenues	<u>\$ 10,000</u>

Non-audited Expenses (US\$)

Personnel	45,366
E-conferences/workshops	20,000
Communications	9,905
SDC regional network	9,300
Overhead	15,475
Estimated Expenses	<u>\$ 100,046</u>
Carry-over to 2003*	\$ 20,702

* *This balance from third party donations will cover partial expenses in 2003.*

African Mountain Forum

Cash Revenues (US\$)

ILRI	2,854
SDC	8,700
Total Cash Revenues	<u>\$ 11,554</u>

Non-audited Expenses (US\$)

Personnel costs	2,830
Professional services	2,280
Travel/meetings	2,140
Supplies and services	4,304
Estimated Expenses	<u>\$ 11,554</u>

There are some additional expenses from ICRAF (Oct-Dec 2002) that are not included here.

Mountain Forum Partners and Supporters List



Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)



International Development Research Centre (IDRC) – Bellanet



United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)



Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

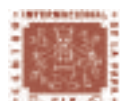
Host and Supporting Institutions



The Banff Centre



European Mountain Forum (EMF)



International Potato Centre (CIP)



IUCN The World Conservation Union



International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)



International Centre for Research in Agro forestry (ICRAF)



The Mountain Institute

The Mountain Institute (TMI)



The Board of Directors:

Members:

- Ms. Catherine Cooke (The Mountain Institute, GISN host)
 Dr. J. Gabriel Campbell (ICIMOD, MFS host and Asia Pacific node)
 Dr. Ann Stroud (ICRAF, African node)
 Dr. Martin Price (EMF, European node)
 Dr. Hubert Zandstra (CIP, Latin American node), **Board Chair**
 Ms. Leslie Taylor (Banff Centre, North American node)
 Dr. Tej Partap (Asia Pacific representative)

Observers:

- Mr. Douglas McGuire (FAO)
 Dr. Ulrich Lutz (SDC)
 Mr. Andrei Iatsenia (UNEP)

Published by the Mountain Forum Secretariat in cooperation with the regional nodes in Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin America, North America and the Global Information Server Node of the Mountain Forum

ISBN: 99933-53-56-6

Printed at Hill Side Press, Kathmandu

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