



## Global Change and Sustainable Development in mountain regions

### Objectives

Global Change affects the ecology, economy and society in mountain regions being particularly sensitive. These three pillars need to be in balance in order not to jeopardize the livelihood of future generations. Land use is affected by these three variables. Vice versa, land use management can mitigate the adverse effects of Global Change (e.g., protective forest, slope stabilization).

In the same vein, globalization manifests in mountain areas, for instance, in depopulation in remote regions and restructuring of urban centres.

The objective of this strategic workshop is to identify future research needs in the context of the sustainable development in mountain regions. The outcome will provide rationales and guidelines for researchers, research managers, policy makers, as well as funding agencies.

This strategic workshop aims at putting research topics on mountain ecosystem services on the political agenda and identifies the implications of climate and socioeconomic change for current and future forms of land use. The workshop assesses the impact on selected ecosystem services such as hazard protection, recreation, and natural resources. Furthermore, scenarios of change and its implication for societies depending on these ecosystem services are appraised. Although special emphasis is given to the Alps, other mountain systems are reflected.

#### Organizers and contact persons:

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## Venue and Registration

**April 7-9, 2008**, Innsbruck, Austria at Congress Innsbruck.

An on-line Registration Form together with the relevant information is at <http://bfw.ac.at/mountain/> ➔ Registration

Voluntary papers can be presented as posters on the second day.

The **deadline** for early registration is **March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008**; late registration is possible until April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

## Format of the Workshop

The workshop is to initiate a thorough discussion process on the future development in mountain regions. The discussion process will be preceded with invited keynotes that are to provide a common starting point.

- Keynotes on topics that are valid for mountain regions in general.
- Keynotes on regions, where the relevance of the topics will be weighed.

Speakers will focus on the interface of their respective topic to other issues in order to clearly identify potential conflicts of interest between forms of land use or in order to show examples of topics that re-inforce each other.

The afternoon sessions are devoted to Working Groups. Each working group will be chaired by 2 experts representing different fields of expertise. This format is to ensure that cross-cutting issues are tackled. The concept is the 'World Cafe Method': The Chair persons will stay with the topic during the entire meeting. The participants of the Workshop will have the opportunity to attend the discussion of several working groups. Switching between Working Groups is foreseen at fixed times.

## Tentative schedule

### April 7, 2008

#### Scientific topics

Climate change	Georg Kaser (Univ Innsbruck, Austria)
Effects of changing land use on biodiversity and ecosystem services provided by traditionally managed grasslands	Sandra Lavorel (Univ. Grenoble, France)
Alpine biota in a warmer, CO <sub>2</sub> -rich world	Christian Körner (Univ Basel, Switzerland)
Mountain waters in a changing world	Rolf Weingartner and Daniel Viviroli (Switzerland)
Mountain tourism in global change, A geocultural approach	Philippe Bourdeau (IGA, France)
Natural Disasters and Climate Change in the Alps: Trends, Costs and Possible Counter-measures	Gerhard Berz (Munich University, formerly GeoRisks Research, Munich Reinsurance)
Is there a future for mountain forestry?	Dieter Stöhr (Forest Tyrol)
Demand and evaluation of ecosystem services	Thomas Köllner (ETHZ, Switzerland)

#### Afternoon

Working Group Meetings

### April 8, 2008

#### Regional topics

Global Change and Sustainable Development in the Alps	Georg Grabherr (Univ Vienna, Austria)
Future Forests of the Rocky Mountains: Interactions of climate, development, and policies	Dan Binkley (Colorado State University)
Land use change in the northern Carpathians: driving forces, scenarios and consequences	Jacek Kozak (Jagiellonian University in Poland)
Global Change and Sustainable Development in the Andes	Hugo Romero (Universidad de Chile)
Case Study Atlas	Driss Fassi (Univ Morocco)
Bad Weather Blues realities - measured and perceived changes of and responses to environmental and climatic change in Norway	Elizabeth Mese-Hausken (Norway)
Gender issues in the Hindu Kush Himalayas	Jeanette Gurung (WOCAN, USA)

#### Afternoon Project Fair and Poster Session

Mountain Research Initiative (MRI)	Astrid Björnson-Gurung
Project Fair and Poster Session	Georg Gratzer
WSL Swiss Experiment (SWISSEX)	Norbert Kräuchi
Mountain Partnership (FAO)	Harald Egerer and Douglas McGuire

### April 9, 2008

#### The political arena

Effective Partnerships: the political dimension of sustainable mountain development	Douglas McGuire and Thomas Hofer (FAO, Rome)
EU Policy	NN
The Alpine and the Carpathian Convention	Marco Onida and Harald Egerer (Austria)
Regional implementation of rural development policies	Nicolas Evrard (Promonte EAM)
Case study Aosta: Implementation of policy	Mara Ghidinelli (Cabinet Valle d'Aosta)
Transport - a cross-cutting factor	Guglielmo Scaramellini (Univ Milano)

## The topics of the Working Groups convening in the afternoon session

Multifunctional land use in a global change context  
 Challenges for sustainable tourism  
 Demand and evaluation of ecosystem services  
 Water: strategic resource, public good, ecosystem  
 Sustainable transport  
 Scenarios of global change

**a regularly updated schedule is shown at**  
<http://bfw.ac.at/mountain/> ➔ Programme