

Final report



Inventory and analysis of objectives and key research themes of mountain research institutes and centres in Europe

Executed by the Mountain Forum

for the Mountain Partnership Secretariat

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www.mtnforum.org



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LIST OF ACRONYMS

Acronym	Full name /description
CMS	Centre for Mountain Studies, UHI-Perth College
Eurac	European Academy Bozen/Bolzano
IM	Institute de la Montagne
FP	Framework Program
GMBA	Global Mountain Biodiversity Assessment
MF	Mountain Forum
MFS	Mountain Forum Secretariat
MP	Mountain Partnership
MPS	Mountain Partnership Secretariat
MRI	Mountain Research Initiative
NRM	Natural Resource Management
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SMD	Sustainable Mountain Development
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Program

1. INTRODUCTION AND RATIONAL

This study of objectives and key research themes of mountain research institutes/centres in Europe was carried out in the framework of the collaboration between the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) and the Mountain Forum (MF) 2006-2008¹.

The study should help in fostering synergies between efforts of European research organisations, one of the main objectives of the Mountain Partnership (MP). The results can support Sustainable Mountain Development (SMD) workshops as planned by the Institut de la Montagne (IM) and foster targeted participation in EU research programs such as the FP 7. At the same time it provides a base for enhanced interaction on SMD between interested stakeholders in Europe such as members of the European Mountain Forum (EMF) and the MP.

In November 2007, the EMF, MP and UNEP identified the need for a study specifically on the strengths and focus of the SMD research capacity in Europe. It was to complement the general Who=Who exercise which brings together information on research, development and policy organisations involved in sustainable mountain development (www.mtnforum.org/wisw/index.php).

The study builds on and reinforces the efforts of the IM which is in the process of preparing an assessment of European research activities. Moreover the study benefitted from the information of MRI on European researchers involved in SMD.

The identification of objectives and key research themes of mountain research institutes and centres in Europe requires first an overview of these institutes and centres. This study included identification of these organisations for which the definitions of 'key' and 'research' were central.

A proper distinction between the use of the term "research centre" and "research institute" was not made. Thus research departments of universities are named in most cases "institute" or "centre". Also privately owned entities are included in the term "institute" (e.g. Alpenforschungsinstitut).

Due to its transversal approach, mountain research is generally part of the work of larger research entities. Whereas the larger institute –or mother institute does not necessarily have a mandate or focus on SMD, certain departments or sub-units may have. Thus many researchers are particularly, sometimes exclusively, dedicated to mountain themes on which the Mountain Research Initiative (MRI) provides good information². Projects with mountain relevance, funded by national or European programs, are another pool of information about mountain focused research capacity. On the European level, mainly the 6th (until 2006) and 7th (ongoing) RTD framework³ and Interreg⁴ programs triggered mountain related research activities.

For the present study however, the scope was neither the identification of mountain specific projects nor of researchers targeting mountain topics, but of themes and objectives of mountain research

¹ Excerpt MP/MF LOA: 'prepare an inventory and analysis of objectives and key research themes of mountain research institutes/ centers in Europe to a) complement the mapping exercise currently under development by MF worldwide and b) contribute to the process instigated by the Institut de la Montagne (Chambery) towards a meeting of mountain research institutes/ centers probably to be held in late 2008.'

² <http://mri.scnatweb.ch/database/database/experts-database.html>

³ www.cordis.lu; all projects are research projects. You might search the database for the 6th RTD framework program for « mountain », « alpine » or other mountain related keywords.

⁴ www.promonte.net/index.htm; all mentioned projects are mountain related. Research related projects can be identified by the participating partners.

organisations, institutes and centres, bound by their respective constituency or mandate to mountain related research activities. This criterion was taken for the analysis as it guarantees the highest degree of perpetuity and focus of their field of research on SMD.

2. SET-UP AND METHODOLOGY

As outlined above, this study made use of several scoping activities especially that of the IM, who carried out a preliminary desk -research to identify mountain oriented research institutions in Europe globally. This study builds upon the data collected by IM.

The criteria for the identification of key organisations were:

- the existence of a research institute or centre, thus excluding individuals, temporary research units, projects and commissions;
- an explicit reference to “mountains” or to a specific mountain space (e.g. Alps or Alpine, Massif Central etc.) in the name of the institution.

In two cases (Mediterranean and Caucasus) ambiguity occurred between the reference as a mountain space or in another context. Thus institutions referring to these areas were only considered if a mountain specific activity could be identified.

The list of the identified institutions has been updated and validated for this study by EMF. Secondly the objectives and key research themes of the research centres had been evaluated on the basis of the information provided on their respective websites. This information has been inserted in the Who=Who in SMD on-line system which serves as an integral and searchable resource base.

3. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

This chapter provides a detailed analysis of the study findings. In 3.1. identified key research organisations are listed. Details for each of the organisations can be found in the annex.

Paragraph 3.2 deals with the objectives and themes of the various research organisations. In paragraph 3.3 the geographical focus and the location of the institution are indicated. The analysis of the study and findings are given in paragraph 3.4.

3.1. MOUNTAIN RESEARCH IN EUROPE: IDENTIFIED KEY INSTITUTIONS

According to the criteria mentioned above, key mountain institutes and research centres have been identified and are listed in the table below. It may be useful to recall that mountain related research is not a privilege of the institutions listed below; rather the identified institutions have a major and long-term focus on SMD. The total number of European organisation in the Who=Who on-line system presently amounts to almost 200. Contact details of all institutions and further descriptions can be found on-line at www.mtnforum.org/wisw/index.php .

Country/ Name	Main-Institution	Location
Austria		
Bundesanstalt für Bergbauernfragen, (BABF)		Vienna
Institute of Mountain Risk Engineering (IAN)	University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences	Vienna
AlpS	Centre for the Management of Natural Risks	Innsbruck
Forschungsstelle für Gebirgsforschung: Mensch und Umwelt (IGF)	Mountain Research: Man and Environment	Innsbruck
Research Platform Alpine Space Man and Environment (ASME)	Innsbruck University	Innsbruck
The Global Observation research Initiative in Alpine Environments (GLORIA)	University of Vienna	Vienna
Germany		
Alpenforschungs Institut (AFI)	Alpine Research Institute	Garmisch-Partenkirchen
Georgia		
V.Gulisashvili Institute of Mountain Forestry (IMF)	Georgian Academy of Sciences	Tbilisi
France		
CEMAGREF –Grenoble Développement des Territoires Montagnards DTM ; Ecosystèmes Montagnards EM Erosion Torrentielle, Neige et Avalanches (ENTA)	CEMAGREF , Development of Mountain Territories , Mountain Ecosystems and Torrential Erosion, Snow and Avalanches	St-Martin-d'Heres
Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Appliquées au Massif Central, à la moyenne montagne et aux espaces fragiles (CERAMAC)	Mountain Institute	Clermont-Ferrand
Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur les Montagnes sèches et Méditerranéennes (CERMOSEM)	Centre for Studies and Applied Science in the Massif Central, Université Blaise Pascal, Clermont Ferrand	Mirabel
Centre Interdisciplinaire Scientifique de la Montagne (CISM)	Interdisciplinary Mountain Research Centre, Université de Savoie, Chambéry	Chambéry
CENTRE DE RECHERCHES SUR LES ECOSYSTEMES D'ALTITUDE (CREA)	Research Centre for Highland Ecosystems	Chamonix
Institut de Géographie Alpine (IGA)	Université Joseph Fourier	Grenoble
Institut de formation et de recherche en médecine de montagne (Ifremmont)	Institute for the Formation and Research of Mountain Medicine, Chamonix Hospital	Chamonix
Institut de la Montagne (IM)	Mountain Institute	Chambéry
GIS Alpes du Nord	GIS Northern Alps	Chambéry
Italy		
Alpine Convention and International Mountain Agreement Coordination Unit (EURAC-IMA)	EURAC research, Bozen/Bolzano	Bolzano
Institute for Alpine Environment (EURAC-IAE)	EURAC research, Bozen/Bolzano	Bozen/Bolzano
Centro di Ecologia Alpina CEA	Centre for Alpine Ecology, Fondazione Edmund Mach.	Trento
Ente Italiano della Montagna (EIM)		Rome
Istituto di Ricerca per l'Ecologia e l'Economia Applicate alle Aree Alpine (IREALP)		Chiuro (SO)
EvK2CNR		Bergamo
Switzerland		
Centre de recherche sur l'environnement alpin (CREALP)	Research Centre on Alpine Environment	Sion
Eidgenössisches Institut für Schnee- und Lawinenforschung SFL	Eidg. Forschungsanstalt für Wald, Schnee und Landschaft WSL	Davos Dorf
Global Mountain Biodiversity Assessment (GMBA)	University of Basel	Basel
Mountain Invasion Research Network (MIREN)	ETH Zurich	Zurich
Mountain Research Initiative (MRI)	University of Bern	Bern
Swiss Alpine Studies - ISCAR: International Scientific Committee on Research in the Alps ICAS: Commission interacadémique Recherche alpine		Bern
Slovakia		
Grassland and Mountain agriculture (GMA) a, Banská Bystrica (Výskumný ústav trávnych porastov a horského poľnohospodárstva)	Slovenské Centrum Poľnohospodárskeho Výskumu	Banská Bystrica
Spain		
Instituto Pirenaico de Ecología (IPE)	Pyrenean Institute for Ecology- Council for Scientific Research	Zaragoza
United Kingdom		
Centre for Mountain Studies CMS	Perth College	Perth

Table 1: Key European mountain research Institutions

3.2. OBJECTIVES AND KEY RESEARCH THEMES OF INSTITUTIONS

For the identified mountain research institutions, the specific key research themes and the institutional research objectives, mission and targets have been identified and validated. The results are presented in the table below.

Institution	Interdisciplinarity	Sustainable development	Air / Pollution	Hydrology / Water	Climate change	Ecology/Biodiversity/Forestry	Natural hazards	Culture /Heritage/Landscape	Policies	Governance	Economy/Innovation	Tourism	Health/ Sports	Agriculture	Globalisation	Info Systems	Social development	Transportation	Spatial development	Other
BABF						✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓			1
IAM				✓			✓													
AlpS			✓	✓	✓		✓						✓		✓					
IGF		✓			✓			✓		✓	✓				✓			✓		
ASME	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓				
GLORIA					✓	✓														
AFI	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓		✓		✓						
IMF						✓														
CEMAGREF		✓				✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓						
CERAMAC						✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					✓	3
CERMOSEM								✓		✓		✓	✓							
CISM	✓			✓		✓	✓													
CREA					✓	✓														
IGA		✓							✓	✓	✓				✓		✓		✓	
ifremmont													✓							
IM	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓			✓		✓								
GIS AdN	✓													✓						
EURAC/IMA		✓							✓											5
–EURAC/IAE	✓	✓				✓				✓					✓					3
Ev-K2-CNR			✓	✓	✓	✓														
CEA		✓				✓														
EIM	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓		2,4
IREALP		✓				✓		✓		✓	✓						✓		✓	
CREALP				✓			✓													
SLF				✓		✓	✓													
GMBA						✓														
MIREN						✓														
MRI	✓				✓										✓	✓				4
SAS	✓															✓				
GMA														✓						
IPE	✓				✓	✓														
CMS		✓			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓									

Table 2: Research themes of institutions

Other core activities included: 1: Gender; 2: Didactics; 3: Protection of nature, 4: Research monitoring; 5: Transboundary co-operation agreements. The summarized overview of thematic areas is as below:

Themes	Numbers	Themes	Numbers
Interdisciplinarity	10	Governance	13
Sustainable development	11	Economy/Innovation	8
Air/Pollution	2	Tourism	5
Hydrology/Water	8	Health/Sports	3
Climate change	10	Agriculture	7
Ecology/Biodiversity/Forestry	18	Globalization	6
Natural hazards	9	Information systems	4
Culture/Heritage/Landscape	7	Social development	4
Policies	8	Transportation	2
Spatial development	3		

Table 3: Overview of mountain research themes of key European institutions

3.3 GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION: COUNTRIES AND MOUNTAIN RANGES

European mountain ranges are spread out over the continent. The map and table below indicate the main highlands and mountain areas.



Mountain Range	Countries	Mountain Range	Countries
① Iceland	Iceland	⑮ Sudetes	Germany, Poland, Czech Republic
② Kjollen Range	Norway, Sweden	⑯ Carpathians	Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Ukraine, Romania, Serbia
③ Novaya Zemlya	Russia	⑰ Apennines	Italy
④ Northwest Highlands	Scotland (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Islands)	⑱ Corsica	Italy, France
⑤ Grampian Mountains and Cairngorm	Scotland (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Islands)	⑲ Sardinia	Italy
⑥ Pennine Chain and Cheviot Hills	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Islands (North England and Southern Scotland)	⑳ Sicily	Italy
⑦ Crambian Mountains	Wales (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Islands)	㉑ Dinaric Alps	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia, Republic of Macedonia
⑧ Wicklow Mountains	Southern Ireland (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Islands)	㉒ Rhodope	Bulgaria, Greece
⑨ Ural	Russia, Kazakhstan	㉓ Pindhos	Greece
⑩ Cordillera Cantabrica	Spain	㉔ Balkan Mountains	Bulgaria, Serbia
⑪ Pyrenees	Spain, France, Andorra	㉕ Pontic Mountains	Turkey, Georgia
⑫ Sierra de Gredos and Sierra de Guadarrama	Spain	㉖ Taurus Mountains	Turkey, Syria, Iraq
⑬ Massif Central	France	㉗ Caucasus Mountains	Russia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia
⑭ Alps	Austria, France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Slovenia, Liechtenstein		

Table 4: Mountain ranges

The analysis of the locations of the institutions and the focus of the research on the various mountain ranges is as indicated in the table below.

Country	N° of mountain oriented research institutions
France	9
Switzerland	6
Austria	6
Italy	6
Germany, Slovakia, Spain, UK, Georgia	1 (ea.)
Mountain area	N° of mountain oriented research institutions
Alps	20
Massif Central, Mediterranean mountains, Carpathians, Caucasus, Scottish Highlands	1 (ea.)
Wider not-specific mountain focus	7

Table 5: Number of institutions by mountain area and country

3.4 ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

The analysis of the above data leads to the following conclusions:

- The majority of mountain research institutions are active on more than one thematic field of mountain research. Almost a third of the identified research institutions and centres additionally mention interdisciplinary research as one of the objectives of the institution.
- The transversal approach of European mountain research is perhaps even more underlined by the fact that there is no real dominance, neither of the mainly natural science based cluster of ecology/biodiversity/forestry, nor of the strongly social science influenced subjects of policies/governance. Also not less than seven research institutions focus on both, the natural science and the social science-based aspects of mountain research.
- Mountain agriculture research is a core competency to almost as many research institutions as economy/innovation. Furthermore half of the institutions with a core competency in agricultural mountain research (four institutions) also focus on the theme of economy/innovation.
- With the exception of France and the one German institution, tourism is not a core subject of mountain research institutions. The reason could be that mountain tourism research is more likely to be covered by non-mountain specialized research institutions.
- Also other themes with mountain specific aspects such as transportation, social and spatial development, are only focused by a minority (two to four) of the mountain oriented research institutions. For this it can also be assumed that major players are not-mountain focused research institutions.
- In contrast, research on “climate change” and “globalization” is a core competence of European mountain research institutions. Many of them even refer to the research topic of “global change”, thus summarizing the interaction and common impact of these research areas on the mountain environment.

- In Europe only nine countries have key mountain-focused research institutions, while 36 countries have mountain environments as part of their national territories.
- The majority of mountain research institutions are located directly in mountain areas. Already 20 of the identified 32 research institutions are located in the Alps, which underlines the absolute predominance of this mountain range in mountain research.
- Concerning the mountain ranges that have just one institution, only the institutions or centres situated in the Scottish Highlands, the Massif Central and the Mediterranean mountains are dedicated to an interdisciplinary approach, while the two research institutions based in the east, the Carpathians (grassland) and the Caucasus (forestry) are specialized on a monodisciplinary approach.
- Even in countries like France and Italy, that host several specialized mountain research institutions, whole mountain ranges have to do without the existence of a research structure. E.g. France has no specialized mountain research institutions on Corsica, in the Pyrenees or the Vosges, with Italy having none in the Apennine chain.
- Only the Alps can be considered of having a real network of mountain-focused research institutions. Scandinavian and Eastern European mountains, the Balkans, the Caucasus, the Carpathians and Central-European low and medium mountain ranges, the Eastern Mediterranean and the Iberian mountains lack mountain-specific research institutions.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND OUTLOOK

The results give an outlook on mountain focused research institutions, their core competencies and geographic distribution. Based on a desk research, the results are derived from information available on websites of the institutions and research centres. They do not provide information on the resources in terms of manpower and funding dedicated to the different research areas. This is essential information for reaching any conclusion on capacity and proportional ranking of the different research competencies in the mountain research institutions. This basic information could be collected in a second phase of this study. Monitoring of the main research institutions, core competencies and resources could be helpful to forge synergies and foster targeted interaction between European mountain research institutions.

For addressing sustainable mountain development, it is not sufficient to limit the focus to mountain-specialized institutions only. First, institutions that have a minor, though relevant, SMD research unit need to be identified. This can be done via more focused analysis of research projects and activities as well as individual researchers. The Who=Who could be expanded to cater for projects and included the mother-child relation for main institutions and their sub-units into a 'Who=Who+' system.

In addition, other stakeholder groups with activities in mountain areas such as civil society organizations, government and private sector organizations play a role for sustainable mountain development and have to be identified.

Whereas the relevance of such a shared system is clear, it requires advanced planning, optimal use of new tools and resources and involvement of partners interested in building up and maintaining information systems on mountain research or developing monitoring strategies. Integrating the results of the Who=Who and the MRI data base should be explored.

The landscape of mountain research in Europe is substantial and regularly changing. Therefore the 'Who=Who+' system should be easy to update, preferably by the institutions themselves. The referred institutions must see a benefit to be listed in the system which is likely when it is set-up and maintained as a shared system with up-to-date information and wide visibility on the web. EMF would recommend such a follow-up as part of a next phase in the collaboration between the MF and the MP 2008/2009.

A good opportunity to disseminate and use information from this study would be an international meeting, as scheduled by IM. This could contribute to the identification of new and efficient modalities for information and communication on sustainable mountain development.

ANNEX 1: DETAILS OF IDENTIFIED KEY RESEARCH INSTITUTES IN EUROPE BY COUNTRY

Name	Main-Institution	Address/Location	Url
Austria			
Institute of Mountain Risk Engineering (IAN) (<i>Institute of Mountain Risk Engineering</i>)	University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences Vienna	Institut für Alpine Naturgefahren (IAN) Schwackhöferhaus, 3. Stock Peter Jordanstraße 82 1190 Vienna Austria Tel: +43-1-47654/4350 Fax: +43-1-47654/4390	www.boku.ac.at/ian
AlpS - Zentrum für Naturgefahren Management GmbH (<i>Alps</i>)		AlpS - Zentrum für Naturgefahren Management GmbH Grabenweg 3 A-6020 Innsbruck Austria Tel: +43-(0) 512-392929-0 Fax: +43-(0) 512-392929-39	www.alps.at/v2/www/home/home.php
Forschungsstelle für Gebirgsforschung: Mensch und Umwelt (IGF) (<i>The Mountain Research</i>)		IGF Technikerstraße 21a, Otto Hittmair-Platz 1 6020 Innsbruck Austria Tel: +43-512-507-4941 Fax: +43-512-507-4960	www.uibk.ac.at/igf/index.html.en
The Global Observation research Initiative in Alpine Environments (GLORIA)	University of Vienna	GLORIA co-ordination office Department of Conservation Biology, Vegetation and Landscape Ecology University of Vienna Althanstr. 14 A-1090 Vienna Austria Tel: +43-1-4277-54383 Fax: +43-1-4277-9542	www.gloria.ac.at
Research Platform: Alpine Space Man and Environment (ASME)	Innsbruck University	Institut für Ökologie Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck Technikerstr. 25 A-6020 Innsbruck Austria Tel: +43 (0) 512 507 61 30 or -6181 Fax: +43 512 507-6190	www.uibk.ac.at/alpinerraum/index.html.en
Bundesanstalt für Bergbauernfragen, Wien (BABF) (<i>Federal Institute for Less Favoured and Mountain Areas</i>)		Bundesanstalt für Bergbauernfragen Marxergasse 2 1030 Vienna Austria Tel: +43 1/504 88 69	www.berggebiete.eu/cms/index.php
France			
Institut de Géographie Alpine (IGA) (<i>Institute for Alpine Geography</i>)	Université Joseph Fourier, Grenoble	Institut de Géographie Alpine 14 bis Avenue Marie Reynoard 38100 Grenoble France Tel: 04 76 82 20 00 Fax: 04 76 82 20 00	http://iga.ujf-grenoble.fr
Institut de la montagne (IM) (<i>Mountain Institute</i>)		Institut de la Montagne Campus scientifique de l'Université de Savoie Bât. Belledonnes 73376 Le Bourget-du-Lac Cedex France Tel: 00.33.(0)4.79.75.81.70 Fax: 00.33.(0)4.79.75.81.71	www.institut-montagne.org
Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Appliquées au Massif Central, à la moyenne montagne et aux espaces fragiles (CERAMAC) (<i>Centre for Studies and Applied Science in the Massif Central</i>)	Université Blaise Pascal, Clermont Ferrand	CERAMAC Maison des Sciences de l'Homme - 4, rue Ledru 63057 Clermont-Fd Cedex 1 France Tel: 04 73 34 68 13	http://maison-recherche.univ-bpclermont.fr/labos/ceramac.htm

Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur les Montagnes sèches et Méditerranéennes (CERMOSEM) (Centre of Studies and Research on the Dry and Mediterranean Mountains)	Université Joseph Fourier, Grenoble	CERMOSEM Domaine Olivier de SerresLe Pradel 07170 Mirabel France Tel: (33) 04 75 36 76 52 Fax : (33) 04 75 36 76 84	http://iga.ujf-grenoble.fr/ceremosem/index.html
Centre Interdisciplinaire Scientifique de la Montagne (CISM) (Interdisciplinary Mountain Research Centre)	Université de Savoie, Chambéry	CISM Bâtiment Belledonne, Campus scientifique, F-73376 Le Bourget du Lac Cedex France Fax : +33 (0)4 79 75 87 77	www.cism.univ-savoie.fr
CENTRE DE RECHERCHES SUR LES ECOSYSTEMES D'ALTITUDE (CREA) (RESEARCH CENTRE FOR HIGHLAND ECOSYSTEMS)	Research Centre for Highland Ecosystems	CREA Observatoire du Mont-Blanc 67, lacets du Belvédère 74400 Chamonix France Tel: +33 (0)4 50 53 45 16	www.crea.hautesavoie.net
GIS Alpes du Nord (GIS Northern Alps)		Alpes du Nord.com , 11, rue Métropole 73000 Chambéry – France Tel: 04 79 70 77 75	www.alpes-du-nord.com/gis/index.html
Institut de formation et de recherche en médecine de montagne (ifremmont) (Institute for the Formation and Research of Mountain Medicine, Hôpital de Chamonix)		ifremmont HÔPITAL DE CHAMONIX 509, route des Pélerins BP 30 - Les Bossons 74400 Chamonix France Tel.: 0826 14 8000 Fax : 04 50 53 84 06	www.ifremmont.com
CEMAGREF –Grenoble Développement des Territoires Montagnards DTM Ecosystèmes Montagnards EM Erosion Torrentielle, Neige et Avalanches ENTA (Development of Mountain Territories, Mountain Ecosystems and Torrential Erosion, Snow and Avalanches)		CEMAGREF Groupeement de Grenoble , 2 rue de la Papeterie BP 76 38402 ST-MARTIN-D'HERES cedex France Tel.: 33 (0)4 76 76 27 27 Fax: 33 (0)4 76 51 38 03	www.grenoble.cemagref.fr
Georgia			
V.Gulisashvili Institute of Mountain Forestry (IMF) (Institute of Mountain Forestry)		V.Gulisashvili Institute of Mountain Forestry 9, Mindeli str, Tbilisi, 380086 Georgia Tel: 30-34-66, 30-31-72.	www.acnet.ge/forest.ht
Germany			
Alpenforschungs Institut (AFI) (Alpine Research Institute)		Alpenforschungsinstitut GmbH Am Kurpark 21 D- 82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen Germany Tel/Fax.: +49 (0) 88 21 / 9 43 16 - 0 bzw. -79 (Fax)	www.alpenforschung.de
Italy			
Institute for Alpine Environment (EURAC-IAE)	EURAC research, Bozen/Bolzano	EURAC INSTITUTE FOR ALPINE ENVIRONMENT Viale Druso 1, 39100 Bozen/Bolzano – Italy Tel. +39 0471 055 055 Fax +39 0471 055 059	www.eurac.edu/Org/alpineEnvironment/alpineEnvironment/index.htm
Alpine Convention and International Mountain Agreement Coordination Unit (EURAC-IMA)	EURAC research, Bozen/Bolzano	EURAC Alpine Convention and International Mountain Agreement Coordination Unit Viale Druso 1, 39100 Bozen/Bolzano – Italy Tel: +39 0471 055 353Fax: +39 0471 055 359	www.eurac.edu/Org/alpineConvention/alpineconvention/index




Centro di Ecologia Alpina CEA (Centre for Alpine Ecology)	Fondazione Edmund Mach.	FEM - Centro di Ecologia Alpina 38100 - Loc. Viote del Monte Bondone (Trento) - Italy Tel: +39 0461 939555 Fax: +39 0461 948190	www.cealp.it/index.asp
EvK2CNR		EvK2CNR Via San Bernardino 145 24126 Bergamo	www.evk2cnr.org
Slovakia			
Výskumný ústav trávnych porastov a horského poľnohospodárstv (Grassland and Mountain agriculture GMA)	SLOVENSKÉ CENTRUM POĽNOHOSPODÁRSKEH O VÝSKUMU	Výskumný ústav trávnych porastov a horského poľnohospodárstva Mládežnícka 36 97421 Banská Bystrica Slovakia Tel: 048 4132541 Fax: 048 4132541	www.vutphp.sk
Spain			
Instituto Pirenaico de Ecología (IPE) (Pyrenean Institute for Ecology)	Council for Scientific Research	IPE Avda. Montañana, 1005 50.192 Zaragoza (ZARAGOZA) Spain Tel: 976 716034 Fax: 976 716019	www.ipe.csic.es/primer.html
Switzerland			
Global Mountain Biodiversity Assessment (GMBA)	University of Basel	GMBA Institute of Botany, University of Basel Schönbeinstr. 6, 4056 Basel, Switzerland Tel: +41 61 267 35 11 Fax: +41 61 267 35 04	http://gmba.unibas.ch/index/index.htm
Mountain Invasion Research Network (MIREN)	ETH Zurich	MIRN Institute of Integrative Biology (IBZ), ETH Zurich Universitätsstrasse 16 ETH Zentrum, CHN CH-8092 Zurich Switzerland	www.miren.ethz.ch/index.html
Mountain Research Initiative (MRI)	University of Berne	Mountain Research Initiative c/o Institute of Geography University of Berne Erlachstrasse 9a 3012 Bern Switzerland Tel: +41 (0)31 631 51 41 Fax: +41 (0)31 631 51 44	http://mri.scnatweb.ch
Swiss Alpine Studies - ISCAR: International Scientific Committee on Research in the Alps ICAS: Commission interacadémique Recherche alpine	Interacademic Commission for Alpine Research	Swiss Alpine Studies Schwarztorstrasse 9 3007 Bern Switzerland Tel: +41 (0)31 318 70 18 Fax: +41 (0)31 312 16 78	www.alpinestudies.ch
Centre de recherche sur l'environnement alpin (CREALP) (Research Centre on Alpine Environment)		CREALP Centre de recherche sur l'environnement alpin Rue de l'Industrie 45 CH-1951 Sion Switzerland Tel : +41 27 324 03 80 Fax : +41 27 322 55 67	www.crealp.ch
Eidgenössisches Institut für Schnee- und Lawinenforschung SFL (Swiss Federal Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research)	Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL	Eidgenössisches Institut für Schnee- und Lawinenforschung Flüelastr. 11 CH-7260 Davos Dorf Switzerland Tel: +41 81 417 01 11 Fax: +41 81 417 01 10	www.slf.ch













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Global partners	
Swiss Agency for development (SDC)	 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC
Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS)	
Institute de la Montagne (IM)	

Mountain Forum Regional Networks	Hosting Institutions
African Mountain Forum (AMF) 	World Agroforestry Centre 
	The African Highlands Initiative (AHI) 
Asia-Pacific Mountain Network (APMN) 	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) 
European Mountain Forum (EMF) 	The Association of Elected Mountain Officials (AEM) 
Latin American Mountain Forum -InfoAndina 	International Potato Center (CIP) 
	Consortium of Sustainable Development of the Andean Ecoregion (CONDESAN) 
North American Mountain Forum (NAMF) 	Mountain Culture at The Banff Centre  THE BANFF CENTRE