

Output of CMW



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The Thimphu Declaration (see Annex 4)

One of the major outputs of the Celebrating Mountain Women gathering was the Thimphu Declaration, drafted in Bhutan and presented at the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. This important document contains the voices of many mountain women who do not see their needs being adequately met by the latest development initiatives. The pivotal importance of mountain women for attaining sustainable development is stressed in the declaration. The need for peace, gender equity, effective policies, access to health care, education, and training has also been emphasised throughout the document.

The Thimphu Declaration calls on the international community, including the United Nations, and others to:

- Heed the voices and concerns of mountain women and listen to their perspectives on peace, natural resource use, and sustainable mountain development;
- Provide the institutional and financial support for future policy and action on the principles of gender equality and gender mainstreaming;
- Strengthen mountain women's right to resources and their role in their communities and cultures; and
- Promote a rights-based approach to development and strengthen economic and technological opportunities to empower mountain women.

Global Mountain Women's Partnership (see Annex 5)

The Global Mountain Women's Partnership (GMWP) was drawn up by ICIMOD to translate the views and concerns articulated during CMW, and as expressed in the Thimphu Declaration, into action beyond 2002. The

GMWP is one of the major follow-up activities of the CMW conference. The main idea behind the GMWP is to promote the interests of mountain women, thereby improving mountain women's livelihood options. The GMWP will provide a basis for collaboration between the major stakeholders and mountain women. It will help bring together stakeholders such as development partners and donors, governments, policy makers, NGOs and civil society organisations, members of the private sector, researchers and practitioners, entrepreneurs, and media professionals who will work to address the needs of mountain women to bring about sustainable mountain development.

The GMWP seeks to:

- Advocate policies and laws that provide equality-based social, political, and economic rights to women. Ensure that such policies and laws exist for reasons that specifically address women's well-being and rights;
- Inform mountain women about their human, political, and economic rights — including property, environmental, health, cultural, and intellectual rights — and provide adequate training to claim these rights;
- Promote equitable representation of mountain women in decision-making bodies at all levels, and promote their participation in negotiation and decision-making processes, including in conflict prevention and resolution;
- Ensure that health programmes focus on reproductive and sexual health problems including HIV/AIDS, and other emerging diseases in mountain areas;
- Encourage research and disseminate results of mountain women's indigenous knowledge in areas key to mountain women such as natural resources, and traditional farming and conservation techniques, as well as cultural, health, and religious practices;

- Increase access to information about business, markets, technology and other livelihood opportunities that utilise and conserve the diversity of mountain environments, and promote training programmes and social services to meet the development needs of mountain women; and
- Promote physical and social infrastructure (roads, electricity, schools, telecommunications, markets) that is sensitive and responsive to women's needs, particularly regarding location, design, and utility. Enhance income generation and entrepreneurship among mountain women, reduce their workload, and generally improve the quality of their lives.

Conference Briefs

Conference briefs were prepared soon after CMW in late October. These detail the main points of various discourses that took place during the event.

Resource Book

The resource book is a document that sets out the proceedings of the various theme sessions. For the benefit of those who were not able to attend the conference, this will be an eye opener.

Video Documentary

A 22-minute documentary has been produced, which chronicles the events of CMW and captures the most memorable moments on video. It also contains interviews of guests and participants of CMW, speaking about the future of mountain women and CMW.

Video Clips

A 4-minute video clip was produced just before the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit (BGMS) to be

screened there. It highlights some scenes from the documentary, shown with a background of beautiful music and no narration.

Photos

Thanks to Mr. Anupam Bhatia — who gave his time free of charge and for whom photography is a major interest — all the images, faces, and events of CMW were captured. There are photos of the opening ceremony, the inauguration of stalls, of theme sessions, and the mountain costume show. Some are included in this document.

Web Site

The CMW Secretariat developed a web site dedicated to CMW, which was used as a tool to bring CMW participants together and to post/convey information regarding the event. It contained all relevant information so that participants were well informed before attending the conference in Bhutan. Now after the conference, the secretariat has been working to reconstruct the same website to make it a pre-eminent site dedicated to mountain women and their issues. Apart from promoting mountain women and their global partnership, the web site will continue to share the other outputs of CMW. The site will have a photo gallery of mountain women and the video clips will be available for downloading.

Research CD

All the research material gathered for CMW was thoroughly reviewed and compiled to represent all the themes of the conference. A total of 35 papers were included in the CMW research database. These studies were also put onto a CD and distributed to interested participants during the conference.