



World Mountain Forum

"Mountains for our Future"

Mbale, Uganda : 17-20 October 2016

WMF

2016



1. Objectives of the WMF 2016

After the second WMF2014 which took place in Cusco, Peru, the WMF 2016 will present an opportunity for mountain stakeholders to share lessons and experiences on past activities in sustainable mountain development and to discuss challenges and opportunities for SMD in the future referring to the recommendations from the last WMF 14 and conclusions of on-going international policy processes including climate change negotiation and new sustainable development goals.

The WMF 2016 outcomes are expected to inform the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and guide interventions in mountain areas at local, national and international levels. Furthermore, the WMF 2016 will offer an opportunity for mountain countries to discuss how to effectively implement the decisions from climate change negotiations and the post-2015 agenda for sustainable mountain development.

2. Background

Mountains cover 22 percent of the world's land surface and are home to some 915 million people, representing 13 percent of global population (FAO, 2015). Mountains provide indispensable goods and services to a significant proportion of humankind. They supply half of the global population with freshwater for domestic use and lowland irrigation in support of global food security and play an important role in the production of hydropower as a form of green energy. Mountains are centres of cultural and biological diversity, sources of raw materials, and important tourist destinations.

Despite these key goods and services they provide, mountains still remain among the ecosystems least documented, offering services least accounted for. At the same time, many mountain regions are confronted with multiple risks and hazards, including widespread land degradation, inequitable land rights, resource grabs, and dire poverty. Globally, approximately 40% of the mountain population in developing countries is vulnerable to food insecurity, and half are chronically hungry. The situation is exacerbated by global climatic, environmental and socioeconomic changes. With uncertainties created by climate change, high population growth and land use change, urgent political actions are needed to enable environments at global and local levels and to facilitate the implementation of Sustainable Mountain Development (SMD) activities based on available knowledge and information while promoting investment in SMD.

In order to promote SMD in view of the considerable global challenges ahead, a program funded and led by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) named "Sustainable Mountain Development for Global Change (SMD4GC)" was initiated with an objective to contribute to sustainable development in mountain regions under uncertain and changing climatic, environmental, and socioeconomic conditions. The programme involves the establishment of SMD policy instruments at different levels; and knowledge management to enable mountain stakeholders and communities to implement knowledge-based SMD activities.

One of the activities of the SMD4GC Programme is to support different multi-stakeholder events to enhance policy dialogue as well as knowledge sharing. The backbone

of these events is the World Mountain Forum (WMF) – an outstanding platform for SMD. It is in this framework that, following the last WMF held in Cusco, Peru in 2014, a third WMF will take place in 2016 at Mbale, Uganda. The Forum brings together mountain stakeholders from around the globe, and provide a platform for exchange, promotion of collaborative action and fostering political dialogue among different levels of society. The overall goal of the World Mountain Forum is to engage dialogue with articulated concrete actions and concerted efforts to address the plight of mountain ecosystems towards the SMD.

3. Themes

The 2016 WMF will be held under the main theme of "Mountains for our Future and sub themes as listed below:

1. Mountains and Climate Change
2. Mountain Communities and Livelihoods
3. Mountain Ecosystem Services
4. Sustainable Mountain Agriculture

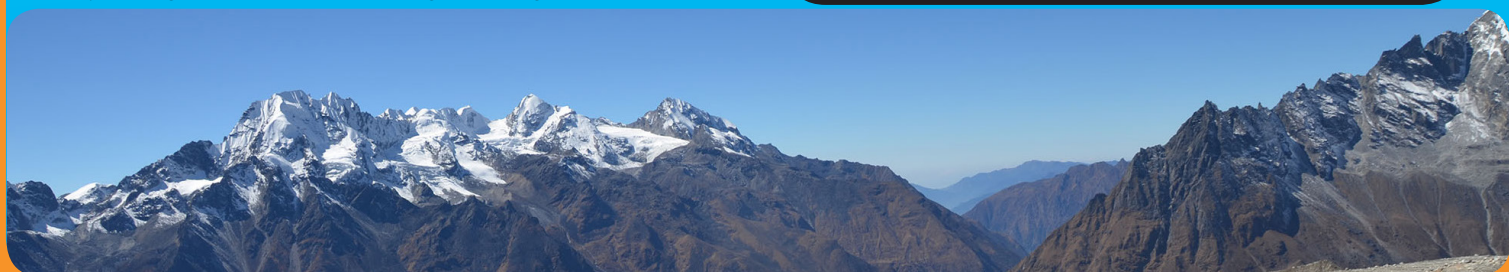
4. The Venue of the WMF 2016

The WMF 2016 will be held in Mbale, a town located near Mount Elgon in Eastern Uganda, East Africa.

5. WMF's week at a glance

The WMF2016 will be held from 17th to 20th October 2016.

Date	Activity
Sunday 16 th October 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Arrival of participants at Entebbe/Kampala
Monday 17 th October 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Transfer to MbaleSpecial Africa mountains event
Tuesday 18 th October 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Official OpeningTheme 1-4
Wednesday 19 th October 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">High level segmentForum conclusions and closing
Thursday 20 th October 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Field tripDeparture



6. Participants

The forum will bring together participants from different background all around the world including government representatives, development actors, researchers, representatives of mountain communities and political actors in mountain areas at national and global levels. There is limited funding/sponsorship for especially active contributors and participants from developing countries. Self-funded participants are strongly encouraged to apply. The interested candidates should register at the [event website](http://wmf.mntforum.org) (<http://wmf.mntforum.org>). The registration fee is 50 \$.

7. Key Dates

- First announcement: **1st October 2015**
- Deadline for early registration and submission of abstracts for presentations and posters: **30th April 2016**
- Announcement of selected presentations and posters: **30th June 2016**
- Deadline for late registration: **30th June 2016**
- Deadline for final versions of presentations and posters: **31st July 2016**
- Starting of the WMF 2016: **17th October 2016**

8. Partners

The 2016 WMF is jointly organised by Albertine Rift Conservation Society and the Government of Uganda with financial and technical support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). It is also technically supported by Sustainable Mountain Development for Global Change (SMD4GC) partners all over the world including Consorcio para el Desarrollo Sostenible de la Ecorregion Andina (CONDESAN) from Latin America, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) from Asia, University of Central Asia, Department of Geography at Zurich University, The Centre for Development and Environment, University of Berne, Fondation pour le Développement Durable des régions de Montagne; as well as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Africa Mountains Partnership Champions Committee, the Mountain Partnership Secretariat and East African Community.

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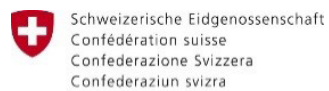
Event website: wmf.mtnforum.org

Event hashtag: [#WMF_2016](https://twitter.com/WMF_2016)



WMEF

2016



Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



CONDESAN
Consejo para el Desarrollo Sostenible
de la Ecorregión Andina



Foundation for sustainable development
in mountain regions

ICIMOD



CDE
CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT
AND ENVIRONMENT



UNIVERSITY
OF CENTRAL ASIA



**Universität
Zürich** ^{UZH}



Federal Ministry for the
Environment, Nature Conservation,
Building and Nuclear Safety



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



International
Hydrological
Programme