



Second meeting of the Science and Knowledge Advisory Committee of the Mountain Partnership

Summary report

4 October 2023, 15.30-17.00 – Zoom meeting

Agenda

15.30 - 15.35 Opening, introduction and adoption of the agenda

15.35 - 15.40 Tour de table

15.40 - 15.50 Announcement and ratification of the Chair

15.50 - 16.20 Planning of SKA Committee involvement with MP's upcoming advocacy efforts

16.20 - 16.40 Update on policy briefs and publications

16.40 - 17.00 Other matters, discussion and conclusions

Opening, introduction, adoption of the agenda

Sara Manuelli, Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS), welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the second meeting of the Science and Knowledge Advisory Committee (SKA Committee) of the Mountain Partnership (MP).

The agenda was adopted without change.

Tour de table

New participants briefly introduced themselves – see the full list of participants in Annex 1.

Announcement and ratification of the Chair

Before announcing the results of the election, Sara briefly recalled the process facilitated by the MPS for electing the SKA Committee Chair. The Secretariat invited self-nominations from within the committee between 30 August and 13 September. Two individuals put forth their names: Nakul Chettri, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), and Hugo Mantilla-Meluk, Centro de Estudios de Alta Montaña (CEAM). The MPS then created an online form for collecting votes between 18 September and 2 October. The results of the election were very close. Hugo received a majority of the votes and was therefore elected as Chair.

The SKA Committee congratulated Hugo. The MPS expressed its sincere thanks to Nakul for his nomination and recalled that, as per the SKA Committee's Terms of Reference, the Committee can decide to elect one or more Vice Chairs. It was decided to discuss the election of a Vice Chair(s) at the next SKA Committee meeting.

Hugo thanked the SKA Committee members and accepted his new role.

Planning of SKAC involvement with MP's upcoming advocacy efforts

Fabio Parisi, MPS, presented an update on the Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions 2023-2027. A taskforce was created that drafted a [global framework](#) for the Five Years of Action. Fabio encouraged the SKA Committee members to support the global framework by informing their organizations and by utilizing the framework to develop new projects.

Hugo suggested that the SKA Committee members familiarize themselves with the global framework document and proposed conducting a survey among SKA Committee members to identify and utilize individuals' expertise.

Sara presented updates on the MPS' activities for International Mountain Day (IMD) and the 28th session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP 28). IMD 2023 focuses on restoring ecosystems in mountains. The MPS is planning to conduct two side events at COP 28 – a technical side event in the Cryosphere Pavilion and a high-level IMD event in the Food and Agriculture Pavilion. Sara asked members to share events that they are organizing and participating in.

Rob Marchant, University of York, informed the SKA Committee of his upcoming keynote speech at the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) meeting in Rwanda and requested materials to present on the Five Years of Action.

The [Trello board](#) for the Five Years of Action was shared.

Update on policy briefs and publications

Carlo Murer, MPS, presented updates on the launch of the [Business Incubator and Accelerator for Mountains and Islands](#) (BIA), a new grant programme. Within the framework of the BIA, the MPS proposes to develop two studies: one on the environmental impact of small-scale mountain production compared to conventional methods, and a second study comparing local markets and export markets for the livelihood of farmers. Carlo invited the SKA Committee members to collaborate and thanked those who had already provided feedback on the proposals.

Fabio provided a brief update on the [pending policy briefs](#) that were proposed during the IYM 2022 and had not yet been published. Following the meeting, the [policy brief on disaster risk reduction in mountains](#) was published.

Other matters, discussion and conclusions

Hugo closed the meeting and proposed the next meeting of the SKA Committee take place in January 2024.

Annex 1: Meeting Participants

Last name	First name	Affiliation	Country
Azodi	Mehrnoosh	Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Convention	Switzerland
Bernbaum	Edwin	University of California, Berkeley	United States of America
Cristiana	Leucci	Instituto Nacional de Investigación en Glaciares y Ecosistemas de Montaña	Peru
Drenkhan	Fabian	Pontifical Catholic University of Peru	Peru
Fouinat	Laurent	GRID-Arendal	Norway
Fuentealba	Beatriz	Instituto Nacional de Investigación en Glaciares y Ecosistemas de Montaña	Peru
Harbour	Kimberley	Canadian Mountain Network	Canada
Liniger	Hanspeter	Universität Bern	Switzerland
Mackey	Alex	Zoï Environment Network	Switzerland
Mantilla-Meluk	Hugo	Centro de Estudios de Alta Montaña (CEAM)	Colombia
Marchant	Rob	University of York	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Nguma	Ruth	UNESCO	Kenya
Pons	Marc	Andorra Research and Innovation	Andorra
Raj Gurung	Deo	Aga Khan Development Network	Switzerland
Shatberashvili	Nina	Caucasus Network for Sustainable Development of Mountain Region (Sustainable Caucasus)	Georgia
Stanchi	Silvia	University of Turin	Italy
Vilá	Bibiana	Vicuñas, Camélidos y Ambiente (VICAM)	Argentina

Mountain Partnership Secretariat staff:

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 Stefania Corrado
 Sara Manuelli
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 Laura Russo
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