



Fourth Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership side event report form

Name of side event: **Tropical Mountain Forest Conservation and the Green Economy**

Name and affiliation of organizer: Benedicto Q. Sánchez (BIND, Philippines);

Other participants: Ledy Nohemy Trujillo Ortiz (Dirección de Bosques, Biodiversidad y Servicios Ecosistémicos Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible, Colombia); Luis Felipe Cruz Lenz Cesar (Crescente Fértil), Magda Brigida Campos Barrantes (National Meteorological Institute of Costa Rica); Miguel Saravia (Condesan), Kalyan Kumar Paul (Pan Himalayan Grassroots Development Foundation), Dharmalingam Venugopal (Nilgiri Documentation Centre); Ruth Leyuga Titamongu (Foundation for Environment and Development)

Kashinath Vajpai (Prakriti, A mountain environment group)

Topic addressed:

The Side Event touched on various that a mountain-based green economy within the framework of tropical rainforest conservation and the various stakeholders that would be involved in the process.

Objective of Side Event:

The overarching goal of the Side Event would be to link debates on rainforest conservation as carbon sinks from the field of ideas to a field of action at varying levels that will impact the ground of mountain communities.

1. Define core group of south-south stakeholders from civil society, government, and the private sector united into a potential joint project proposal that aims to replicate each other's experiences as field schools of excellence at the national and local levels as pilot projects;
2. Create the necessary organizational and financial mechanisms to follow through with the process;
3. Define our follow-up process to this global meeting for building an organizational mechanism for consolidating and coordinating our group efforts.

Topics discussed:

In the Philippine experience, the presentation presented alternatives to forest timber utilization by promoting non-timber forest products, rainforestation, i.e., the restoration of endemic tree species, and preserving forest land uses through the promotion of organic agroforestry in open spaces for food security and demand-based local green economy.

In the Colombian experience, the topic touched on Restoration ecology and compensation. These topics are pilot projects for applied environmental policies.

In the Costa Rican experience, the starting point was the watershed protection and the role of the private sector in forest conservation.

In the Indian experience, the topic touched on appropriate technology on cross-cutting sectors like community-managed drinking water, sanitation, rainwater harvesting, and renewable energy leads to improving the quality of life for mountain communities.

Pan Himalayan also discussed that we have over two decades experience in the above as well in organizing pro-poor social enterprises which improves livelihoods through sustainable incomes.

The organization proposed to share its experiences with other mountain nations on the basis of a Sharing and Learning Platform.

In Cameroon, legal machinery for environmental protection, sustainable development, the implementation and development of environmental law, conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of its resources, enhancing access to justice, public participation and access to information in environmental issues, environmental conflict management, research, environmental justice, livelihood issue, community natural resource management and legal assistance to institutions involved in environment and other pro-poor development project. (From the website of the Foundation For Environment and Development and prior discussions with lawyer Ruth Leyuga Titamongu).

Follow-up actions planned, if any: Come up with a joint global proposal for submission to Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety within the context of the [International Climate Initiative](#) to tap its climate change funds for tropical forest conservation which in many cases have become synonymous with mountain natural resource conservation.

We expect the MPS and other partners to provide the guidance and assistance for accessing the German fund.

Members planning to join this activity after the side event, if any: Benedicto Q. Sánchez (BIND, Philippines); Ledy Nohemy Trujillo Ortiz (Dirección de Bosques, Biodiversidad y Servicios Ecosistémicos Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible, Colombia); Luis Felipe Cruz Lenz Cesar (Crescente Fértil), Magda Brigida Campos Barrantes (National Meteorological Institute of Costa Rica); Miguel Saravia (Condesan), Kalyan Kumar Paul (Pan Himalayan Grassroots Development Foundation), Dharmalingam Venugopal (Nilgiri Documentation Centre); Ruth Leyuga Titamongu (Foundation for Environment and Development)

Please attach list of participants (sign-in sheet provided by MPS). Please see Attendance Sheet that was handed to Alessia Vita.