

# Strategic Initiative for Climate Change Impacts Adaptation and Development in Mountain Regions



**THREE  
REGIONAL  
MEETINGS :**

**LATIN AMERICA,  
AFRICA,  
CENTRAL ASIA**





**THERE IS STILL VERY LIMITED AWARENESS,** let alone concern, at the global-level of the **impacts caused by climate change in mountain ecosystems.** The information available generally focuses on retreating glaciers. While the perception may be one of regions with low population density in a harsh environment, **the reality is magnitudes of people are affected directly and indirectly** by changes in mountain environments.

Within the framework of the **“Strategic Initiative for Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation and Development in Mountain Regions”**, the Mountain Partnership Secretariat has organized **three regional meetings in Chile, Tajikistan and Uganda** with support of the World Bank Development Grant Facility.

The overall objective of the initiative is to enhance the advocacy of climate change impacts in mountain regions and strengthen cross-regional and cross-thematic cooperation in order to mobilize international support and resources for promoting climate change adaptation in mountain ecosystems.

Each regional meeting will bring together government delegates, policy makers, scientists and climate change experts, to strengthen knowledge about the climate change impacts in mountain

areas, to discuss adaptation options in mountain ecosystems and to promote better alliances and cooperation amongst countries with mountain territories so to reinforce their understanding of key issues.

Each regional meeting will be complemented with a field visit to a mountain area in which the impacts of climate change are visible. The aim of these field visits is the exposure of participants to local-level adaptation practices in their respective mountainous districts.



26-28 OCTOBER 2011, SANTIAGO DEL CHILE



**THE FIRST OF THE THREE REGIONAL MEETINGS** is being organized in collaboration with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Chile and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and will be held in Santiago, Chile from 26 to 28 October 2011





**IN CHILE, PARTICIPANTS WILL VISIT CAJÓN DEL MAIPO,** a canyon located in the Andean south-eastern portion of the Santiago Metropolitan Region. It encompasses the upper Maipo River basin, where the river has entrenched itself in a narrow valley

A regional strategy for the Metropolitan Region of Santiago was approved in 2005, setting an action plan 2005-2012 with the joint participation of state and civil society organizations. This initiative provides impor-

tant management tools for an area still lacking in basic research, and insufficiently valued, but providing almost 75 percent of the water required by Chile's capital city.





9-11 NOVEMBER 2011, DUSHANBE, TAJIKISTAN



**THE SECOND REGIONAL MEETING** is being coordinated in collaboration with the University of Central Asia (UCA). The meeting will be held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan from 9 to 11 November 2011





**IN TAJIKISTAN, PARTICIPANTS WILL VISIT THE NUROBOD DISTRICT OF THE RASHT VALLEY, 160 km from the capital city of Dushanbe**

**Two villages with pilot activities addressing the complexity of climate change in high altitude contexts will be visited**

Almost 90 percent of the population of Central Asia relies on water that falls in the mountains where it is stored in glaciers and snow before making its way downstream to population centres. Overall, Tajikistan holds 40 percent of the water resources serving the five Central Asia countries. These water resources

also serve China and Russia. However, global warming is slowly decimating mountain glaciers, affecting snow reserves and at the same time increasing water requirements of basic agricultural crops.





17-19 NOVEMBER 2011, MBALE, UGANDA

**THE THIRD REGIONAL MEETING**  
will take place in Mbale, Uganda from 17 to 19 November 2011 and is being jointly planned with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)



**IN UGANDA, PARTICIPANTS WILL VISIT MOUNT ELGON** and communities on its slopes to observe emerging micro-climate changes, their causes and effects so to discuss coping mechanisms and suitable adaptation strategies

The African mountains stand out as areas with favourable climatic and ecological conditions, in contrast to the surrounding lowlands that are generally much drier. As a consequence of this, the total average population density in all African mountains is more than double the density of the lowlands.

The driving economic forces now have better knowledge about and access to the rich natural resources in the mountains, including hydropower, minerals, timber and agricultural soils.







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Mountain Partnership



**Mountain Partnership Secretariat**

FAO, Forestry Department

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla

00153 Rome, Italy

[info@mountainpartnership.org](mailto:info@mountainpartnership.org)

[www.mountainpartnership.org](http://www.mountainpartnership.org)