



GMBA NEWS - APRIL 2018

Dear colleagues,

With this newsletter, we are welcoming all the new members who have joined the GMBA community in the last months! We are thrilled to see the GMBA community of mountain biodiversity scientists grow so much and we are looking forward to exciting collaborations and frequent contact. To the newcomers, please start sharing your news with us, whether it is a publication, an interesting result, a call for collaboration, or a job ad! What lands in our mailbox gets announced as a news or highlight on the website, in the next newsletter, or on twitter, such that it rapidly gains visibility. To all our long-term members, please keep up with the effort of sharing information.

GMBA WORKING GROUPS AND PROJECTS NEWS

PEGASuS project: *Toward biodiversity-related opportunities for sustainable development - a global social-ecological mountain comparison*

This spring we have been busy preparing our first online assessment of the state of, trends in, and relationship between biodiversity, ecosystem services, and human wellbeing in the world's mountain.

We will launch our online survey on 02.05.2018! Be ready for it and thank you in advance for your participation and for spreading the link!

GMBA workshop on remote sensing and biodiversity monitoring

On February 05-07, 2018, GMBA, the [Global Land Programme](#), [bioDISCOVERY](#) and the ESA sponsored [GlobDiversity](#) project brought together 40 international experts to discuss the present and future of remote sensing in biodiversity monitoring and species distribution models and for exploring data from different mountain systems around the world. This event was an activity of the [GMBA working group on species distribution models and remote sensing](#), was hosted by the University of Zurich, and sponsored by the European Space Agency, Future Earth, and the Swiss National Science Foundation. [Read more...](#)

NETWORK NEWS

New book "Mountains, Climate and Biodiversity: A comprehensive and up-to-date synthesis for students and researchers"

GMBA network members Carina Hoorn, Allison Perrigo, and Alexandre Antonelli co-edited this new book that explores the relationship between mountain building and climate change, and how these processes shape biodiversity through time and space.

[Read more and order online...](#)

New issue of Mountain Research and Development available online and open access

Papers analyse gender-inclusive value chain development in Nepal, the impact of Swiss policy to maintain high-mountain pasturing, cultivation of an endangered runner bean in Italy, an intercropping experiment in Thailand, Bhutanese herders' perceptions of climatic changes, the introduction of non-native plants by tourists in a Chinese national park, plant functional groups in grassland in the Georgian Caucasus, and large-scale mapping of arid regions in river valleys in southwestern China. [Read more...](#)

Certificate of Advanced Studies on Geomatics for Sustainable Development: second edition!

The University of Geneva and GRID-Geneva are proud to announce the second edition of the Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) called «Geomatics for a Sustainable Environment». This CAS aims at providing attendees with an overview of the various existing tools and approaches to tackle the multidisciplinary environmental challenges. **Registration deadline: 30 April 2018!** [Read more...](#)

Call for participation: Functional Ecology of Alpine Soils

Robert Mills (Lancaster University) is making the first global assessment of the response of alpine soil microbial communities to perturbations associated with climate extremes. Participation is easy! [Read more...](#) or [contact Robert](#).

Call for participation: MIREN's global Trail Survey

[The Mountain Invasion Research Network](#) (MIREN) is calling on mountain scientists to join their global Trail Survey this summer! The aim is to study the spread of global plant invaders along mountain trails to figure out where and how fast these species are traveling. Participation is easy! [Read more...](#) or [contact MIREN](#).

Call for proposals: SDC HUC Focus Grants on *Climate change and adaptation in the Hindu Kush Himalayas*

!!Applying (leading) institutions must be one of HUC's Full Members and involve relevant expertise from research institutions in Switzerland!! The objective of the focus grants is to foster regional collaboration in higher education research and training in and for sustainable mountain development. Institutional grant proposals are expected to focus on any of the nexuses among the thematic areas of Climate Change Sciences and Adaptation Measures: Water, Ecosystems, Landuse, Air Quality, Gender, Migration, Food, etc.. **Submission deadline: 07.05.2018!** [Read more...](#)

Call for pre-proposals: Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI) co-funded small grant program on *The role of ecosystem services in adaptation to global change for human wellbeing (SGP-HW)*

!!For parties and partners in the Americas only!! The Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI) opened a call for pre-proposals on the role of ecosystem services in adaptation to global change for human wellbeing. The IAI will fund international collaborative research networks for 2 years. **Submission deadline: 27.05.2018.** [Read more...](#)

Call for proposals: Science of Nature and People Partnership

The Science for Nature and People Partnership (SNAPP) is seeking proposals for interdisciplinary teams to develop evidence-based solutions to challenges at the intersection of nature conservation, sustainable development, and human well-being, using a synthesis research approach. **Submission deadline: 06.06.2018.** [Read more...](#)

Call for contributions: The Encyclopedia of the World's Biomes

The Encyclopedia of the World's Biomes is a major reference work that will be published by Elsevier in 2020 primarily for university students, from undergraduates through PhD students. The Alpine Biome section will include upwards of 50 articles on various topics, including the flora and fauna of alpine regions of the world, climate, soils, biological diversity, cold-region adaptations, biogeography, and current threats to alpine ecosystems. [Look up the titles](#) and contact the section editor [Scott Elias](#) if you are interested in contributing.

Opportunities: PhD Opportunity in Plant Invasion Ecology

The Afromontane Research Unit (ARU) and Department of Plant Sciences at the University of the Free State (UFS)'s Qwaqwa Campus, in association with various invasion research partners, is advertising for a PhD Candidate to work on the invasion ecology of the South American Tussock Grasses (*Nassella*) in southern Africa. **Application deadline: 15.05.2018.** [Read more...](#)

Project opportunities on the biogeography, phylogeography and evolution of high Andean butterflies (by Prof. Shapiro)

!!For South American scientists!! Estimados colegas: Después de 41 años de estudios en la región andina, habiendo llegado a 72 años ya no más estoy dispuesto tampoco acondicionado para andar con mochila y red en la zona oreal/altoandina. No es decir que he perdido mi interés en la biogeografía, fitogeografía y evolución de las mariposas altoandinas, especialmente los piéridos y el género *Colias*. Estoy buscando estudiantes avanzados, quizá postulantes al doctorado, con interés en un tal problema de tesis realizado en su facultad autóctona, así que sirviere en papel de co-director o socio de su comité de dirección. Se puede preguntar a amshapiro@ucdavis.edu.

FOR THE AGENDA

[Mountain Futures](#)

The 2nd International Mountain Futures Conference (June 4-8, 2018 in Yunnan, China) is open for public registration! If you have not submitted an abstract to the conference but would still like to participate, please contact Katie Reuther at katiereuther1@gmail.com.

This year's exciting line-up of conference activities will include a Field Trip to Honghe, site of the 200-hectare Honghe Innovation Center for Mountain Futures; a 2-day Open Science Conference in Kunming, and an International Mountain Film Festival. For more information on the tentative schedule, estimated costs and visa applications, please see: <http://mountainfutures.org/page/6>. Please note that due to this year's limited conference budget, all regular participants should be prepared to cover the costs for their travels to and from Kunming, and transportation and lodging costs for the duration of their participation in the conference. The Conference Organizers are unable to provide any financial support.

Mountain 2018

The call for abstracts for Mountains 2018 (December 10-14, 2018 in Nova Friburgo, Brazil) is now open! Mountains 2018 will be organized along two segments: the **III Workshop on Sustainable Development in Mountain Environments** on 10-12 December; and the **II International Conference on Research for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions** on 12-14 December. Those interested in participating in the II International Conference of Research on Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions may already submit their abstracts (maximum 250 words). Abstracts must be in English and align with one of the [24 symposium themes](#). The event organizers would like to call attention to the fact that, in case the theme of your abstract is not inserted in any of the symposiums, you can propose a new theme in the open session. **Abstract submissions deadline: 31.05.2018**. Instructions for how to submit your abstract can be found [here](#). For any questions, please contact mountains2018@gmail.com. *Please note: The organizers are looking for resources for the simultaneous translation for the workshop.*

Fourth World Mountain Forum

The University of Central Asia's has announced the fourth World Mountain Forum (October 23–26 2018, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan). Under the theme "Mountains in a changing world: strengthening partnership and pathways towards a thriving mountain future", the World Mountain Forum 2018 will be hosted by the Government of Kyrgyzstan with support from the Government of Switzerland, the University of Central Asia and the Aga Khan Foundation. This fourth forum will bring together the global mountain community to enable strategic and timely dialogue on some of the most pertinent challenges facing sustainable mountain development. Participants will strive to identify and develop solutions for mountain areas globally. The fourth World Mountain Forum will have a special emphasis on the mountains of Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia. More information will soon become available [online](#).

NETWORK PUBLICATIONS

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- Garcia-Llamas et al (2018). Landscape heterogeneity as a surrogate of biodiversity in mountain systems: What is the most appropriate spatial analytical unit? Ecological Indicators 85: 285-294 (DOI [10.1016/j.ecolind.2017.10.026](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2017.10.026))
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