A. Membership

The Commission of Mountain Studies (CMS) of the International Geographical Union (IGU) was restructured in 2020, after receiving approval for its objectives and roster. The CMS is currently comprised of the following members:

STEERING COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE 2020-2022

- **Chair**: Fausto O. Sarmiento, Ph.D.
  Full Professor. Director, Neotropical Montology Collaboratory. Department of Geography, University of Georgia, Athens, Ga. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA / ECUADOR
  **Research topics**: human-environment relations research; socioecological mountain ecosystems, mountainscape transformation and dynamics of land cover/land use, biocultural diversity conservation, critical biogeography and political ecology of microrefugia in neotropical mountains. **E-mail**: fsarmien@uga.edu

- **Vice Chair**: Alexey Gunya, Ph.D.
  Full Professor. Department of Physical Geography. Institute of Geography, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, RUSSIA.
  **Research topics**: Land use change, mountain development, landscape ecology, sustainable development, society and environment, governance, political ecology. **E-mail**: a.n.gunya@igras.ru

- **Co-Vice Chair**: Irasema Alcántara-Ayala, Ph.D.
  Full Professor. Department of Physical Geography. Institute of Geography, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), MEXICO
  **Research topics**: integrated disaster risk research, disaster risk reduction and management, mountain governance, mass movement processes, risk perception and risk communication. **E-mail**: irasema@igg.unam.mx

- **Secretary and website node**: Pankaj Kumar, Ph.D.
  Assistant Professor. Dept. of Geography
  Delhi School of Economics. University of Delhi. Delhi-110017, INDIA
  **Research Topics**: Mountain Geography, Hazard and Disaster, Snow Cover Dynamics, Remote Sensing and GIS, Soil and Water Assessment. **E-mail**: pankajdsedu@gmail.com

STEERING COMMITTEE BOARD MEMBERS

- **Barbaros Gönençgil**, PhD.
  Full Professor of Geography. Head, Department of Geography, Istanbul, University. TURKEY.
  **Research Topics**: Mountains in climate. Long-term trends of climate change in Turkey. Temperature-driven dynamics of Turkish mountain regions. **E-mail**: barbaros@istanbul.edu.tr

- **Marten Geertsema**, Ph.D., Pag, Pgeo
**Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations / Adjunct Professor. Department of Ecosystem Science and Management. University of Northern British Columbia, CANADA**

**Research topics:** natural hazards and terrain analysis; influence of landslides on biophysical diversity; effects of climate change on natural hazards, and studies past and present hazard regimes. **E-mail:** Marten.Geertsema@gov.bc.ca

- **Matthias Schmidt, Ph.D.**
  Professor Doctor. Institute of Geography. University of Augsburg, GERMANY
  **Research topics:** Natural resource management, political ecology and environmental planning, mountain geography, landscape transformation, regional specialization in central and South Asian mountains. **E-mail:** schmidt@geo.uni-augsburg.de

- **Bob Nakileza, Ph.D.**
  Senior Lecturer. Department of Environmental Management, College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences. Makerere University, Kampala, UGANDA
  **Research Topics:** Mountain hydrology, glacial recession, orographic precipitation, climate change. **Email:** nakilezabob@gmail.com

- **Sean Fitzsimons, Ph.D.**
  School of Geography/ Te Ihowhenua. University of Otago/ Te Whare Wananga o Otago. PO Box 56, Dunedin. Te Wai Pounamu, NEW ZEALAND
  **Research topics:** Mountain geomorphology. Otago geodynamics, GeoParks, Mountain conservation. **E-mail:** sjf@geography.otago.ac.nz

- **Sebastiën Boillat, Ph.D.**
  Research Associate. Sustainable Land Management. Institute of Geography. University of Bern, SWITZERLAND
  **Research topics:** Environmental management, BioCultural Conservation, Sustainable development, sustainability science, environmental impact assessment, mountain perceptions, spatial analyses. **E-mail:** sebastien.boillat@giub.unibe.ch

- **Dunlian Qiu, Ph.D.**
  **Research topics:** Science communication, mountain studies, hazards and risk assessment. Mountain Partnership focal point. Capacity development, science publications and mountain promotions. **E-mail:** qiudunlian@imde.ac.cn

- **Suneetha Subramanian, Ph.D.**
  Research associate. Institute for Global Environmental Sustainability, University of the United Nations, INDIA
  **Research topics:** Transdisciplinary research. Complex systems and resilience. Socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes. Benefits of Nature to People. **E-mail:** subramanian@unu.edu

- **Tomás Ibarra, Ph.D.**
  Assistant Professor. Center UC of local development, education and intercultural studies. Center of Intercultural and Indigenous Studies, Pontifical Catholic University of Chile, Villarrica, CHILE
**Research topics**: Transdisciplinary approaches and mix methods for complex adaptive systems, mainly forests, agroforestry, mountains and small-scale agricultural practices. Taxonomic and functional biodiversity in socioecological systems. Ecological resilience and sustainability of southern Andean highlands. **E-mail**: tucuquer.eji@gmail.com

- **Rachid Cheddadi, Ph.D.**
  Doctor. Institute of Evolutionary Sciences (ISEM), CNRS, University of Montpellier, FRANCE
  **Research Topics**: past environmental change on tree species’ distributions in Europe and the Mediterranean from the last glacial period and the Holocene. Fossil records to identify glacial refugia and adaptations to Holocene ranges, speed of migration and perspective scenarios over the next century. **E-mail**: rachid.cheddadi@umontpellier.fr

- **Lynn Resler, Ph.D.**
  Professor of Geography. Department of Geography. Virginia Tech, Charleston, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
  **Research Topics**: Ecological biogeography, Coupled biogeographic-geomorphic systems, Mountain ecotones, especially alpine treelines, Invasive species, foundation and keystone species, Field experiences. **E-mail**: resler@vt.edu

- **Kenichi Ueno, Ph.D.**
  Associate Professor. Climatology and Meteorology. Faculty of Life and Environmental Science. University of Tsukuba, Ibaraki, JAPAN
  **Research Topics**: Climatology and Meteorology, biodiversity protection, orographic rainfall, mountain ecosystems. **E-mail**: ueno.kenichi.fw@u.tsukuba.ac.jp

- **María José Vizcaíno, M.Sc.**
  Technical Secretary, former director. Pan American Institute of Geography and History (IPGH). Quito, ECUADOR / MEXICO
  **Research Topics**: Andean geography, rural landscape dynamics, biodiversity conservation, environmental planning, governance, resource management, mountain sustainable development. **E-mail**: majo.vizcaino@ipgh.gob.ec

- **Andreas Haller, Ph.D.**
  Research Associate. Institute for Interdisciplinary Mountain Research. Austrian Academy of Science. Technikerstrasse 21a. 6020 Innsbruck, AUSTRIA /PERU
  **Research Topics**: Human Mountain Geography, Socioecological System, Urban and Periurban dynamics in mountain rural systems. Environmental services. **E-mail**: andreas.haller@oeaw.ac.at

- **Anand Malik, Ph.D.**
  Associate Professor. Department of Geography. SSN College. University of Delhi. Alipur, New Delhi-110036. INDIA
  **Research Topics**: slope hazards, process based dynamic modeling: run out modeling of snow avalanche, debris flows and landslides. Flood modeling. Risk and vulnerability assessment. Quantitative geomorphology. Visualization techniques. Geographical Information System (GIS) and Remote Sensing. **Email**: anandmalik1111@gmail.com

During this initial period, we have invited famous mountain geographers to integrate our CMS as honorary committee members as follow:
HONORARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Prof. Dr. Jack D. Ives, emeritus professor of Geography, Carleton University, Canada. jackives@cunet.carleton.ca

Prof. Dr. Axel Borsdorf, emeritus professor of Geography, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute for Interdisciplinary Mountain Research, Austria. axel.borsdorf@gmail.com

Prof. Dr. Yuri Badenkov, emeritus professor of Geography, Russian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Geography, Russia. yubaden@mail.ru

Prof. Dr. Christoph Stadel, emeritus professor of Geography, University of Salzburg, Austria. christoph.stadel20@gmail.com

We have a total of 48 mountain geographers in our mailing list, including United States of America, Canada, Mexico, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, Argentina, Brazil, England, France, Germany, Spain, the Netherlands, Russia, Italy, Czech Republic, China, Japan, India, Oman, South Africa, New Zealand, Australia, Morocco, Israel and Uganda.

B. Meetings

a) The CMS did not organize or convene a meeting, but was actively supporting conferences organized by other entities, in particular the universities associated with mountain research. No number of attendees registered for online format. They included:

UDAIPUR, India, May 2020. Regional IGU Conference.
UAChile, Valdivia, Chile. September 2022. Montology of the southern Andes.

Our first flagship event was organization as the International Symposium of Mountain Studies that took place in the 34th International Congress of the IGU, hosted by our Commission member, Prof. Barbaros Conçegil, in Istanbul, Türkiye, in 2021.

With the successful realization of this event, held virtually with online participation, we decided to make it the CMS prime event at every IGU meeting. The following International Symposium of Mountain Studies was held in person at the Centennial Congress of the IGU in Paris, France in 2022.

An important meeting of international transcendence was held at the International Mountain Conference (IGM 2022) at the University of Innsbruck, Austria, September 2022. The organizing committee invited IGU to present in the icebreaker event. Fausto Sarmiento, as chair of the CMS offered a description of IGU and CMS as well as an oral presentation in the technical meetings.

b. The output of the International Symposium of Mountain Studies has been recorded in a publication at the Journal Eco-Mont, Austria, where three main findings concurred with the need of further developing montological approaches for the study of mountain
systems. They were the confirmation of the production of a book series on Montology published by Springer-Nature/Switzerland for the next four years, with the first volume set for printing at the end of 2022. [https://www.summerfieldbooks.com/product/montology-palimpsest-a-primer-of-mountain-geographies/](https://www.summerfieldbooks.com/product/montology-palimpsest-a-primer-of-mountain-geographies/). Also, the participants agreed with having such a Symposium every time the IGU meets in international conferences or the IGU Congress.

The second International Symposium of Mountain Studies held in Paris, France, has been recorded in a publication to be published in the journal Eco-Mont, Austria, whereby the guest editing of a special issue of the journal Land was agreed and secured. [https://www.mdpi.com/journal/land/special_issues/W96U911L7U](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/land/special_issues/W96U911L7U). Also, the second volume of the Montology series was secured with a publication target of late 2023.

c. The meetings or other events you plan to hold in 2023 and later years, including locations, dates, and the topics/themes to be addressed.

As stated previously, we plan to establish the International Symposium of Mountain Studies as the staple meeting for CMS. We are already in conversations with the organizing committee of the IGU meeting in Ireland for 2024, which could even include an excursion to a research mountain site nearby.

C. Networking

a. Means, if any, by which your commission has collaborated with other IGU Commissions and Task Forces during 2022.

We have responded to invitations received from other commissions and provided feedback to survey questionnaires posted by them. We routinely inform the IGU newsletter of potential publishable information from CMS.

b. Collaboration, if any, with other international, intergovernmental, or inter- and multi-disciplinary bodies in 2022.

We have established a strong liaison with the International Program of the Satoyama Initiative, housed at the Institute of Advanced Studies of Sustainability (IAS), at the United Nations University in Japan. Several members of CMS are already signed for membership to invigorate the montological approach for studying the socioecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS).

We have resumed contacts with the office of the Man and the Biosphere Program at UNESCO headquarters, in order to invigorate the notion of mountain biosphere reserves and their role in supporting research in mountainscapes.

We have initiated contact with the Mountain Partnership and the Mountain Research Initiative (MRI) to convene an international conference on Montology, potentially in 2025 at the FAO headquarters in Rome.

c. Cooperative efforts, if any, with the International Science Council (ISC) and the International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences (CIPSH) programs, etc.

None yet, ideas of potential collaboration in developing a network of networks to work on mountainside restoration exist.

D. Publications
https://dx.doi.org/10.1553/eco.mont-14-1s46


**Excerpts from a Chinese newsletter with a report on the IMC-2022 Innsbruck:**

Experts are leaders of each branch and are good at dabbling in new topics. Dr. Fausto O. Sarmiento, Chairman of the Commission of Mountain Geography (IGU) of the International Geographical Union and Professor of the Department of Geography of the University of Georgia, USA, made two presentations. Immediately after the meeting, he invited more than 70 international professionals to participate in the creation of the new book, which is the second volume of his 5-volume “Montology” series. The content is a corpus of mountain scientific research. One belongs to the "Innovative Discipline System Field". In cooperation with two other experts (Russia and Mexico), he once again grasped new topics and quickly launched a multi-national talent team

**b. The current (accurate) URL of the commission’s website.**

https://montology.franklinresearch.uga.edu/commission-mountain-studies-steering-committee

**E. Archival Contributions**

None attached for limited space.

URLs have been given for those publications available online.