



IGU COMMISSION OF MOUNTAIN STUDIES ANNUAL REPORT 2024

CMS Secretariat

A. MEMBERSHIP

- The composition of the executive committee of the Mountain Studies Commission for 2024-2028.

IGU COMMISSION OF MOUNTAIN STUDIES /TASK FORCE STEERING COMMITTEE 2024 – 2028

STEERING COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE 2024-2028

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HONORARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

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



- **Distribution of Commission members by country;**

IGU COMMISSION/TASK FORCE STEERING COMMITTEE 2024 - 2028			
COMMISSION OF MOUNTAIN STUDIES			
	Full name	Gender	Country
Chair	Prof. Dr. Fausto O. Sarmiento	Male	USA/Ecuador
Vice-Chair	Prof. Dr. Irasema Alcántara-Ayala	Female	Mexico
Vice-Chair	Prof. Dr. Alexey Gunya	Male	Russia
Secretary and Social Media	Dr. Neslihan Dal	Female	Türkiye
SC member 1	Prof. Tomás Ibarra	Male	Chile
SC member 2	Prof. Marten Geertsema	Male	Canada
SC member 3	Prof. Dr. Mathias Schmidt	Male	Germany
SC member 4	Prof. Dunlian Qiu	Female	China
SC member 5	Dr. Andreas Haller	Male	Austria
SC member 6	Prof. Sean Fitzsimos	Male	New Zeland
SC member 7	Prof. Dr. Lynn Resler	Female	USA
SC member 8	Prof. Anand Malik	Male	India
SC member 10	Dr. Bob Nakileza	Male	Uganda
SC member 10	Prof. Kenichi Ueno	Male	Japan
SC memner 11	Prof. Dr. Olivier Dangles	Male	France
Honorary member	Prof. Dr. Jack Ives, Emeritus	Male	Canada
Honorary member	Prof. Dr. Axel Borsdorg, Emeritus	Male	Germany
Honorary member	Prof. Dr. Yuri Badenkov, Emeritus	Male	Russia
Honorary member	Prof. Dr. Christoph Stadel, Emeritus	Male	Austria
Total number of countries	16		

B. MEETINGS (International/National Seminar and Conferences)

a. International Collaborations Seminar/Organization

- 3rd International Workshop on Geographic Modelling and Simulation: 3rd International Workshop on “Modelling and Simulation for a Sustainable World”:25 - 28 October 2024. Joint session proposed by the Mountain Committee: “Modelling and Simulation of Land Use and Land Cover Dynamics in the Himalayan Region”.
- At the joint initiative of the IGU commissioners (Fausto Sarmiento, Neslihan Dal and Pankaj Kumar), a session was proposed at EGU24 in Vienna, April 14-19, 2024. The session title is “Transformation of Mountain Landscapes: Opportunities and Threats”.
- “International Cooperation Seminar on “Himalayan Geosystem: Society and Sustainability” was held on May 24, 2024 at the Conference Center, University of Delhi. The Mountain Commission supported this organization.
- IGU-CMS shared videos on the International Day of the Mountains on December 11th, commemorating this day and its importance to the wider public through our network.



In this context, CMS President Prof. Dr. Fausto Sarmiento and Honorary Member Prof. Dr. Axel Borsdorg celebrated this important day on the axis of mountains and mountain societies with their short video speeches. The posts, which were watched with interest by social media platforms, were followed by various International Mountain platforms.

- Commission member QIU Dunlian, 2024-07-23: 4th Annual Meeting of the Alpine Ecology Committee of the Chinese Ecological Association and 16th Eastern Himalayan Forum, Dali City, Yunnan Province, China. “She made a presentation on 'Retraction Watch' and 'Interested Parties and Their Responsibilities in Academic Publications'. Also on November 11, 2024: Journal of Mountain Science editorial board member meeting, organizing a journal session and celebrating the 20th anniversary of the founding of Journal of Mountain Science during the International Mountain Forum conference.

b. International Symposium

- The Commission on Mountain Studies of the International Geographical Union organized the International Symposium on Mountain Studies (Dublin) at the 35th International Geographical Congress (23-30 August 2024) with 9 presentations in 3 different sessions. The first session focused on ecological heritage, landslide disaster risk in mountains, climate change and development in mountainous regions, and classification methodology in mountains. The second session focused on tourism from a montological perspective, verticality and urbanization in montological research, and the effects of land surface temperature dynamics. The last session focused on long-term monitoring of musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*) (Central Utah), soil erosion assessment with different methodologies, TPA spatial analysis (European Alps). CMS also organized a business meeting prior to the third session, where the Commission period 2020-2024 was evaluated and decisions for the new period (2024-2028) were discussed. Also during the business meeting we presented diplomas in absentia to our Honorary Members who dedicated their lives to Mountain Work. Finally, it organized a panel discussion on 'Climate change, disasters and livelihoods in the context of restoration of mountain ecosystems'.



**Summary template of our work during the Congress



**A snapshot from the business meeting we organized after the Mountain Studies Symposium, attended by CMS committee members and other participants.

c. Events, meetings, etc. planned for 2025 and beyond

- Preparation of the Special Issue of the journal 'Sustainability', of which Fausto Sarmiento, Chair of IGU-CMS, is one of the guest editors. The Special Issue of Sustainability (ISSN 2071-1050) on “Sustainable and Regenerative Ecologies for the Management of Mountain Forests”, with a deadline of April 30, 2025, belongs to the section “Environmental Sustainability and its Applications” and will accept articles by CMS committee Chair Fausto Sarmiento, as well as former committee members, IGU Secretary General Barbaros Gönençgil and Deputy Secretary General Pankaj Kumar, to enable mountain scientists to better understand effective conservation measures in productive, protected mountain forests.
https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special_issues/SD72Y5GQKL
- One of the most important activities of the CMS in 2025 is the participation in the International Mountain Conference, which will take place in Innsbruck, Austria on September 14-18. At IMC25 we plan to create a big network for mountain studies with different sessions and workshops. CMS has organized a Plenary Session and three different focus workshops.
<https://imc2025.info/>
- CMS is sponsoring the International Conference Frozen Past 6th, to be held at the Pontifical Catholic University in Quito, Ecuador. This is a triennial academic event to highlight paleoecological and archaeological research in high mountains.
- Planning the International Montology Conference: In cooperation with the United Nations University's (UNU) Institute for Advance Strategies of Sustainability (IASS), and the Ecuadorian university Superior Technological School of Chimborazo, (ESPOCH) are organizing the Global-IPSI 10th to be held in Riobamba, close to Mt. Chimborazo, in Ecuador in December 2025.
- On 11 December 2025, International Mountain Day, a joint webinar with different mountain platforms is planned.



- IGU-CMS has started to accept 'General Membership' to expand its network and will increase the number of members in 2025 with the prepared forms.

D. PUBLICATIONS

- One of this year's important publications under the umbrella of CM'S is "The Mountain Dictionary: A Corpus of Montology and Innovation", Volume 2 of the Montology series edited by Fausto Sarmiento and Alexey Gunya, was published as a resource for learning about mountains from different perspectives.
<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-64884-7>
- CMS article on the passing of our Honorary Member Jack D. Ives was shared on various Mountain platforms. It was also published in the newsletter of the Association of American Geographers (AAG). <https://www.aag.org/memorial/john-jack-ives/>
- It has also published an article in MRD: Sarmiento, F., Dal, N., Gunya, A., & Stadel, C. (2024). In Memoriam: Prof Dr Jack D. Ives. *Mountain Research and Development*, 44(4), V4-V5. <https://bioone.org/journals/mountain-research-and-development/volume-44/issue-4/mrd.2024.00041/In-Memoriam-Prof-Dr-Jack-D-Ives/10.1659/mrd.2024.00041.full>

**The publications of our members, both with the commission members and with other mountain researchers, are listed below.

K.M., Ribeiro M.A., Chávez-Velásquez, R.C., **Sarmiento F.O.** and Hollas Ch. R. 2024. Intention to engage in ecotourism development: validation and extension of the Resident Empowerment through Tourism Scale. *Current Issues in Tourism*. <https://www.doi.10.1080/13683500.2024.2343777>

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Ibarra, J.T., J. Caviedes & A. Barreau. 2024. Homegardens in the southern Andes: cultivating agrobiodiversity, learning, and sovereignty from interculturality. In Gagnon, T. (Ed.) *Embodying biodiversity: sensory conservation as refuge and sovereignty*. The University of Arizona Press, Tucson, USA.

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Oyarzo, C., C. Marchant & **J.T. Ibarra**. 2024. Transformación del patrimonio biocultural en el archipiélago de Chiloé: un Sistema Importante del Patrimonio Agrícola Mundial. *Revista RIVAR* 11(31): 230-247.

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Hernández-Cadena, K.M., Garnica-Peña, R.J., González-Sánchez, J., **Alcántara-Ayala, I.** (2024) Understanding Landslide Awareness: Exploring Students' Disaster Risk Perception in Higher Education Institutions. In: Abolmasov, B., et al. *Progress in Landslide Research and Technology*, Volume 3 Issue 2, 2024. *Progress in Landslide Research and Technology*. Springer, Cham.

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Alcántara-Ayala I., Ramos-Hernández, S.G. (2024). Integrated Volcanic Disaster Risk Management in Mexico: insights, challenges and opportunities, In *Safeguarding Mountain Social-Ecological Systems, Vol 2, Building Transformative Resilience in Mountain Regions Worldwide*, Elsevier, 400 pp. ISBN: 9780443328251

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2024 **Stadel, C.** : Human mountainscapes: Changing Identities in Space and Time. In: Sarmiento, F. O. & A. Gunya (eds.): *Mountain Lexicon. A Corpus of Montology and Innovation*. Cham: Springer Nature, 73-76

2024 **Stadel, C.** : Mountain Identities: Multi-facety and Fluidity. In: Sarmiento, F. O. & A. Gunya (eds.): *Mountain Lexicon. A Corpus of Montology and Innovation*. Cham: Springer Nature, 113-115

2024 **Stadel, C.** : (Mc Dowell, G. et al. eds.: *The Canadian Mountain Assessment: Walking together to enhance understanding of mountains in Canada*. Calgary), *eco.mont* 16 (2), 2s61

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