SUCCESS STORY

GLOCHAMORE

GLOBAL CHANGE IN MOUNTAIN REGIONS: AN INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT OF CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES

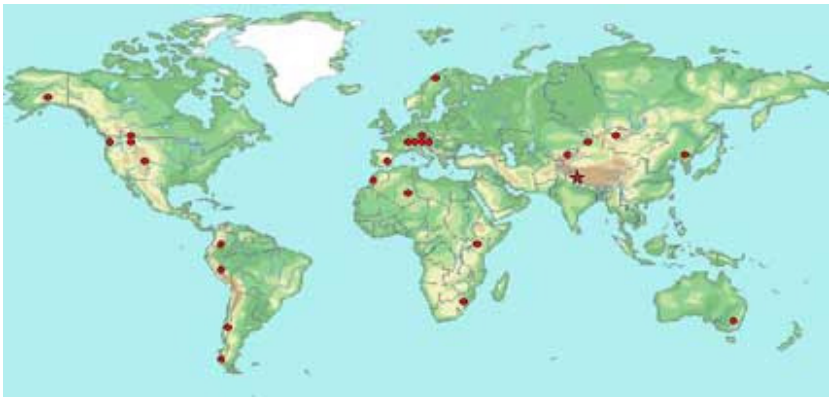
6TH. EU FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION (2002-2006)

GLOBAL CHANGE AND ECOSYSTEMS
SSA – SPECIFIC SUPPORT ACTION

OBJECTIVES

The GLOCHAMORE project responded to the increasing need to understand the causes and impacts of Global Changes in mountain regions. Launched as a Specific Support Action in 2003, the project drew together 350 scientists and managers of Mountain Biosphere Reserves (MBRs) around the world not only to further the scientific understanding, but also to establish a framework for long-term research efforts in mountains in both developed and developing countries.

Specifically, the GLOCHAMORE project aimed to develop a research strategy for Global Change research in mountain regions with the explicit goal of implementing the strategy in those reserves around the world. Jointly funded by the EU's 6th Framework Research Programme, UNESCO-MAB, UNESCO IHP and the Mountain Research Initiative (MRI), the project was coordinated by the University of Vienna, while the scientific management was with the MRI. The GLOCHAMORE consortium comprised 14 partners from nine countries, including India.



MOUNTAIN BIOSPHERE RESERVES FOR GLOBAL CHANGE STUDY

DESCRIPTION OF WORK

The GLOCHAMORE project was based on a series of five workshops beginning with the launching workshop on "Global Change in Mountain Biosphere Reserves" in Sörenberg, Entlebuch (Switzerland) in November 2003 bringing together Global Change scientists and managers of MBRs. This was followed by four thematic workshops:

1. "Global Environmental and Social Monitoring" (May 2004; Vienna, Austria),
2. "Projecting Global Change Impacts in Mountain Biosphere Reserves" (Nov/Dec 2004; Aquila, Italy),
3. "Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resource Management in Mountain Biosphere Reserves" (March 2005; Granada, Spain),
4. "Process Studies along Altitudinal Gradients" (July 2005; Samedan, Switzerland).

Each of these thematic workshops contributed to the development of the GLOCHAMORE Research Strategy, which was presented at the Open Science Conference held in Perth, Scotland 2-6 October 2005, the concluding event of the GLOCHAMORE project. The conference brought together 250 delegates from 47 nations to review the drafted research strategy and to define the path ahead.

RESULTS

Understanding and predicting the effects of Global Change, including climate change, on mountain environments encompasses a demanding range of scientific inquiry, as reflected in the workshop reports, proceedings and the peer-reviewed synthesis articles that emerged from the workshops. These documents laid the foundation for the GLOCHAMORE Research Strategy, which covers drivers as well as the effects of global environmental change.

At the Open Science Conference, the managers of Mountain Biosphere Reserves (MBRs) and UNESCO-MAB agreed to implement the GLOCHAMORE research strategy in MBRs around the world. Together with Global Change scientists, they issued a "Clarion Call" – the Perth Declaration – to governments to support further investigations into the effects of Global Change on mountain ecosystems.

Based on the Open Science Conference in Perth, a comprehensive book with 154 extended abstracts (10 plenary and 144 oral presentations) was recently published. Martin Price (martin.price@perth.uhi.ac.uk), the main editor, can provide details on how to obtain a copy of the book.

As stated in the GLOCHAMORE project proposal, the research strategy provides a framework for long-term research and "has the explicit goal of implementing it in MBRs around the world, in both developed and developing countries". Both, the Mountain Research Initiative (MRI) and UNESCO-MAB commit themselves of translating the strategy into actions through inter- and transdiciplinary research in a network of MBRs and other mountain sites.

The follow-up activity of the GLOCHAMORE project is named "Real Projects in Real Places" (http://mri.scnatweb.ch/content/category/3/11/30/), emphasizes the need of building research initiatives on the interests and priorities, but also the human and financial capacities of local partners.

PROJECT COORDINATION/CONTACT

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PROJECT PARTNERS

13 Partners from 9 Countries (Austria, France, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Netherlands, Switzerland, UK)

France:	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Centre national du Machinisme Agricole, du Génie Rural, des Eaux et des Forets, University Joseph Fourier
Germany:	Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research
Greece:	Technological and Educational Institute of Lamia
India:	Jawaharlal Nehru University
Italy:	Università degli Studi L'Aquila
Netherlands:	Utrecht University
Switzerland:	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich / MRI University of Zurich, University of Basel / Global Mountain Biodiversity Assessment
UK:	Perth College

International Organisation: UNESCO

PROJECT DURATION

Proposal submission:	April 2003
Project start:	November 2003
Project end:	October 2005

PROJECT COSTS

Total costs:	448,265 Euro
Project funding:	350,000 Euro

FURTHER INFORMATION

http://mri.scnatweb.ch/