

Mountain Research and Development (MRD): Call for Papers, MRD 37.4 **Implications of Out- and In-Migration for Sustainable Development in Mountains**

Deadlines: submission of abstracts by **25 November 2016**; submission of full papers by **31 March 2017**

Today, about 1 billion people worldwide are migrants (GMDAC 2016). Migration is greatly affecting mountain societies and mountain ecosystems, with direct implications for their development. Migration processes are context-specific: in Africa, for example, the share of people living in mountains increased from 19 to 22% between 2000 and 2012, whereas in Asia it decreased from 56 to 52% in the same period (FAO 2015). Migration processes are also highly complex and poorly understood: global and continental totals do not reveal the dynamic local out- and in-migration patterns; nor do they account for migration within mountain areas, for example from rural to urban areas. Neither do they reveal the reasons for people's migration choices, the types of migration, and the social, economic, cultural, institutional, and ecological negative and positive impacts of migratory processes on both sending and receiving areas.

With this focus issue, MRD aims to contribute to a better understanding of the complex migratory processes affecting mountain areas, and to provide insights into possible sustainable development options linked to migration. MRD is looking for papers for its 3 peer-reviewed sections:

MountainDevelopment (*transformation knowledge*)

Papers should present well-validated experiences and research insights, for example into the following questions:

- How can remittances be governed to support sustainable livelihoods in mountains?
- What approaches can support local socioeconomic development and ensure sustainable land management in a context of out- or in-migration?
- How can out- and in-migration be shaped to ensure decent conditions for migrants and the remaining and receiving populations?

MountainResearch (*systems knowledge*)

Papers should take an integrative systems science perspective to analyze questions such as:

- Who moves in and who moves out of mountain areas? Where do these fluxes take place? Why?
- What implications do these movements have for society (economy, politics, culture, etc)? Are they different in mountains than in lowlands?
- What implications are there for the environment and ecosystem services?

MountainAgenda (*target knowledge*)

Papers should provide well-referenced overviews of how migration processes in mountain areas can aid or hinder achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); they should conclude with agendas for future research or policy on migration out of, into, and within mountain areas.

Submission details

- E-mail an **abstract** indicating your main research question, your conceptual framework, and your methodology to the Editorial Office **by 25 November 2016**: mrd-journal@cde.unibe.ch
- **Submit your full paper by 31 March 2017**
- Guidelines for authors are available at: http://www.mrd-journal.org/submission_GAuthors.asp
- For more information on the journal see: <http://www.mrd-journal.org>
- As a not-for-profit open access journal, MRD charges authors a publication fee to offset part of its production costs: http://www.mrd-journal.org/About_pubfee.asp

Hans Hurni, David Molden, MRD Editorial Office
October 2016

REFERENCES:

- FAO [Food and Agriculture Organization].** 2015. *Mapping the Vulnerability of Mountain Peoples to Food Insecurity*. Edited by Romeo R, Vita A, Testolin R, Hofer T. Rome, Italy: FAO.
- GMDAC [Global Migration Data Analysis Centre].** 2016. *Global Migration Trends Factsheet 2015*. Berlin, Germany: IOM GMDAC.