

FIRST CIRCULAR

(Please find the Registration and Funding Form at the end of this e-mail)

**ASSOCIATION OF MOUNTAIN POPULATIONS
OF THE WORLD (APMM)**

announces a Regional Workshop for Africa to be held at Fianarantsoa,
Madagascar 20-24th Mai 2002

**AFRICAN MOUNTAIN POPULATIONS,
THEIR VISION FOR THE FUTURE**

«If the people will lead, the leaders will follow» Dr. David Suzuki

BACKGROUND

Most African countries have a colonial history of domination and mountain populations in particular are struggling to come out of isolation and neglect. Emerging democracies all over the continent are in the process of learning by doing how to use this new tool for adapting to today's globalised world with new opportunities and constraints for local livelihoods development. 2002 marks the International Year of Mountains, discussing and furthering issues of mountain people and their future.

Over the last decade, the democratisation process of decision making in natural resources management on the African continent has gained momentum. Gradually central state power is being decentralised to regional levels and top-down management strategies are replaced by more bottom-up, collaborative approaches including the transfer of NR property rights. Mountain populations find themselves increasingly confronted with this evolutionary process along a continuum to move from being users with no rights to stakeholders to shareholders with duties, responsibilities and rights.

Are they ready? In what contexts can this process thrive? What are essential ingredients and steps to move forward?

GOALS OF THE WORKSHOP

Trying to make the encounter a mutual learning experience, the debate will gravitate around a centre theme: **“African mountain development, how stakeholders can become shareholders”**. We examine this process step by step from various angles and lived experiences around the African continent, touching historical, cultural and ecological, socio-economic as well as institutional and political aspects and perspectives.

- Sub-theme 1: Memory and Landscape, the Anatomy of Change. From culture and nature in natural coalition and co-evolution to accelerating social-ecological transformations constrained by rapid changes of the cultural, socio-economic and socio-political context.
- Sub-theme 2: Natural Resources. From theory to action; examples from State rights and central management to community rights, duties and responsibilities
- Sub-theme 3: The dichotomy of Development and Conservation objectives. Negotiating a desired environment; how to move from conflict to synergy between people and protected areas
- Sub-theme 4: Democracy and Good Governance. Society and its actors; how to get self-interest to work for a common good
- Sub-theme 5: Scientific Research and Appropriate Technologies. Orchestrating a mutual learning process; how to match local knowledge and traditional solutions with scientific insights and modern methodology

The final output is expected to strengthen a process already in motion:

- To evolve from brainstorming new thinking and actions of mountain peoples issues started at Chambéry, France in June 2000 towards a mutual learning process for synergy and co-evolution of State and civil society in an intercultural development context.
- To reinforce and invigorate already existing Africa networks; the Africa node of the Mountain Forum (AFMF), the African Highland Initiative (AHI), the African Mountain Association (AMA), the Madagascar Mountain and Highland Association (AMMA),....
- To contribute to the elaboration of National- and Africa Regional Mountain Action Plans in view of a Mountain Action Plan (MAP) for Africa international conference at Moshi, Tanzania in August 2002
- To prepare with an Africa regional perspective the Second World Mountain Population Forum at Quito, Ecuador in September 2002, Rio +10, Agenda 21, Chapter 13 at Johannesburg in September 2002, and finally the Intergovernmental Conference at Bishkek, Kirghistan in October 2002
- Take further the process of creating Associations of Mountain Populations of the World (APMM) at National- and Africa Regional level

PARTICIPANTS FROM AFRICAN MOUNTAIN REGIONS ADDRESSED

Community based practitioners and representatives of policy-making institutions, people's representatives, NGO's, scientists, and private sector representatives. It is hoped that from each country at least one participant could be a peoples representative:

- Central-, Eastern- and Southern Africa (Guinea, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Zaire, Malawi, Lesotho, South Africa)
- Mascareignes Island (La Réunion, Seychelles, Mauritius, Comores)
- Madagascar

The workshop offers keynote addresses at plenary sessions to introduce the themes and key issues at stake. The sub-themes will be

illustrated with case presentations and/or posters and discussed in parallel working sessions. One full day is reserved to “touch ground” and provide insight into a number of ongoing mountain initiatives around Fianarantsoa. To maintain the working character of this regional meeting, the number of speakers and participants is limited to a total of 80, of which 50 are expected from outside Madagascar

Please send all correspondence to apmm-fia@vitelcom.mg. For information on the region of Fianarantsoa, Madagascar, please visit the webpage: <http://www.fianarantsoa.com>

PATRONAGE

The Governor of Fianarantsoa province
The Mayor of Fianarantsoa city
The Minister of Environment
The President of APMM

PROMOTORS

Association National des Elus de Montagnes, France (ANEM)
Unione Nazionale Comuni Comunita enti Montani, Italy (UNCCEM)
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
Embassy of Switzerland at Madagascar
Madagascar Mountain and Highland Association (AMMA)
Agency for Communication (AGECO)

STEERING COMMITTEE

Ing. Hanta Rabetaliana, Vice President APMM and workshop co-ordinator
Mr. Mahatoky Eugène, Commercial Director AGECO
Mrs. Marie Zenaide Lechat Ramampy, Mayor Ambalavao town
Prof. Ramonja, Assistant Mayor, Fianarantsoa city
Dr. Jean Louis Rakotomanana, Scientist, FOFIFA Fianarantsoa
Ing. William Randriamampianina, ONG Tsiry
Dr. Peter Schachenmann, Technical Advisor AMMA
One representative of civil society

WORKSHOP VENUE, ACCOMMODATION, AND MEALS

The workshop takes place in the city of Fianarantsoa (“the place where one learns good things”), being the provincial capital of the “mountain province” of Fianarantsoa, linked by air and tarmac road to the capital Antananarivo in the north and by rail to the town of Manakara on the east coast of the Indian Ocean. The eastern portion of the province is a flank of hills and high mountain massifs that skirts the Malagasy Highlands and the Eastern Escarpment leading down to the Indian Ocean. Notable peaks are Pic Boby (2658 m), Pic Bory (2630 m), Ambondrombe (1954 m), offering spectacular views over cloud forests, humid tropical forests, montane grasslands and a cultural landscape dominated by beautiful rice terraces. Mid Mai marks the end of the rainy season with clear weather and commonly mild temperatures

1. Personal Data

Family name:

First names:

Title:

2. Address (this address will be used for all correspondence)

Organisation:

Street:

City & Postal Code:

Country:

Telephone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Personal web-page:

3. Do you intend to give a presentation (yes / no)

If yes, please fill out:

(A) Title of presentation

(B) Name of author and co-authors

(C) Abstract (200 words)

(D) To which of the above sub-themes does the presentation relate to? (Sub-theme #)

Sub-theme 1: Memory and Landscape, the Anatomy of Change

Sub-theme 2: Natural Resources

Sub-theme 3: The dichotomy of Development and Conservation objectives

Sub-theme 4: Democracy and Good Governance

Sub-theme 5: Scientific Research and Appropriate Technologies

(E) Form of presentation (talk or poster)?

