

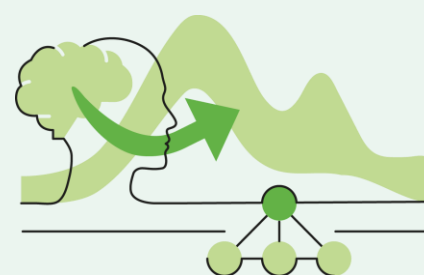
Adaptation at Altitude: communicating climate change in mountains to policy-makers

GEO Mountains General Meeting

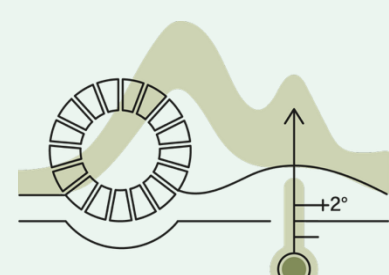
29 May 2026



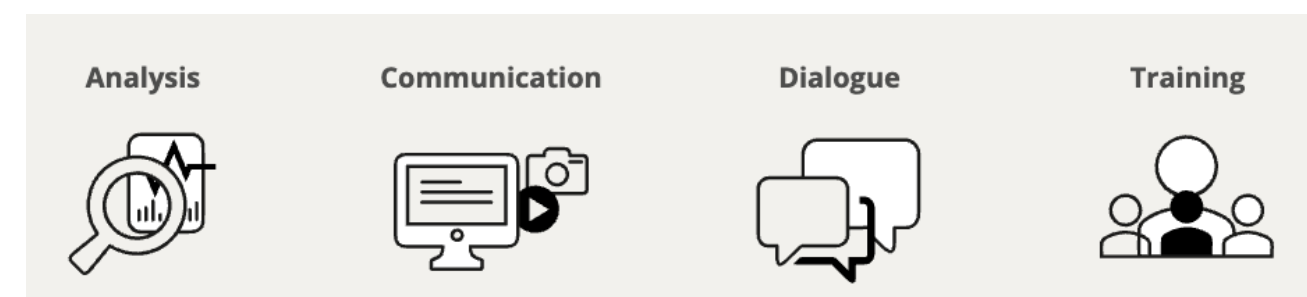
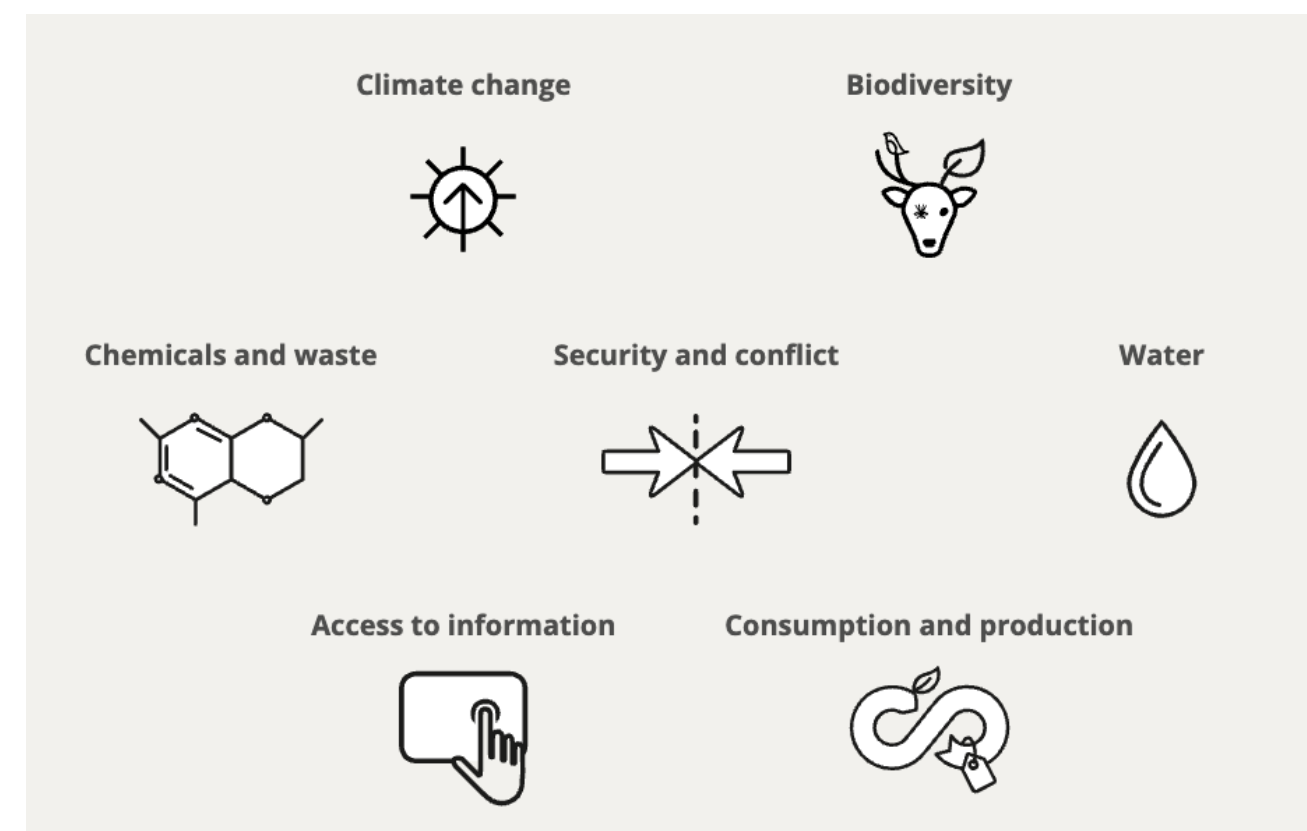
- Geneva-based non-profit organization that specialises in the analysis and communication of environmental issues
- Translation: we make environmental and scientific information more understandable to decision-makers and different audiences
- Our role in Adaptation at Altitude:



KNOWLEDGE
& SHARING



GLOBAL POLICY
MAINSTREAMING



From knowledge sharing to action: How Zoï is supporting mountain communities to adapt to climate change



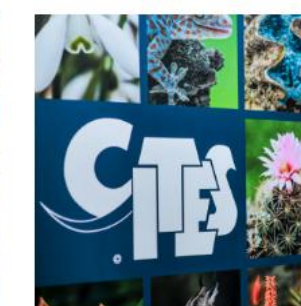
Making the invisible visible: the environmental damage of the war in Ukraine



Why we liked Alex Kirby



Drones in Humanitarian Action: ten years of lessons in data, participation, and inclusion



Protecting flora and fauna globally and in Central Asia

Mountain Ecosystems for a Resilient Future: policy pathways under the CBD and UNFCCC



- *Overview of climate change and biodiversity challenges in mountain areas*
- *Highlights the role of mountains in achieving CBD and UNFCCC goals*
- *Suggests policy recommendations and a way forward to take action*

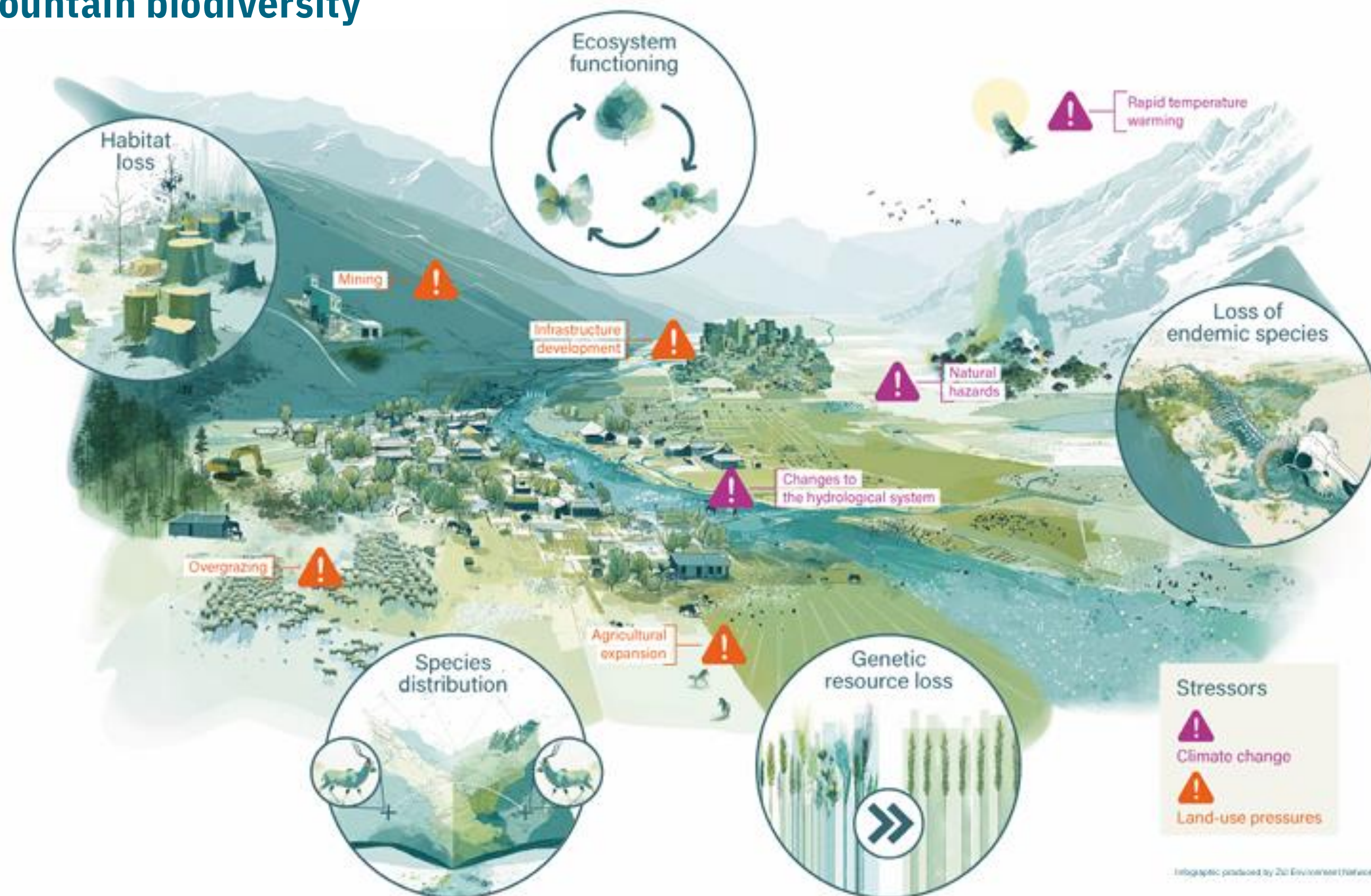


Authors: María Teresa Becerra, Luis D. Llambí and Alex Mackey

Contributors: Alpine Convention Secretariat, Carpathian Convention Secretariat, CONDESAN-AMI, ICIMOD, MRI, Mountain Partnership Secretariat, UNEP, GMBA, Zoï Environment Network

Visit here: <https://adaptationataltitude.org/knowledge-base/adaptation-in-mountains/mountain-ecosystems-for-a-resilient-future-policy-pathways-under-the-cbd-and-unfccc/>

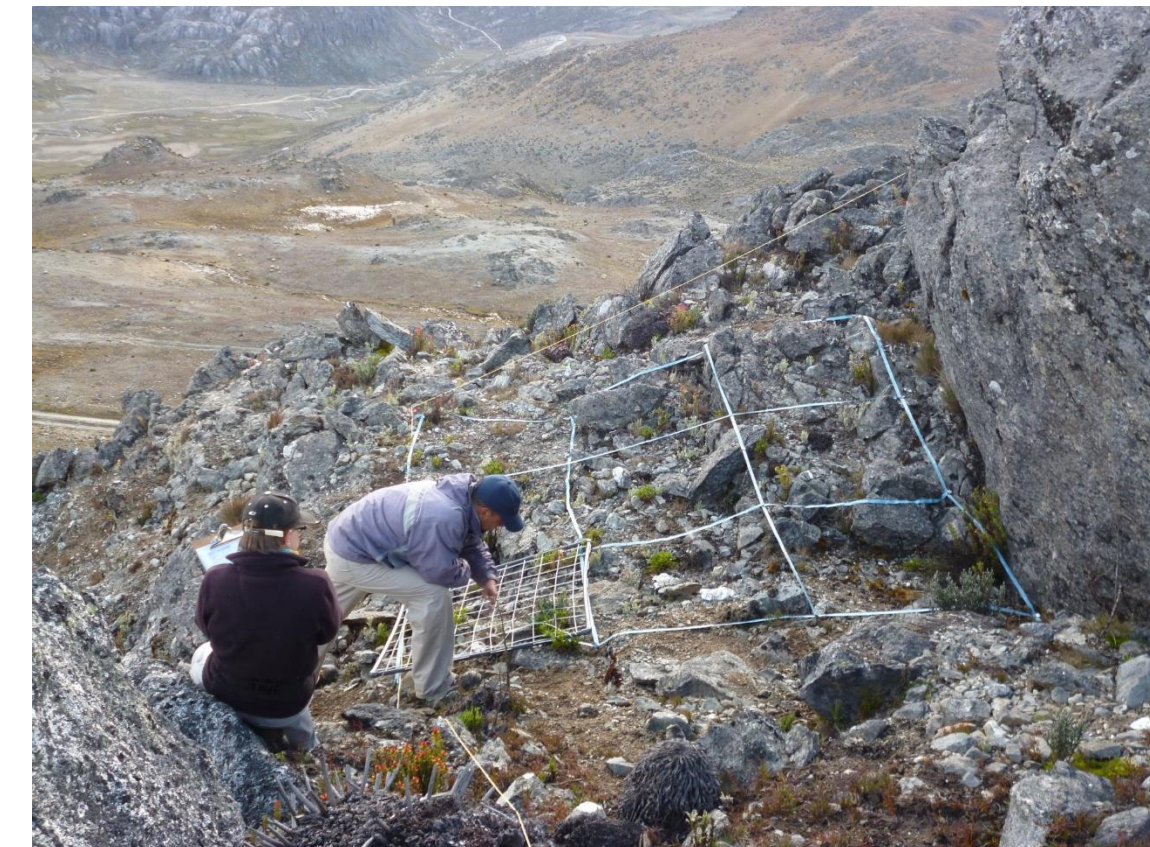
Climate change impacts on mountain biodiversity



Key messages: the role of mountain ecosystems in achieving CBD and UNFCCC goals

Mountain platforms play a pivotal role in advancing biodiversity and climate action across all levels

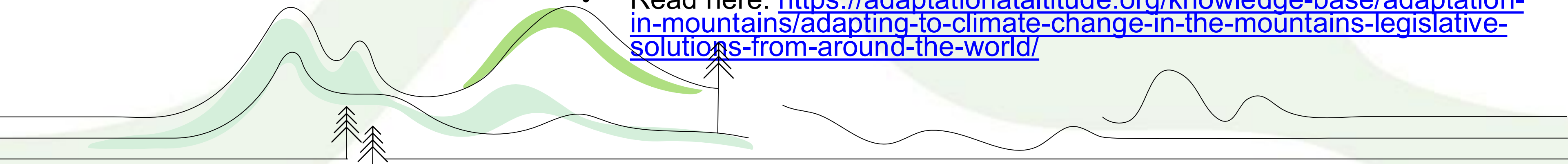
- Key Mountain platforms and networks include:
 - **Global or regional cooperation mechanisms:** e.g. Mountain Partnership, Regional Conventions (Alps, Carpathia, AMI, etc.).
 - **Mountain groups within international agreements:** e.g. Mountain Program of Work within the CBD, World Network of Mountain Biosphere Reserves
 - **Research and Monitoring networks:** e.g. MRI, Geo-Mountains, GLORIA, MIREN, etc.
- Enablers for **mobilizing science-based, locally grounded action** that advances both biodiversity and climate goals
- By coordinating **data collection and monitoring**, fostering **knowledge exchange**, and **linking science with policy**, these platforms improve national and transboundary planning



Adapting to climate change in the mountains – Legislative solutions from around the world

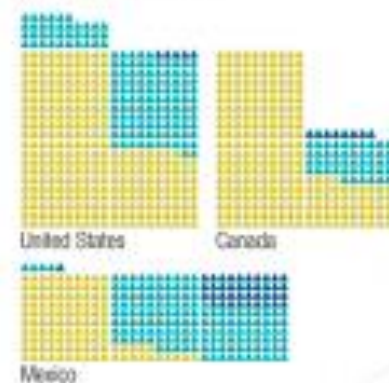


- Examines specific laws that are relevant to CCA in mountains
- Developed with MPs, shares key provisions and the legislative process
- Water Act of Bhutan, Law No. 1930 on páramos in Colombia, Law No. 2026 on the protection of glaciers in Tajikistan, Law of Georgia on the Development of High Mountainous Regions, National Environment Act of Uganda, and Law on the Development and Protection of Mountains in France
- Read here: <https://adaptationataltitude.org/knowledge-base/adaptation-in-mountains/adapting-to-climate-change-in-the-mountains-legislative-solutions-from-around-the-world/>



Political representation: Proportion of national electoral districts in mountain areas

North America



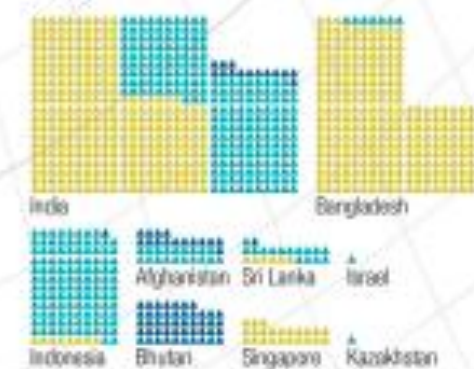
South America



Europe



Asia



Oceania



Africa



Diagrams

- Electoral districts largely (more than 80 percent) in mountainous areas
- Electoral districts partly in mountainous areas
- Electoral districts in lowlands

Map

- Countries with data coverage (electoral districts)

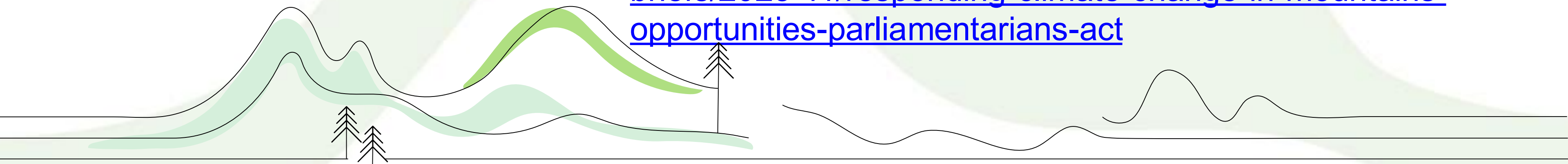
Map produced by Zoi Environment Network, January 2023

Source: Constituency Level Elections Archive (CLEA), Center for Political Studies, University of Michigan; A hierarchical inventory of the world's mountains for global comparative mountain science, Nature Scientific Data, 2022

Responding to climate change in the mountains: Opportunities for parliamentarians to act



- Introduces major challenges in mountain areas and beyond: water management, biodiversity conservation, food security, migration & displacement, and gender and inclusion
- Legislative, budgetary, oversight and representation-relevant solutions that can be applied in different countries
- Provides case studies of interesting examples from around the world
- Read here: <https://www.ipu.org/resources/publications/issue-briefs/2023-11/responding-climate-change-in-mountains-opportunities-parliamentarians-act>



Mountains of Central Asia Ecosystem Profile

- *Zoï helped conduct CEPF's 2026 Ecosystem Profile through scientific analysis of previous profiles and biodiversity science data; national stakeholder consultations; and an online survey on KBAs, threats, and priorities*
- *The profile identifies threats to biodiversity, CC assessment, conservation activities, key actions to be taken, and investment opportunities*
- *Involved hundreds of inputs and massive data compilation*
- *Read here: <https://zoinet.org/product/cepf-summary-2/>*



Mountains of Central Asia Biodiversity Hotspot



The Adaptation at Altitude programme

Objective: increase the resilience and adaptive capacity of mountain communities and ecosystems to climate change

For more information, visit: adaptationataltitude.org



UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

