



ANNUAL REPORT - IX 2022-23

MAKING INDIA PROUD OF OUR MOUNTAINS

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1. About Integrated Mountain Initiative

The Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI) is a civil society-led forum working across the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) that comprises 10 mountain states, two union territories and four hill districts with a vision of “Making India proud of our Mountains”. It brings mountain-specific issues to the centre stage in regional, national, and global discourses through sustained and informed dialogue among wide-ranging stakeholders. It recognises the development challenges of the Indian Himalayan Region and the need to discuss mountain-specific issues through a process of continuous and sustained dialogue.

IMI is a collective initiative for recognizing the value of mountain regions and enabling people to realize its potential by integrating the knowledge and experiences of multiple stakeholders. IMI has been working continuously on addressing cross-cutting issues related to climate change, mountain agriculture and livelihoods, disaster risk reduction and management, plastic waste management and sustainable mountain cities, which are relevant for mountain development. IMI acknowledges the collective effort required for mountain agendas to be made more centre stage, and to ensure support from governments – both at the centre and at the states.

IMI success story may be measured firstly, in terms of the impact it has had on its members themselves-individual, institutions and state chapters and secondly in terms of its programmatic actions.

As, IMI has been able to organize summits, workshops, and other programs so well that it has been acknowledged by various organization across the country.

Our Members

IMI members, both institutional and individual, are experts in disciplines that inform the establishment of sustainable development practices in the Indian Himalayas. Usually, Institutional members operate as partners, and include the GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development, Almora which is a unit of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, Sustainable Development Forum Nagaland (SDFN), Sustainable Development Forum Arunachal Pradesh (SDFA), EcoTourism & conservation Society of Sikkim (ECOSS), ATREE, Sikkim University, Shoolini University, Uttarakhand State Council for Science & Technology (UCOST), DLR Prerna, Martin Luther Christian University (MLCU), LEAD India, SARG Vikas Samiti, Deer Park Institute and other such institutions committed to furthering the agenda for mountain development. Individual members work towards executing IMI’s driving vision in their respective states and domains. Currently, IMI has 55 individual members and 15 institutional members.



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Our State Chapters

IMI operates as a federation of state chapters, each an alliance of individual members aligned to IMI's vision and mission. IMI's strength lies with its strong state chapters who are firmly rooted in their respective states with expertise on specific mountain issues accumulated over many years of their experiences in local mountain development.

Since IMI's inception, the individual state chapters have engaged in organizing state-and-district-level seminars, creating state-specific policy briefs and cascading national mountain policy briefs. Each chapter also attempts to be a reliable source of state-specific information about sustainable development practices in the IHR. It is through our state chapters that IMI is translating the dialogues and collaborations into informed action. Our current state chapters are

- Sustainable Development Forum Arunachal Pradesh (SDFA)
- Sustainable Development Forum Nagaland (SDFN)
- Eco-Tourism and Conservation Society of Sikkim (ECOSS)
- Sustainable Development Forum of Uttarakhand (SDFU)
- Mizoram Sustainable Development Foundation (MSDF)
- Development Initiative for Sustainable Advancement (DISA), Tripura
- Meghalaya Integrated Mountain Development Initiative (MIMDI).
- Darjeeling Himalaya Initiative (DHI)
- Sustainable Development Forum, Ladakh (SDFL)



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2. IMI's flagship events

2.1 Sustainable Mountain Development Summit (SMDS)

IMI decided on an annual conclave of the Indian Himalaya States under the title of 'Sustainable Mountain Development Summit' (SMDS). Sustainable Mountain Development Summit (SMDS) brings together a diverse group of stakeholders working on development issues across the mountains to discuss mountain-specific themes warranting immediate attention. In addition to the central event, two integral components of the SMDS include the Mountain Legislators' Meet (MLM) and the Indian Himalayan Youth Summit. The organisation of the MLM stems from the recognition that discussions during the summit need to be integrated within various policies of Government of India. As such, IMI pursues recommendations emerging from the summit for actionable outputs, including through the organisation of the 'Meet of the Mountain States' where key policy and decision makers are made aware of the collective concerns of mountain states that are documented through the SMDSs. Similarly, the Indian Himalayan Youth Summit recognises that youth need to be engaged meaningfully to ensure future sustainability of development pathways and initiatives. The organisation of the youth summit provides an enabling environment for youth to participate at multiple levels in decision-making processes.

Each year 3-5 salient themes engaging the immediate attention of and relevant to the mountains and hills would be taken up for threadbare discussion and debate. Conclusions and recommendations emerging from this exercise would be pursued by IMI subsequently. SMDS provides a functional discussion platform for mountain states with determination to follow up what is collectively agreed upon.

The thematic focus of previous SMDSs held under the aegis of IMI were:

SMDS	THEMATIC FOCUS
SMDS-I (2011), Nainital, Uttarakhand	Hydropower, Adaptation measures under Climate Change, Rural Tourism, Community forestry
SMDS-II (2012), Gangtok, Sikkim	Water, Forests & Communities, Mountain Livelihoods
SMDS-III (2013), Kohima, Nagaland	Forests, Water: Rivers, streams & springs, Mountain Agriculture
SMDS-IV (2015), Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh	Disaster Risk Reduction, Mountain Agriculture, Forests
SMDS-V (2016), Leh, Ladakh	Water Security, Skills for development in the Mountains
SMDS-VI (2017), Aizawl, Mizoram	Climate Change & Sustainable Mountain Cities
SMDS-VII (2018), Solan, HP	Well-being of Next Generation of Farmers in the Himalayan Region
SMDS-VIII (2019), Shillong, Meghalaya	Sustainable Mountain Initiative For Livelihoods, Entrepreneurship And Youth (SMILEY)



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SMDS – IX (2020), Dehradun, Uttarakhand	Emerging pathways for building a resilient post COVID-19 Mountain Economy: Adaptation, Innovation & Acceleration
SMDS – X (2021), Darjeeling-Kalimpong, West Bengal	Towards One Health: Making our mountains resilient
SMDS – XI (2022), Leh-Ladakh	Harnessing Tourism for Sustainable Mountain Development

Each of these summits have been characterized by diverse discussions, debates, and exchanges. They have also produced specific policy briefings and recommendations, which are helping change the dialogue on development practices and policies for the mountain states. Each summit had 200-300 participants, representing a diverse mix of policymakers, eminent scientists, researchers, academics, research and educational institutions, government representatives, legislators, business, and industry representatives, international, national and grassroots level NGOs, field practitioners, consultants, experts, eminent citizens, and media.

2.2 Meet of the Mountain States (MoMS)

To ensure that the initial discussion and enthusiasm generated during the SMDS continues, a Meet of the Mountain States (MoMS) is convened between two SMDS. MoMS is an avenue for sharing the outcomes of the preceding SMDS, which is disseminated to key stakeholders in policymaking at the highest level. It is also a forum for advocacy, particularly directed towards sensitising national policymakers and mountain diaspora about mountain issues.

These events bring together distinguished legislators, central and state government representatives, civil society, practitioners, academicians, industry leaders, media and communities together to deep delve on issues and to sensitize and advocate with national policymakers and practitioners. Events such as these increase the visibility and recognition of path breaking work by local people in the mountains, and reinforce the commitment of partnerships and collaborations between all stakeholders to take forward the cause of sustainability in the development of mountain regions.

2.3 Legislators' Meet

The Legislators' Meet is an important annual event, which brings together legislators from mountain states to deliberate and examine key policy measures and highlight issues from the vantage point of the mountain states. This is hosted as an important part of Integrated Mountain Initiative's (IMI) annual 'Sustainable Mountain Development Summit' (SMDS) which addresses key challenges and opportunities of salient themes related to sustainable development of mountains and hills, calling for action. This is done with the following expected outcomes in mind:

- Engage legislators on key policy interventions necessary for taking the outcomes of SMDS forward.



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- Strengthen regional level cooperation to make collective submissions towards national policies on the development of mountain and hill regions.
- Identify avenues of urgent focus and potential from the perspective of legislators. III.



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3. IMI Projects (2022-23)

3.1 Closed Projects

3.1.1 NATIONAL MISSION ON HIMALAYAN STUDIES (NMHS)

The Project, “Integrated Mountain Development Interventions in the Indian Himalayan Region.”

Objectives, deliverables, and monitoring indicators:

Project Objectives	Quantifiable Deliverables	Monitoring indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operationalize Young Researchers’ Forum in the Indian Himalayas. Develop a compendium of best practices linking climate change to sustainable development. Build awareness, communicate sectorial learnings and best practices, and build capacity of stakeholders to identify ways for upscaling across mountain states. Advocate for adoption of mountain-specific policies and developmental frameworks in the Government of India (GoI) and Indian Himalayan States. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Periodic organisation of Young Researchers’ Forums for all 12 IHR states, followed by YRF Series Publication. 12 IHR State-wise Knowledge Database Compilations in form of 12 State-wise Knowledge Products. 11 Policy Briefs covering gaps and recommendations for rectification (11 Newsletters). Organization of Two (2) Sustainable Mountain Development summits (SMDS) and two (2) Meets of Mountain States and publication of proceedings. A Compendium of IHR Best Practices linking Climate Change to Sustainable Development. 	<p>Monitoring in comparison to the baseline information to be provided by proponent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> YRFs organised (Nos.) States covered for database generation (Nos) No. of policy briefs developed Awareness and Capacity Building events all across IHR States (Nos.) Compendium developed on mountain-specific policies and practices (Nos.)

3.1.2 The Himalayan Clean-up

The Himalayan Clean-up was a joint initiative of Integrated Mountain Initiative and Zero Waste Himalaya, a pan Himalayan platform working on issues of sustainable waste management. This partnership shall be continued and strengthened into this project. IMI’s platform of State



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Chapters in all 12 states shall be mobilized to garner support. The project supported by WWF-India shall be used as co-funding for the grant received from European Outdoor Conservation Agency for The Himalayan Cleanup 2020 for the first 3 objectives. The 4th objective of bringing together the Swachh Bharat Representatives shall be supported solely by WWF-India, though possibilities for leveraging support through the Government shall be explored. With the network of IMI, ZWH, THC and peer educators, key sites across the IHR will be selected for clean-up. Beyond this network, an open call for signing up for the Himalayan Clean-up shall be made over social media platforms to maximise participation. Interested organisations shall be asked to register their clean-up events through a simple online process. All participating organisations shall select their own sites, which are crucial and representative.

Outcomes:

1. At least 100 sites cleaned up on a single day across 12 mountain states.
2. 36 trained peer educators across 12 states to spread awareness in their own areas.
3. An HR level workshop on waste to bring together people to discuss policy gaps and challenges of implementation.
4. A workshop with Swachh Bharat Mission representatives and civil societies to discuss on future steps.
5. Communication collaterals (film/ posters/ reports) developed for dissemination of findings to a larger audience.

3.2 Ongoing Projects

3.2.1 Promotion of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAP) based livelihood opportunities in the North Eastern Region to augment rural income and promote resilient livelihood opportunities through the establishment of an entrepreneurial ecosystem

The project, "Promotion of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAP) based livelihood opportunities in the North Eastern Region to augment rural income and promote resilient livelihood opportunities through the establishment of an entrepreneurial ecosystem" with active collaboration with NERCORMP and technical partner IIMCIP.

- Implementation Sites: Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur
- Implemented at ground level by the IMI with active collaboration with NERCORMP and technical partner IIMCIP.
- IMI withdrew from the project due to issues such as lack of adequate resources for hiring human resources, necessity of large-scale presence at the field level, mismatch with IMI strengths.
- Handing over process to NERCORMP is under process.



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3.2.2 Promotion of Countermeasures against Marine Plastic Litter in Southeast Asia and India (CounterMEASURE1) with UNEP

The project “Promotion of Countermeasures against Marine Plastic Litter in Southeast Asia and India (CounterMEASURE1),” focused on the identification of sources and pathways of major plastic leakage in India and along the Mekong River and Ganges and fostering local partnerships for tackling the problem. This project resulted in suggested policy recommendations to governments to help stop plastic pollution where it is leaking into waterways. It also generated a Regional Framework for Plastic Leakage Assessment and Monitoring in Rivers in Asia. Following this initiative, Counter MEASURE II, titled Promotion of Action against Marine Plastic Litter in Asia and the Pacific, was announced in May 2020. This initiative aims to generate, share, and disseminate scientific knowledge on plastic pollution in the Ganges, Mekong, and selected rivers in Sri Lanka and Myanmar, to inform policy and decision-making processes at the local, national, regional, and global levels.

The project aims at informing and influencing national policies, institutions, and alliances through the generation and dissemination of scientific knowledge on plastic pollution in rivers and the documentation of best practices demonstrated along the Ganga River. UNEP has collaborated with IMI to implement the Counter Measure-II Project in the IHR regions.

The objective of the project are as follows:

- Development of a policy recommendation paper on plastic waste management for mountain states of India by undertaking stakeholder mapping, literature review, and conducting stakeholder consultations at the city and state level.
- Conduct high-level meetings of mountain legislators on the issue of plastic waste and pollution.
- Catalysing behaviour change through mountain focussed outreach activities on minimization of plastic waste and pollution.

3.3.3 Study on Landscape Restoration Initiatives supported by The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

A study carried out by TNC has shown that “Natural Climate Solutions (NCS)” such as reforestation and agroforestry have the potential of sequestering over 400 MTCO₂e per year. TNC with its partners is co-developing the “India Landscape Restoration Accelerator (ILRA)” to leverage various opportunities to deploy NCS at scale. The Accelerator will provide a platform for key stakeholder groups to work together on interventions – such as commercial reforestation, smallholder reforestation (e.g. agro-forestry), ecological restoration and/or natural regeneration – that can drive large-scale landscape restoration and reforestation. One of the major activities



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under the Accelerator is to identify the high-potential levers that can catalyse large-scale transformations to scale landscape restoration in the country – leveraging technology, finance, markets, institutions, and policy – bringing in associated environmental and developmental benefits. In February 2020, TNC and WRI had co-organized a stakeholder consultation during which a few such 'levers' were identified.

Now, ILRA is engaging with key stakeholders to advance key areas of research to inform the design of future interventions. TNC is looking to synthesize the learning on landscape restoration initiatives in various parts of the country, through sharing of experience by respective organizations. Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI) works across the Mountain states and stakeholders with the objective of sustainable development of the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) such as to make the People of India proud of our Mountains. IMI will pull together a paper based on the experience and knowledge of its members, state chapters and experts that it works with in relation to landscape restoration in the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR).

The project will include to the extent such details of Landscape restoration initiatives in the IHR:

- a. National and state policies, legislation, and action plans that promote and impinge on forests, biodiversity, and sustainable livelihoods of IHR residents.
- b. Examples of programs/ initiatives that appear to have met their objectives (are effective and coherent) and lessons learned. We will aim to include available details on design, period, funding, milestones, community involvement, capacity building, results, impacts, sustainability (including in the context of climate projections where possible), Monitoring and Evaluation (M& E) systems, and knowledge management systems.



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4. IMI Activities (2022-23)

4.1 Sustainable Mountain Development Summit (SMDS) XI

The Sustainable Mountain Development Summit (SMDS-XI), a flagship program of the Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI) was organized from 9th to 12th October 2022, in Leh, Ladakh.

The theme for SMDS-XI was 'Harnessing Tourism for Sustainable Mountain Development' with the presence of delegates from the 12 Himalayan states will deliberate in this framework to explore developmental models that are ecologically benign, socially-culturally acceptable, and economically viable with long-term sustainability.

The main organisers of the summit was Sustainable Forum of Ladakh (SDFL), the Ladakh chapter of IMI, along with the Office of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC). The Summit had delegates from all the Mountain States and Governing Council Members of the IMI.

On 10th October, Union Cabinet Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) and Labour & Employment, Shri Bhupender Yadav, presided over the opening session of SMDS. He was accompanied by Chairman/CEC, Advocate Tashi Gyalsen; MP Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal; GOC 14 Corps Lt. Gen Anindya Sengupta; Principal Secretary Forest, Dr. Pawan Kotwal, PCCF Ladakh, Jigmet Takpa and President IMI, PD Rai.

Dy. Chairman, LAHDC Leh, Executive Councillors, Administrative Secretaries, DC Leh, Councillors, BDC Chairpersons, officers of UT Administration and District Administration Leh, heads of religious and political organisations and delegates from around 12 states and UTs of the mountain states also attended the inaugural session. Youth from different states, UTs and districts of the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) presented a declaration with collective recommendations from the 5th Indian Himalayan Youth Summit held on 9th October on the theme 'Sustainability and Entrepreneurship for the youth of IHR'.

Highlighting the significance of the declaration presented by the youth from the Himalayan states and UTs from the youth summit, the Hon'ble Minister stated that the youth have a huge responsibility and pivotal roles to play in the overall development of the mountain regions. He added that the current government under the able leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is striving to preserve ecological, social values, cultural and historical assets, especially in the entire Himalayan region.

Terming Ladakh a peaceful and unique destination for visitors, he stressed the need for sensitising and promoting sports, adventure, spiritual and environmentally responsible tourism in the region. Hon'ble Minister also spoke on the issues regarding notified wildlife sanctuaries and the rights of the people residing in such areas of Ladakh. He asked the UT Administration and the Hill Council to draft and compile all the issues. He assured that MoEFCC, GoI along with the Administration would make efforts to find amicable solutions to protect the rights of the people of Ladakh. The



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Hon'ble Minister also informed about 2022 being declared the International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development and stated that such seminars and discussions would help to raise awareness of the importance of sustainable mountain development and the conservation and sustainable use of mountain ecosystems.

In their address, CEC Tashi Gyalson and MP JTN stated that Ladakh is making efforts to become organic and working collectively to reduce the carbon footprint in the region. They spoke about the ongoing projects on harnessing solar and geothermal energies in Ladakh along with the progress in the field of agriculture and horticulture in the region. They also spoke about the recent introduction of Electric Vehicles (EVs) with EV policies and subsidies- a step forward in achieving the Prime Minister's vision of making Ladakh carbon neutral. Both of them extended their gratitude to the MoEFCC Bhupender Yadav for his assistance in clearing all the requisitions on wildlife clearance required for carrying out developmental works in Ladakh. They also informed about the role of local stakeholders, including the youth in the sustainable development of the mountainous regions.

Principal Secretary Forest, President IMI, GOC 14 Corps and PCCF Ladakh also addressed the gathering and shared their valuable thoughts during the occasion. Later, President IMI, P.D Rai also submitted the report from last year's SMDS-X which was held in Darjeeling and was launched by the Hon'ble MoEFCC Bhupender Yadav in the presence of all the dignitaries.

The summit had various technical sessions, which delved into issues of environmental sustainability, tourism products, security and others. It was apparent that the uniqueness of Ladakh needed much more thought that needed to be considered through the tourism products, regulation and policy, waste management, water security, energy security, and regeneration and protection of landscapes. The issues of gender, culture and changing patterns of livelihoods figured prominently. Inputs received from the resource persons were interesting and insightful as it came from all across the Himalaya and other Mountain regions of the world. Sustainability and security was also discussed in a session, which was Chaired by Shri Ram Madhav of India Foundation. The GoC, 14 Corps and Shri P. Stopdan of Ladakh International Centre also participated in the session providing their valuable inputs.

The UT of Ladakh and LAHDC sponsored the summit along with others. The University of Ladakh was active in its participation including the Office of the Principle Chief Conservator of Forests, Shri Jikmet Takpa.

4.2 Indian Himalayan Youth Summit-V

The Indian Himalayan Youth Summit (IHYS) was a special event organised for the youth of the Indian Himalayan Region under the aegis of the Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI). The Indian Himalayan Youth Summit (IHYS) V was held in Leh on 9th October, 2022 with the theme Entrepreneurship in the Himalayas. IHYS-V provided insight into innovative and sustainable



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business models and appropriate financial systems to meet the specific needs and aspirations of youth entrepreneurs in the Himalayan region.

The objectives of IHYS-V were:

- Provide a platform and opportunity for Indian Himalayan youth to share and learn about challenges and opportunities for entrepreneurship in mountain regions.
- To bring together voices from the Indian Himalayan youth and channelize their ideas, concerns and recommendations in the form of an Indian Himalayan Youth declaration on sustainable entrepreneurship.
- Explore solutions to the lack of financial services and address poor awareness and avenues for young entrepreneurs to seek financial support.
- The need to create awareness and facilitate access to not just traditional but also non-traditional financing and business options.

IHYS-V explored the importance of behavioural change required to create a sustainable business model. This will enable youth from the IHR to work towards sustainable development while generating a livelihood and enabling them to counter negative impacts to the environment and society.

IHYS-V focussed on marketing, finance, mentoring, networking and upscaling. Special emphasis was given to marketing and finance, which were identified as key challenges faced by young entrepreneurs in the IHR.

LG Ladakh, R.K Mathur was a chief guest of the youth summit and Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalson was guest of honor. Dy Chairman, Tsering Angchuk; Executive Councillors, Tashi Namgyal Yakzee, Stanzin Chosphele and Councillors, Principal Secretary Wildlife/Forest, Dr. Pawan Kotwal; PCCF/Chairman, SDF Ladakh, Jigmet Takpa; Secretary Transport, Suagat Biswas; DC Leh, Shrikant Suse; Vice President, Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI), Amba Jamir, Former CEC Leh/Member Governing Council IMI, Rigzin Spalbar, Administrative officers, District HoDs, and various youth delegates and entrepreneurs from across the mountain states and Union Territories including locals were present.

Terming the Himalayan regions as the most important ecologically as they determine the climate of the country and the world, LG Mathur stressed the need for youth taking part in the Summit to deliberate and record the outcomes of the event so that it could be heard and implemented at both regional and national levels. He emphasised the need to focus on quality tourism and spreading the benefit of tourist activities in all parts of a region rather than allowing it to concentrate in a few places. He emphasised the need to balance the environment, economy, and socio-cultural aspects to achieve sustainable tourism.

Presenting the keynote address, CEC Tashi Gyalson informed that the Summit is a platform for youth from Ladakh to interact with youth from other Himalayan states and UTs to discuss



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common issues and learn from each other. He stated that youth can make a lot of difference in coming up with possible solutions and drafting policies for the benefit of the people of the Himalayan regions.

Earlier, a Member of Governing Council, IMI, Shri Rigzin Spalbar, presented an overview of IMI and the objective behind the Youth Summit in his welcome address whereas Namrata Neopaney from IMI informed about the journey of the Indian Himalayan Youth Summit since its first edition held at Kohima in the year 2013.

Later, LG Ladakh in the presence of CEC LAHDC, Leh and all the other dignitaries launched E-Vehicles (EVs) during the occasion with an aim to promote carbon neutrality in Ladakh. The day-long program had interactive technical sessions themed on sustainability, opportunities, challenges, and solutions for young entrepreneurs in the Indian Himalayan Region.

The discussions and deliberations of each IHYS are put together in the form of the youth declaration for that summit. This declaration is then presented to legislators who attend the Mountain Legislator's Meet (MLM) and forms a part of the proceedings of the respective SMDS. This is an important platform for youth and has affected a positive outcome in terms of policy changes.

Declarations made by youth in IHYS 2023:

- Form a strong youth under an aegis of IMI to enable effective communication and networking platform. This would facilitate us to organize frequent meets and stay connected for better coordination.
- Capacity building and skill development programs for aspiring entrepreneurs of IHR to be organized on a regular basis.
- Entrepreneurship and Financial Literacy to be embedded in the education system as a policy decision.
- Recommending of policies to strengthen the logistics and transportation in the IHR.
- To push for the setting up of viable and effective incubation centres in the IHR. Revamping of the existing centre to facilitate the single window system and ease of doing business.
- Embedding responsible entrepreneurship through utilising the natural resources in balance, while keeping in mind a healthy ecosystem and generation of inclusive social benefits.
- IMI must recognize and incentivise the youth entrepreneurs from the IHR who are mitigating ecological and social challenges through their businesses.



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4.3 Mountain Legislators Meet

The Mountain Legislators Meet (MLM) plays an important role in institutionalising deliberations of the Sustainable Mountain Development Summits. It is a structured meeting of elected representatives from across the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) who share a platform to discuss sustainable mountain policies and explore how these policies can be taken forward at various levels of legislative action in the country.

Integrated Mountain Initiative as part of each Sustainable Mountain Development Summit facilitates the MLM. In 2022, the MLM was host as part of the Sustainable Mountain Development Summit-XI and hosted by Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh (LAHDC, Leh), Sustainable Development Forum of Ladakh (SDFL) and Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI).

The theme chosen for MLM 2022 was Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR): From Policy to Practice. This theme was chosen as waste management, especially plastic waste, has emerged as a major concern across India, though it has special significance in the context of the fragile ecology of mountain regions.

President of Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI) and former Member of Parliament from Sikkim, Shri P. D. Rai, delivered the inaugural address for the Mountain Legislators Meet. He explained that in keeping with the vision and aims of IMI and after consultation with members of IMI, Chief Executive Councillor/Chairperson of LAHDC, Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyaltsen, President of Sustainable Development Forum of Ladakh and Principal Chief Conservator of Forest – Ladakh, Jigmet Takpa, IFS and others, it was decided to focus on 'Extended Producer Responsibility: From Policy to Practice' as the theme for the Mountain Legislators Meet.

Executive Councillor at LAHDC, Kargil, Punchok Tashi spoke about policies such as Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and other schemes sanctioned for the region. He stated that specific policy for the mountain states should be made as it is difficult to implement many national policies in mountain regions such as Ladakh unless they are amended for mountain regions. Several speakers spoke about various aspects of the waste issue in the Indian Himalayan region, the scale of the problem and potential amendments and solutions to current policies to address these issues. These talks provided a context for the Leh declaration on mountain specific amendments required in EPR and SWM Rules.

Mountain Legislatures Meet 2021 at SMDS-X, Darjeeling held a discussion on Pathways for plastic waste management in the Indian Himalayan Region. The MLM 2021 resulted in the Darjeeling Declaration that acknowledged the need for policies on plastic waste for a vision of Zero Waste Himalaya; supporting the call to ban single use plastic; and advocacy for an EPR policy that is mountain sensitive. The policies to check plastic pollution are largely not connected and contextual to the IHR. The MLM 2022 was an attempt to fill the gap between such policies and the IHR region by bringing legislators of the IHR together to specifically discuss the Extended Producer Responsibility 2022 within the Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016.



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The IHR is one of the 34 global biodiversity hotspots, which hosts invaluable ecosystem goods and services, biodiversity, supporting 50 million people and constituting about 16.2% of India's total geographical area. The Himalayas is the source of water for the Indo-Gangetic plains and the Indus basin and this complex socio-ecological system is in the midst of a waste crisis, especially with regard to plastic waste. The waste crisis has been exacerbated with rapidly changing production and consumption patterns along with an increase in tourist footfalls. Even remote regions in the IHR are impacted by plastic pollution. Solid waste is predominantly dumped unsegregated in landfills, thrown down mountainsides or streams and rivers and burnt. Collecting and linkages to recycling units is limited, which means most of the plastic waste ends up in the environment.

The Himalayan Clean up from 2018 to 2022, which included waste and brand audits show an increasing amount of plastic waste, especially non-recyclables being produced in the IHR. This included single use plastics: Multi Layered Plastics (MLP), disposable utensils and PET bottles. The Himalayan regions needs a systemic approach to the waste crisis and cannot continue to resort to an end of the pipeline solution. In this regard, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) promulgated in 2016 under the Plastic Waste Management Rules resulted in a significant shift as it put the responsibility on producers to manage plastic waste in India. Successive amendments have been made to the EPR Rules with the latest version in 2022, but so far, there is no EPR amendment that is specifically for mountain regions. Barring Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, no other mountain state in India has implemented any form of EPR. Even in these states, organisations involved in EPR face many challenges. EPR fails to recognise problematic waste such as MLP, which cannot be recycled. EPR is located within the Solid Waste Management Rules 2016 and the legal framework of Waste Management Rules does not address issues specific to the Indian Himalayan region.

Thus, there is an urgent need to amend the current EPR and SWM Rules for India's mountain regions to address the growing waste management challenges in these areas. Thus, MLM 2022 focussed specifically on framing the main challenge related to waste management in the Indian Himalayan region and the specific amendments required to ensure that the current EPR and SWM Rules are relevant and applicable to the mountain regions of India.

Dr. Sumit Sharma from UNEP, New Delhi shared a presentation on plastic waste and EPR implementation. He mentioned that EPR implementation should be designed for the environment with sound monitoring and verification of targets and implementation, intergradation of the informal sector, data collection and informed expansion of EPR coverage, and creation of awareness through communication and training. There is need for development of science-based decision support system, processes to generate data and develop science-based waste minimisation and management solutions, behaviour change awareness creation among key stakeholders, reduction of plastic consumption, segregation, development of re-use ecosystems, regular clean-ups, capacity building of Urban Local Bodies and inclusion of the informal sector, health workers, implementation of the ban on single use plastic, science-backed investment for cost effective and sustainable infrastructure, EPR implantation mechanisms designed for mountain regions, and strengthening of CSR activities to manage plastic waste.



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Ms. Priya Shrestha presented a report on brand audit. A brand audit exercise was also conducted in Ladakh in 2022 and 14,890 items were collected of which 14,094 (95%) items were plastic and 796 (5%) were metal items. The plastic items represented different categories of plastic including PET (20%) and high-density polyethylene or HDPE (3%) and other plastics (76%). A majority of the plastic waste collected in Ladakh (77%) was non-recyclable and only about 23% was recyclable. Furthermore, as with the rest of the Himalayan region, most of the plastic waste (88%) generated in Ladakh is also from food packaging. The top 10 polluters in Ladakh in 2022 identified through the brand audit exercise were Amul, Coca-Cola, Nestle, Pepsico, ITC, Haldiram's, Parle, Hindustan Unilever, Dabur and Bikaji.

In Ladakh, recycling is being carried out through the Tsangda project. However, the waste composition suggests that the popularity of packaged food is not just creating waste but also contributing to increased incidence of non-communicable diseases through the consumption of food that is low in nutrition and high in salt, sugar and fat. Furthermore, the waste is being generated due to a design flaw in which 72% of the waste is non-recyclable multi-layered plastic.

Current provisions under EPR law sets targets for producers but the targets for mountain regions remain unclear. The policy must make it mandatory for companies to engage with Urban Local Bodies and Panchayati Raj Institutions to collect waste. Currently, there is limited access to information especially for mountain regions. In addition, the ecological fragility and higher access/higher costs means there are no incentives for the implementation of EPR in mountain regions in the absence of a mountain-specific amendment to the current policy. There is need to explore different sustainable options for waste management in mountain regions. Currently, non-recyclable plastic such as multi-layered plastic remain the biggest challenge for waste managers in mountain regions. In this regard, the global norms for waste management provide three clear strategies: Reduce consumption, invest in sustainable solutions, and switch to more sustainable alternatives.

Declaration at the Mountain Legislators' Meet 2022:

We the elected representatives at the Mountain Legislators Meet, 11 October 2022, Leh build on the MLM Darjeeling Declaration 11 November 2021 and hereby

1. Acknowledge the need to redress the Himalayan Waste Crisis in an urgent manner with circular economy lens.
2. Support the Union Government' call for Single Use Plastic ban and expand it to be contextual; to the fragility of the Indian Himalayan region.
3. Advocate for Extended Producer Responsibility that is mountain sensitive.
 - a. Explicitly create EPR targets for the States, UTs, Autonomous councils and Districts in the Indian Himalayan Region.
 - b. Special financial resources allocations from the PIBOs that take into account the geographical challenges and costs of implementing EPR in the states, UTs, Autonomous Councils and Districts in the Indian Himalayan region.



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- c. Create networks of collection, storage and transportation systems that cover all regions of the Himalayan states and UTs, which include urban, rural, forest and remote tourism and defence sites.
 - d. Call on the most polluting companies to implement EPR in the states, UTs, Autonomous Councils and Districts in the Indian Himalayan Region.
 - e. Promote reduction and refill systems that design out plastic waste from the system.
 - f. States, UTs, Autonomous councils and Districts in the Indian Himalayan Region, are empowered, strengthened and capacities built to implement EPR in the Indian Himalaya that include representation at the National Committees for EPR.
 - g. Invest in research and design that remove non-recyclables plastic like Multi-layered plastics.
4. Converge waste interventions with:
- a. Promotion of local food systems and the Eat Right Campaign that include properly and easily understood front of package labelling.
 - b. Educational processes, institutions and mid-day meals.



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Participants in Mountain Legislators' Meet, 2022, Leh

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4. Shri Stanzin Chosphele, Executive Councillor, LAHDC, Leh
5. Shri Ghulam Mehdi, Executive Councillor, LAHDC, Leh
6. Shri Mohsin Ali, Executive Councillor, LAHDC, Kargil
7. Shri Abdul Rahim Akhone, Councillor, LAHDC, Kargil
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10. Shri Karma Namdak, Councillor, LAHDC, Leh
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14. Shri Thinles Nurboo, Councillor, LAHDC, Leh
15. Dr Yangchan Dolma, Nominated Councillor, LAHDC, Leh
16. Ven Konchok Tsephel, Nominated Councillor, LAHDC, Leh
17. Dr Ishey Namgyal, President, Municipal Committee, Leh
18. Smt Saira Bano, Chairperson, Block Development Committee, Chushot
19. Smt Rigzin Chorol, Chairperson, Block Development Committee, Nyemo
20. Dr Skalrang Dorjay, Chairperson, Block Development Committee, Leh
21. Shri Tsewang Paldan, Chairperson, Block Development Committee, Thiksay
22. Shri Jigmat Namdol, Chairperson, Block Development Committee, Rupsho
23. Smt Urgain Chosdon, Chairperson, Block Development Committee, Nyoma
24. Shri Jigmat Yountan, Chairperson, Block Development Committee, Rong
25. Shri Tsering Phuntsog, Chairperson, Block Development Committee, Saspol
26. Shri P. D. Rai, Former Member of Parliament, Sikkim
27. Shri Rigzin Spalbar, Former CEC
28. Shri Sunil Uniyal Gamma, Mayor, Dehradun, Uttarakhand
29. Shri Jigmet Takpa, PCCF, Ladakh
30. Shri Amba Jamir, Vice President, IMI
31. Ms. Priyadarsinee Shrestha, Secretary, IMI
32. Mr. Roshan Rai, GC member, IMI
33. Mr. Tikender Singh, Former Mayor, Shimla
34. Ms. Smriti Basnet, Dy. Manager, DCCC



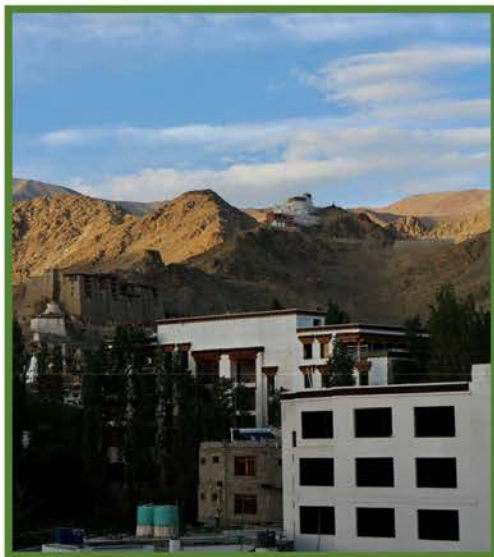
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4.5 The Indian Himalayan Photography Contest 2022

The Indian Himalayan Photography Contest 2022 was organised during the SMDS-XI in Leh, Ladakh on the theme of 'Impacts of Tourism in the mountains. These issues are often complicate, which makes it challenging to capture them in a single frame. This is more than just a contest. It is about inspiring people to do more with their cameras, to think beyond the ordinary, to create images and films that stand out, create awareness and inspire action. The winners were declared during the valedictory session of SMDS-XI.



Fayaz Ahmed, Ladakh



Isaac Gregan, Ladakh



Pokhraj Rai, Sikkim



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4.6 Meet of the Mountain States

IMI's flagship event Meet of the Mountain States (MoMS) was organised at the Ganga Auditorium of the Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change on March 23 - 24, 2023. The event was organised this year in collaboration with the Divecha Centre for Climate Change and the MoEFCC. The Chief Guests for the first day were Hon'ble Ministers for State – MoEFCC, Shree Ashwini K Choubey, and Hon'ble Minister for State – Tourism – Shri Ajay Bhatt. The special guest was Shree Tashi Gyalson, Chief Executive Councillor- Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council. The event had participation of delegates from all the mountain states of India and members of various organisations and institutions.

Shri PD Rai, President of IMI, highlighted the importance of the mountains and how IMI has been working for more than a decade for furthering the agenda for sustainable development in the mountains. The outcomes from SMDSXI were shared by Mr. Jigmet Takpa PCCF- Ladakh and President – Sustainable Development Forum of Ladakh which highlighted the need to mainstream the theme of sustainable tourism across the IHR.

Shree Ashwini Chaubey commended the work of IMI in bringing the stakeholders from across the mountain states together and highlighted the fragility of the Himalaya with a personal account of his own experience of having lived through the 2013 tragedy of Kedarnath. Shree Ajay Bhatt mentioned that disasters were a common thread that ran across the mountain states. Tourism is an important economic activity but a cautious approach has to be adopted. Shri Tashi Gyalson stressed the need for actualising extended producer responsibility for managing plastic waste in the mountains. He mentioned that companies were taking the mountains for granted, and they would have to do more on EPR for the mountains.

Prof. Satheesh, Chair of DCCC gave an overview of Divecha Centre for Climate Change, highlighting how mountains would have a higher degree of warming than other parts. Two technical sessions discussed plastic management with special focus on extended producer responsibility and resurgence of millets in the mountains. Representatives from the mountain states spoke about the various issues and challenges on both the themes.

On the second day, Hon'ble Minister for MOEFCC Shri Bhupendra Yadav joined the meeting virtually as the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honor was Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan, Minister of State for External Affairs and Education.

The outcomes from the thematic sessions on millets and plastic waste were presented by the session leads - Dr. GS Rawat and Mr. Roshan Rai in the presence of other legislators from the mountain states of Manipur, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand. The need for mountain sensitivity as well as special focus in extended producer responsibility guidelines was stressed upon by the speakers, and was deemed essential to redress the Himalayan plastic pollution crisis by the panel of Legislators. All acknowledged the need for legislative action to end plastic pollution in the mountains. Legislators shared their childhood connections with millets and the



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need to revive and promote it for the well-being of people and the planet, and the year of the millets provided a great opportunity.

In his address, Shri Bhupendra Yadav welcomed the outcomes of SMDS-XI and the need for sustainable tourism in the IHR. The Minister acknowledged the Darjeeling and Leh Declarations that stressed on plastic pollution in the Himalaya as well as extended producer responsibility implementation in the IHR.

In his concluding remarks, Dr Rajkumar Ranjan, Minister of State, commended IMI for its work and proposed the introduction of interdisciplinary mountain science studies in mountain universities that would cater to the knowledge needs of the mountains. The meet ended with the vote of thanks being proposed by Ms. Priya Shrestha, Secretary IMI.

Thematic session I: Plastic Waste Management- Extended Producer Responsibility implementation in the IHR

The session highlighted the importance of EPR implementation and that producers need to do more for mountain states. Panellists from State PCBs, CSOs, and others from across the Himalaya shared the challenges of waste management in the mountains and implementing EPR.

- Mountains have higher costs for managing waste due to remoteness, geography, land availability, etc.
- Infrastructure limited and non-implementation of segregation at source makes it challenging.
- Linkage to recycling and processing is poor - only high value plastics collected.
- Limited understanding and awareness of EPR among relevant authorities.
- Alternatives to SUPs are not made available or made viable.
- Linkage of increased packaged food consumption and plastic waste.

Way forward

- A narrative shift from end of the pipeline solutions to systemic circular systems.
- A need for acknowledgement that mountains need special focus for EPR,
- Task force to revisit EPR framework from a mountain lens that include targets specific for mountains, investments in infrastructure, viable rates, rural inclusiveness and focus on awareness.

Thematic session II: Agroecology in Indian Himalayas 'Resurgence with Millets'

The session brought together farmers, scientists, and Agri-entrepreneurs to discuss how millet, aptly named Sri Ana, could occupy an important space in mountain agro-ecology. The speakers highlighted the diversity of millets across the Himalaya and its cultural significance, and how India was the biggest global player in terms of millet production. Speakers also highlighted the challenges-

- Replacement of traditional millet culture through promotion of rice and wheat.
- Marginalisation of millets by branding as poor man's crop, coarse, kala anaj, bada anaj.



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- Challenges of post-harvest techniques, processing and access to markets.
- Limited popularity.

Way forward

- Reclaim the lost agro-ecological space of millets in the mountains through concerted efforts as well as building on traditional knowledge and practice.
- Highlighting diversity, nutritional benefits, as well as climate resilience benefits of millets.
- Access, propagation, and availability of post-harvest technology for mountains.
- Popularise local names and refrain from use of the word millets, which is reductive. GOI has renamed it as “Sri Anna”
- Increase millet consumption -culinary innovations, collaboration with chefs, etc.
- Documenting / Sharing of best practices including practices like 12 anaaj.

Plastic Waste Management- Extended Producer Responsibility implementation in the IHR

Plastic waste is now a globally acknowledged crisis. This crisis in the ecologically fragile mountain regions of the IHR is further amplified due to remoteness, accessibility, limited land availability for waste treatment and disposal. Increasing urbanization and tourism in the Himalaya have made waste one of the most visible challenges. Litter along trails in tourist spots and open dumping of waste in valleys and streams have become common, which is a huge public health and environmental pollution issue.

Waste management needs a narrative shift from end of the pipeline solutions to a systemic circular one. Waste is a design flaw and producers need to take responsibility for their waste and take extra effort to redress the Himalayan waste crisis. In the long run they need to invest and shift to sustainable products and packaging. There is a clear intersection between food and plastic waste that has been established by the data from The Himalayan Cleanups since 2018 that shows more than 80 percent of waste from home-based audits and outdoor cleanups emanate from food packaging.

Extended Producer Responsibility within the Plastic Waste Management Rules calls on producers of plastic waste to take responsibility for the plastic waste, but the rule is not mountain sensitive so is not implemented in the mountains. The session highlighted the importance of the implementation of the rule in the Indian Himalayan region and panellists from various SPCBs, key nodal persons and CSOs from across the Himalaya shared the challenges of implementing EPR.

Key Challenges of EPR implementation in the IHR:

- Implementation of EPR is limited and not functional in the north east states.
- Limited understanding and awareness of EPR with ULB/PRI/public-complicated mechanism
- Infrastructure is limited and segregation at source is not taking place making it challenging for EPR implementation



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- Linkage to recycling and processing is poor in the IHR and extremely challenging in the North East states
- Non-compliance and even irregularity of reporting by Waste Management Agencies
- Only high value plastics is being collected
- SPCB/ULB/PRI and other stakeholders convergence is limited

The panel discussion was followed by an open house discussion followed by responses by representatives of the Central Pollution Control Board. CPCB provided an insight to EPR philosophy being market driven and its efficacy would improve with increasing consumer demand.

The outcomes of the thematic were:

- There is a need for acknowledgement that mountains need special focus.
- Revisiting the EPR framework from a mountain lens by setting up a task force/committee/roundtables)
- The revisiting of EPR with a mountain sensitive lens needs to focus on:
- EPR targets for companies that are mountain specific.
- Invest in processing Infrastructure (MRFs/ PWWs) across the IHR
- EPR rates to be made viable considering the ecological importance, fragility & geography of IHR
- Industry within the states should fulfill their targets from within state
- Awareness & build capacities of ULB/PRI to implement EPR
- ULB/PRI made more inclusive stakeholders of EPR
- Strengthen coverage of rural areas across the IHR

The elected representatives of the IHR reiterated the need to urgently respond to the waste and plastic crisis in the IHR as well as enact policies at a local, state, and national level policies that stop plastic pollution, promote alternatives as well as make EPR mountain focussed. The need to look at well-being, increased packaged food consumption and waste was also expressed. The thematic session on plastic waste at the MoMS has been an important milestone in responding to the Himalayan waste crisis as well as EPR and plastic pollution in the mountains.

Agroecology in Indian Himalayas 'Resurgence with Millets'

'International Year of Millets' 2023 has been declared on India's call, and #IYM2023 will be an opportunity to raise awareness of, and direct policy attention to the nutritional and health benefits of millets and their suitability for cultivation under adverse and changing climatic conditions (FAO). For mountain communities, this renewed interest in millets is very timely and one that must be leveraged. Millets are a crop of great importance and have been an integral part of food culture in the mountains. Cultivated traditionally, millets have occupied a space that has fulfilled nutrition requirements as well as occupied a high cultural significance. Millets are a resilient and nutritious crop and adapt to different ecological conditions that can withstand



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extreme heat conditions, low rainfall, long dry spells, making them an ideal plant in the face of changing climatic conditions.

Millets and other pseudo cereals have long been overshadowed in the agriculture development of India, especially in the mountains. In the last few years, however, the Government of India has taken positive steps to promote millets. Declaration of the millets as a 'Nutra Cereal' in a notification in 2018 followed up with MSP for millets are some of them.

Padmashree Shri Nek Ram Sharma, Shri Vijay Jhardhari, Ms. Alethea Kordor Lyndoh, Shri Biju Negi, Shri Bishnu Chettri all highlighted the diversity of millets across the Himalaya and how deeply they were ingrained in the culture and well-being of the people of the mountains. They also lamented the fact that the green revolution replaced the traditional millet culture with rice and wheat. The marginalisation of millets became deeply ingrained in society and language too with words like coarse, poor man's grains, kala anaaj, bada anaaj chosen to describe them. There is a need to reclaim these spaces and the change in language would be an important step too. They stressed the need to call them by their respective names and not lump them into one "millets"

The speakers also placed millets in the context of the larger agro-ecology as well as the need to look at it from a large socio-ecological perspective and not a reductive single crop lens. The case of the 12 anaaj or 12 crops grown together was also cited from a cropping system. Culinary processes were also presented and also interventions with chefs to bring it in the restaurant menus. Work with farmer groups were presented as important pilots that have multiple benefits of improved nutrition security, livelihood and income augmentation and climate resilience.

Dr. Dayakar Rao, Indian Institute of Millet Research, Hyderabad highlighted the diversity of millets across India and also stressed that India was the biggest global player when it comes to millet production. He talked about the goodness of millets in terms of nutrition and climate resilience and the naming of millets as Sri Anna so that it occupies its rightful place in our food systems. He also talked about processing innovations that the center has developed and how their RnD can be accessed and propagated. He called on all participants to "Lets Millet" to close his address.

The millets session outcomes deeply resonated with the elected representatives who narrated their personal stories of millets in their lives and traditions that included fermentation. They highlighted the need to conserve and promote the diversity of seeds and food cultures that is attached to millets.

In conclusion, the need to contextualize the Year of Millets to the Himalaya was evident with the discussion in this thematic session.



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Feedbacks:

It was a wonderful conference. I thank you and profusely compliments you for your leadership. From the conference I had the opportunity to learn the success stories of tourism in Ladakh; burning issues of plastic waste management and the urgency to revive Millet cultivation. Also, happy to meet and made new friends at the conference. Under your leadership we must continue to market the challenges of Himalayan Mountain states. They are national issues.

Warmest and profound personal regards,

Ram Muivah IAS retd

MLA UKHRUL Manipur

It was a joy to co-organize the Meet of the Mountains in Delhi along with IMI. We look forward to the continued partnership in shaping the narratives and informing dialogues on Science-Policy linkages. Our efforts to inform policy decision through science and knowledge generation will be made priority during the SMDS and MOMS processes.

Sincerely,

On behalf of Divecha Centre for Climate Change IISc

Dr. Smriti Basnett

Deputy Director, Future Earth Global Secretariat Hub South Asia

Interim Director, Future Earth South Asia Regional Centre



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4.7 The Himalayan Cleanup (THC) 2022

The Himalayan Cleanup (THC) is an annual event undertaken, since 2018, across the Indian Himalayan Region, anchored by Integrated Mountain Initiative and Zero Waste Himalaya to highlight the waste crisis in the Himalaya and advocate for mountain sensitive policies and practices.

“Reflect, Switch and Demand” was the theme for THC2022 that was conducted between 26 to 30 May across the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR). CSOs, Educational Institutions, FBOs and Swachh Bharat Missions facilitated THC 2022 with 5000+ volunteers in 100+ cleanup sites across the IHR.

THC is conducted to highlight the waste crisis in the Indian Himalayan Region and advocates for mountain sensitive policies, as well as individual change, and most importantly demand for sustainable products and packaging. The theme for THC therefore is, 'Reflect, Switch and Demand' to motivate participants to move towards mindful and sustainable lifestyles as well as to create collective spaces for individuals to demand for improved systems and products to redress the problem of plastic pollution.

This year over 5000 participants undertook the clean-up in more than 100 sites, and conducted a waste and brand audit which are aligned to the global brand audit of Break Free from Plastics. Over 100+ educational institutions and 49 organisations including IMI State Chapters led THC. In Sikkim, THC 2022 had been officially endorsed by the Education Department with more than 70 schools joining in the campaign.

THC entails collecting, segregating and counting the different pieces of plastic trash to understand the type of plastics by its various numbers, the categories of waste - whether food packaging, personal care products, household products, smoking & tobacco, or others.

Ms. Priya Shrestha, Member of Zero Waste Himalaya and IMI presented that the data received from 65 sites revealed that a total of 114376 pieces of trash weighing 4143 Kgs was collected in total across the mountains. 92.7% of the waste collected was plastic trash. What is most significant is that 72% of all plastic collected was non-recyclable like multi-layered plastic, tetra-pak, which is the root of the plastic crisis as these plastics have no solution. Though 28% of plastic waste collected was recyclable, these trash such as PET bottles end up littering the mountains as even recyclable plastics are not collected due to collection, linkage, and support challenges in the mountains.

Alarmingly packaged food and drinks made 82% of all plastic waste collected in THC, which is an indication of the junk and processed food culture that is now prevalent. It is a known fact that these foods are low in nutritional value and high in salt, sugar and fat that contributes to the fast growing non-communicable lifestyle diseases in the Himalaya.



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70.2% of food packaging was multi-layered plastic that is non-recyclable which leads to the Himalayan waste crisis. This is a crucial insight into looking at waste management solutions that are systemic and design oriented.

While the role of the individual and the end of the pipeline waste manager is important, but the brand audit that revealed the top polluting companies. It was revealed during the meeting, which showed that the top 10 companies whose plastics are found littering the mountain scapes were PepsiCo India, CG Foods India Pvt. Ltd., Perfetti Van Melle, Perfetti Van Melle, ITC, Parle Agro Pvt. Ltd, Hindustan Coca Cola, Nestle, Hindustan Unilever Ltd., Mondelez India Food Pvt. Ltd., Dabur India Ltd.

In the discussion session, participants called for working on food related campaigns with schools, which are aligned to the Eat Right Movement. Local food options to replace junk food also needs to be discussed for popularisation. Deeper discussions were felt as necessary to understand the alternatives to plastics available. Focusing on local products that use single use plastics for packaging was also felt as necessary.

Educational institutions were acknowledged for their tremendous stewardship and the top 5 schools from the 70+ schools was announced by Ms. Kaby Rai, Zero Waste Himalaya Volunteer. Gyanoday Niketan, Darjeeling; King George School, Sikkim; Duga SSS, Sikkim; Sambhota Tibetan School, Darjeeling; Lamdon Model School Leh were the top 5 schools.

During the meeting, the Plastic Freedom Challenge for 2022 which runs from August 8 to 15 was also launched. Mr. Abishek Pradhan, Zero Waste Peer Educator gave an overview of the campaign and announced a video making contest, which was open for all. A social media storm on the Top 3 Polluters was also conducted to amplify the results of THC 2022. He called on all individuals and institutions to take the Plastic Freedom Challenge and make Independence Day celebrations plastic free.

The journey of THC 2022 from 2018 shows the unabated onslaught of plastic waste in the Himalaya and the need for urgent emergency response to the crisis at the individual and institutional levels. It calls on individual action, as well as on companies to stop polluting the Himalaya and to take responsibility for their waste.



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4.7 Workshop on “Plastic Waste Management in the Hills and Tourist Destinations of India” at Dehradun:

A workshop in Dehradun was organised by SDFU and IMI on September 30, 2022 with the collaboration of UNEP and TERI. It focused on debating and discussing the issues in solid and plastic waste management and specifically the significance of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) in the Indian Himalayan States. The IHR Policy and Policy for Uttarakhand on plastic waste drafted by IMI were shared with the participants.

Shri Saurabh Bahuguna, Minister in the Government of Uttarakhand was the Chief guest of the workshop. In his address he highlighted the issue of waste management in Char Dham Yatra mentioning that public participation is key to bring about change. He further stated that companies also have to be held accountable for the plastic waste crisis not only in Uttarakhand but the entire #himalayan Region.

Other dignitaries and experts from SPCB- UK, UNEP, Elected representatives of Local Bodies, Civil Society members participated in the workshop and shared their concerns and discussed pathways for addressing plastic waste management.

The sharing of knowledge, debate, concerns and deliberations during the course of the workshop discussed the importance of people’s participation but also that it is critical for producers of plastic waste to be held accountable. Segregation at source, and involvement of a wide range of



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stakeholder – hotels, restaurants, educational institutions, government offices, etc. were also discussed along with the adoption of a decentralized approach for waste management.

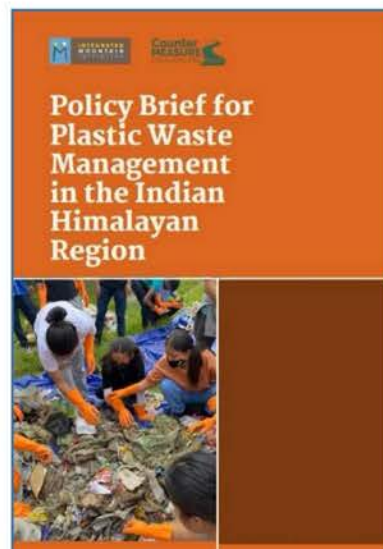


4.8 Policy framework paper for Plastic Waste Management in Indian Himalayan Region:

The policy brief for improved Waste Management especially Plastic Waste Management in the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) was drafted by Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI) in partnership with UNEP's project "Promotion of Countermeasures against Marine Plastic Litter in Southeast Asia and India (Counter MEASUREII)". The author of this policy brief are Ms. Priyadarshinee Shrestha, Secretary IMI, Mr. Roshan Rai, GC member, IMI and Mr. R.P. Gurung, CEO, ECOSS.

The brief is the recognition of the fragility and socio-ecological importance of the IHR, the Himalayan waste crisis and the need for policy and action that is mountain sensitive.

This policy brief is based on guiding principles that focuses on closing the plastic tap; decentralised and people centric policy and action. It recommends the recognition of the importance of mountains and its fragility; reduction of waste; the eradication of single-use plastics; technology that is suitable for mountains and actualizing segregation at source with shared responsibility for waste amongst tourism stakeholders, religious and defence institutions. Investment in building capacity and leadership of stakeholders and implementing Extended Producer Responsibility that factors in mountain specificities as well as allocation of additional funds for mountain states is stressed. Facilitation of inter- departmental, inter-sectoral coordination and adoption of a transboundary landscape approach in policy is recommended.



4.9 INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN DAY (Women move Mountains)

The International Mountain Day has its roots in 1992, when the adoption of Chapter 13 of Agenda 21 “Managing Fragile Ecosystems: Sustainable Mountain Development” at the United Nations (UN) Conference on Environment and Development put a milestone in the history of mountain development. This year the theme for International Mountain Day - Women Move Mountains.

This year the theme for International Mountain Day - Women Move Mountains. Women play a key role in socio-ecological development in mountain areas. They are often the primary managers of mountain resources, guardians of biodiversity, keepers of traditional knowledge, custodians of local culture and experts in traditional medicine. Yet mountain women are often invisible due to unequal access to decision-making spaces, power and to resources. To trigger real change towards sustainable development, it is important to engage in gender transformative change.

IMI observed this event through social media engagement highlighting women of the IMI network.



The 5th RST Forum was organised on the occasion of International Mountain Day, on December 11, 2022 by the Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand with a workshop on “The role of women and community-based organizations in forest management and climate change mitigation”. Representatives from the Government, community-based organizations, private sector, Universities, and NGOs participated to discuss on the issues of climate change in the mountains, role of women in climate mitigation, and Van Panchayats. These were issues central to the interest of Dr RS Tolia.

The workshop highlighted that woman of Uttarakhand had played a significant role in forest conservation and climate change mitigation as exemplified by the well-known Chipko Andolan. Lack of coordination between the administration and encroachment in forest areas were discussed as key issues. The workshop discussed on setting up Van Vikas Kendras, forming new cadre for Van Panchayats to monitor and implement rules, devising inclusive women-centric policies and to bring coordination between the Biodiversity Act and the rules of Van Panchayat.

The Darjeeling Himalaya Initiative and the Sikkim Chapter of IMI hosted a panel discussion, sharing the journeys of three women engaged in various sectors in the Sikkim- Darjeeling Himalaya. Ms. Kamlesh, an educationist, environmentalist, antitrafficking activist, football and hockey coach: Ms Shanti, a river guide, rescuer in the turbulent River Teesta and the Koshi floods and a social



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activist; and Dr. Sunita, a pioneering conservation biologist whose work in red panda is seminal and continues to work on human-wildlife interactions, biodiversity and zoonosis.

The discussion enabled critical contextual discussion on gender in the Darjeeling and Sikkim Himalaya through the life stories of the panellists and offered inspiration for our society. Personal achievements and journeys of the speakers highlighted the enabling factors and support systems they fell back on. Systemic inequity that does not acknowledge, recognise the contributions of women in our society were the barriers that needed to be broken, to provide equal spaces and opportunities. DHI also hosted an online Conversation Series with Kalimpong TV featuring women from the field of academia, film, conservation, organic farming, etc.



5. Meetings and Strategic Discussions

5.1 Governing Council Meeting

The 31st Governing Council was conducted virtually on 30th July 2022. All GC members attended with the exception of Dr. Vincent Darlong, Mr. Amba Jamir and Mr. Egam Basar who were absent with leave from Chair. The President started the meeting with a welcome address, where he expressed his regret that the GC meeting could not be held in March 2022 due to the trying times being faced by all; mainly because of Covid related lockdowns and IMI Secretariat staff leaving on short notice.

Ms. Priya Shrestha, Secretary began with an update from the IMI Secretariat informing the GC members about Preranandita Baisnab and Golan Naulak's departure from the organisation. She further presented the minutes of the 30th GC meeting to confirm the Action Taken Report (ATR). She also informed the members about various activities organized by IMI viz. Landscape Restoration in North East Himalayan States, The Himalayan Clean Up, 2022, Zero Waste Peer Educators, Promotion of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAP) Project, Counter Measures II and preparation about SMDS XI. Ms. Binita Shah, Treasurer shared the accounts and expenditure details and Mr. Rigzin Spalbar shared an update about SMDS XI. The meeting also had a discussion formation of state chapter of Himachal Pradesh for which a visit to be arranged in September 2022.



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The 32nd Governing Council was held at Hotel Grand Dragon, Leh on 10th October 2022. All GC members attended with the exception of Dr. Rajendra Dhobhal and Mr. Egam Basar who were absent with leave from Chair. The main discussion was need for IMI strengthening and improving coordination with the State Chapters and members. IMI's membership process to be reviewed in the near future to create space for new interested members. Outcomes from all summits to be looked into and how the recommendations could be put into action. Endorsement of Leh Declaration from all Mountain Legislators to be taken forward. IMI's 32nd GC meeting was organised in hybrid manner at Leh on the side-lines of SMDSXI on October 9, 2022, chaired by President, Mr. PD Rai. Six Councillors were present in person and 3 joined the meeting online. Mr. Rai congratulated the newly formed chapter - SDFL on taking charge of organising SMDSXI, and expressed his gratitude to Councillor from Ladakh Mr. Rigzin Spalbar and the SDFL team.

Some key discussion points were –

- The need for IMI strengthening and improving coordination with the State Chapters and members.
- IMI's membership process to be review in the near future to create space for new interested members.
- Outcomes from all summits to be looked into and how the recommendations could be put into action.
- Endorsement of Leh Declaration from all Mountain Legislators to take forward.

5.2 Annual General Body Meeting:

9th Annual General Meeting of IMI was held online on 17th December 2022, chaired by Shri PD.Rai, President, and with 17 members in attendance. After the President's welcome address, Secretary, Ms. Priyadarshinee presented the action taken report of 8th AGM, followed by a brief on IMI activities conducted. Ms. Shrestha, Ms. B. Shah and Mr. Rai presented about SMDS XI including MLM 2022 and Youth Summit. International Mountain Day events organised by SDFU and DHI with Sikkim Chapter was also presented.

Key Discussion points:

- Upcoming Meet of the Mountain States, will held in collaboration with Divecha Centre for Climate Change.
- Endorsement of Leh Declaration with State Chapter and member support.
- Funding related issues and IMI's strategy for fundraising
- Review of IMI membership



Making India Proud of Our Mountains

5.3 State Chapters meeting:

On 13th January 2023, an online meeting was organized with all State Chapters of IMI. President, IMI- Mr. PD Rai welcomed all the members and stated the objectives of the meeting. Secretary, Ms. Priyadarshinee Shrestha gave an overview of the process of membership review and shared the comments and feedback that had been sent by the members. She mentioned that with the cap on membership, there was no opportunity to bring in new members. Therefore, the review of current members of IMI was an evaluation process for removal of old inactive members to make way for new ones.

Also discussed other issues around higher engagement with state chapters, bringing uniformity in the structure etc. Treasurer, Ms. Binitia Shah apprised the members on the status of funds, and placed the idea of state chapters contributing to fund raising. There were suggestions on having a dedicated person for fundraising and organizing fundraising events. As a follow up, meetings were conducted with individual state chapters in which Meghalaya, Sikkim, Darjeeling, Uttarakhand and NCR participated and shared their opinions and suggestions. In these meetings, names of members from the respective states were shared and opinion sought on their engagement. Some of the suggestions that were placed were

- Letter to be sent to all members seeking their interest to continue.
- Honorary or associate membership to be offered to inactive members.
- IMI's MoA might need to be reviewed and amended to enable this process.
- More clarity on State Chapters and their link with IMI.

5.3 IMI Interaction with German MPs

Mr. PD. Rai, President IMI and Ms. Priya Shrestha, Secretary IMI attended a meeting with visiting MPs of German Parliamentary Committee on Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety & Consumer Protection on 30th October, 2022. Mr. Harald Ebner, MP from Green Party led the delegation and they exchanged notes on climate change and the impact it is having on the world, as well as locally.

Plastic pollution in the Himalaya came in for discussion was also discussed. SMDS X report and IMI's Policy Brief for Managing Plastic Pollution in the IHR were shared with the delegation.



Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Participants of 5th Indian Himalayan Youth Summit

Sl.No.	Name	State	Email
1	Mr. Moheswar Ronghang	Assam	moheshronghang2013@gmail.com
2	Ms. Reeka Millikpi	Assam	rikamillikpi@gmail.com
3	Cukhoyi Chiero	Nagaland	cukhoyiea@gmail.com
4	R Ledziisa	Nagaland	lizasoto.ea@gmail.com
5	Kabya Chamling Rai	Darjeeling	kabby_r@yahoo.com
6	Abishek Pradhan	Darjeeling	abishekmikko1998@gmail.com
7	Kapil Chettri	Darjeeling	kapilchettri0@gmail.com
8	Ms. Matrika Ghimirey	Sikkim	matrika.ghimirey@gmail.com
9	Mr. Maheshwar Sharma	Sikkim	sharmamahesh0297@gmail.com
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11	Mr. Tarjan Bharti	Himachal Pradesh	ktbharti75321890@gmail.com
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13	Mukesh Garbyal	Uttarakhand	garbyalmukesh@gmail.com
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15	Mr. Kala Baral	Uttarakhand	kalabaral02@gmail.com
16	Mr. Lalbiak Dika Ngente	Mizoram	lalbiak.dika.ngente@gmail.com
17	Ms. Vanlal Remruati Ralte (mimi)	Mizoram	riltraltemimi35@gmail.com
18	Mr. Mashungmi Zingkhai	Manipur	ameizingkhai@gmail.com
19	Mr. Tungring Khaling	Manipur	atungkhaleng789@gmail.com
20	Ms. Tiston Debbarma	Tripura	tistondebbarma09@gmail.com
21	Rakesh Baidya	Tripura	rakeshbaidya1996@gmail.com
22	Enoch Spalbar	Ladakh	
23	Stanzin Delex Chosdon	Ladakh	



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24	Dorjay Namgyal	Ladakh	
25	Faisal Qadir	Ladakh	
26	Chewang Motup	Ladakh	
27	Yukta Acharya	Ladakh	
28	Rae-Anne Pytuh	Ladakh	
29	Deno Dolie	Ladakh	
30	Vimeu Sakhre	Ladakh	
31	Shelly Tage	Ladakh	
32	Hajira Bano	Ladakh	
33	Stanzin Dolma	Ladakh	



Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Annexure 1: Audit Report (2022-23)



14/10, Mohit Vihar, GMS Road,
Dehradun-248001 (Uttarakhand)
9012192999/ 9412055318
Email: dehradun@adroitandco.in
Website: www.adroitandco.in



Offices at New Delhi, Chandigarh, Ghaziabad, Noida, Faridabad & Gurugram

Auditor's Report

1 We have audited the financial statements of Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI), 315/274, 2nd Floor, Westend Marg, M.B. Road Saidul Ajab, New Delhi which comprises Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2023, the statement of Profit & Loss A/c for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory informations.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

2 Management is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position and financial performance in accordance with the Accounting Standard generally accept in India. This responsibility includes the design, implementation and maintenance of adequate internal financial controls, that were operating effectively for ensuring the accuracy and Completeness of the accounting records, relevant to the preparation & presentation of financial Statements that give a true & fair view and are free from materials misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

3 Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing issued by Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and the disclosures in the financial statements. The procedure selected depends on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessment, the auditor considers internal financial control relevant to the preparation of the financial statements that give a true & fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management as well as evaluating the overall presentation of financial statements.

Opinion

4 Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

In our opinion and information & explanations given to us, the aforesaid financial statements give the information in the manner so required and give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles of the state of affairs as and its surplus for the year ended on that date.

We report, subject to significant Accounting Policies & notes to accounts and audit observation to this report of even date that :

- We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purpose of the audit.
- In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept at the office, so far as appears from our examination of the books.
- In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the said accounts, read with notes thereon, if any, give a true and fair view :-
 - In the case of the balance sheet, of the state of the affairs as 31st March, 2023, and
 - In the case of Profit & Loss A/c for the year ended on that date.

Dated : 16-08-2023



For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants

(Signature)

(CA.Tarun Agarwal)
Partner

FRN No.: 006547N / M No.: 093945
UDIN No.: 23093945BGXXYT1764





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)
315/274, 2nd Floor, Westend Marg, M.B. Road Saidul Ajab, New Delhi

Balance Sheet

As at 31st March 2023

PARTICULARS	Note No.	As at 31st March 2023 (in Rs.)	As at 31st March 2022 (in Rs.)
Capital Account			
Corpus Fund	1	1,801,715.59	1,939,972.64
Lifetime Membership Fund		440,000.00	
Fixed Asset Capital Fund		32,740.60	
Dr.R.S Tolia Memorial Award Fund		1,043,776.00	
Other Liabilities			
Sundry Creditors	2	444,250.00	534,250.00
Audit & Taxation Fees Payable	3	47,200.00	-
Unutilized / Earmarked Grant Fund	4	685,972.92	3,123,697.50
TOTAL		4,495,655.11	6,641,696.14
Fixed Assets			
As per details	5	32,740.60	-
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	6	1,092,730.51	3,083,592.14
Loan & Advances	7	70,184.00	258,104.00
Advances recoverable in Cash or Kind			
Investments	8	3,300,000.00	3,300,000.00
TOTAL		4,495,655.11	6,641,696.14

Significant accounting policies and notes to accounts

On behalf of the Board Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)

Secretary

[Signature]
Treasurer
Dated : 16-08-2023

[Signature]
Secretary



For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants

[Signature]

(CA.Tarun Agarwal)
Partner
FRN No.: 006547N / M.No.: 093945
UDIN No.: 23093945BQJXYT1764



Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)
Schedules to the Balance Sheet

Note - 4

Unutilized / Earmarked Grant Fund
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS		Note	As at 31st March 2023	
Opening Balance				
1	MAP		2,835,575.00	
2	Himalayan Cleanup		(38,042.60)	
3	Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand (SDFU)		163,258.99	
4	United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP)		(57,907.73)	
5	Indian Resource Trust (IRT)		1,760.00	
6	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)		76,043.84	
7	Lead India		143,010.00	3,123,697.50
			3,123,697.50	
Grant Received				
1	World Wide Fund (WWF)		1,000,000.00	
2	United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP)		2,034,023.66	
3	Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC)		1,001,176.00	
4	Sustainable Development Forum (SDF), Ladakh		8,938.00	
5	The Energy & Resources Institute		72,000.00	
6	UCOST, Dehradun		215,000.00	4,331,137.66
			4,331,137.66	-
Total (A)		>>>	7,454,835.16	7,454,835.16
Grant Utilised				
1	MAP		-	
2	World Wide Fund (WWF)		865,387.55	
3	Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand (SDFU)		138,690.49	
4	United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP)		1,859,934.45	
5	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)		10,000.00	
6	Lead India		141,798.47	
7	Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC)		619,778.28	
8	Sustainable Development Forum (SDF), Ladakh		6,643.40	
9	The Energy & Resources Institute		72,000.00	
10	UCOST, Dehradun		215,000.00	3,929,232.64
			3,929,232.64	
Transferred to IMI Corpus Fund				
1	MAP		2,835,575.00	
2	Indian Resource Trust (IRT)		1,760.00	
2	Sustainable Development Forum (SDF), Ladakh		2,294.60	2,839,629.60
			2,839,629.60	
Closing Balance				
1	Himalayan Cleanup		(38,042.60)	
2	World Wide Fund (WWF)		134,612.45	
3	Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand (SDFU)		24,568.50	
4	United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP)		116,181.48	
5	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)		66,043.84	
6	Lead India		1,211.53	-
7	Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC)		381,397.72	685,972.92
			685,972.92	-
Total (B)		>>>	7,454,835.16	7,454,835.16





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)

Schedules to the Balance Sheet

Note	Name of the Heads related to Balance Sheet	Total transactions during the year 2022-2023			
		As at 31st March 2022	Dr.	Cr.	As at 31st March 2023
1	Corpus Fund				
1	Corpus Fund	1,499,972.64	449,307.94	147,564.99	1,801,715.59
2	Dr.R Stolia Memorial Award Fund	1,043,776.00			1,043,776.00
3	Membership Fees	440,000.00			440,000.00
4	Fixed Asset Capital Fund	-	32,740.60		32,740.60
	Total	2,983,748.64	482,048.54	147,564.99	3,318,232.19
2	Sundry Creditors				
	1. Dr. Anil Jaggi	56,250.00			56,250.00
	2. Enfogal	30,000.00			30,000.00
	3. Hemonta Borah	60,000.00			60,000.00
	4. Limalenden (Green Sight Project)	30,000.00			30,000.00
	5. Funds booked under MAP	268,000.00			268,000.00
	6. Other Creditors	90,000.00	90,000.00		-
	Total	534,250.00	90,000.00	-	444,250.00
3	Audit & Taxation Fees Payable				
1	Balance Sheet Audit Fees Payable		35,400.00		35,400.00
2	ITR filing & Tax Audit Fees Payable		11,800.00		11,800.00
	Total	-	47,200.00	-	47,200.00
4	Unutilized / Earmarked Grant Fund	As per separate sheet attached (Refer to Note-4)			
5	Fixed Assets				
1	Office Chairs		6,844.00	684.40	6,159.60
2	Colour Printer		14,500.00	2,175.00	12,325.00
3	Office Table		15,840.00	1,584.00	14,256.00
	Total	-	37,184.00	4,443.40	32,740.60
6	Cash & Cash Equivalents				
1	Cash In Hand	-			-
2	ICICI Bank 135701000837	2,942,007.66	5,146,004.14	6,995,281.29	1,092,730.51
3	BOB Bank - 06230100012213	141,584.48		141,584.48	-
	Total	3,083,592.14	5,146,004.14	7,136,865.77	1,092,730.51
7	Loans & Advances (Asset)				
1	German Development Cooperation(GIZ Office)	235,325.00		187,920.00	47,405.00
2	MIMDI	22,779.00			22,779.00
		258,104.00	-	187,920.00	70,184.00
8	Investments				
1	MF ICICI_PRU_MF	1,500,000.00			1,500,000.00
2	MF_HDFC_MF	1,800,000.00			1,800,000.00
		3,300,000.00	-	-	3,300,000.00



Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)
315/274, 2nd Floor, Westend Marg, M.B. Road Saidul Ajab, New Delhi

Income & Expenditure Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS		Note No.	As at 31st March 2023	As at 31st March 2022
A	Incomes :			
	Grant & Donations			
	Consultancy		4,331,137.66	4,936,769.52
	Bank Interest & Other Receipts		76,649.06	177,767.00
	Total Incomes = (A) >>>		4,407,786.72	5,114,536.52
B	Expenditures :			
	Direct Project Expenses		3,929,232.64	8,974,330.92
	Audit & Taxation Fees Expenses		47,200.00	-
	Total Expenditures = (B) >>>		3,976,432.64	8,974,330.92
C	Excess of Income over Expenditure = (A - B)		431,354.08	(3,859,794.40)

On behalf of the Board Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)

Secretary



Treasurer

Dated : 16-08-2023



For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants

(Signature)

(CA.Tarun Agarwal)

Partner

FRN No.: 006547N / M.No.: 093945





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)
315/274, 2nd Floor, Westend Marg, M.B. Road Saidul Ajab, New Delhi

Consolidated Income & Expenditure Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS		Note No.	As at 31st March 2023	
			(in Rs.)	
A	Incomes : (Grant Received)			
1	MAP		-	
2	Himalayan Cleanup		-	
3	World Wide Fund (WWF)		1,000,000.00	
4	Sustainable Development Forum Uttaranchal (SDFU)		-	
5	United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP)		2,034,023.66	
6	Indian Resource Trust (IRT)		-	
7	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)		-	
8	Lead India		-	
9	Ministry of Environmet, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC)		1,001,176.00	
10	Sustainable Development Forum (SDF), Ladakh		8,938.00	
11	The Energy & Resources Institute		72,000.00	
12	UCOST, Dehradun		215,000.00	4,331,137.66
Total = (A)		>>>	4,331,137.66	4,331,137.66
B	Expenditures : (Grant Utilised)			
1	MAP		-	
2	Himalayan Cleanup		-	
3	World Wide Fund (WWF)		865,387.55	
4	Sustainable Development Forum Uttaranchal (SDFU)		138,690.49	
5	United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP)		1,859,934.45	
6	Indian Resource Trust (IRT)		-	
7	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)		10,000.00	
8	Lead India		141,798.47	
9	Ministry of Environmet, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC)		619,778.28	
10	Sustainable Development Forum (SDF), Ladakh		6,643.40	
11	The Energy & Resources Institute		72,000.00	
12	UCOST, Dehradun		215,000.00	3,929,232.64
Total = (B)		>>>	3,929,232.64	3,929,232.64
C	Excess of Income over Expenditure = (A - B)		>>>>	401,905.02

On behalf of the Board Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)

Secretary



For **ADROIT & CO**
Chartered Accountants

(Signature)

(CA. Tarun Agarwal)
Partner

FRN No.: 006547N / M.No.: 093945

Dated : 15-03-2023



Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Note 4

Unutilized / Earmarked Grant Fund		OPENING	Grant received	Bank Init. & Others	TOTAL	Fund Utilized	Transferred to IM General Fund etc.	Total Payments	CLOSING
1	MAP	2,835,575.00			2,835,575.00		2,835,575.00		-
2	Himalayan Cleanup	(38,042.60)			(38,042.60)				(38,042.60)
3	World Wide Fund (WWF)	-	1,000,000.00	-	1,000,000.00	865,387.55		865,387.55	134,612.45
4	Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand (SDFU)	163,258.99	-		163,258.99	138,690.49		138,690.49	24,568.50
5	United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP)	(57,907.73)	2,034,023.66		1,976,115.93	1,859,934.45		1,859,934.45	116,181.48
6	Indian Resource Trust (IRT)	1,760.00	-		1,760.00		1,760.00	1,760.00	-
7	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	76,043.84	-		76,043.84	10,000.00		10,000.00	66,043.84
8	Lead India	143,010.00	-	-	143,010.00	141,798.47		141,798.47	1,211.53
9	Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC)		1,001,176.00		1,001,176.00	619,778.28		619,778.28	381,397.72
10	Sustainable Development Forum (SDF), Ladakh		8,938.00		8,938.00	8,643.40	2,294.60	8,938.00	-
11	The Energy & Resources Institute		72,000.00		72,000.00	72,000.00		72,000.00	-
12	UCOST, Dehradun		215,000.00		215,000.00	215,000.00		215,000.00	-
Total		3,123,697.50	4,331,137.66	-	7,454,835.16	3,929,232.64	2,838,829.60	8,768,062.24	665,872.82





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)
315/274, 2nd Floor, Westend Marg, M.D. Road Sakdaj Ajab, New Delhi

MAP
Income & Expenditure Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS	Note No.	As at 31st March 2023	As at 31st March 2022
		(in Rs.)	(in Rs.)
A Incomes :			
Grant Fund Received			
Opening Balance of Grant		2,835,575.00	4,850,000.00
Bank Interest & Other Receipts			
Total	>>>	2,835,575.00	4,850,000.00
B Expenditures :			
Salaries		-	404,475.00
Accommodation		-	100,000.00
Equipments Operation and Maintenance		-	1,141,950.00
Transferred to North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Society (NERCRMS)		2,835,575.00	368,000.00
Total	>>>	2,835,575.00	2,014,425.00
C Closing Balance = (A - B)		-	2,835,575.00

For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants



(Signature)
(Ca. Tarun Agarwal)

FRN No.: 000547H / M.No.: 003945

Dated : 16-06-2023





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Himalayan Cleanup
Income & Expenditure Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS	Note No.	As at 31st March 2023	As at 31st March 2022
		(in Rs.)	(in Rs.)
A Incomes :			
Grant Fund Received			
Opening Balance of Grant		(38,042.60)	973,674.90
Bank Interest & Other Receipts			
Total	>>>	(38,042.60)	973,674.90
B Expenditures :			
Salaries & Consultancies		-	555,800.00
Accommodation			147,434.50
Travelling Expenses			5,400.00
Grant Given			300,000.00
Office Expenses			3,083.00
Total	>>>	-	1,011,717.50
C Closing balance = (A - B)		(38,042.60)	(38,042.60)

For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants



(Signature)

(CA.Tarun Agarwal)

FRN No.: 006547N / M.No.: 093945

Dated : 15-08-2023



(Signature)





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)
315/274, 2nd Floor, Westend Marg, M.B. Road Sakshi Ajab, New Delhi

World Wide Fund (WWF)
Income & Expenditure Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS	Note No.	As at 31st March 2023	As at 31st March 2022
		(in Rs.)	(in Rs.)
A Incomes :			
Grant Fund Received		1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
Opening Balance of Grant		-	1,000,000.00
Bank Interest & Other Receipts		-	-
Total	>>>	1,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
B Expenditures :			
Salaries		582,282.50	992,000.00
Printing & Stationary		-	3,000.00
Grant given		-	1,005,000.00
Consultancy Fees		152,200.00	-
Office Administration Expenses		130,905.05	-
Total	>>>	865,387.55	2,000,000.00
C Closing Balance = (A - B)		134,612.45	-

For **ADROIT & CO**
Chartered Accountants



(Signature)

(Ca. Tarun Agarwal)

FRN No. 000547H / M.No. 090345

Dated : 16-08-2023





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)
315/274, 2nd Floor, Westend Marg, M.B. Road Sakid Ajah, New Delhi

Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand (SDFU)
Income & Expenditure Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS		Note No.	As at 31st March 2023 (in Rs.)	As at 31st March 2022 (in Rs.)
A	Incomes :			
	Grant Fund Received		-	520,000.00
	Opening Balance of Grant		163,258.99	-
	Bank Interest & Other Receipts			
	Total	>>>	163,258.99	520,000.00
B	Expenditures :			
	Remuneration Consultants:			
	Salaries			263,868.91
	Stationary			49,670.00
	Others		78,352.59	23,202.10
	Transferred to IMI General Corpus Fund			20,000.00
	Office Administration		60,337.90	
	Total	>>>	138,690.49	356,741.01
C	Closing Balance = (A - B)		24,568.50	163,258.99

For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants



(Signature)

(CA. Tarun Agarwal)

FRN No.: 006547N / M.No.: 003945

Dated : 16-08-2023





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)
315/274, 2nd Floor, Westend Marg, M.B. Road Saidul Ajab, New Delhi

United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP)
Income & Expenditure Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS		Note No.	As at 31st March 2023 (in Rs.)	As at 31st March 2022 (in Rs.)
A	Incomes :			
	Grant Fund Received		(57,907.73)	2,760,532.87
	Opening Balance of Grant		2,034,023.66	-
	Bank Interest & Other Receipts			
	Total	>>>	1,976,115.93	2,760,532.87
B	Expenditures :			
	Salary & Consultancy		261,172.50	513,250.00
	Accommodation Expenses		31,849.00	568,622.27
	Travelling Expenses		332,943.45	284,318.33
	Grant Partners		1,207,170.50	1,381,520.00
	Office & Administration		26,799.00	70,730.00
	Total	>>>	1,859,934.45	2,818,440.60
C	Closing Balance = (A - B)		116,181.48	(57,907.73)

For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants



(Signature)
(Ca. Tarun Agarwal)

FRN No.: 006547N / M.No.: 003945

Dated : 16-08-2023





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)
315/274, 2nd Floor, Westend Marg, M.B. Road Sakul Ajab, New Delhi

Indian Resource Trust (IRT)
Income & Expenditure Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS	Note No.	As at 31st March 2023	As at 31st March 2022
		(in Rs.)	(in Rs.)
A Incomes :			
Grant Fund Received		-	23,760.00
Opening Balance of Grant		1,760.00	-
Bank Interest & Other Receipts			
Total	>>>	1,760.00	23,760.00
B Expenditures :			
Salary & Consultancy		-	-
Transferred to IMI General Fund etc.		1,760.00	-
Others		-	22,000.00
Total	>>>	1,760.00	22,000.00
C Closing Balance = (A - B)		-	1,760.00

For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants



(Signature)

(Ca. Tarun Agarwal)

FRN No.: 00054791 / M.No.: 093945

Dated : 16-08-2023

(Signature)





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)
315/274, 2nd Floor, Westend Marg, M.B. Road Saidul Ajab, New Delhi

The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
Income & Expenditure Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS		As at 31st March 2023	As at 31st March 2022
	Note No.	(in Rs.)	(in Rs.)
A Incomes :			
Grant Fund Received		-	-
Opening Balance of Grant		76,043.84	86,043.84
Bank Interest & Other Receipts			
Total	>>>	76,043.84	86,043.84
B Expenditures :			
Salary & Consultancy		10,000.00	10,000.00
Travelling Expenses		-	-
Total	>>>	10,000.00	10,000.00
C Closing Balance = (A - B)		66,043.84	76,043.84



For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants

(Signature)

(CA.Tarun Agarwal)

Dated : 16-05-2023

FTN No.: 006547N / M.No.: 052945

(Signature)



(Signature)





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)
315/274, 2nd Floor, Westend Marg, M.B. Road Sakul Ajnb, New Delhi

Lead India
Income & Expenditure Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS	Note No.	As at 31st March 2023	As at 31st March 2022
		(in Rs.)	(in Rs.)
A Incomes :			
Grant Fund Received			
Opening Balance of Grant		143,010.00	143,010.00
Bank Interest & Other Receipts			
Total	>>>	143,010.00	143,010.00
B Expenditures :			
Travelling Expenses		4,573.70	-
Printing & Stationery		31,580.00	
Office & Administration		37,883.70	
Others		67,760.99	
Total	>>>	141,798.39	-
C Closing Balance = (A - B)		1,211.61	143,010.00

For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants



(Signature)

(CA. Tarun Agarwal)

FRN No.: 006547N / M.No.: 093945

Dated : 16-08-2023

(Signature)





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)
315/274, 2nd Floor, Westend Marg, M.B. Road Sakhal Ajab, New Delhi

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC)
Income & Expenditure Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS		Note No.	As at 31st March 2023 (in Rs.)	As at 31st March 2022 (in Rs.)
A	Incomes :			
	Grant Fund Received		1,001,176.00	-
	Bank Interest & Other Receipts			
	Total	>>>	1,001,176.00	-
B	Expenditures :			
	Accommodation Expenses		343,610.00	-
	Travelling Expenses		206,589.28	-
	Printing & Stationery		54,738.00	-
	Others		14,841.00	-
	Total	>>>	619,778.28	-
C	Closing Balance = (A - B)		381,397.72	-

For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants



(Signature)

(CA. Tarun Agarwal)

FRN No.: 006547N / M.No.: 093945

Dated : 16-08-2023

(Signature)





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)
315/274, 2nd Floor, Westend Marg, M.B. Road Saidul Ajah, New Delhi

Sustainable Development Forum (SDF), Ladakh
Income & Expenditure Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS	Note No.	As at 31st March 2023	As at 31st March 2022
		(in Rs.)	(in Rs.)
A Incomes :			
Grant Fund Received			-
Other Funds		8,938.00	
Bank Interest & Other Receipts		-	
Total	>>>	8,938.00	-
B Expenditures :			
Salary & Consultancy			-
Travelling Expenses		2,200.00	-
Transferred to IMI General Corpus Fund		6,738.00	-
Total	>>>	8,938.00	-
C Closing Balance = (A - B)		-	-

For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants



(Signature)

(CA. Tarun Agarwal)

FRN No.: 005547H / M.No.: 093545

Dated : 16-08-2023

(Signature)



(Signature)





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)
315/274, 2nd Floor, Westend Marg, M.B. Road Saidajpura, New Delhi

The Energy & Resources Institute
Income & Expenditure Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS		Note No.	As at 31st March 2023	As at 31st March 2022
			(in Rs.)	(in Rs.)
A	Incomes :			
	Grant Fund Received			-
	Other Funds		72,000.00	
	Bank Interest & Other Receipts		-	
	Total	>>>	72,000.00	-
B	Expenditures :			
	Salary & Consultancy			-
	Meeting Expenses		72,000.00	
	Total	>>>	72,000.00	-
C	Closing Balance = (A - B)		-	-



For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants

(Signature)

(Ca. Tarun Agarwal)

FRN No.: 006547N / M.No.: 093945

Dated : 16-08-2023

(Signature)





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI)
315/274, 2nd Floor, Westend Marg, M.B. Road Sakhal Ajah, New Delhi

UCOST, Dehradun
Income & Expenditure Account
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2023

PARTICULARS		Note No.	As at 31st March 2023	As at 31st March 2022
			(in Rs.)	(in Rs.)
A	Incomes :			
	Grant Fund Received		215,000.00	-
	Opening Balance of Grant		-	-
	Bank Interest & Other Receipts		-	
	Total	>>>	215,000.00	-
B	Expenditures :			
	Salary & Consultancy		35,000.00	-
	Printing & Stationery		71,441.38	-
	Office Administration		87,229.20	-
	Meeting Expenses		21,329.42	
	Total	>>>	215,000.00	-
C	Closing Balance = (A - B)		-	-

For ADROIT & CO
Chartered Accountants



(Signature)

(CA.Tarun Agarwal)

FRN No.: 006547N / M.No.: 003945

(Signature)





Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Annexure 2 : Governing Council & Staff

Governing Council

Prem Das Rai, President

Prem Das Rai is a founding member and the current President of Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI). He is a former Member of Parliament, two terms – 2009 – 2019, from Sikkim and belongs to the Sikkim Democratic Front Party. He is a former Deputy Chairman of the State Planning Commission, Govt. of Sikkim, and has also chaired the Sikkim Industrial Development and Investment Corporation. He has the distinction of being the first Member of Parliament with the dual and prestigious IIT and IIM degrees from Kanpur and Ahmedabad respectively. He was a member of the Standing Committee on Finance and the Subordinate Legislation Committee of Lok Sabha. He was the Chairman of the Library Committee of the Parliament of India. He is also an Eisenhower Fellow (2000) from India. He was awarded the prestigious and selective Eisenhower Fellowship for his contribution to Sikkim's economic and industrial growth.

Dr Rajendra Dhobal, Vice President

Dr Rajendra Dobhal is the Director General of Uttarakhand State Council for Science and Technology. He has had the distinct privilege to occupy the positions like Chairman and Managing Director, National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), Govt. of India; Director, Uttarakhand Science Education and Research Centre (USERC); Director, Uttarakhand Space Application Centre (USAC); Senior Scientific Advisor/Project Director, Uttarakhand State Biotechnology Board; Scientist/Tech. Advisor to DG and Science Advisor, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal, in the past. He is also the Chairperson of the Sustainable Development Forum, Uttaranchal.

Amba Jamir, Vice President

A development consulting expert with over two decades of multidisciplinary and multi- team experience from policy formulation to project development, implementation and review, Amba is professionally trained as an environmental lawyer and development communicator. He is a grassroots convenor, trainer and facilitator with experience in the Asia Pacific region in areas of education, rural development, community institutions and resource management, livelihood, policy advocacy and envisioning. Amba works directly with policy makers, NGOs, community leaders, farmers and the poorest of the poor in mountain regions, particularly the Eastern Himalayas. He has extensive experience working in local, national and international NGOs, the government and with advanced regional policy and research think tanks such as the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan. He is a founding member of the Sustainable Development Forum Nagaland (SDFN) and the Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI).



Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Priyadarshinee Shrestha, Secretary

Priyadarshinee Shrestha, Secretary IMI, has been working on issues of sustainable development, nature conservation, and waste management in Sikkim- Darjeeling Himalaya for the last twenty years with various organisations. She is a core member of the Zero Waste Himalaya, a platform advocating for sustainable waste policies and practices. Currently, she is the Team Leader of WWF - India's Khangchendzonga Landscape Programme in Sikkim.

Binita Shah, Treasurer

Binita Shah, Treasurer IMI, is an organic/ Biodynamic Farmer and Social –Entrepreneur and Agriculture Development Professional. She is the CEO / Founder of SARG Vikas Samiti. SARG is a national player in Organic Agriculture Development with special focus in Biodynamic Agriculture and development. SARG is working in four states of India with nearly 50,000 farmers and more than 100 farmers organisations. She is an international Consultant with a number of Organic Food Export companies namely Nature BioFoods Sonapat , Sunstar Rice Exports, Delhi , Pure Life P Ltd , Dubai/ Mozambique etc. Ms. Binita is the Secretary , Sustainable Development Forum Uttarakhand.

Egam Basar, Joint Secretary

Egam Basar is the Mission Director of Arunachal Pradesh Horticulture Research and Development Mission (APHRDM) and also Member Secretary of Master Plan Development Committee for Agriculture and Allied Sectors in Arunachal Pradesh. Egam also pursues a personal mission of nature conservation known as EB-Project Nature that functions in Arunachal Pradesh.

Dr. Vincent Darlong, Councillor

Dr Vincent Darlong has been an eminent contributor to the issues of natural resource management and livelihoods, community based biodiversity conservation and community forestry, environment and social impact assessments, research and development, among others. Apart from his engagement with the communities in the Northeast, he has worked with the Government of India as a member of various task forces, working groups and committees. He was the Country Programme Officer for the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Currently, he is the Vice Chancellor of Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong.



Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Ramesh Negi, Councillor

Ramesh Negi is an IAS officer of 1984 Batch. In his long and illustrious career as an administrator, he has served in many roles including Chief Secretary, Arunachal Pradesh, Administrator of Daman & Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Chief Executive Officer, Delhi Jal Board. Currently, he is Chairperson, Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights. Dr Lalbiak Mawia Ngente, Councillor.

Dr. Lalbiak Mawia Ngente, Councillor

Dr Lalbiak Mawia Ngente is an architect and community leader. He has been the General Secretary of Central Young Mizo Association, Secretary of Mizoram People Forum, President YHAI Mizoram State Branch, and present Chairman of the Mizoram Sustainable Development Foundation. He has previously been associated with the Government of Mizoram.

Roshan P. Rai, Councillor

Roshan P. Rai is a development practitioner with DLR Prerna, Darjeeling-based NGO (www.darjeelingprerna.org). He works on issues of environment and social equity in the Darjeeling Himalaya. His work with small farmers at present focuses on local food cultures, water and climate change. He is part of the core team of Zero Waste Himalaya and has partnered with local urban bodies, communities, and educational institutions in promoting sustainable waste management practices. The team has been undertaking peer educators training and campaigns like the Plastic Freedom Challenge in the Darjeeling and Sikkim Himalaya. Roshan bases his experience and community initiatives within the Darjeeling and Sikkim Himalaya and simultaneously engages with the IMI family to place it within the policy landscape.

Rigzin Spalbar, Councillor

Rigzin Spalbar was the Chief Executive Councillor, Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council Leh, India. He worked as the general secretary of Ladakh Buddhist Association Leh (1985–95) and as General Secretary (1995–2000) and President (2000–10) of the Leh District Congress Committee. He was elected as a member of the first LAHDC Leh (representing Lower Leh) in 1995 and served as a councillor. During the second term of LAHDC (2000–05), He became Executive Councillor (Education) and then Chairman/CEC for one year. During the third term of LAHDC (2005–10), he represented Skyu-Markha constituency. In 2010, he led his party to a fourth term (2010–15). He won a majority and became Chairman/CEC. Spalbar is the National General Secretary of Bhartiya Federation of Smaller States. He is the founding member of the Leh-Ladakh state chapter of IMI, Sustainable Development Forum Ladakh.



Making India Proud of Our Mountains

IMI Secretariat

Dikila Bhutia, Programme Manager

Based in Gangtok, Sikkim works as a Program Manager with the IMI secretariat. She has a MBA background and worked as a project manager in SAATHI NGO for five years and deputy manager in Vocational Education Project in SIBIN for eight years.

Nupur Sarkar, Accounts & Administration Officer

Nupur Sarkar works as an Accounts & Administration Officer at IMI. Prior to joining IMI, she had worked with banking & financial institutions for five years. She holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Finance and Marketing from Doon Business School, Dehradun and a graduate degree in Accounts & Finance from West Bengal State University and currently pursuing Master in International Relations from Delhi University. She had previously worked as a Senior Manager in ICICI Direct and Assistant Manager in Axis Bank.



Making India Proud of Our Mountains

Annexure 3: Membership List (31st March 2023)

Sl.No.	Name of Individual/ Representative	Designation/ Profession	Organisation	State
1	Fantry Mein Jaswal	Founding Member & Retd IRS officer	Integrated Mountain Initiative	Arunachal Pradesh
2	Rezina Mihi	Founder & Chairman	IPMS	Arunachal Pradesh
3	Gandhi Darang	Journalist		Arunachal Pradesh
4	Egam Basar	Govt Servant and Member of SDFA Agriculture		Arunachal Pradesh
5	Okit Palling	Development Officer, (Agri-Marketing)		Arunachal Pradesh
6	Nalong Mize	Development Worker		Arunachal Pradesh
7	Rab Kara Taj	Scientist, SFRI	Sustainable Development Forum Arunachal (SDFA)	Arunachal Pradesh
8	Professor Dr. Mandeep Sharma	Professor and Head	College of Veterinary Sciences, HP Agricultural University	Himachal Pradesh
9	Mohinder Pal Sood	IAS Retd	Ex Commissioner MC Shimla & Secretary HPSEBL	Himachal Pradesh
10	Rajender Prasad Tewari	Under Secretary to the Govt. of India		Himachal Pradesh
11	Dr. Tej Partap	IMI Founding Member & Vice Chancellor	Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology	Himachal Pradesh
12	Satya Prakash Thakur	Former Elected Chairman of Bhutti Weavers Cooperative Kullu HP		Himachal Pradesh
13	Atul Khosla	President and Pro Vice Chancellor	Shoolini University	Himachal Pradesh
14	Prashant Varma	Director	Deer Park Institute (Siddharthas Intent India)	Himachal Pradesh
15	RIGZIN SPALBAR	Founding Member, IMI/ Former CEC, LAHDC, Leh		Ladakh
16	Mohammad Haneefa	Former Councillor		Ladakh
17	Er Punchok Tashi	Executive Councilor in LAHDC Kargil		Ladakh
18	Ram Muivah	Former Secretary of North East Council (NEC)		Manipur
19	Thingreiphi Lungharwo	Development Worker		Manipur



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21	Vincent Darlong	IMI Council Member	Integrated Mountain Initiative	Meghalaya
22	Tony T C Marak	President of MIMDI, Meghalaya	Meghalaya Integrated Mountain Initiative	Meghalaya
23	Dr. Shailendra Chaudhari	Managing Director	CBTC	Meghalaya
24	Dr. Subhasish DasGupta	Associate Professor	Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong	Meghalaya
25	Dr. Lalbiak Mawia Ngente	IMI Council Member	Integrated Mountain Initiative	Mizoram
26	Dr. John Zothanzama Sailo	Assistant Professor	Mizoram University & MSDF	Mizoram
27	Prof. Lalnuntluanga	Professor	Mizoram University & MSDF	Mizoram
28	Dr C. Rinawma	Scientist	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Lengpui, Mizoram	Mizoram
29	Lalchuangliana	Cameraman	Doordarshan, Aizawl Station	Mizoram
30	Lalzirliawa	Business	AMC	Mizoram
31	Alemtemshi Jamir	Founding Member & Former Chief Secretary of Nagaland	Integrated Mountain Initiative	Nagaland
32	Akummeren	Government Employee		Nagaland
33	Amba Jamir	IMI Founding Member & Development Consultant	Sustainable Development Forum Nagaland (SDFN)	Nagaland
34	Akali Sema	Govt. Service		NAGALAND
35	Amba Jamir	Executive Director	Sustainable Development Forum Nagaland	Nagaland
36	Rajeev Dar	Consultant		NCR
37	Bhawana Luthra	Executive Director	LEAD India	NCR
38	Sushil Ramola	Founding Member	IMI	NCR
39	Ramesh Negi	IMI Council Member	IMI	NCR
40	Naresh Kumar Pande	Journalist		NCR
41	Dr VK Bahuguna	Rtd. Civil Servant		NCR
42	Bharti Gupta Ramola	Self-employed; previously Markets Leader, PwC India		NCR
43	Rajnish Karki	Management Consultant		NCR
44	Priyadarshinee Shrestha	IMI Council Member	IMI	Sikkim
45	P.D. Rai	Founding Member & IMI Council Member	IMI	Sikkim
46	Rajendra Prasad Gurung	IMI Founding member & CEO	ECOSS	Sikkim
47	Dr. Satyadeep Singh Chhetri	Assistant Professor	Sikkim Govt. College	Sikkim



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48	Karma Bhutia	Entrepreneur		SIKKIM
49	Binita Chamling	Director (Organic Sikkim)	Organic Sikkim	Sikkim
50	Dr. Sarala Khaling	Regional Director	Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE)	Sikkim
51	Dr. Rakesh Kumar Ranjan	Department of Geology	Sikkim University	Sikkim
52	H THERESA DARLONG	Assistant Professor	Agartala Women's College	Tripura
54	Dr Thiru Selvan	Assistant Professor	Tripura University	Tripura
55	Atanu Saha	Govt. Service		Tripura
56	Achintya Kumar Sinha	Freelance Consultant, Forestry & allied areas	Development Initiative for Sustainable Advancement	Tripura
57	Dr Rajendra Dobhal	IMI Council Member	Integrated Mountain Initiative	Uttarakhand
58	Dr. Gopal Singh Rawat	IMI Council Member	Integrated Mountain Initiative	Uttarakhand
59	Mahendra Singh Kunwar	Chief Functionary	Himalayan Action Research Centre (HARC), Dehradun	Uttarakhand
60	Dr.Bhagwati Prasad Maithani	Academic & Activist		Uttarakhand
61	Krishan Singh Rautela	Development Professional	Asian Development Bank	Uttarakhand
62	Girish Chandra Singh Negi	Scientist	Govind Ballabh Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment	UTTARAKHAND
63	Dr. Piyush Joshi	Senior Scientific Officer	Uttarakhand State Council for Science and Technology (UCOST)	Uttarakhand
64	Binita Shah	Founder	SARG Vikas Samiti	Uttarakhand
65	Praful Rao	Founder & Chairman	Save The Hills	West Bengal
66	Rohit Sharma	MLA, West Bengal		West Bengal
67	T.K. Dewan	Former MLA, West Bengal Legislative Assembly		West Bengal
68	Roshan Rai	Programme Officer	DLR Prerna	West Bengal

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