

CONFERENCE ON MOUNTAINS: ENERGY, WATER AND FOOD FOR LIFE.

"Mountains: energy, water and food for life. The SHARE project: understanding the impacts of climate change" - Serbelloni Palace, May 27-28, 2009

Ev-K2-CNR Committee, the City of Milan, 2015 World Expo Committee, in collaboration with UNEP and with the technical cooperation of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations are pleased to announce the international Conference ***"Mountains: energy, water and food for life. The SHARE project: understanding the impacts of climate change"*** which will take place in the historical Serbelloni Palace, venue of the Press Club of Milan on May 27-28, 2009".

The Conference, which received a patronage of the President of the Republic of Italy, of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Environment and Regional Affairs, Education, University and Research as well as of Lombardy Region, will bring together experts from different parts of the world to discuss the role of mountains as early indicators of climate change, and the impact of global warming on mountain ecosystem services.

The mountains constitute an extraordinary platform for monitoring climate change and its effects, being representative of vast spatial areas and influencing local and global climates in ways that are only partially understood. We feel that concerned scientists not only have a responsibility to perform high altitude research and environmental monitoring to improve our knowledge of these issues, but also to raise public and government-level awareness on the implications of climate change in mountain areas, so as to help define mitigation and adaptation policies. The ultimate aim of these efforts should be to promote sustainable development of mountain ecosystems, which are crucial to ensuring wellbeing on the planet.

The conference will be presided over by decision-makers and representatives of the main intergovernmental organizations involved in research in mountain areas. We aim to bring together the world's top experts on themes such as atmosphere, climate, water, glaciers, agriculture and biodiversity, while taking stock of policies on development, health, energy and food security. With this opportunity, we will also showcase phase II of our SHARE (Stations at High Altitude for Research on the Environment) Project and its contributions to management-oriented research on climate change and mountain environments. For more details, I invite you to see the attached draft conference concept paper.

To have more information, please visit www.evk2cnr.org