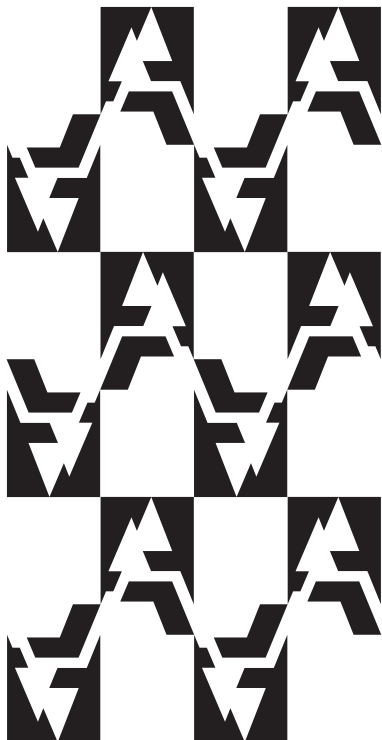


SMART

SUSTAINABLE MOUNTAIN ART

THE CHALLENGES FACING MOUNTAIN REGIONS ARE THOSE OF THE ENTIRE PLANET



Mountain regions

- cover **25% of the world's total land mass**
- are home to **10% of the global population**
- account for **70% of the world's water reserves**
- host **25% of all terrestrial biodiversity**

The United Nations has acknowledged their importance in sustainable development processes: Earth Summit (Rio, 1992), World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002), Rio + 20 (Rio, 2012), Sustainable Development Goals 2030 (adopted in 2015).

Sensitive ecosystems and vulnerable populations

Climate variations have a significant impact on mountain regions. Glaciers are melting, water availability levels are changing and arable land is shrinking. These phenomena are exacerbated by the intensive use of natural resources. The populations living in the mountains are among the poorest in the world and those most affected by food insecurity, making them the populations most often forced to migrate.

Wealth for the planet

However, the mountains are also the world's water towers, providing drinking water for half the global population. They are home to a rich genetic variety of flora, fauna, crops and livestock as well as valuable traditional management practices.

Mountain communities and populations living in downstream areas rely on the mountains for a wide range of natural goods and services such as forest products, plants, energy and natural risk mitigation. The mountains are also cultural, spiritual and leisure sites.

www.sustainablemountainart.ch

SUSTAINABLE MOUNTAIN ART (SMART) WORKS OF ART DESIGNED TO STIR CONSCIENCES

Art can start conversations; it can bring subjects into the public sphere, expose abuses and point towards new worlds.

It touches people in a deeper and more affecting way than academic and political discourse and it moves us to tears, to laughter and to action.

Excerpt from a speech by Deeyah Khan
to the United Nations Human Rights Council
in March 2014

The SMART programme aims to increase the perception of both decision-makers and the population as a whole of the challenges faced by mountain regions through works of art, and more particularly photographs.

It has chosen to focus its attention on four themes which affect all mountain regions around the world: **climate change, water resources, biodiversity and food security and migration.**

Artists in residence

Within the framework of the SMART programme, cultural partners in Switzerland welcome artists from the South or East. During their stay, the artists create a work of art reflecting how they perceive and understand the challenges of their host region.

Exchange, dialogue and sensitisation

The artists' works are exhibited in Switzerland. During their residence, they participate in meetings with the general public, artists and professionals. The local decision-makers and population are thus confronted with a new vision of the realities facing them.

When the artists return to their own countries, their works and experience are promoted in partnership with a local cultural organisation and the debate with the local population continues.

A vast network at the crossroads of culture and sustainable development

Launched in 2014 by the Foundation for the Sustainable Development of Mountain Regions (FDDM), the SMART programme will, over the next five years, create an extensive, multicultural network of artists, residences, cultural institutions and financial partners committed to the sustainable development of mountain regions.

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SMART is a programme of:



Foundation for sustainable development
in mountain regions

Sion – Switzerland
www.fddm.ch

With the support of:



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
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edu.pe



Kigali – Rwanda
www.rwandacinemacenter.
wordpress.com

ARTS
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OF MONGOLIA

Oulan Bator – Mongolia
www.artscouncil.mn



Beijing – China
http://en.threeshadows.cn

lugar a dudas

Cali – Colombia
www.lugaradudas.org

Artist in Residence
AIR VILLEKULLA

Cape Town – South Africa
www.villekulleair.wordpress.com

Dar Al Mussawir

Beirut – Lebanon
www.daralmussawir.org



Marrakesh – Morocco
www.esavmarrakech.com