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| **Summer Field School (Hybrid)** on **Mountain Ecosystems & Resource Management**10-19 September 2023 | Mountain Igman, Bosnia i Herzegovinawww.grassrootsglobal.net/mer2023 |
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| Emaad Ali | [Date] | [Course title] |

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*Co-Organized by:*

The Grassroots Institute (Canada)

Rural Development Fund (Kyrgyzstan)

NatRisk at the University of Torino (Italy)

World Agricultural Heritage Forum (Italy)

Carpathian National Nature Park (Ukraine)

Valahia University of Targoviste (Romania)
Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu (Romania)

Lviv Polytechnic National University (Ukraine)

Yaroslav Mudriy National Law University (Ukraine)

Central Himalayan Institute for Nature & Applied Research (India)

#### The Grassroots Institute (Canada), Valahia University of Targoviste (Romania), Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu (Romania), World Agricultural Heritage Forum (Italy), NatRisk at the University of Torino (Italy), Lviv Polytechnic National University (Ukraine), Yaroslav Mudriy National Law University (Ukraine), Carpathian National Nature Park (Ukraine), Rural Development Fund (Kyrgyzstan), and Central Himalayan Institute for Nature & Applied Research (India) are co-organizing “Summer Field School (Hybrid) on Mountain Ecosystems & Resource Management 2023” (FSc MER 2023) at Mountain Igman in Bosnia i Herzegovina for 45 in-person Delegate Participants and for a thousand of (virtual) Speaker/Attendee Participants. In addition to 9 Lead Partners, there are 23 General Partners and 7 Collaborators. Full details of the program are online at the website <https://www.grassrootsglobal.net/mer2023/>.

This same global program, “**Summer Field School on Mountain Ecosystems & Resource Management**” (FSc MER 2021), was organized successfully in September 2021 with the partnership and collaboration of 64 universities, institutes, national parks, and organizations from 21 countries. Nearly 700 people from 70 countries took part in this 10-days event. All details are available on the weblink [www.grassrootsglobal.net/mer2020](http://www.grassrootsglobal.net/mer2020).

This international training program examines the mountain ecosystems in contexts of human development and natural resources, principles of managing natural resources, and governing the resources for sustainable conservation. Depicting on case studies from a wide range of the current natural resources across the globe, the program considers how different social, political, economic and cultural and gender aspects compete for and sustain the natural resources in mountain ecosystems. The program also examines how environmental activists and their interventions conserved parks, energy, water and land in the face of climate variability basing on a gender perspective. The program will consider how the current international and development system elaborates and processes to sustainably manage the available natural resources in mountain landscapes. ***The program aims at equipping researchers, students, practitioners and young teachers seeking learning about mountain ecosystems and sustainable development, with practical approaches, knowledge and skills necessary for meeting challenges of sustainable use of natural resources globally.***

**Structure of the Program**

The proposed program will constitute following 10 thematic groups to be executed on 10 different days:

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| *Day/Date* | *Sessions Group Theme* | *Lead Partner Institution* |
| Day 1: 10 September 2023 | Mountain Ecosystems, Climate Change and Local Communities | Lviv Polytechnic National University (Ukraine) |
| Day 2: 11 September 2023 | Water, Watershed, Wetland and River Basin Management | Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu (Romania) |
| Day 3: 12 September 2023 | Mountain Forest & Biodiversity Management, and Park-People Interface  | Carpathian National Nature Park (Ukraine) |
| Day 4: 13 September 2023 | Mountain Transhumance, Pastoralism and Rangeland Governance | Rural Development Fund (Kyrgyzstan) |
| Day 5: 14 September 2023 | Livestock-Based Livelihoods and Veterinary Support in Mountain Areas | TBC |
| Day 6: 15 September 2023 | Developing the Mountain Economies, Livelihoods and Micro-Enterprises  | Central Himalayan Institute for Nature & Applied Research (India) |
| Day 7: 16 September 2023 | Agrobiodiversity, Agroecology and Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems in Mountains | World Agricultural Heritage Forum (Italy) |
| Day 8: 17 September 2023 | Mountain Sustainability, Renewable Energy and SDGs | Valahia University of Targoviste (Romania) |
| Day 9: 18 September 2023 | Sustainable Tourism and Socio-Cultural Integration in Mountains | NatRisk – University of Torino (Italy)  |
| Day 10: 19 September 2023 | Mountain Related International and National Laws & Policies  | Yaroslav Mudriy National Law University (Ukraine) |

# **Participation Types, Process and Eligibility**

1. Delegate Participants (In-person Participation) | Self-Financed or Sponsored Candidates

This category of Delegate Participants is self-sponsored or nominated/sponsored by an organization/institution. The candidate or the nominating/sponsoring organization will bear not only the fees and travel expenses, but also the accommodation and dinner expenses at training venue for 10 consecutive days. Each of the Delegates will attend the course for 10 days physically in Bosnia’s Igman Mountains and will also present one research paper or case study.

Deadline for Registration (no fee for registration): 31 March 2023

Course Fee: USD 505 (to be paid once the Admission Offer is given)

Registration Fee: No Registration Fee

No. of Seats: 30 or more

*How to Apply*:The application process is very simple. The interested candidate should register as soon as possible without waiting for the deadline. **The Registration Form needs basic, educational and experience details, and an Abstract of an unpublished Research Paper or Case Work.** As soon as the Application is received, the Selection Committee will decide on the application and accept or reject the Application within a week from the receipt of the Application. Once the Application is accepted, the candidate will be given Offer of Admission. The admissions to the course will be on **FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS**. The Registration Form (no registration fee) is available on the link: [**REGISTER NOW**](https://www.grassrootsglobal.net/mer2023/form.php). If the applicant wishes to be considered for limited number of **Travel Scholarships**, please opt in the Registration Form. There is NO REGISTRATION FEE. However, on selection, the candidate or his/her sponsor will be required to pay the Course Fee of USD 505.

1. Speaker Participants (Virtual Participation) | Self-Financed

All the participants joining virtually will come under this category. They will attend the program using Zoom platform. All of them will be allowed to take part the discussions and Q & A during the technical sessions. **Anyone desiring to take part in the program actively as a Speaker Participant shall present one research paper or case study.**

Registration/Course Fee:USD 19 (no taxes) | Deadline 31 March 2023

\*The Speaker Participants nominated by Lead Partners, General Partners, Collaborators and Sponsors will not pay Registration/Course Fee. Their Registration Forms will be directly sent by nominating institution/organization.

No. of Seats: 100

Eligibility for Speaker Participation: Candidates desirous to participate the FSc MER 2023 as Speaker Participant should be between the age of 21 years and 61 years and should have educational background in the subjects of Science, Social Science and allied fields. Profession of a candidate can be any.

*How to Apply*: The application process is very simple. The interested candidate should register directly. Because the seats are limited, candidates registering first will be accepted. Once 100 seats get full, we will close the registration process. The interested candidates should apply early on the link: [**REGISTER NOW**](https://www.grassrootsglobal.net/mer2023/vp-register.php). This link will lead to the Payment Gateway where payment of Registration Fee can be made to register.

1. Attendee Participants (Virtual Participation) | Self-Financed

**Attendee Participants will not present any paper.**Yet, all of them will be allowed to take part the discussions and Q & A during the technical sessions. They will attend the program using Zoom platform.

Registration Fee: Normal Registration: USD 10 (no taxes) | Deadline 28 July 2023
\*The Attendee Participants nominated by Lead Partners, General Partners, Collaborators and Sponsors will not pay Registration Fee. Their names will be directly sent by nominating institution/organization.

No. of Seats: 300

Eligibility for Attendee Participation: There will be no restriction of education or age or experience. Anyone having an interest may join as Attendee Participant.

*How to Apply***:**The application process is very simple. The interested candidate should register directly. The interested candidates should apply early on the link: [**REGISTER NOW**](https://www.grassrootsglobal.net/mer2023/vp-register.php). This link will lead to the Payment Gateway where payment of Registration Fee can be made to register.

 **CALL TO NOMINATE/SPONSOR A DELEGATE PARTICIPANT (IN-PERSON)**

We are approaching you to kindly **NOMINATE/SPONSOR** a potential Delegate Participant (in-person) through sponsoring his/her course fee and or travel expenses*.* There are 2 options explained as below:

**1. Nomination & Sponsorship of Your Own Delegate:**

An organization or institution willing to nominate/sponsor own candidate to take part as Delegate Participant (in-person) should send the **Application Form (Nominated)** downloadable from Register Now page [https://www.grassrootsglobal.net/mer2023/register.html] of the website. On behalf of the nominated/sponsored candidate, the nominating or sponsoring organization/institution will bear the course fee of USD 505. As Sponsoring Organization, you will send a Sponsorship Letter to us.

Please note that the cost of international/domestic travel, and hotel accommodation for 10 days will be borne either by the candidate or the Sponsoring Organization. Average, USD 1500 will be the total expenditure of one candidate to attend 10-days program in-person. Because the nominated/sponsored Delegate Participant will come from the nominating/sponsoring organization or institution, the terms and conditions of this nomination and sponsorship will be understood and agreed between the nominating/sponsoring organization or institution and the nominated/sponsored Delegate Participant. The Grassroots Institute will simply facilitate the Application process and other technical/logistics support to enable the Delegate Participant attending the program successfully. *However, if an organization/institution nominates/sponsors 3 or more number of own candidates, that particular organization/institution will be considered as* ***Sponsor of FSc MER****, and its name/logo will be included among Sponsors on the website*. Other benefits of Sponsor will also be attained.

**2. Full or Partial Sponsorship of Other Applicant Delegate Participants:**

In case, an organization/institution does not want to nominate/sponsor own candidate but wishes to support/sponsor any candidate(s) who has/have applied. Such an organization/institution will be highlighted as **Sponsor** on the website when one or more candidate(s) is/are supported/ sponsored either with one of the following:

 Full Sponsorship (Course Fee, Travel, Accommodation & Subsistence) USD 1500

 Partial Sponsorship-A (Travel, Accommodation & Subsistence) USD 1000

 Partial Sponsorship-B (Travel & Accommodation) USD 600

**Eligibility for Delegate Participation:** Candidates desirous to participate the FSc MER 2023 should be between the age of 21 years and 41 years and should belong to one of the following categories:

* Young teacher (minimum lecturer)
* PhD or Master degree student
* Young research scholar or scientist
* Early career practitioner or field personnel
* NGO worker or activist

Education background of potential Delegate Participants should be in the subjects of Science, Social Science and allied fields.

 **Benefits of Sponsorship**

By sponsoring own candidates or the other applicants, the nominating/sponsoring organization or institution will be acknowledged in the following manner:

1. The name and other details of the sponsoring organization/institution will be placed on the dedicated website <https://www.grassrootsglobal.net/mer2023/sponsors.html> with a display of logo on the home page. A full profile page of the sponsoring organization/institution along with the logo will be placed on an exclusive page and linked to the logo on home page of the website and to the list on <https://www.grassrootsglobal.net/mer2023/sponsors.html>.

2. Two advertisements (each with a size of 458 pixels x 280 pixels) from sponsoring organization/ institution will be placed on the bottom of profile page of the sponsoring organization/ institution.

3. In all announcements, advertisements and important communications, the names or logos of all sponsors will prominently be placed.

4. The sponsoring organization or institution will attain worldwide visibility and publicity, as massive advertising, publicity, emailing, web posting, social media posting, and publishing will be done across the world by us as well as our all partners/collaborators in order to mobilize the potential participants for this program.

5. The sponsoring organization or institution will be exposed to large numbers of world’s universities, institutions, government organizations, NGOs, scholars, researchers and students.

6. The sponsoring organization will promote environmental conservation, mountain sustainability and sustainable development of mountain communities. Maybe the sponsoring organization is already actively doing so; however, by supporting this innovative program, the sponsoring organization will contribute at a global scale.

**More Information about the Summer Field School**

The website [**https://www.grassrootsglobal.net/mer2023/**](https://www.grassrootsglobal.net/mer2023/) has all possible information needed. For further information, please contact: Team Capacity Building | The Grassroots Institute fsc@grassrootsglobal.net



**GENERAL PARTNERS [as on 31 January 2023]**

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| Azerbaijan | Western Caspian University |
| Bhutan | College of Natural Resources, Royal University of Bhutan |
| Bhutan | Royal Thimphu College |
| Bosnia i Herzegovina | Alicia Foundation, Banja Luka |
| Bosnia i Herzegovina | University of Mostar  |
| Bosnia i Herzegovina | Faculty of Natural Science & Mathematics, University of Banja Luka |
| Bosnia i Herzegovina | Faculty of Forestry, University of Banja Luka |
| Hungary | ANIMA Association |
| Hungary | Carpathian Foundation |
| India | Government College Chamba |
| India | College of Postgraduate Studies in Agricultural Sciences, Central Agricultural University, Imphal |
| Italy  | Municipal Council of Capizzone Town |
| Kyrgyzstan | Central Asian Institute for Applied Geosciences |
| Kyrgyzstan | Naryn State University |
| Morocco | Civil Coalition for the Mountain |
| Nepal | Institute of Forestry, Tribhuvan University  |
| Romania | Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu |
| Ukraine | Academician Stepan Demianchuk International University of Economics and Humanities |
| Ukraine | Institute of Socio-Economic Regional Studies |
| Ukraine | Institute of the Humanities and Social Sciences, Lviv Polytechnic National University |
| Ukraine | Hutschulschyna National Nature Park |
| Ukraine | Podillia State University |
| Ukraine | Institute of Environmental Economics and Sustainable Development of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine |

**COLLABORATORS [as on 31 January 2023]**

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| China | Farmers’ Seed Network |
| Georgia  | The Association for Farmers Rights Defense (AFRD) |
| India | Global Foundation for Advancement of Environment & Human Wellness |
| Italy | ScriptaXmanent Aps Cultural Association |
| Kyrgyzstan | Center for Development of Kyrgyz Nomadic Pastoralism |
| Netherlands | Rewilding Academy  |
| Turkey | BioCarbon Registry |