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UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI MILANO

NEWSLETTER N.85 - August 2015

The Mountain University (UNIMI) keeps you updated on training, research, development and innovation for the mountains. Every month, directly from the mountains.

For further information, please see our website: www.unimont.unimi.it

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IN ITALIAN**

[Italian version](#)

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Fund-raising for the people of Nepal affected by the earthquake on 25th April 2015, which as of 1st July had raised € 138,497.86, is continuing.

Unimont supports the initiative of the Italian alpine Club CAI which has started fundraising to help those affected by the Nepalese earthquake. The Mountain University is supporting this initiative, aware of the suffering caused by such a catastrophe in a nation with a mountainous area which is one of the most beautiful, fragile but also one of the poorest in the world. "We have seen for ourselves the extraordinary nature in the Nepalese mountains and the great dignity of the local people during a scientific

mission to the Laboratory-Observatory "Pyramid" in the Khumbu Valley - says Anna Giorgi, Director of the Interdepartmental Centre GESDIMONT at the EDOLO Centre - the Mountain University will support and publicize initiatives to help the Nepalese community thanks to its national and international networks." The goal is to provide practical help for the Nepalese people and for this reason the allocation of the proceeds will be decided together with the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA). N.M.A. will then be entrusted with the local management of the funds raised. See the article on the [CAI.it](#) website

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Highlights

European Commission - Commission launches the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region

BRUXELLES - 28 JULY 2015

The Commission has recently launched the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP), the fourth EU macro-regional strategy. More than 70 million citizens will reap the benefits of a closer cooperation between regions and countries in terms of research and innovation, SME support, mobility, tourism, environmental protection and energy resources management.

This macro-regional strategy concerns seven countries; five Member States - Austria, France, Germany, Italy and Slovenia - and two non-EU countries - Liechtenstein and Switzerland - overall involving 48 regions.

Commissioner for Regional Policy Corina Crețu said: "Alpine regions have a long lasting tradition of cooperation, with a number of networks already in place, and the ambition of this Strategy is to strengthen this existing solidarity. It is the fourth macro-regional strategy in Europe; experience shows that their success highly depends on commitment and ownership. We therefore need strong political leadership and active involvement of all regional and national partners to fully exploit the potential of the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region."

The Strategy will focus on four key policy areas and could support the development of the following indicative projects:

- 1 - Economic growth and innovation with, for example, the development of research activities on Alpine-specific products and services.
- 2 - Connectivity and mobility, with the improvement of roads and railways and the extension of satellite access in remote areas.
- 3 - Environment and energy, with the pooling of mutual resources to preserve the environment and promote energy efficiency in the Region.

In addition, the Commission identified the need to build a sound and efficient governance model for the Region.

The Commission hopes to see the Strategy endorsed by the European Council later this year.

- [more information](#)
- [Action plan](#)

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Unimont presents a "cultural hub" for the mountains at the Chamber of Deputies



The activities of the Mountain University were presented yesterday at the Chamber of Deputies in collaboration with the Parliamentary Intergroup for the Development of Mountain Areas.

The network of Italian universities, three of the largest foundations that invest in the Italian Alps and Apennines (Cariplo, and Compagnia di San Paolo and Garrone), and Federations such as Federbim and UNCEM representing all Italian mountain municipalities, were also present together with Unimont.

The meeting, which was attended by over 100 participants from universities, institutions, organizations and stakeholders, highlighted the potential of the "highlands" with an innovative proposal, presented by Unimont and the Parliamentary Intergroup, for direct action and the protection of mountain areas in a national and international dimension.

Hon. Borghi, who has always been committed to the conservation and enhancement of mountain areas, highlighted that the high quality training and applied research suggested by Unimont and its network constitute a fundamental element for the launch of innovative enterprises capable of triggering virtuous processes.

Unimont presented the results of sixteen years of work, of which the last four as a Centre of Excellence of the University of Milan for *applied studies and sustainable management and conservation of mountain areas* - GeSDiMont, in implementation of the MIUR Programme (Prot. n.1923 dated 05/08/2011). A simple idea is the focus of the undergraduate and postgraduate courses, of the research and development projects and of the many national and international events: mountain areas are not marginal, but an environment full of high potential resources. It is therefore essential to develop models that are based on the specific features of the mountain environment but also that different political, economic, social and scientific institutions join together in supporting informed and inclusive governance for mountain areas. The challenge is to examine the current situation and plan changes to encourage growth on the basis of issues such as young people and entrepreneurship in the mountains, the management of the timber industry and land division.

Unimont is working to ensure the growth of this dialogue and discussion network, signing agreements like the one with the three entirely mountainous provinces - Belluno, Sondrio and Verbania - in regions which are not independent (recognized as areas to be assigned fundamental functions by Law Delrio n.56 of 7th April 2014) and setting up platforms for the exchange of knowledge such as the web portal (www.unimont.unimi.it), the virtual classroom for distance learning and teaching (<http://www.unimontagna.it/servizi/aula-virtuale/>), the thematic working

groups (<http://www.unimontagna.it/network/tavoli-di-lavoro/>) and the network of antennas that broadcast scientific knowledge and information regarding the

mountains, via streaming and free of charge (<http://www.unimontagna.it/network/antenne/>).

"Marginalization is primarily the result of cultural abandonment," says Anna Giorgi, Director of GeSDiMont, "the aim is therefore to convert the large network created to date in a CULTURAL HUB for the mountains in a European and International context".

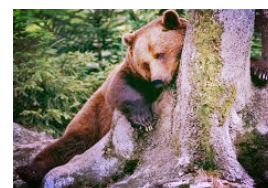
[Link to the article of the Mountain Partnership](#)

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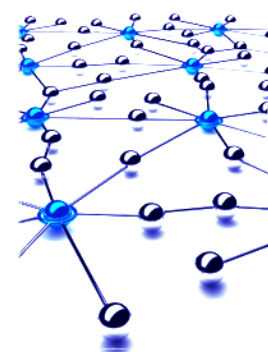
Future Conferences and Webinars

VIRTUAL CLASSROOM - Visit the Multimedia section
Follow our seminars online
Download the App for iPhone and Android or follow us on your PC.
What is a Webinar?

No seminars are planned for this month.
Follow us in the multimedia section, where new events will soon be available and you can see the recordings of all our seminars



"Antennas" are points that transmit scientific and general information on mountain themes in both directions via streaming and to all interested parties in different mountain areas. To activate an 'antenna' in your area you need a PC, a video projector, speakers and an external microphone as well as a stable connection to the Internet (preferably via LAN cable). [Contact us](#) and activate an 'antenna'!



[Antennas Network – Find out more](#)

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Activities

UNIMONT is taking part in the 110th SBI - Italian Botanical Society Congress

14th -18th SEPTEMBER 2015, PAVIA

International Congress of Plant Sciences) to be held in Pavia from 14th to 18th September 2015 in the historic centre of the city.

The Congress, which will host specially invited internationally renowned speakers, will take place in the historic buildings of the University of Pavia: the Botanical Gardens, the Central University (Main Hall, Classroom of 1400, "Aula Disegno") and Palazzo San Tommaso.

The speakers will provide an overview of recent developments and approaches in their field of research and will share their thoughts and ideas for the future development of their research.

Researchers from the Mountain University will present their work (abstracts and posters) related to research activities that are taking place to promote and enhance mountain areas.

Visit the [congress website](#)

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MEETMETONIGHT 2015- Researchers' night

SAFFRON - 25 SEPTEMBER 2015

For the attention of all saffron producers: the Mountain University is organizing the event MEETMETONIGHT - Researchers' Night (4:00 to 10:00 p.m.) on 25th September 2015 in Edolo. MEETMETONIGHT is an annual event that aims to spread scientific culture and knowledge of research professions among citizens of all ages through fun and challenging events and initiatives. For more information visit the site [Ororossodellealpi](#).

The meeting will also see the participation of Valeria Mosca who will hold a lecture on the theory and practice of foraging.

Visit the site [wood-ing.org](#)

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Conservation and Sustainable Development of Mountain Areas

THE COURSE BEGINS ON 28th SEPTEMBER 2015

Access: [limited access](#)

Access to the undergraduate courses of the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences is regulated by a mandatory test in order to check students' initial knowledge, in terms of the minimum knowledge of basic scientific subjects (mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology), with a level of detail equal to that resulting from a High School education, and an elementary understanding of logic.

The test will take place on 3rd September 2015 at 9.00 a.m. at the Settori Didattici of Città Studi, MILAN.

75 places are available for the Degree in Conservation and Sustainable Development of Mountain Areas. Enrolment for the entrance exam begins on 15th July 2015 and ends on 25th August 2015, without exception, at 12.00 a.m..

Watch the Open Day 2015 [video \(Italian\)](#)

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Milano Montagna

8th to 10th October 2015 - UNIMONT TAKES PART IN THE FESTIVAL

Milano Montagna is a three-day festival to promote winter mountain culture, technology and design, and is aimed at walkers, skiers, free riders, climbers, ski-mountaineers, snowboarders, mountain bikers, runners, mountain guides, those working in the field, young and old.

The second edition of Milano Montagna will take place in Milan from 8th to 10th October 2015.

The festival, an opportunity to share and discover experiences, projects, adventures, techniques and ideas, includes five main themes:

- exhibition of new equipment and technology for the mountains and MTB
- debates, meetings and round tables with athletes, mountaineers and scientists with the participation of the Mountain University.
- photo exhibitions
- festival of videos on Freeriding, Ski touring, Climbing, Ultratrail, MTB
- Milan Mountain Design Awards

Admission is free

Visit the [Milano Montagna website](#)

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Recent Activities

Vismont conference - Agriculture, environment and territory: a new vision for mountain farming

BERGAMO - Palamonti - 27th July 2015

CREA - the Council for Agricultural Research and analysis of agricultural economics has organized the conference "VisMont - Agriculture, environment and territory: a innovative vision for mountain farming" at Palamonti, Bergamo, as part of the events taking place in Lombardy connected with EXPO. The event, organized in collaboration with different structures of the CREA (the Bergamo research unit for maize-growing, units carrying out research in the forest sector in Trento and Arezzo and those in the fruit sector in Forlì and the aromatic and medicinal plant sector in Trento and Sanremo) and Unimont - University of Milan as well as the Bergamo section of the Italian Alpine Club, presented a picture of the Alpine region, both of the environment and its agriculture and forestry, its potential and possible future developments.

Anna Giorgi, director of the GeSDiMont centre - (Mountain University - UNIMI)

intervened presenting the history, achievements and future prospects of the Mountain University, focusing on the uniqueness of this centre which promotes and valorises mountain themes hence creating mountain experts.

Ample space was dedicated to young researchers, students, graduate students and local farmers, giving them the opportunity to present their work and their experience. The event also included a poster session in which participants exhibited their work, some of which will be presented at the event BergamoScienza to be held from 3rd to 18th October in Bergamo.

See [Gallery](#)

See the article on the site crea.gov.it

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UNIMONT takes part in the Italian Alpine Club conference as part of the festival of mountain culture "la magnifica terra - The Magnificent Land"

MEETING "THE PATHS OF ACCESSIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE TOURISM" -
Saturday, 25th July BORMIO (SO)

The Italian Alpine Club, as part of the Festival "The Magnificent Land", organized a public meeting on the issue of sustainable tourism in mountain areas.

Sustainable tourism, the importance of trails to discover, enhance and protect the environment and the issue of unregulated access by motor vehicles are the topics dealt with during the meeting organized by the Italian Alpine Club, as part of the Festival "The Magnificent Land" which took place in Alta Valtellina from 22nd to 26th July.

Speakers at the conference included the Italian Alpine Club General President Umberto Martini, Festival Director Filippo Zolezzi and Italian Alpine Club General Vice-president Erminio Quartiani.

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The Mountain University at the Timber industry board meeting of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

The Mountain University took part in the meeting of the Timber industry board, at the General Directorate for the Promotion of food quality of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Anna Giorgi, GeSDiMont centre director - (Mountain University - UNIMI) spoke about UNIMONT. Her talk highlighted the potential of the "highlands" with Unimont's innovative proposal, ranging from direct action to the conservation of mountain areas in a national and international dimension. The aim is to convert the large network created to date in a CULTURAL HUB for the mountains in a European and International context.

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Presentation of the projects "ARCOrobie" and "Women make History"

Unimont presented the ARCOrobie project, an example of mountain planning in the Bergamo area on 11th July 2015, during a meeting organized by Cooperativa Lassù - Territorio del Comelico al Museo Algodnei. Representatives of the Province of Belluno, the Regole, local authorities (Gal, Magnifica Comunità, Unione Montana), local administrations and consortia active in the area were present.

On 13th July 2015 the project "Donne si fa Storia - Women make History" was presented during the event "Cortina tra le righe", of which UNIMONT is a partner, focusing on "photojournalists of past and present, women during war", dedicated to the profession of war photographer. The event was organized by the cultural associations "Piero Pieri Military History Studies Centre on the Great War" (Memory Archives on the Great War) and "WW1 - in the Great War." "Donne si fa Storia" is a project sponsored by the Veneto Region as one of the events dedicated to the centenary of the Great War and was carried out in collaboration with Cortina Turismo and the Mountain University (UNIMI). The format highlighted the jobs of the last century as well as those of today, highlighting commitment, professionalism, role and responsibility in the reconstruction of the future.

View the [press release](#) of 9th July

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Turin and the Alps - 100 art and cultural events

From 10th to 12th July, with the support of the Compagnia di San Paolo, the regions of Piedmont, Valle d'Aosta and Liguria offered more than 100 events centring on art and culture.

The initiative was implemented as part of "Turin and the Alps", the three-year program of the Compagnia di San Paolo which aims to strengthen the relationship between the city and its mountain areas and to improve development opportunities in mountain areas in Piedmont, Liguria and the Aosta Valley.

Anna Giorgi talked about the GeSDiMont - (Mountain University - UNIMI) project on 11th July at the roundtable moderated by Aldo Bonomi, which was attended by prominent experts on mountain issues. The meeting entitled "The highlands between 'no longer' and 'not yet'. Territory, concrete communities, development and policy in the mountains" included the opportunity to describe the projects and activities of the Mountain University with a talk entitled "Taking the University to the mountains".

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IPROMO "Food security in mountain areas EXtraordinary POTential" - annual course on the management of protected mountain areas

25 technicians and officials from the mountain areas of 21 countries were selected to participate in iPromo 2015. The course was organized by the Secretary of the Mountain Partnership of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), under the patronage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with the University of Turin -DISAFA -NatRisk, the municipality of Ormea (CN), the Institut Agricole Régional (AO) and the Mountain University (Ge.S.Di.Mont) - DISAA - University of Milan.

This year IPromo, following the EXPO theme, will focus on the issue of food safety, a major issue for all mountain areas, but especially for those located in developing countries.

The course includes a first series of meetings (the first took place in Ormea, in the Piedmont Alps, from 23rd to 29th June), while the final part (30th June to 3rd July) will take place in Edolo at the Ge.S.Di.Mont headquarters, thanks to the contribution of the Cassa Rurale Alta Val di Sole e Pejo that supported the initiative.

- [Read the article on the FAO - Mountain Partnership website](#)
- [Visit the gallery](#)
- [Mountain Partnership on Flickr](#)
- [See press release](#)

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Other Activities - Notices

Summer break Secretary's office in Edolo

We would like to inform you that the Secretary's office in Edolo will be closed **from 10th to 23rd August 2015**.

If necessary you can contact us via email at corso.edolo@unimi.it

About us

PRESS

- Quotidiano Canavese: [CUORGNE' - «Colpaccio» di Pezzetto: arriva l'università della Montagna](#)
- Loscarpone.cai.it: [Il Gruppo Interparlamentare per lo sviluppo della montagna organizza a Roma un seminario sulle specificità delle aree montane nella formazione e nella ricerca](#)



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Val.Te.Mo Association

ASSOCIATION NEWS

The VAL.TE.MO Association, founded in 2001, works to promote the knowledge, promotion and conservation of mountain areas through the organization of courses, seminars and field trips and through the implementation of projects leading to the improvement and development of mountain areas.

This month there are no activities.

Visit our [website](#) for more information.



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Internships, Calls and Opportunities

OPPORTUNITIES

AIAB has postponed the deadline to apply for the allocation of 7 paid internships: deadline 7th September

Competition for the Laura Bacci Award 2014: competition for two scholarships on the theme "Innovation for sustainability in agriculture", for a degree thesis and a doctoral thesis discussed in 2014

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PRESS

BOOKS

Manual L'Oro Rosso delle Alpi (Italian only)

SAFFRON

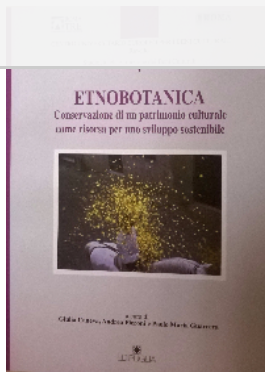


Please note that the Scientific-Technical Manual on saffron production "L'Oro Rosso delle Alpi" is now available in print. For information and reservations contact:

corso.edolo@unimi.it

Ethnobotany (Italian only)

CONSERVATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE



Ethnobotany: preservation of cultural heritage as a resource for sustainable development

Some topics:

Ethnobotanical uses in the tradition of the Mediterranean world (medicinal, cosmetic, veterinary and food uses).

Home-craft uses.

Ritual, magic-religious uses.

Ethnobotany for the conservation of nature and culture.

Ethnobotany and prospects for agricultural and forestry development.

and much more ...

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