

Utah International Mountain Forum engages Utah Valley University students in the advocacy of the United Nations Sustainable Mountain Development agenda as an extracurricular, experiential learning initiative.

Raising a New Generation of Leaders on Sustainable Mountain Development

The UIMF since 2011 began hosting an annual essay contest for high school students, on topics of SMD defined by the United Nations

- 54 essays submitted the first year.
- Support from Utah high school teachers, parents, and students
- Winners and organizers receive prizes and certificates of recognition

Raising Community Awareness of Sustainable Mountain Development



Since 2010, UVU students have celebrated International Mountain Day each year on December 11, as established by the United Nations resolution

For More Information go to:
www.womenofthemountains.org

Why should you join the UIMF at Utah Valley University?

- Make a difference in lives of the mountain communities around the globe
- Develop useful skills for future job market through focusing on sustainable mountain development. Such as:
 - Community engaged learning
 - Event organizing
 - Diplomatic and formal communications
 - Inter-personal and inter-organizational planning
- Make connections with influential companies, organizations, nations, and individuals
- Network and interact with students, clubs, and faculty with a shared interest in international relations, business, politics related to sustainable mountain development that is as great as your own interest

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UTAH INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN FORUM



A COALITION OF STUDENT CLUBS AT UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY



WHY THE FOCUS ON SUSTAINABLE MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT?

The Mountain Partnership (MP) coordinates sustainable mountain advocacy around the globe. In 2006, Utah Valley University (UVU) joined the MP, since UVU is willing to contribute its best experiences and knowledge to help further the cause.

The State of Utah as a model of sustainable mountain development (SMD) share many priorities and goals promoted by the Mountain Partnership.

Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF) was created in 2011 as a coalition of student clubs at UVU in order to engage students in SMD advocacy.

UIMF INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING CLUBS:

- Sustainable Development Club
- Foreign Affairs Club
- American-Israeli Alliance
- Cinematography Club
- Russian/Slavic Club
- Model UN
- History Club

The third volume of Youth and the Mountains journal featuring student papers was published by the History & Political Science department March, 2017

Full publications available at:
<http://www.uvu.edu/files/docs/2017Symjournal.pdf>



Students Advocate Sustainable Development Goals

UIMF Discussed SDGS Advocacy with the President of ECOSOC, February 2015



Utah Valley University Students hosted the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations and President of ECOSOC, Ambassador Martin Sajdik (second from the right) at UVU



EMPOWERING RURAL WOMEN AND GIRLS

UIMF at the 62th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, March, 2018



UVU delegations hosts a side event during CSW62

For the first time, a UVU delegation:

1. On March 19, 2018 hosted a side event: "Advocating for rural and mountain women globally through student engaged learning," sponsored by Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations and Permanent Mission of Uzbekistan to the United Nations;
2. On March 20, 2018 they hosted a parallel event: "Education for sustainable development to empower rural and mountain women," sponsored by the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences (RANS), the Mountain Institute and the Utah-China F.I.S.H.D.&C.
3. Were featured for advocacy of mountain women through student engaged learning in a written statement E/CN.6/2018/NGO/37 of RANS, etc. which was accepted and circulated by the UN secretariat on December 7, 2017

Students Hosted International Women of the Mountains Conference



Participants of the Fourth International Women of the Mountains Conference held October 7-9, 2015 in Orem, UT

- For the first time, UIMF students hosted and organized the Fourth International Women of the Mountains Conference under the umbrella of the Mountain Partnership affiliated to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN
- Participants of the conference included officials from the UN, the State Department, experts and scholars from Utah, the Rocky Mountain region, as well as 20 plus mountainous nations
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BKeGU7VmEzU&feature=youtu.be>
- <http://womenofthemountains.org/index.php/2015-utah-usa>

United Nations

A/71/256



General Assembly

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Seventy-first session
Item 19 (j) of the provisional agenda*
Sustainable development

**Sustainable mountain development
Report of the Secretary-General**

"39. The Utah International Mountain Forum hosted the fourth International Women of the Mountains Conference at Utah Valley University in October 2015 to address the critical issues faced by women and children living in mountainous regions across the globe and provide a forum to discuss gender equality. The outcome document contained the following observations:

- (a) Goal 5 could be achieved through strong support for improving women's rights and welfare, including women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life;
- (b) Successful implementation of target 6.6 could be achieved by supporting the vital role that women play in the protection of the environment and water sources, particularly as custodians of traditional knowledge that builds resilience and allows for adaptation to climate change;
- (c) With respect to target 15.1, women play a critical role in joint planning as promoters of innovation, development and cooperation for common benefit." The United Nations Secretary-General's Report on Sustainable

Mountain Development (SMD), A/71/256, from July 29, 2016,