



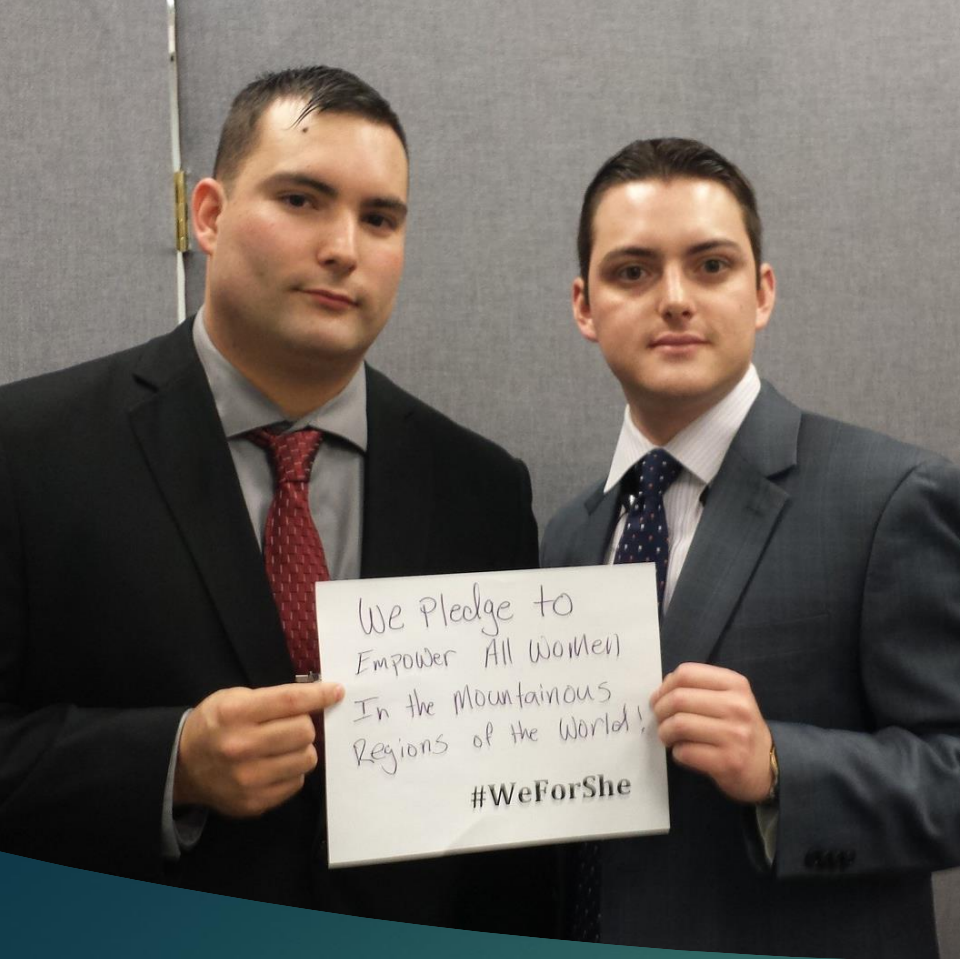
UIMF in its Infancy: The Accomplishments, Trials, Tribulations, and Lessons Learned

TONY MEDINA (UIMF 2014-2016)

POLS3640-001-UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY

FEBRUARY 5, 2024



Advocating for Gender Equality

UIMF LEADERS (L TO R) TONY MEDINA AND JESLER MOLINA EXPRESS SUPPORT TO THE WEFORSHE CAMPAIGN AT BYU ON DECEMBER 4, 2014

Hosting 2015 Women of the Mountains Conference

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

Sustainable mountain development Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

Mountain and upland areas have a universal importance: they provide water and other global goods and services to humanity. However, mountain ecosystems are highly vulnerable to climate change, extreme weather events and land degradation and recover slowly from disasters and shocks. In the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Member States pledged to leave no one behind and stressed the importance of reaching those furthest behind first. Mountain communities in developing countries are particularly vulnerable and require special attention, given that one in three people in those areas is at risk of hunger and malnutrition.

To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and the targets relating to mountains as well as to poverty, hunger, sustainable agriculture, climate change and gender equality, there is a need to prioritize mountain areas by focusing on the specific challenges they face and the opportunities they provide. Mountain-specific policies and the inclusion of mountain communities in decision-making processes and capacity development can improve the livelihoods of communities while also conserving and restoring mountain ecosystems. In particular, efforts should be made to increase scientific knowledge of mountains and collect disaggregated data for sound analysis, policy advice and, ultimately, for change.

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:³

- (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.

* A/71/150.

³ "The final document of the fourth International Women of the Mountains Conference". Available from www.womenofthemountains.org/images/2015/16-03-31-WOMC-Finalized.pdf.



Tony Medina with Kimberly Williamson, 2015 WOMC Secretariat Advisor and Deann Torsak, Executive Secretary of the 2015 WOMC

Hosting President of the ECOSOC at UVU



*My best wishes to the Utah International Mountain Forum
in - so ably - promoting the SDGs and the Post 2015 Development Agenda.
With my fondest memories
Martin Sajdik*

Ambassador of Austria to the UN and President of the ECOSOC, H.E. Martin Sajdik with UIMF members
Sign under the photo: "My best wishes to the Utah International Mountain Forum in - so ably - promoting the SDGs,
and the post-2015 Development Agenda. With my fondest memories, Martin Sajdik."
February 12, 2015

Observing the International Mountain Day with Ambassador Peter Thomson



President of the United Nations General Assembly, Permanent Representative of Fiji to the UN, Ambassador Peter Thomson during a presentation at Utah Valley University, December 7, 2015

Advocating for Mountain Women at the UN



(L to R): Wendy Jyang, Tony Medina, and Virginia Bennett, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Democracy and Human Trafficking and Labor, US State Department, CSW60, March 15, 2016

Advocating for Mountain Women at the UN



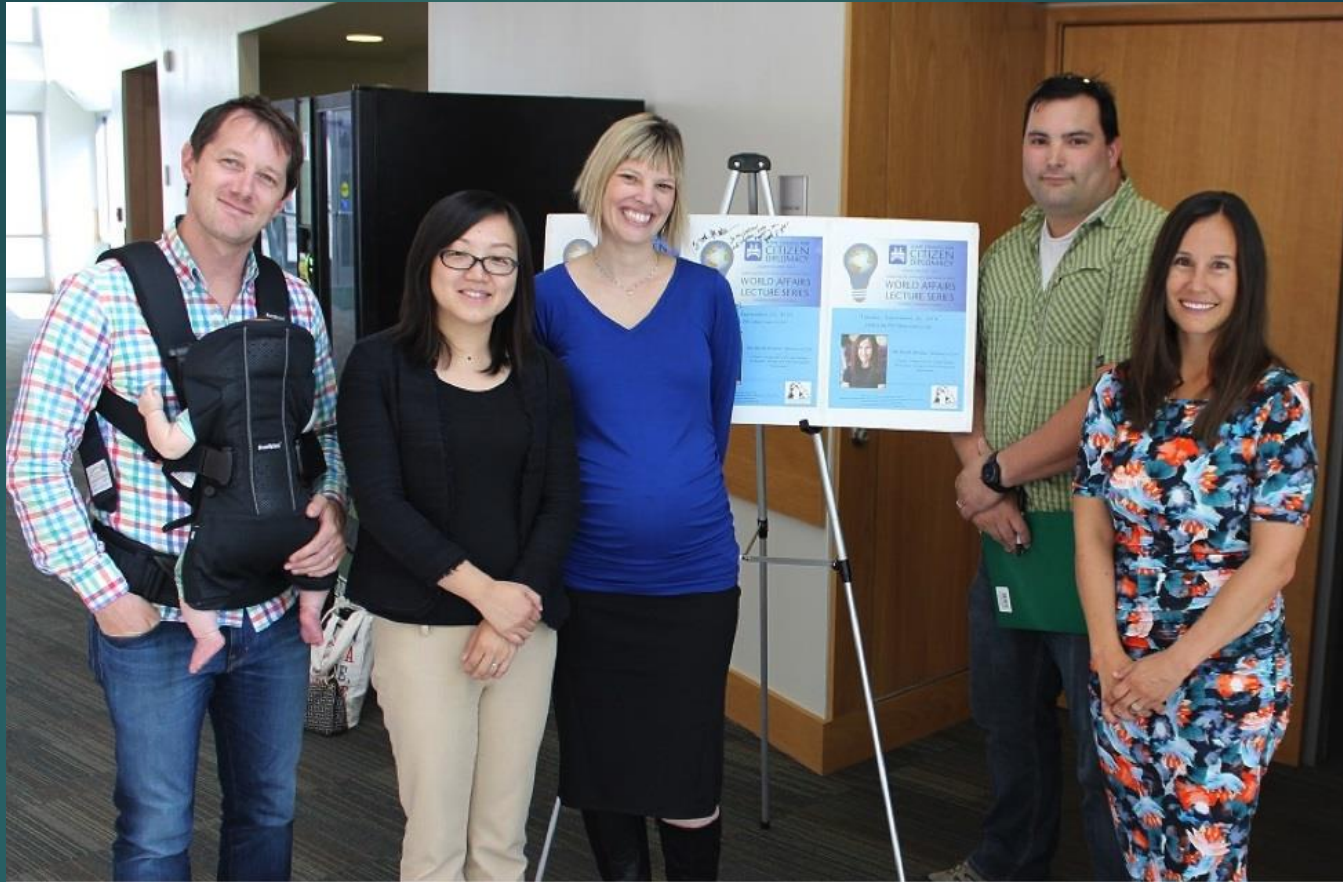
UIMF leaders (L to R): Regan Warner, Christian Jensen, Tony Medina, and Munkhbat Batmunkh during CSW61 at the United Nations, March 2017

Advocating for Mountain Targets by hosting Ambassador Kamau



Group photo of Ambassador Macharia Kamau, and his wife, with the leadership members of UIMF, and faculty. Tony Medina is the third from the left, February 9, 2017

Learning Lessons of the Climate Change Impact on Mountain Livelihoods from Drowning Islands



*(R to L) Brook Meakins, Tony Medina, President, UIMF, Beth Martial, Executive Director, Utah Council for Citizen Diplomacy, Hong Pang, Assistant Professor, UVU, and Andy Meakins.
September 20, 2016*

Questions?

▶ Thank you for your attention!



(R to L) Deann Torsak, Tony Medina, President, UIMF, Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations, Ambassador Kaha Imnadze, Paula Randon, and Cholpon Akmatalieva at UVU, September 20, 2016