

SIDE EVENT INTERNAL PLAYBOOK

Keeping Our Mountains Waste-Free

Side Event Key Messages

- The waste and pollution crisis has reached mountain areas and Mountain Partnership members are invited to consider clean waste-free mountains a priority area in future strategies and work plans
- Mountain specific solutions exist in the areas of policy, financing, infrastructure and outreach
- Action by all stakeholders – from local to global level and from individuals to policy-makers – is needed to keep our mountains waste-free
- There is a need to further strengthen and build partnerships with key actors in mountains such as from the tourism sector, the scientific research community, and local decision-makers

Speakers

- Björn Alfthan, Principal Expert, GRID-Arendal
- Jost Dittkrist, Programme Officer, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (virtual)
- Carolina Adler, President of Mountain Protection Commission, International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation (UIAA) // Executive Director, Mountain Research Initiative (virtual)
- Cathy Hall, Solid Waste Manager, Pitkin County
- Angela Hawse, President of the Board, American Mountain Guides Association
- Munir Ahmed, Devcom Pakistan (virtual)
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Facilitator

- Ansgar Fellendorf, Climate change and mountain ecosystems expert, UN Environment Programme

Solution bins – responses by participants

Questions posed:

- “What solution would you prioritize for waste-free mountains?”
- “What is your input for the Mountain Partnership and 5-Year Action Plan 2023-27 to reduce and eliminate litter and waste in mountains?”

Digi-ALPS

Create QR code plates and place them in key monuments of nature in mountain trails with sensitizing info. Longevity & eco-friendly

This is done in the Albanian Alps – Gent



Engage in plastic justice initiative

- plastic law enforcement
- public interest litigation
- support the process for a global plastic treaty

In mountain regions that are sustained through tourism, it’s extremely important for local governments, industries and communities to lead by example when it comes to mountain stewardship.

Secondly, to be a shining example to other non-mountain communities and municipalities throughout the world. Creating stricter regulations and laws that can show others a more efficient sustainable lifestyle is achievable.

Andy Curits
Aspen, CO

Collective efforts

Fees and fines – make polluters pay

Help mountain communities with innovative waste management solutions (should not be too expensive)

Strengthen positive narrative of plastic-free mountains – generating pride in untouched natural beauty with local communities

Countries should advocate to ban the production of thin plastics and encourage biodegradable materials for use worldwide.