

# 2022 **ANNUAL REPORT**



**International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation**  
UNION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIATIONS D'ALPINISME



# Trusted gear for you to Thrive Outside.



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The digital version of  
this Annual Report is  
available at:





# PART 1: THE UIAA

## About the UIAA/Mission Statement

### THE GLOBAL MOUNTAIN NETWORK

The **International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation (UIAA)** was founded in 1932 and has a global presence on six continents representing 94 member associations and federations in 69 countries.



The UIAA, supported by over 200 volunteers, promotes the growth and protection of mountaineering and climbing worldwide by:

- **preserving** their spirit and traditions
- **advancing** safe and ethical mountain practices
- **promoting** responsible access, culture and environmental protection
- **supporting** youth participation and the Olympic movement

The UIAA fulfils its Mission Statement mainly through the work of its Commissions, which make recommendations, set policy and advocate on behalf of the international mountaineering community. UIAA Commissions are comprised of experts in their field.

The UIAA operates through the following Commissions: [Anti-Doping](#), [Ice Climbing](#) (as of September 2022, currently a Working Group), [Legal](#), [Medical](#), [Mountaineering](#), [Mountain Protection](#), [Safety](#), [Training](#) and [Youth](#).

**Further Reading:** [theuiaa.org/about](http://theuiaa.org/about)

#### PLEDGE

The UIAA is the International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation. As the leading global network, we promote climbing and mountaineering and advocate for access to climbing areas and mountain ranges. While looking to our future, we value our heritage and care for the mountains, their fragile ecosystems, vulnerable communities and cultures. We serve the best interests of our member federations and of our worldwide community.

**For the climbers. For the mountains. For the world.**



[theuiaa.org/members](http://theuiaa.org/members)

This Annual Report is best viewed in digital format. To view or download the document please scan the QR code. All information contained in this Annual Report refers to events which took place before 1 January 2023.

#### HONORARY MEMBERS

1964 Charles-Egmond d'ARCIS (SAC)

1968 Edouard WYSS-DUNANT (SAC)

1969 Hans von BOMHARD (DAV)

1975 Ugo di VALLEPIANA (CAI)

1980 Guido TONELLA (CAI)

1983 Franz HIESS (VAVOE)

1987 Fritz WIESSNER (AAC)

1990 Jaromir WOLF (CHS)

1992 Sir Edmund HILLARY (NZAC)

1995 Walter BONATTI (CAI)

Dr. Pietro SEGANTINI (SAC)

2000 Robbert LEOPOLD (NKBV)

2001 Dr. Carlo SGANZINI (SAC)

2002 Georges MOISSIDIS (EOOA)

William Lowell PUTNAM (AAC)

2003 Dr. Fritz MÄRZ (DAV)

2003 Nassos TZARTZANOS (EOOA)

2007 Jordi PONS SANJINES (FEDME)

2008 Pit SCHUBERT (DAV)

2010 Kazuo SAITO (JMA)

2012 Ang Tshering SHERPA (NMA)

2013 Claude ECKHARDT (FFCAM)

2014 Tamotsu NAKAMURA (JAC)

2016 Reinhold MESSNER (AVS)

2019 Injeong LEE (KAF)

2020 Doug SCOTT (BMC)



# WELCOME

## President's Report

*As I reported to you in the 2021 Annual Report if there was a bright side to lockdowns it was the increased use of online platforms. We have all become accustomed to them; and the Executive Board (EB), Management Committee (MC) and many of the UIAA Commissions have put it to good use as an aid to the many projects and tasks we have worked on over the past year. But I remain convinced that the interpersonal interaction of meetings, such as our first in-person General Assembly since 2019, are essential as a building block and bridge for the UIAA – mountaineering is a human dynamic that brings people of a common purpose to a common love of place and struggle.*

We have been very busy in 2022. You will recall that last year I recited plans of the EB Working Groups (WGs) continued review of effectiveness of the UIAA structure, as it was being applied to communication and direction.

Your MC and EB have moved diligently and courageously forward on projects and programmes aimed at advancing member instructions to us by of way the 2021-2024 Strategic Plan and the general goals underlying its three pillars of sport, safety and sustainability and each of the pillar area's ten general goals. The plan also contains seven general goals of internal UIAA matters.

Some of the work is high profile, other aspects less so. An important task is the creation of policies and procedures designed to smooth the flow of information, clarify paths of procedure and ensure standardised and transparent policies.

### THE UIAA: ORGANISATION

From the **Finance and Audit Working Group** has come a number of standard operating procedures that in some ways reflect what has been traditional UIAA practice but never codified into easily understood standard operating procedures. In other ways they have filled the gap of missing procedures and steps to ensure responsible and transparent reporting of financial information which will help us stay within our means and apply our financial resources efficiently and to maximum effect.

The **Commissions' WG** highlighted key needs; noting a number of items that, in order to get the best from the Commissions required attention such as the relationship between the MC and the Commissions and Commission project alignment with the Strategic Plan.

This WG has continued this work with the creation of Commission task descriptions which are a work in progress but are progressing well with most Commissions already having Management Committee approved descriptions.

### We've also made substantial changes to the Commissions.

Under the **Sport Pillar**, the MC created a Training Commission. It is our feedback that training is very important especially to our smaller federations looking to develop their training capacities. This has led to the appointment of new Commission members who are dedicated to assist Commission President Steve Long in his goal to provide training to any and all members that ask on a standardised basis.

We changed the Legal Working Group by converting it into a Commission so that it is more readily available as a consultative body to all Commissions, the MC and the EB.

*And of course, we have taken big steps in ice climbing. I have had concern for some time that ice climbing had not developed as I might have expected or in a manner with which I am familiar from other sport development work. Over the past two to three years my concern grew because of my opportunity as President to meet with IOC representatives, members of the Ice Climbing Commission, and general membership.*

An Ice Climbing Working Group (ICWG) was set up as an advisory agent to help ice climbing navigate a new programme of development. A number of competent and dedicated members worked very hard. They worked very well together. They did not make recommendations for radical surgery lightly.

But after careful consideration of the Ice Climbing Working Group report and fulsome debate, the Management Committee resolved to dissolve the Ice Climbing Commission, resolved to implement a temporary plan for management and administration of the

2022-2023 World Tour and mandated the ICWG to present to the MC a plan for renewed development – both in governance and development of the UIAA ice climbing programme. We are confident that the work will give us a positive step forward on the ice climbing competition front while also developing ice climbing as a recreational sport.

Unsurprisingly, work under the **Safety Pillar** continues to be a strength of our organisation. Both our Safety and our Medical Commissions continue to deliver crucial projects and advice. Among the most notable accomplishments this year you will have seen videos on: why purchasing UIAA safety certified equipment is an investment in climbing; acclimatisation for and at altitude; and, access to safe water.

**Sustainability Pillar:** The sport we love is under threat both in its manner of practice and its practice at all by the global challenges presented by climate change. As climbers, indeed as citizens of the world, we are called upon to do what we can to meet this challenge. No less must the UIAA itself ensure that its activities, while maintained to be as effective as possible, are exercised in a manner of conservation of wise use so as to maintain a responsible climate footprint and environmentally sustainable manner.

And, we have encouraged and are happy to have received increased participation at all levels from the **Continental Representatives on the Management Committee**; they have been a big help to me personally as well.

### CLIMATE CHANGE TASKFORCE

It was for this reason that in early 2022, I asked the EB to create a Climate Change Taskforce co-chaired by myself and Carolina Adler, President of the Mountain Protection Commission, and

made up of significant members of the MC and Commissions. This Taskforce will initially look at our organisation's own practices for footprint reduction as well as consolidating resources and good practice for the benefit of our members.

I am still convinced that the UIAA is based on sound principles and the dedicated loyalty of its members. Your Management Committee and its Commissions are committed to ensuring that the UIAA becomes as good as it can be in, and I hope that you will assist us in that work.

For our progress so far, I must thank the EB, the MC and our course our staff - much overworked but dedicated and competent without whom much of what we do would not be possible. We are lucky to have them.



Report by

**Peter Muir**

UIAA President

### UIAA Presidents

1932-1964	Count Charles Egmond d'Arcis
1965-1968	Edouard Wyss-Dunant
1968-1972	Albert Egger
1973-1976	Jean Juge
1976-1984	Pierre Bossus
1985-1989	Carlo Sganzi
1990-1995	Pietro Segantini
1995-2004	Ian McNaught-Davis
2004-2005	Alan Blackshaw
2005-2006	Pierre Humblet (acting)
2007-2011	Mike Mortimer
2011-2012	Jordi Colomer (acting)
2012-2020	Frits Vrijlandt
<b>2020-</b>	<b>Peter Muir</b>





## UIAA Executive Review 2022

### JANUARY 2022

*Members invited to support Mountain Worker Initiative*  
*Ice Climbing World Champions crowned in Saas-Fee*  
*Skyrunning: Inaugural SkySnow World Championships*  
*Safety: Guidance on retiring carabiners*



### FEBRUARY 2022

*UIAA Commissions outline priorities for 2022*  
*Reminder: Access to mountain huts for UIAA members*



### MARCH 2022

*Sustainability standards set for UIAA Ice Climbing events*  
*Statement on the situation in Ukraine*



### APRIL 2022

*UIAA contributes to Plastics on the Peak report*  
*First UIAA Global Members Newsletter released*



### MAY 2022

*Spring meetings held in Skopje*  
*Medical video: How to prevent altitude sickness*  
*Release of 2021 Annual Report*



### JUNE 2022

*SafeCom outlines progress on Standards*  
*MedCom focuses on international collaboration*



### JULY 2022

*Statement on Marmolada glacier collapse*  
*Youth camp inspires next generation*



### AUGUST 2022

*Statement on competition ice climbing*  
*First international youth camp in Cyprus*  
*Second UIAA Global Members Newsletter released*  
*Review: UIAA Management Committee meeting*



### SEPTEMBER 2022

*Statement from French mountaineering community*  
*Women at altitude conference*  
*Video explainer: UIAA Safety Label*  
*Mountain Protection Award: 16 nominees confirmed*



### OCTOBER 2022

*Review: 2022 UIAA General Assembly*  
*Commissions outline priorities and projects for 2023*  
*2022 UIAA Mountain Protection Award winner announced*  
*UIAA & Policy brief on keeping mountains plastic waste free*  
*Calendar: 2022-23 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour*



### NOVEMBER 2022

*Understanding mountain sports accidents*  
*SafeCom advice: [Static ropes](#) and [List of knots](#)*  
*Polish Mountaineering Association support for Ukraine climbers*  
*A year on: Mountain Protection Award winner progress*



### DECEMBER 2022

*Club Alpino Italiano re-admission to the UIAA*  
*Review: First UIAA Climate Change Summit*  
*UIAA & the UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Framework*  
*Update to Environmental Objectives and Guidelines*



### REMEMBERING:

*[Alex Klenov \(Russia\)](#)*  
*[John Nankervis \(New Zealand\)](#)*  
*[Jim Milledge \(UK\)](#)*  
*[Jovica Ugrinovski \(North Macedonia\)](#)*

*All stories detailed in this section are covered in this Annual Report, notably in the Commissions chapter*





UIAA General Assembly in Banff, Canada. Photo credits: UIAA/Amy Liu

## 2022 UIAA General Assembly

*The 2022 UIAA General Assembly (GA) was held in Banff, Canada on Saturday 29 October and hosted by the Alpine Club of Canada (ACC). It marked the UIAA's 82nd GA and the third in Banff following meetings in 1988 and 2006.*

### PLENARY SESSION

Over a hundred delegates from 40 different countries and as many different international climbing organisations attended the first in-person UIAA GA since 2019.

Among the invited guests were: former UIAA President Frits Vrijlandt; Marco Sclaris, President of the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC); Jan Bloudek representing the European Union of Mountaineering Associations (EUMA); Stéphane Lozach'meur from The Petzl Foundation; Pier Giorgio Oliveti, representing the Club Alpino Italiano (CAI), and François Masse from Parks Canada. The UIAA also received a message from International Olympic

Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach: *"The UIAA has been at the forefront to promote responsible mountaineering practises. From protecting the precious alpine environments, to advancing sustainable mountaineering sports like ice climbing, to raising young people with a respect for nature, you have led the way to demonstrate how the sporting community can contribute to promote the Olympic values."*

Peter Muir, able to lead in his first in-person GA as President, opened the Plenary Session. Muir detailed the progress of the UIAA Strategic Plan, noting the closer collaboration between the UIAA Management Committee and Commissions and confirmed the recent decision to create two new UIAA Commissions - Legal Affairs and Training. Muir also highlighted the UIAA's ambition to diversify its membership.

In a special vote, Club Alpino Italiano, a founding member of the UIAA, was re-elected as a full member. Its membership will take immediate effect on completion of the submission of its membership requirements. Once this process is

complete, it will mark a significant development which sees one of the world's most preminent Alpine clubs return to the UIAA family.

There were no Executive Board (EB) elections meaning the composition of the seven-strong UIAA EB remains the same.

UIAA Management Committee elections:

**Josef Klenner** (DAV, Germany) was re-elected as a Largest Federation Representative

**Young Hoon Oh** (KAF, Korea) was elected as Continental Representative for Asia, replacing Christine Pae (KAF) whose term came to an end.

**Joachim Driessen** (NKBV, Netherlands) was re-elected as a General Representative

In addition to the return of CAI, the UIAA welcomed three new member federations. This included the election of two new full members from South America:

**Ecuador:** Federacion Ecuatoriana de Andinismo y Escalada

**Peru:** Federaci3n Deportiva Peruana de Escalada

A new associate member from India was also elected:

**India:** Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports (ABVIMAS)

*From 1 January, 2023, the UIAA will represent 94 member organisations from 69 countries on six continents. They are comprised of 69 full members, one unit member, 18 associate members and six international observer members.*

The election of the two full new members is particularly significant, extending the UIAA's presence in Central and South America to seven countries.

Three panel discussions addressed principally the progress the UIAA Commissions are making in view of the federation's main projects and alignment with current Strategic Plan, a topic further addressed by UIAA General Secretary Lode Beckers. During the GA, the UIAA also presented the new edition of the Alpine Summer Skills Handbook, produced in partnership with The Petzl Foundation.



Both the UIAA budget results for 2022 and forecast for 2023 were approved. The GA also agreed to waive the 2022 membership fee for the Ukrainian Mountaineering and Climbing Federation. Piotr Pustelnik, President of the Polish Mountaineering Association, also detailed the initiatives his federation has set up to support Ukrainian youth climbers. Further details can be found [here](#).



Further details on the focus of each Commission and Strategic Plan progress are provided [here](#) and in the Commission chapters of this Annual Report.



## CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOP

The UIAA is committed to helping combat the impact of climate change. Earlier this year the UIAA reinforced this commitment by creating a [Climate Change Taskforce](#). Furthermore the federation recently signed the [UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action](#) Declaration Commitment Letter. [See letter here](#).

During the Workshop two climate change case studies were detailed – François Masse presented information on the Abbot Pass Refuge Cabin, the first major mountain site in Canada lost to climate change, and then Graham McDowell from the University of Calgary, gave a presentation titled: [‘The implications of warmer winters for ice climbing guides. A case study from the Mount Washington Valley, USA’](#). This research is supported by the American Alpine Club (AAC).

The World Café format workshop aimed at providing an opportunity to discuss topics related to sustainability and climate change in an informal format, to learn and to better understand needs and expectations of member federations.

### It debated a number of questions including:

- What is the difference between ‘climate change adaptation’ and ‘climate change mitigation’?
- Where do the UIAA and member federations see the biggest changes/threats in practicing mountaineering activities now and in the future?
- How has the universe of climbing and mountaineering adapted to climate change?
- What opportunities are there for mountaineers, if any, through the climate changing?
- International and national climbing and mountaineering organisations who already calculate or who plan to calculate their carbon footprint, findings, methodology.
- What is expected from the UIAA and member federations in terms of climate action?
- Are members supporting UIAA’s commitments to the UNFCCC S4CA Framework?
- What challenges do the UIAA and member federations face when elaborating a climate action plan?
- How could member federations specifically avoid and reduce their footprint in regard to mountain huts?

- Climbing and outdoor recreation involves lots of travel. How can it be avoided and/or reduced in a climber’s role as (a) a mountaineer; (b) an event organiser; (c) a federation delegate; (d) an athlete?
- Impact of international and national meetings and competitions and related travel.

## CULTURAL EVENTS

[Banff National Park](#), situated in the heart of Canada’s Rocky Mountains, is the birthplace of the Canadian national park system created in 1887. A number of cultural programmes are being held in parallel with the event, including the famous Banff Mountain Film and Book Festival and a Cultural Programme dedicated to Canada’s indigenous peoples and their role in early mountaineering in the Canadian Rockies.

Much has been written about the “early explorations” of Canada’s Rocky Mountains – and for the most part, this romantic history is dominated by settler cultures: Europeans, Americans, and some early Canadians. Often overlooked is just how much of Canada’s early mountaineering achievements were dependent on local Indigenous knowledge, labour, and participation.

The GA host was [Grant Statham](#), the recipient of the 2022 Summit of Excellence Award. The

Award celebrates long-term contributions, service, and demonstrated impact within the mountain culture community in Canada by an individual or group from across the country.

During the GA, a minute’s silence was held to remember those who lost their lives in the mountains over the past few years. A special tribute was made to [Larry Shiu](#) – Chinese Taipei Mountaineering Association – who died shortly before the GA in a climbing accident in Taiwan.

The UIAA Mountain Protection Award ceremony was also held as part of the GA. A review can be found in the Mountain Protection chapter.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 2023

*The 2023 UIAA General Assembly will be held in Trabzon, Turkey on Saturday 21 October. It will be hosted by the Turkish Mountaineering Federation (TDF).*

The UIAA thanks the ACC, notably Isabelle Daigneault (President), Ken Hewitt (Project Manager, former ACC President) and Carine Salvy (Executive Director), for their hospitality and excellent hosting of the event.

A photo library from the General Assembly can be found [here](#). Photos in this article and in the library are courtesy of Amy Liu.



A comprehensive review of the Climate Change Summit can be viewed [here](#).

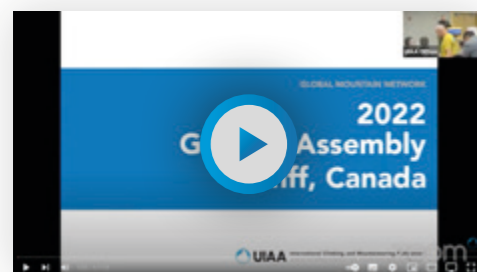
## List of Past General Assemblies

YEAR	VENUE	COUNTRY
1934	Pontresina	Switzerland
1935	Barcelona	Spain
1936	Geneva	Switzerland
1937	Paris	France
1938	Prague	Czechoslovakia
1939	Zermatt	Switzerland
1947	Geneva	Switzerland
1948	Geneva	Switzerland
1949	Chamonix	France
1950	Milano	Italy
1951	Bled	Yugoslavia
1952	Zell am See	Austria
1953	Delphi	Greece
1954	Grenoble	France
1955	Munich	Germany
1956	Madrid	Spain
1957	Trento	Italy
1958	Lugano	Switzerland
1959	Amsterdam	Netherlands
1960	Jahorina	Yugoslavia
1961	Vienna	Austria
1962	Corfu	Greece

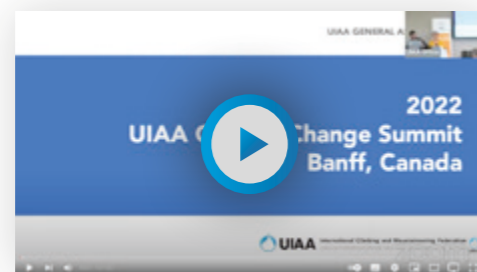
YEAR	VENUE	COUNTRY
1963	Interlaken	Switzerland
1964	Munich	Germany
1965	Utrecht	Netherlands
1966	Courmayeur	Italy
1967	Madrid	Spain
1968	London	UK
1969	Prague	Czechoslovakia
1970	Crete	Greece
1971	Zakopane	Poland
1972	Montreux	Switzerland
1973	Tbilisi	USSR
1974	Delnice	Yugoslavia
1975	Obertauern	Austria
1976	Barcelona	Spain
1977	Mexico City	Mexico
1978	Lagonissi	Greece
1979	Pinkham Notch	USA
1980	Geneva	Switzerland
1981	Lugano	Switzerland
1982	Kathmandu	Nepal
1983	Brussels	Belgium
1984	Seoul	Korea

YEAR	VENUE	COUNTRY
1985	Venice	Italy
1986	Munich	Germany
1987	Marrakech	Morocco
1988	Banff	Canada
1989	New Delhi	India
1990	Kerkade	Netherlands
1991	Budapest	Hungary
1992	Matsumoto	Japan
1993	Santiago	Chile
1994	Istanbul	Turkey
1995	Cape Town	South Africa
1996	Thun	Switzerland
1997	Kranjska Gora	Slovenia
1998	Malacca	Malaysia
1999	Olympia	Greece
2000	Paris	France
2001	St. Johann	Austria
2002	Flagstaff	USA
2003	Berchtesgaden	Germany
2004	New Delhi	India
2005	Singapore	Singapore

YEAR	VENUE	COUNTRY
2006	Banff	Canada
2007	Matsumoto	Japan
2008	Teheran	Iran
2009	Porto	Portugal
2010	Bormio	Italy
2011	Kathmandu	Nepal
2012	Amsterdam	Netherlands
2013	Pontresina	Switzerland
2014	Flagstaff	USA
2015	Seoul	South Korea
2016	Brixen	Italy
2017	Shiraz	Iran
2018	Ulaanbaatar	Mongolia
2019	Larnaca	Cyprus
2020	-	Online
2021	-	Online
2022	Banff	Canada



UIAA General Assembly Plenary Session



Climate Change Workshop



# PART 2: WHO'S WHO

## UIAA Executive Board Members



**Peter MUIR**  
(President)  
Canada  
Alpine Club of Canada

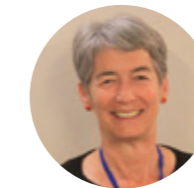
### EXECUTIVE BOARD



**Zoljargal BANZRAGCH**  
(Vice President)  
Mongolia  
Mongolian National Climbing Federation



**Lode BECKERS**  
(General Secretary)  
Belgium  
Climbing & Mountaineering Belgium



**Françoise JAQUET**  
(Treasurer)  
Switzerland  
Swiss Alpine Club



**Amit CHOWDHURY**  
(Board Member)  
India  
Indian Mountaineering Foundation



**Mahmood HASHEMI**  
(Board Member)  
Iran  
Iran Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation



**Martin LASCANO**  
(Board Member)  
Argentina  
Federación Argentina de Ski y Andinismo



## UIAA Management Committee Members

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CONTINENTAL REPRESENTATIVES



**Africa:**  
**Paul CARSTENSEN**

*South Africa*

Mountain Club of South Africa



**Asia:**  
**Young HOON OH**

*Korea*

Korean Alpine Federation



**Central & S. America:**  
**Willy MONTENEGRO**

*Chile*

Federación de Andinismo de Chile



**Europe:**  
**Anne ARRAN**

*United Kingdom*

British Mountaineering Council



**North America:**  
**Phil POWERS**

*United States*

American Alpine Club



**Oceania:**  
**Stuart GRAY**

*New Zealand*

New Zealand Alpine Club

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE LARGEST FEDERATION REPRESENTATIVES



**Jean MICZKA**

*France*

Fédération française des clubs alpins et de montagne



**Josef KLENNER**

*Germany*

German Alpine Club



**Juan JESÚS IBÁÑEZ MARTÍN**

*Spain*

Federación Española de Deportes de Montaña y Escalada

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS



**Simon ALDEN**

*Malta*

Malta Climbing Club



**Joachim DRIESSEN**

*Netherlands*

Royal Dutch Climbing and Mountaineering Club



**Kul Bahadur GURUNG**

*Nepal*

Nepal Mountaineering Association



**Steve LONG**

*United Kingdom*

British Mountaineering Council



**Stein TRONSTAD**

*Norway*

The Norwegian Climbing Federation



**Silvio CALVI**

*Italy*

International Skyrunning Federation

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UNIT MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE (NON-VOTING)



## UIAA Office

The UIAA Office is located in Bern. The staff working in Switzerland are responsible for running the daily operations of the UIAA. It is the staff's duty and commitment to serve UIAA members and to support, coordinate, plan and implement the activities and decisions of the Executive Board, the Management Committee and UIAA Commissions. On an operational level, the UIAA continues to benefit from a close collaboration with the Swiss Alpine Club (SAC). Detailed profiles of the Office staff will be available on the updated UIAA website (as of summer 2023).



**NILS GLATTHARD**

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

[nilsglatthard@theuiaa.org](mailto:nilsglatthard@theuiaa.org)

Started at the UIAA in **2017**



**STEPHANIE STETTbacher**

OFFICE COORDINATOR & SAFETY LABEL ADMINISTRATOR

[office@theuiaa.org](mailto:office@theuiaa.org)

Started at the UIAA in **2013**



**ROBERT ADIE**

SPORT EVENTS COORDINATOR

[rob.adie@theuiaa.org](mailto:rob.adie@theuiaa.org)

Started at the UIAA in **2017**

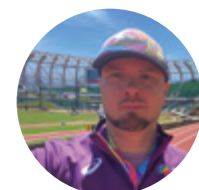


**CAROL KAHOUN-KAUER**

PROJECT MANAGER

[carol.kahoun@theuiaa.org](mailto:carol.kahoun@theuiaa.org)

Started at the UIAA in **2016**



**PETER BOURNE**

COMMUNICATION MANAGER

[peter.bourne@theuiaa.org](mailto:peter.bourne@theuiaa.org)

Started at the UIAA in **2015**



**AGNÈS SEMELET**

ACCOUNTANT

[agnes.semelet@theuiaa.org](mailto:agnes.semelet@theuiaa.org)

Started at the UIAA in **2010**

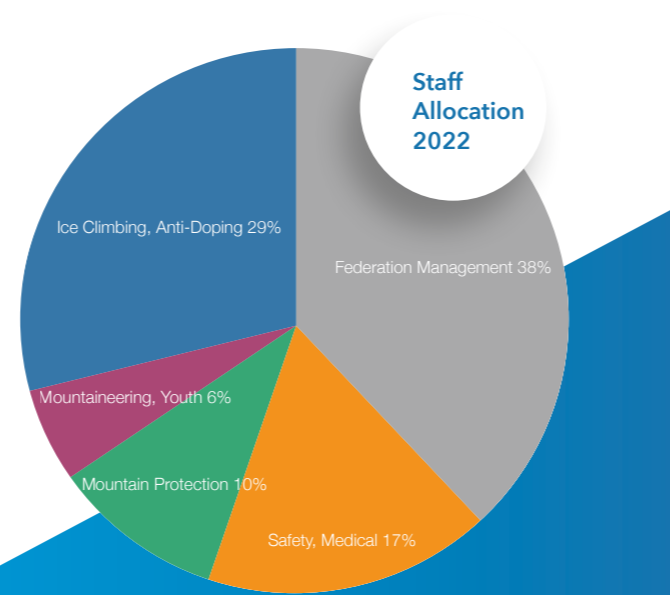


**TOM TUSHAW**

SOCIAL MEDIA

[tomtushaw@theuiaa.org](mailto:tomtushaw@theuiaa.org)

Started at the UIAA in **2021**



## UIAA Experts

A UIAA communication series focuses on the backgrounds of some of the hundreds of experts who volunteer precious time and considerable dedication to the federation each year. Below are a selection of profiles covered to date.

For further details on how to volunteer for the UIAA, or join a UIAA Commission, please contact the UIAA Office.



*Marija Andjelkovic*

Anti-Doping Commission

PSS, Serbia



*Buddha Basnyat*

Medical Commission

HRA, Nepal



*Harshwanti Bisht*

Mountain Protection Commission

IMF, India



*Klara Dvorakova*

Legal Experts Commission

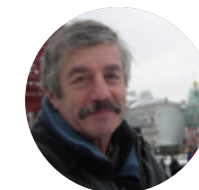
CMLA, Czech Republic



*Stephen Gladieux*

Safety Commission

AAC, United States



*Pierre Humblet*

Court

CMBEL, Belgium



*Juan Jesús Ibañez Martín*

Management Committee

FEDME, Spain



*Lionel Kiener*

Safety Commission

SAC, Switzerland



*Greg Moseley*

Management Committee

MCSA, South Africa



*Mrika Nikci*

Youth Commission

KMAF, Kosovo



*Gergo Santha*

Mountaineering Commission

MHSSZ, Hungary



*Joop Spijker*

Mountain Protection Commission

NKBV, Netherlands



## Part 3: Finance & Membership

# PART 3: FINANCE & MEMBERSHIP

## Membership List

The UIAA closed **2022** with **94** Member Associations, comprising **69** full members, **1** unit member, **18** associate members and **6** observer members from **69** different countries, making a total of approximately **3.2** million individual members.

Please note these figures reflect the four membership changes at the **2022** UIAA General Assembly:

### Readmission as full member:

- Club Alpino Italiano, **Italy**

### New full members:

- Federacion Ecuatoriana de Andinismo y Escalada, **Ecuador**
- Federación Deportiva Peruana de Escalada, **Peru**

### New associate member:

- Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports, **India**



Promoting and encouraging solidarity between its member associations has always been a core principle of the UIAA. A recent example has been the support that the Polish Mountaineering Association (PZA) has offered Ukrainian climbers ever since the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The PZA has created a project to offer Ukrainian climbers accommodation, training and coaching support, participation in international competition, medical assistance and emergency relief. *To discover more and financially support the project click [here](#).*

Photo left: Mount Rinjani, Indonesia

## FULL MEMBERS

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
1	Afghanistan Climbing & Mountaineering Federation	ACMF	Afghanistan	2017
2	Albanian Mountaineering Federation	FSHALTM	Albania	2017
3	Federación Argentina de Ski y Andinismo	FASA	Argentina	1951
4	Verband Alpiner Vereine Österreichs	VAVOE	Austria	1951
5	Bangladesh Mountaineering Federation	BMF	Bangladesh	2013
6	Climbing & Mountaineering Belgium	CMBEL	Belgium	1932
7	Mountaineering Association of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina	PS FBIH	Bosnia - Herzegovina	1997
8	Confederação Brasileira de Montanhismo e Escalada	CBME	Brazil	2005
9	Bulgarian Climbing and Mountaineering Federation	BCMF	Bulgaria	1935
10	Alpine Club of Canada	ACC	Canada	1947
11	Federación de Andinismo de Chile	FEACH	Chile	1956
12	Chinese Mountaineering Association	CMA	China	1985
13	Costa Rican Federation of Mountain Sports	FECODEM	Costa Rica	2019
14	Croatian Mountaineering Association - Hrvatski Planinarski Savez	HPS	Croatia	1991
15	Cyprus Mountaineering Climbing & Orienteering Federation	CMCOF	Cyprus	2007
16	Czech Mountaineering Federation - Cesky Horolezecky Svaz	CMF	Czech Republic	1932
17	Danish Alpine Club - Dansk Bjergklub	DBKK	Denmark	1977
18	Federacion Ecuatoriana de Andinismo y Escalada	FEDANE	Ecuador	2022



	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
19	Finnish Climbing Association	FCA	Finland	1995
20	Fédération française des clubs alpins et de montagne	FFCAM	France	1932
21	Mountaineering and Climbing Association of Georgia	MCAG	Georgia	1933
22	German Alpine Club - Deutscher Alpenverein	DAV	Germany	1932
23	Hellenic Federation of Mountaineering and Climbing	EOOA	Greece	1936
24	Federacion Nacional de Andinismo de Guatemala	FNAG	Guatemala	2017
25	China Hong Kong Mountaineering and Climbing Union	CHKMCU	Hong Kong	1988
26	Hungarian Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation	MHSSz	Hungary	2001
27	Indian Mountaineering Foundation	IMF	India	1981
28	Indonesia Sport Climbing and Mountaineering Federation	FPTI	Indonesia	2016
29	I.R. Iran Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation	IMSCF	Iran	1972
30	Mountaineering Ireland	MI	Ireland	2004
31	Israel Climbers' Club	ILCC	Israel	2009
32	Club Alpino Italiano	CAI	Italy	1932
33	Japan Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Association	JMSCA	Japan	1980
34	Mountaineering & Sport Climbing Federation of the Republic of Kazakhstan	MSCRFK	Kazakhstan	2017
35	Korean Alpine Club	CAC	Korea	1969
36	Kosovo Mountaineering and Alpinist Federation	KMAF	Kosovo	2011
37	Liechtensteiner Alpenverein	LAV	Liechtenstein	1959
38	Lithuanian Mountaineering Association	LMA	Lithuania	1991
39	Luxembourg Federations (F.L.E.R.A.)	FLERA	Luxembourg	1938
40	National Adventure Association of Malaysia	NAA	Malaysia	2015
41	Malta Climbing Club	MCC	Malta	2018

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
42	Federación Mexicana de Deportes de Montaña y Escalada A.C	FMDMyE	Mexico	2020
43	Club Alpin Monégasque	CAM	Monaco	1994
44	Mongolian National Sport Climbing Federation	MNSCF	Mongolia	2010
45	Federation Royale Marocaine de Ski et Montagnes	FRMSM	Morocco	2017
46	Nepal Mountaineering Association	NMA	Nepal	1975
47	Royal Dutch Climbing and Mountaineering Club	NKBV	Netherlands	1932
48	New Zealand Alpine Club	NZAC	New Zealand	1932
49	Norwegian Alpine Club - Norsk Tindeklub	NTK	Norway	1965
50	Mountaineering Federation of North Macedonia	FPSM	North Macedonia	1999
51	Alpine Club of Pakistan	ACP	Pakistan	1974
52	Federación Deportiva Peruana de Escalada	FEDPE	Peru	2022
53	Polish Mountaineering Association	PZA	Poland	1932
54	Clube Nacional de Montanhismo	CNM	Portugal	1955
55	Romanian Alpine Club - Clubul Alpin Român	CAR	Romania	1938
56	Russian Mountaineering Federation	RMF	Russia	1994
57	Saudi Climbing & Hiking Federation	SCHF	Saudi Arabia	2020
58	Mountaineering Association of Serbia - Planinarski Savez Srbije	PSS	Serbia	2002
59	Slovak Mountaineering Union - Slovensky Horolezecky Spolok	JAMES	Slovakia	1932
60	Alpine Association of Slovenia	PZS	Slovenia	1991
61	The Mountain Club of South Africa	MCSA	South Africa	1992
62	Federación Española de Deportes de Montaña y Escalada	FEDME	Spain	1932
63	Swedish Climbing Federation - Svenska Klätterförbundet	SKF	Sweden	1973
64	Swiss Alpine Club	SAC	Switzerland	1932

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
65	Chinese Taipei Alpine Association	CTAA	Chinese Taipei	1989
66	Turkish Mountaineering Federation - Turkiye Dacilik Federasyonu	TDF	Turkey	1967
67	Ukrainian Mountaineering and Climbing Federation	UMCF	Ukraine	1991
68	British Mountaineering Council	BMC	United Kingdom	1947
69	American Alpine Club	AAC	United States	1932

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
1	Mountain Club of Western Caspian University, Azerbaijan	MCWCU	Azerbaijan	2020
2	Ecole Nationale d'Escalade du Québec	ENEQ	Canada	
3	Fédération Québécoise de la Montagne et de l'Escalade	FQME	Canada	1975
4	Danish Climbing Federation	DCF	Denmark	1998
5	Nehru Institute for Mountaineering	NIM	India	2011
6	Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports	ABVIMAS	India	2022
7	Alpenverein Südtirol	AVS	Italy	1974
8	Korean Alpine Federation	KAF	Korea	1970
9	The Norwegian Climbing Federation - Norges Klatreforbund	NKF	Norway	1993
10	Federação de Campismo e Montanhismo de Portugal	FCMP	Portugal	1992
11	Federação Portuguesa de Montanhismo e Escalada	FPME	Portugal	2004
12	Centre Excursionista de Catalunya	CEC	Spain	1932
13	Basque Mountaineering Federation - Euskal Mendizale Federazioa	EMF	Spain	2002
14	Federació d'Entitats Excursionistes de Catalunya	FEEC	Spain	2000

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
15	Vereinigung der Akademischen Alpen-Clubs der Schweiz	VAAC	Switzerland	1985
16	Chinese Taipei Mountaineering Association	CTMA	Chinese Taipei	1993
17	The Alpine Club (*)	AC	United Kingdom	1934
18	Alaskan Alpine Club	ALAC	United States	1985

(\*) Alpine Club first joined UIAA in 1934, rejoined in 2003

### OBSERVER MEMBERS

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
1	Czech International Mountain Leader Association	CZIML	Czech Republic	2011
2	Union of International Mountain Leaders Association	UIMLA	France/ International	2019
3	International Commission for Alpine Rescue	ICAR	International	2020
4	Clube de Actividades de Ar Livre	CAAL	Portugal	2011
5	International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations	IFMGA/ UIAGM	Switzerland/ International	1987
6	International Slackline Association	ISA	Switzerland/ International	2019

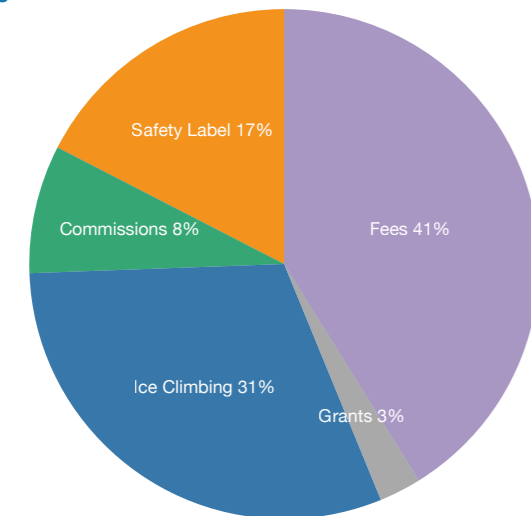
### UNIT MEMBER

	NAME	CODE	COUNTRY	JOINED UIAA
1	International Skyrunning Federation	ISF	Switzerland/ International	2016

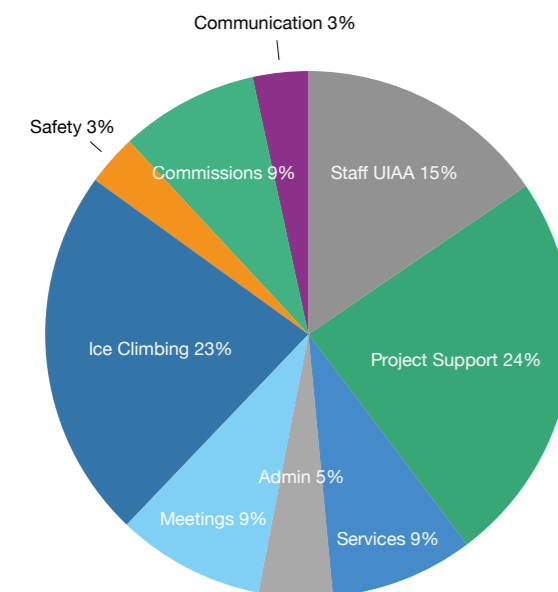


## Finance Report

### Income



### Expenses



## Profit and Loss Statement 2022

CHF	BUDGET 2022	RESULTS 2022	NOTES	BUDGET 2023
<b>INCOME</b>				
Fees	305'000	308'900	1	308'000
Grants	20'000	20'000	4	20'000
Commissions	510'500	422'300	9-14	491'500
Donations, others		600	16	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>835'500</b>	<b>751'800</b>		<b>819'500</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Staff for Federation Management	115'000	109'200	19	110'000
Staff for Commission and WG Support	180'000	170'700	20	195'000
Services	39'200	62'300	22	52'500
Administration, Office	25'600	31'600	30	30'400
Meetings - GA, MC, EB, Office	59'500	64'400	34 - 39	45'500
Projects and Commissions	392'500	243'100	40 - 47	335'800
Communication	31'000	23'500	50	32'000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>842'800</b>	<b>704'800</b>		<b>801'200</b>
<b>RESULT OF THE YEAR</b>	<b>-7'300</b>	<b>47'000</b>	55	<b>18'300</b>
Allocation to General Provision		-40'000		
<b>NET RESULT</b>	<b>-7'300</b>	<b>7'000</b>		<b>18'300</b>

## Profit and Loss Statement 2022 - Notes

NOTES	INCOME 2022	CHF	COMMENTS
1	Membership fees	308'900	3'900 higher than budget. By the close of 2022, 93% of UIAA membership fee invoices were paid by our member federations, 10'000 outstanding.
4	SAC contribution	20'000	As per contract
9	IOC ARISF	30'000	18'000 Ice Climbing, 3'000 Youth, 9'000 Anti-Doping
9	Ice Climbing	230'000	100'000 under budget due to reduced event calendar (and less service fee and license income). No World Cup events due to Covid-19 and the war in Ukraine. World Youth and Senior Championships took place in a joint format. 80'000 cash sponsorship, portion of 2021 payment, were used for the 2022 season. 80'000 in-kind received and distributed.
11	Safety	130'600	Safety Label fees and lab certification fees - 7'400 higher than budget
12	Medical	0	5'000 lower than budget, no sponsorship income
13	Training	31'500	8'000 higher than budget due to increased training activities, contributions from the Petzl Foundation, and skills certification
14	Mountain Protection	27'000	Sponsorship income as budgeted
16	Donations	200	Minimal income from donations, no income was budgeted

NOTES	EXPENSES 2022	CHF	COMMENTS
19	Staff - Federation	109'000	6'000 lower than budget and previous years, no salary increases, 25'000 insurance compensation received, reduced employment % due to reduced Ice Climbing calendar
20	Staff - Commissions	171'000	9'000 lower than budget and previous years, no salary increases, insurance compensation received, reduced employment % due to reduced Ice Climbing calendar
22	Freelance experts	58'500	22'500 higher than budget - additional freelance expert hired to temporarily replace project manager (maternity leave), additional freelance expert at 20% for social media
30	Administrative expenses	7'600	2'600 higher than budget, includes VAT (value added tax) for 2022, half-fare/GA passes
34	General Assembly	11'000	19'000 lower than budget due to revised allocation of travel and accommodation expenses to functions (EB, CP, Office) instead of events (GA, MC); includes costs for infrastructure, meeting technology (rent, Meeting Owl), official functions, external moderators/speakers, guests
35	MC meetings	100	See comment in line 34, 9'900 lower than budget
36	Executive Board	22'700	See comment in line 34; includes travel and accommodation for EB when attending GA, MC Spring, some individual in-person meetings in Bern; all EB meetings are held online, except if combined with MC or GA; 7'700 higher than budget
37	Commission Presidents	13'700	See comment in line 34; includes travel and accommodation for CP when attending GA, MC Spring; 13'700 higher than budget
38	Office	16'900	See comment in line 34; includes travel and accommodation for Office staff when attending GA, MC Spring; 12'400 higher than budget

NOTES	EXPENSES 2022	CHF	COMMENTS
39	Total meetings	64'400	4'900 higher than budget - travel and accommodation for Skopje and Banff meetings were higher than expected
40	Mountaineering, Access	800	1'700 lower than budget, no expenses for projects
41	Youth, Rock Climbing	400	6'600 lower than budget, no expenses for projects, no Rock-Climbing Festival award
42	Ice Climbing, Anti-Doping	161'400	111'600 lower than budget due to reduced calendar; does not include staff budget; compliant with the 10% portion of membership fee income that can be used for Ice Climbing (as per MC decision)
44	Safety	21'800	23'200 lower than budget due to delayed projects
45	Medical	3'400	11'600 lower than budget due to postponed projects and project-funding through partners (example: Women in Altitude conference)
46	Training	38'600	15'600 higher than budget due to increased training activity and complete rework/re-design of the Alpine Handbook
47	Mountain Protection, Climate Change	16'600	10'400 lower than budget due to delayed projects
50	E-Communication	16'700	6'300 lower than budget, includes 5'000 budget re-allocation for new e-devices for the Office

NOTES	RESULT 2022	CHF	COMMENTS
55	Surplus	47'300	54'300 better than budget

### Remark concerning accrual accounting (Expenses 2022):

The following amounts for unfinished projects, total CHF 59'100, based on the concept of accrual accounting, should appear on the balance sheet of 31 December 2021. Instead, because of the solid financial situation in 2021, on recommendation of the Finance and Audit WG, these amounts were included in the 2021 profit and loss statement. In 2022, CHF 41'600 was spent, CHF 17'500 remains to be spent on these unfinished projects.

NOTES	EXPENSES 2022	CHF	COMMENTS
44	Safety	20'000	Testing of products to new corrosion standards: 10'000 spent, 10'000 provision for ongoing testing project
44	Safety	5'000	ISA textile testing project: 2'500 spent, 2'500 provision for ongoing testing project
45	Medical	5'000	Print publication of medical recommendations: 0 spent, pending project, execution 2023
46	Training	-1'900	Database: 4'100 were included in the 2021 PLS, 6'000 spent
50	E-Communication	25'000	Website update/re-launch: 23'000 spent, 2'000 provision for ongoing work



## Balance Sheet

ASSETS - CHF	31 DECEMBER 2021	31 DECEMBER 2022	NOTES
Cash and cash equivalents	636'055	489'441	A
Receivables	4'052	1'669	B
Prepayments and accrued income	13'790	74'078	C
Inventory	5'000	5'000	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>658'897</b>	<b>570'188</b>	

LIABILITIES - CHF	31 DECEMBER 2021	31 DECEMBER 2022	NOTES
<b>Third party liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable	2'450	10'978	D
Other short term liabilities	0	0	
Accrued expenses and deferred income	242'949	90'174	E
<b>Total third party liabilities</b>	<b>245'399</b>	<b>101'152</b>	

Equity accounts	31 DECEMBER 2021	31 DECEMBER 2022	NOTES
Capital of the association as per 1 January	342'084	298'125	F
General provision	78'989	87'517	G
Designated equity accounts: Solidarity; Access and Conservation	36'384	36'384	H
Increase of reserves and provision	-60'000	0	
Result of the year	16'041	47'010	
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>413'498</b>	<b>469'036</b>	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>658'897</b>	<b>570'188</b>	

## Notes

ASSETS	CHF (*)	COMMENT
A Cash and cash equivalents (*)	-146'000	Youngone paid sponsoring amount for 2023 in January 2023 - in previous years, the amount was paid before the end of the previous year; event organisers paid most services fees early in 2023 - in 2021 some of the fees were paid before the end of the previous year
B Receivables (*)	-2'000	Balance in favour of UIAA resulting from social charges
C Prepayments and accrued income (*)	+60'000	Pre-payments for 2022 Ice Climbing season (52'000); accrued income for membership 2022 and Training Standard fees

LIABILITIES, FUNDS	CHF (*)	COMMENT
D Accounts payable (*)	+8'000	Social charges (BVG)
E Accrued expenses and deferred income (*)	-152'000	See note A
F Capital of the association	343'135	As per 31 December 2022
G General provision (*)	+8'000	Resulting from favourable exchange rates
H Solidarity fund Access & Conservation fund	33'620 2'764	As per 31 December 2022

(\*) Amounts compared to the Balance Sheet of 31 December 2021

## Proposal to the UIAA General Assembly regarding allocation of the result of the year 2022

	CHF
General provision 31 December 2022	87'516
<b>New allocation to general provision</b>	<b>40'000</b>
General provision after new allocation	127'516
Net result	7'011



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Hodlerstrasse 5  
3001 Bern

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REVIEW REPORT

To the general assembly of UIAA - International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation, Berne

## Review Report on the Financial Statements

In accordance with your instructions, we have reviewed the accompanying of UIAA - International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation at December 31, 2022 for the year then ended.

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Management Committee. Our responsibility is to issue a report on these financial statements based on our review.

We conducted our review in accordance with the Swiss Auditing Standard 910. This Standard requires that we plan and perform the review to obtain moderate assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. A review is limited primarily to inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures applied to financial data and thus provides less assurance than an audit. We have not performed an audit and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the accompanying financial statements do not comply with Swiss law and the company's articles of association.

We draw your attention to the fact that the general assembly has not taken place within six months after the balance sheet date as required by article 699 para. 2 Swiss CO.

Berne, March 23, 2023

BDO Ltd

Laurence Gilliéron  
Swiss Certified Accountant

i.V. Dimitri Bretting

Enclosures  
Financial Statements

BDO Ltd, a limited company under Swiss law, incorporated in Zurich, forms part of the international BDO Network of independent member firms.



Finance Report by

**Françoise Jaquet**

UIAA Treasurer

**Lode Beckers**

UIAA General Secretary

**Nils Glatthard**

UIAA Director of Operations

**Agnes Semelet**

UIAA Accountant



# Part 4: Continental Reports



The UIAA's Continental Representatives undertake valuable work in representing UIAA member federations in their respective regions at a Management Committee level. The various continental bodies recognised by the UIAA serve as networks helping to address issues, projects and interests at a regional level. Together these reports offer an insight into the global state of the mountains. Each one of the Continental Reports addresses updates from individual members and common trends and talking points. As of 2022, the UIAA in collaboration with the Continental Representatives, produces a global member's newsletter designed to share the latest information from the UIAA's 94 member associations from 69 countries.

The UIAA also recognises the following Continental organisations:

- **Asia:**  
Union of Asian Alpine Associations (UAAA)
- **Europe:**  
European Mountaineering Association (EUMA)
- **Latin America:**  
Pan-American Union of Mountaineering and Climbing (UPAME)

Carpathian Mountains, Ukraine



Mountain range in Namibia

# PART 4: CONTINENTAL REPORTS

## Africa

The continent of Africa comprises a number of mountain clubs/national federations: The Mountain Club of South Africa (MCSA), the Mountain Clubs of Namibia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Kenya, Uganda, Kilimanjaro (in Tanzania), Morocco and the Climbing Club of Zambia. Only the MCSA and Morocco, through the Federation Royale Marocaine de Ski et Sports de Montagne are members of the UIAA. However, Namibia is a direct member of the MCSA.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

Progress has been made on forming closer relationships with the Uganda, Kenya, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Kilimanjaro Mountain Clubs. The positive news is that the Zambia Climbing Federation has recently joined the Confederation of African Mountain Clubs (CAMC) and is interested in joining the UIAA.

Regular communication now occurs with the members of the CAMC and includes UIAA news and MCSA newsletters. Following on the proposal of Maggie O'Toole for a Pan-African meet, the MCSA received the proposal for a climbing/hiking meet at Mt Mulanje: Africa's Island in the Sky. There is a strong possibility that a Pan-African meet will be held in 2023. This would build on the 2022 joint meeting between the MCSA (Magaliesberg and Johannesburg sections) and the Namibia Mountain Club (which is also a MCSA section). Johannesburg section expeditions committee member, Marthinus Swart, has become involved in this initiative.

A joint meet was held in August 2022 between the MCSA (Johannesburg and Magaliesberg

sections) and the Namibia Mountain Club to climb the iconic, granite Spitzkoppe and to explore the climbs in the Erongo Mountains at Omandumba. A further meet at Spitzkoppe will be held in July 2023.

The MCSA continues to grow, develop and evolve. To this end the federation is excited to welcome a new section: Limpopo. It was created in November with approximately 73 members, nine of whom are existing MCSA members.

### CLIMATE CHANGE TASKFORCE (CCTF)

An initial meeting of an informal MCSA CCTF was held during 2022 National Camp. Maretha Alant who is also part of the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission chaired the meeting. The members who volunteer for this vital committee are Norman and Margie Owen-Smith, Ed Kay-Shuttleworth, Marietjie Louw, Lesley McGwynn, Christa van Schalkwyk, Hanlie Schmidt, Chris Tobler, Colleen Flanagan, Morgan Griffiths and Bronwyn Eagan. The aim is that each section will nominate at least one representative to serve on the subcommittee.



The purpose of this committee is to guide and advise sections on how to tackle the climate change challenge in line with UIAA and UN goals. The meeting also decided to: focus on certain other aspects: firstly, **a spatial representation of MCSA properties and huts**, including the preparation of a map showing the location of mountain club properties with the national parks, nature reserves and biosphere reserves to see how the MCSA links with landscape scale conservation estates, vegetation and if the properties are in Strategic Water Source Areas or Critical Biodiversity Areas.

Secondly, **to assess the ecological/climate change sensitivity of each property** and the properties as a whole; thirdly **develop a State of Environment Report for MCSA properties** based on key indicators that are monitored: alien vegetation, fire, biodiversity, erosion and water. Fourthly, **run the Department of Environmental Affairs web-based screening tool for each property to show the environmental sensitivity**. Finally, **to monitor MCSA member contributions to conservation and also to describe how climate change is affecting mountaineering in each section**.

### 2023: THE YEAR AHEAD

Planning is underway between members of the Johannesburg section of the MCSA and other members of CAMC to hold expeditions in Africa during 2023 and 2024. This is part of an initiative by the MCSA Johannesburg section to revitalise the expedition ethos in the MCSA and the continent as a whole.

#### Report by

#### PAUL CARSTENSEN

UIAA Management Committee,  
Continental Representative for Africa  
**Mountain Club of South Africa, MCSA**



The village of Kalpa and the Kinnaur Kailash Himalaya mountain range

## Asia

*The Union of Asian Alpine Associations (UAAA), founded in 1994, is the leading mountaineering and climbing organisation in Asia. It represents climbers and mountaineers on one of the largest continents in terms of population and density of high mountains.*

In 2022 most member federations in Asia completed more or less what had initially been expected, while the following are worth a specific mention.

### China

The **Chinese Mountaineering Association (CMA)** organised a number of its large national and regional level events, such as the International Mountain Outdoor Sports Open, the CHINA100 Mountain Cross-Country series, the Mount Tai Climbing Competition and national hiking events. The CMA also managed 76 sessions of mountain rescue training courses and over 500 gatherings for summer youth camps across the country participated in by 130,000 students. The CMA has also completed the creation of 32 mountaineering and so-called fitness trails, which now extends over 3000km in total.

### Chinese Taipei

For the **Chinese Taipei Mountaineering Association (CTMA)**, Mr Hank Hwang was re-elected as President. He will be in charge until 2026.

### Korea

The **Korean Alpine Federation (KAF)** organised dry-tooling competitions, mountaineering events, and dozens of training sessions, among

### Asia in Numbers

21

Number of  
**UIAA member  
associations in Asia**

18

Number of  
**countries represented**

many others. In particular, KAF organised three youth expeditions during the summer to Kyrgyzstan, Nepal and Australia. This after three years of cancellation due to the pandemic. The first youth expedition was launched in 2001, and it is one of the more popular events attracting interest from young people across the country.

### Nepal

The **Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA)** successfully organised the 7th Mountain Festival at Pokhara, 10-11 December, with a variety of programmes, including documentary screenings, an exhibition of traditional mountain sports, and in particular several interesting sessions participated in by students, tourism entrepreneurs and academics.

### ANNUAL CONTINENTAL MEETINGS

#### UAAA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The UAAA General Assembly took place in Delhi, India, on 27 November, at the home of the Indian Mountaineering Foundation.

The meeting format was hybrid with both online and offline presence. Representatives from the IMF (India), NMA (Nepal), JMA (Japan), IMSCF (Iran) and KAF (South Korea) participated in person, and those from JWAF (Japan),

BMF (Bangladesh), MSCFRK (Kazakhstan), and CHKMCU (Hongkong) joined via Zoom.

Along with presentations from each member federation about general matters, such as their notable achievements and interesting issues of the year, Mr. Muni, the Vice President of the IMF presented details about recent tourism developments across the Indian Himalaya and in the Sikkim Himalaya in particular. The IMF President, Professor Harshwanti Bisht, who has expertise in environmental science and is a member of the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission, was elected chair of the UAAA's Mountain Protection Committee.

Among other major decisions made was that the 2023 UAAA GA will take place in Kathmandu, Nepal, in November. Also, as 2024 will mark the 30th anniversary of the UAAA, the representatives agreed that the 2024 GA should take place in Japan - where the organisation was inaugurated - alongside ceremonies that celebrate the anniversary. Last but not least, it was agreed to host the first traditional Rock Climbing Festival of Asia in Kazakhstan in August.

### 2023: THE YEAR AHEAD

In Nepal, the NMA will be busy organising several events, including the 20th Anniversary of International Mountain Museum (IMM) in

Pokhara, on 5 February. Alongside the usual presence of government figures, dozens of local students enjoyed themselves at the quiz and essay competitions. Jointly with Everest Climbers Association in Nepal (ESA), the NMA will also celebrate Women's Day on 8 March by honouring 35 Nepali women who summited Everest.

2023 marks the 70th anniversary of the first ascent of Everest, and the NMA, in collaboration with the country's Ministry of Culture, Tourism, and Civil Aviation and the Nepal Tourism Board, is getting ready to organise the Everest Platinum Jubilee Celebration and Summiters' Summit on 29 May.

UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup events are one of the opportunities where a number of member federations in Asia provide a pathway for competition athletes. KAF will host the Asian leg of the UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup in the traditional location of Cheongsong (January) with a vast number of Asian climbers competing across the World Tour with notable mentions to Japan, Korea and Mongolia.

The CMA is planning to hold a Skyrunning event in China, along with the usual national-level hiking and running competitions.

In South Korea, the Ministry of Environment issued a statement announcing that the ministry tentatively allowed the long-debated



Competition ice climbing returns to Asia.  
Photo: UIAA/Rhea Kang

construction of a ropeway system near the summit of Mt. Seoraksan. **This was sternly criticised by several NGOs and provoked anger from many mountaineers, including members of the Corean Alpine Club (CAC). In an official statement that staunchly condemning the ministry and its decision, the CAC also mentioned the UIAA's continued efforts against the many ropeway and railway construction projects across the Alps.**

#### Report by

#### YOUNG HOON OH

UIAA Management Committee,  
Continental Representative for Asia  
**Korean Alpine Federation, KAF**



## Central and South America

*The Central and South American region has maintained a constant growth over the past decade, which was only halted during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. Currently the efforts of UIAA members in the region have focused on returning to normality, encouraging the development of competition sports, expeditions, technical training and seminars. This process has been slow and demanding, but there is great confidence in returning to the momentum built up to 2019 during the year 2023.*

### EXPANSION IN 2022

*At the 2022 UIAA General Assembly, the long-standing ambition of the UIAA to welcome more associations from the region came to fruition. New full members from Ecuador (Federación Ecuatoriana de Andinismo y Escalada) and Peru (Federación Deportiva Peruana de Escalada), great exponents of mountaineering on the continent, are now part of the UIAA family.*

At a continental level, the UIAA has begun discussions with federations in Bolivia, Colombia and Honduras to encourage their incorporation in the UIAA in the near future.

Added to the above is the reactivation, during 2022, of the Pan American Confederation of Mountain Sports and Climbing (UPAME), which brings together countries from all over the continent and which was made up of countries from Mexico in the north, to Chile and Argentina in the south. The reestablishment of UPAME will ensure closer collaboration between Pan American federations and will yield many results already in the short term.

### ACTIVITIES IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA IN 2022

As indicated in the 2021 UIAA Annual Report, sport activities suffered a setback due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The region is facing a restructuring process of federation and sport development. The good news is that 2022 showed clear signs of recovery in this aspect.

During 2022, the focus of the federations was on recovering access to the natural environment and normalising sports activities for their members, achieving significant progress that is expected to be consolidated during 2023-2024.

Within these advances it is worth mentioning the declaration of a natural park to the Río Olivares sector, in the foothills of Santiago de Chile, and from where one can access such important peaks as Tupungato, 6570m and Marmolejo, on the border with Argentina, in addition to some of the most important rock climbing sectors in the Metropolitan Region of Chile. This park, of more than 100,000 hectares, will provide protection and development to an area of great natural wealth and of significant importance for mountaineering in Chile.

In this recovery work, the local mountaineering federation contributed with its knowledge as well as with technical considerations regarding

the requirements and access controls necessary to a fragile sector that must be properly preserved.

At a regional level, work continues on the review of procedures and training of rescue teams, in order to improve emergency care when required. The interest shown in other mountain sports has continued to rise and it is an opportunity to support the training of new converts to mountaineering in all its forms, which constitutes an administrative and management challenge and new processes for the federations of the region, in order to attract new athletes to the federated institutional sphere. Work must be done to channel this interest towards clubs and formal associations, in order to avoid accidents and mortality due to inexperience.

### ACHIEVEMENTS AT A REGIONAL LEVEL

#### Sports and Institutional Achievements

During the year 2022 it was again possible to host a number of interesting activities at a sports and administrative level.

#### Federation of Mountaineering and Skiing of Argentina (FASA)



FASA has developed an extensive work programme, among which the following milestones stand out:

**First Edition of FASA Awards:** For the first time, an award was made for the best mountain

activities, in various categories such as rock bouldering, sport climbing, high-altitude mountaineering, literature, alpine climbing, and more.

**EJA 2022:** For the third year, the Young Mountaineers programme was carried out, in which boys up to 23 years old participated in four modules (rock climbing, ice climbing and glaciers, high mountaineering and mountain skiing).

**Projected Activities for 2023:** Expedition to the Cerro Castillo Circuit to be carried out with members of the EJA programme. **Other initiatives planned:** The aforementioned FASA awards to the most outstanding athletes; a Piedra Parada Child and Youth Meeting; a Children and Youth Mountain Meeting (San Juan), a Children and Youth Mountain Meeting (El Chalten). FASA will also work on the logging of mountain accidents, in conjunction with the assistance commissions of the clubs that contain said commissions.

#### Peruvian Mountaineering Federation (FEDPE)



During 2022 FEDPE developed an extensive programme of activities including:

**"Mountaineer Training" Programme:** This programme aims to provide the necessary tools for the safe practice of climbing activities in the mountain environment. This programme will extend during 2023 and 2024, to culminate with an application to UIAA Training Standards

where they will have the support of the Chilean Mountaineering Federation (FEACH) to achieve this objective.

**Recognition of young sporting values:** FEDPE has developed a monitoring programme for young athletes with a view to supporting their sporting development in the high mountains and the first results are expected to be achieved in 2023. In the same way, FEDPE continued with its High Summits programme, which aims to open new routes in the five most important summits of the Cordillera Blanca

**Projected activities for 2023:** To resume the Himalaya expedition that was suspended in 2022 due to a lack of funding, maintain its sports training programme and increase the number of mountain and rescue specialists.

#### Federation of Mountaineering and Climbing of Ecuador (FEDANE)



FEDANE carried out a restructuring based on its new "Strategic Development Plan" which aims to provide the basis for the sustainable development of mountaineering in the country.

In sport, one witnessed the presence of several outstanding Ecuadorian climbers in the 8000m circuit of the Himalayas: Santiago Quintero on K2, as well as the achievements of Karl Egloff and Nicolás Miranda with a speed record in Makalu, to add to the series of records in Aconcagua and other summits of America and Europe.

FEDANE has continued with its high mountains and climbing programme, which is carried out in the Chimborazo, Cotopaxi and Pichincha volcanoes, having achieved the incorporation and certification of nearly 50 new high mountain specialists. This programme will continue during 2023 focused on the "Alta Montaña Invernal."

#### Federación de Andinismo de Chile (FEACH)



FEACH continued to progress in its sports training and recovery projects, among which the following can be cited:

**FEACH Sports Achievement Award:** During 2022, the FEACH Sports Achievement Award was reinstated, which is awarded to all athletes who have demonstrated outstanding abilities or projects. In 2022, five athletes were awarded for their excellence in sports activities.

**Project 6000 in Chile:** During 2022, the project to ascend all the summits above 6000 meters of altitude in the country, close to 45 summits, was completed, a project that was finalised after 15 years of work.

**Celebration of 30 years of the summit of Everest face of Kangshung:** In 2022, the 30th anniversary of the crowning of Mount Everest was celebrated by the Kangshung route, which today continues to be a feat in every sense of the word.

**Summits of the Himalayas:** During 2022, three Chilean expeditions entered the summits of the



Licancabur volcano in the Andes, Chile



Himalaya, achieving new peaks in Makalu and Trango Tower. The third expedition suffered an avalanche in Manaslu, for which it was decided to suspend the summit attempt.

**Accreditation of University Mountain Professionals:** Through an agreement with the DUOC University, FEACH managed to accredit the mid-mountain sports competitions of 60 students of ecotourism and mountaineering, which means that these graduates can count on the most robust training programme in the country. This programme will continue in 2023 with a High Mountain Diploma and a Winter High Mountain Diploma.

**Southern Ice Field Crossing:** A team from FEACH attempted to cross the Southern Ice Field in late winter, a journey that was not completed due to weather difficulties. It is intended to resume this project in 2023.

## 2023: THE YEAR AHEAD

The challenge of the region in 2023 is to generate new opportunities in participation and mountain development, all framed in the natural wealth of the Andes and the innumerable routes that still remain to be discovered.

**The revival of UPAME is a very important subject. For it to succeed it requires the ongoing commitment of all members. Across 2022, UPAME oversaw work being done on a number of administrative projects (UPAME consolidation, incorporation of new members at the regional level), sports (crossing of southern ice fields, climbing of Mount Aconcagua via the Polish Glacier, crossings in El Chaltén, Huascarán, etc) and to integrate Latin American regional development to mountain activities worldwide.**

### Report by

**WILLY MONTENEGRO GARCIA**

UIAA Management Committee,  
Continental Representative for  
Central & South America

**FEACH, Chile**

### Central & South America in Numbers

8

Number of  
**Member associations in  
Central & South America**

8

Number of  
**countries represented**



Credit: Pete Hoang of The Alpine Club of Canada

## North America

*North America includes two full UIAA members: the Alpine Club of Canada (ACC) and the American Alpine Club (AAC) as well as three associate members.*

### THE ALPINE CLUB OF CANADA (ACC)

#### The ACC in 2022

The year was characterised by a gradual return to normal operations. Its membership recovered to pre-pandemic levels, and the ACC was able to welcome guests back to its hostel and back-country huts from late spring onwards.

The appointment of a new President, [Isabelle Daigneault](#), and new Executive Director, [Carine Salvy](#), created momentum for the ACC with the launch of various initiatives to reconnect with its members and modernise its operations. Following a club-wide engagement process to redefine its vision and mission, the ACC Board approved a three-year strategic plan focused on: better serving ACC members and Sections; safety; diversity and inclusion; and the development of an environmental strategy.

The ACC ran its annual general mountaineering camp at International Basin in the Carbonate Range of the Purcell Mountains and its Girls on Ice programme offered three tuition-free educational expeditions based on science, the outdoors and art.

After a two-year suspension, the ACC held its annual Mountain Guides' Ball at the Banff Centre and was thrilled to bring together our communities of ACC and ACMG (Association of Canadian Mountain Guides) members. As the year drew to a close, the ACC focused on internal initiatives to work more closely with its Sections and

members and launch a wide-ranging digital transition so it could better serve the community going forward.

In late October, The ACC hosted the UIAA General Assembly in Banff (*please see dedicated chapter of this Annual Report*). The three-day conference was successful and allowed members from across the world to reconnect in person after two years of virtual meetings. UIAA members present at the GA received a copy of the new Alpine Skills handbook, as well as the ACC's State of the Mountains report. This report is a commitment by the ACC to provide accessible, current, and accurate information about the forces that affect Canadian mountain places, ecosystems, and communities.

#### ACC in 2023, the year ahead

The Alpine Club of Canada will focus on pursuing its transformation with new initiatives and new systems to cater to the needs and expectations of its diverse membership.

While continuing to host its flagship General Mountaineering Camp and most popular camps and courses, the ACC is relaunching international expeditions.

Through Club-wide training, the ACC aims to ensure that safety, equity, diversity, and inclusion are at the forefront of everything it does. Finally, its environmental strategy should help it steer

through complex trade-offs between access and the environment.

The ACC will be developing its system of backcountry huts with new projects, renovations, and plans to roll out renewable energy systems to improve safety and reduce its environmental footprint. The ACC is thrilled to be working with the Association of Canadian Mountain Guides (ACMG), Charlie Locke, and the Lake Louise Ski Area on a replacement hut in the vicinity of the former Abbot Pass Refuge Cabin. The [historic hut had to be removed in June 2022](#) as erosion caused by climate change threatened the hut's foundation.

This year should see the launch of a new website and enhanced communications with the ACC's Sections, members, and partners. The ACC is also looking at financing requirements and seeking to diversify its funding sources. The ACC wants to thank and celebrate all the volunteers who support the organisation in so many ways. It would not be possible without them.

Photo credits:  
Pete Hoang of The Alpine Club  
of Canada





## THE AMERICAN ALPINE CLUB (AAC)

The headline news is that the American Alpine Club is near the end of a thorough search for new leadership. Membership continues to grow. In 2022 the AAC operated a full schedule of Craggin Classic events; all lodging locations were open.



*Climb United*, created to elevate traditionally marginalised voices and explore the blank spots on the climbing community's map, established an Affiliate Support Network. The Affiliate Support Network (ASN) supports affiliate climbing groups with fiduciary services until they obtaining full non-profit status.

Launched just a year ago, the ASN is now spread nationally with seven partners including Cruxing in Color (CO), Queer Climbing Collective (CA), Color the Wasatch (UT), Salt Lake Area Queer Climbers (UT), Escala! (DC), and its first national-level partner, the Adaptive Climbing Group led by Kareemah Batts.

The **Mountain Education Alliance** has scheduled a UIAA auditor to travel to the United States and observe trainings in September. In the meantime, work continues on development of policies and best practices for field programming and education led by our sections and chapters. Responding to feedback to return focus to educational programming, the AAC will prioritise building the necessary infrastructure to support this work through the AAC's volunteer network.

The **Climbing Grief Fund (CGF)** awarded 11 grants for climbers needing financial assistance to access mental health resources with one grant in review and 13 grants remaining to distribute in FY23.

Foundational work continues to deliver a new scope of work that serves the mental and emotional health of the community before needing to respond to a critical event.

### Policy and Advocacy

The Policy Department completed their 18-month plan this past November, achieving 75% of objectives and key results (OKRs). These included organising and launching a grassroots advocacy network, training these advocates on recreation and conservation policy, and partnering with them to launch several targeted campaigns that further the climbing communities agenda. The department also effectively engaged in the midterm election turning out 300% more climbers than in the 2020 general election, which was the AAC's first time running a get out and vote campaign.

### Strategic Projects

- 1) Improving the Climber's Advocacy Network (CAN) education and training opportunities;

- 2) Delivering on four CAN campaigns while continuing to strengthen the network nationally;
- 3) Engaging new government and corporate partners, through its Hill to Crag series in order to identify and obtain funding to supplement the expense of its departmental budget;
- 4) Completing a formal partnership with Yosemite National Park and moving shared goals forward;
- 5) Assisting with the creation of the AAC's Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) principles and identifying ways to more actively advocate for these principles through departmental work.

### Yosemite National Park Engagement

The Policy team travelled to Yosemite National Park to meet with the Park Superintendent and NPS staff in December to outline a partnership agreement.

### Events

The Policy team hosted a Panel Discussion and Film Premiere at the Mount Washington Valley Ice Festival. The panel and film highlighted the recently completed climate research that was accepted for publication in the journal *Frontiers in Human Dynamics*. Panelists included the AAC's former research team and a former AAC Board member. The film, *Freeze/Thaw*, will be released nationally in March 2023.

### Advocacy

The Policy team travelled to Washington DC in early December to advocate for wilderness climbing with partners from the Access Fund

and Outdoor Alliance. Meetings were held with congressional offices over the course of a week with a particular focus on America's Outdoor Recreation Act. While the bill did not pass in the last Congress, it is receiving immense attention already in this legislative session and the AAC is hopeful it will pass successfully.

### Report by

#### PHIL POWERS

UIAA Management Committee,  
Continental Representative for North America  
**American Alpine Club, AAC**

### North America in Numbers



Number of  
**UIAA member  
associations**



Number of  
**countries represented**



Lake Wānaka, New Zealand

## Oceania

*Oceania covers a very large area, much of it ocean, and includes Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific. The region offers climbers outstanding opportunities in both alpine and rock climbing as well as extensive areas of remote wilderness. The region includes only one UIAA member, the New Zealand Alpine Club (NZAC), which includes an active Australian Section. The NZAC was one of the founding members of the UIAA.*

### OCEANIA IN 2022

The year 2022 saw the re-opening of borders and a resurgence in climbing of all types in Oceania by both locals and visitors. Climate change has continued to dramatically impact glaciers and moraines. Increasing frequency of extreme storm events and associated flash flooding is happening all around the region.

As a result the climbing community is facing some challenging physical access issues and increased objective danger from a greater frequency of rock and ice collapses in unstable and unpredictable landscapes. For instance the prime climbing season at Aoraki-Mount Cook, the premier alpine region, has moved earlier by at least two months compared to 20 years ago, to avoid open crevasses and glacier access challenges.

For Australia, access issues to large and well known rock climbing areas have also been under threat for cultural reasons and consequent regulation. In the southern state of Victoria 500 square kilometres of Grampians National Park (traditionally known as Gariwerd), including 4,000 named routes, were closed to climbers

by Park authorities after years of difficult debate and legal arguments, on the basis of the need to protect cultural sites important to traditional owners and to protect ancient rock art. It has been heartening to see the local climbing community's awareness of traditional owners concerns mature through this process but less so the interactions with the Park authorities. There is now a process of site review underway to assess whether some of this very extensive area can be re-opened with appropriate safeguards. Elsewhere climbing activity on Australia's outstanding rock continues to grow apace, across the continent.

In Aotearoa New Zealand access issues are also forefront at crags around the country with landowners increasingly limiting access for a range of reasons including cultural, privacy and health & safety concerns. A wider debate is underway within the outdoor community around engagement with and listening to the concerns of Tangata Whenua, "the people of the land". For instance, a government review of land classification has proposed further land be added to some existing National Parks, but the very idea



of National Parks and associated legal constraints is rejected by some Māori tribes as being a concept imposed on them that runs counter to traditional ways of living with the land. Different models for the management of parks and tribal land are being explored.

The new Aotearoa Climbing Access Trust, supported by the NZAC has worked to negotiate access and on occasions to even purchase crags.

The establishment of the substantial Tūpiki Trust in late 2022, to support climbing and the climbing environment, received generous foundation support from the estate of the late [John Nankervis](#), a prominent New Zealand mountaineer and much loved UIAA continental representative. Tūpiki means “to climb, to ascend” in the Māori language. This trust has already enabled a number of significant projects to proceed including a major renovation of the iconic NZAC 1949 “Aspiring Hut” in the Matukituki Valley, pest control programmes and introducing at-risk youth to the life changing world of climbing and mountains.

The NZAC itself has continued to build its strong reputation as a leader amongst NZ sports bodies, with fully subscribed alpine instruction courses, a popular sport climbing competition, high usage of its alpine hut network and continuing support for mountaineering guidebooks and literature. **The NZ Alpine Journal**, now produced four times a year, continues to impress with the quality of writing and photography. The NZAC Australian Section continues to provide a valuable link between the two countries given the absence of a national federation in Australia.

The New Zealand Alpine Team continued its in depth mentoring programme with members gaining alpine experience in a variety of different environments including Canada, South

America and Europe. A highlight was the second ascent of the West wall of Changabang, 46 years after the first ascent. The annual Remarkables Ice and Mixed Festival in Alpine Queenstown was again full of action, workshops out on the hill and camaraderie.

### 2023: THE YEAR AHEAD

As elsewhere uncertainties about inflation and the current world economy are making outdoor organisations cautious about major new investment and initiatives in 2023.

The resurgence of tourism post-Covid, both domestic and international, has caught many by surprise and is placing pressure on facilities across the region. Outdoor recreation in all its forms has become more popular, in part a reaction to Covid lockdowns but also a generational change. The positive physical and mental health aspects of being in the hills and mountains, and of climbing generally, are being more fully recognised but funding to meet demand continues to fall short of what is required.

2023 will also see further debate and learning by climbers in both Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand around how climbing fits with, and can work with, an indigenous view and respect for landscapes and place. This ongoing discussion has wide implications for access and potential new legislative directions on managing land and future proofing of environmental protection.

### Report by

#### STUART GRAY

UIAA Management Committee,  
Continental Representative for Oceania  
**New Zealand Alpine Club, NZAC**

### Oceania in Numbers

1891

Year the **New Zealand Alpine Club** was founded

13

**New Zealand Alpine Club** sections (including one in Australia)



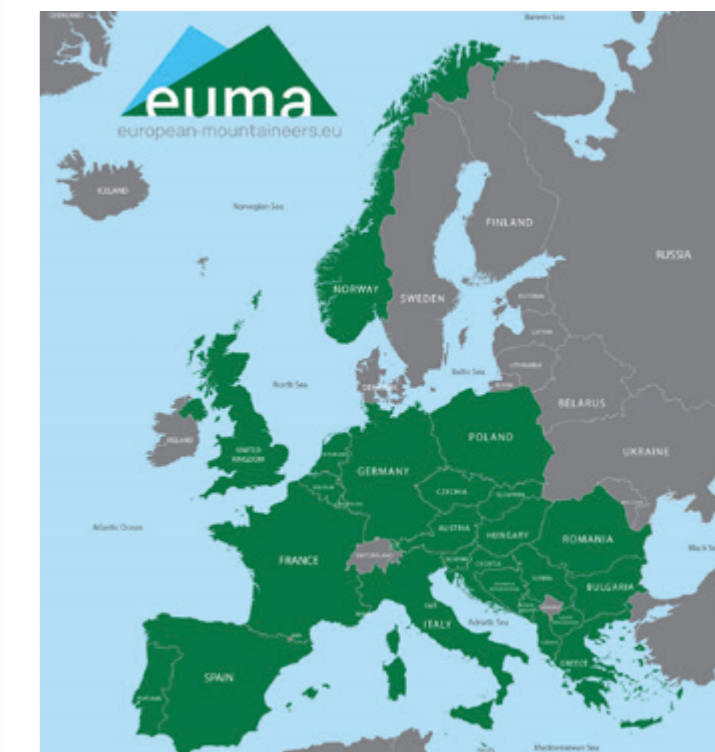
New Zealand Alpine Journal



Photo: Barre des Écrins. Credit: Roeland van Oss

## Europe

*Europe is the largest continental body in terms of UIAA membership with 39 full UIAA member countries in this geographical area. It has some of the world's most diverse and iconic mountains and long rock faces with around three million federation members represented. Approximately two and a half million come from alpine or mountainous countries in Western Europe with a long history in climbing and mountaineering: notably in Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Spain and Switzerland.*



Map of European Mountaineering Association (EUMA) membership. Please refer to [pages 21-23](#) for further details on the UIAA's membership in Europe

### Europe in Numbers

56

Number of **UIAA member associations**

39

Number of **European countries represented** in the UIAA



## EUMA ANNUAL REPORT 2022

The year started with a meeting with CIPRA, the international Commission for the protection of the Alps, where possible joint activities were discussed, and mobility was a major talking point.

In February, the world was shaken by the attacks of Russia in Ukraine and, in line with the UIAA, EUMA declared its solidarity for Ukraine, as did many other EUMA members.

Within the ERASMUS+ project "EUMA - improvement of good governance of climbing and mountaineering in Europe," three Multiplier Sports Events (MSEs) were held: in March on hiking trails in Bechyně (Czech Republic), in April on rock climbing in Osp (Slovenia) and in in Skopje (North Macedonia) for mountain huts with a total of 67 participants from 13 countries.

EUMA had five physical project meetings in addition to several online meetings. Highlights included the presentation of the forest strategy paper, details on the model of how regional associations could join EUMA, EUMA's long term goals and historical timeline and the GoClimate actions. Dragan Bulatovic and Stijn Toth were unanimously approved as the new auditors. Members authorised the Presidium to change the AoAs regarding the integration of regional associations, the new name of EUMA, the change of the legal seat and changes relating to the new Belgian code on Companies and Associations.

In June, [the European Ramblers Association and EUMA published their common position paper](#), the EU forest strategy, which was then followed by the publication of the ERA/EUMA waymarking brochure. There were also two meetings of ERA and EUMA where future collaboration was discussed on practical issues.

A meeting with EUROPARC was held on 31 August which was not fruitful and resulted in a halt of further talks. In September, EUMA participated in the International Mountain Conference in Innsbruck with three scientific contributions on mountain huts, mountain trails and rock climbing areas.

[A major event was a visit to Brussels in September](#) where EUMA had several meetings with MEPs and Directorates-Generals of the European Commission. EUMA also signed a temporary sponsorship agreement with the outdoor manufacturer VAUDE.

At the final ERASMUS+ meeting in Munich on 1 December, the major results of the Working Groups were presented for the first time to a broader audience. After the meeting, EUMA received a Centenary Award from FEDME (right) for its actions towards European bodies on mountaineering topics. Nine organisations and 14 nations contributed to the successful project.

**EUMA, DAV, PZS, FPSM, EOOA, CUNI, ÖAV, ERA, CHS.**

In 2022, EUMA also offered two webinars: "Nobody Needs Meteorologists" and "How to reduce your CO2 footprint with the help of the GoClimate action". At the Ecotourism and Trails symposium in Luče, EUMA presented its project outcomes on hiking trails, mountain huts and rock climbing areas to an important audience.

During the traditional Christmas meeting the draft of the new Articles of Association were presented, discussed, and commented upon by members. Andreas Aschaber prepared his summary paper annual report to be presented in the forthcoming EUMA General Assembly to be held in Leeds, May 2023.



Roland Stierle (photo above) will be standing down as EUMA President in 2023 due to his new commitment as DAV (German Alpine Club)

President. The DAV is Europe's largest climbing and mountaineering federation. The work of Roland has been greatly appreciated by EUMA. A new President of EUMA will be elected in Leeds.



### CLUB ARC ALPIN (CAA)

The Alps in Transition conference took place from 5-7 September 'AlpWeek 2022' where around 120 participants discussed the possibilities and limits of sustainable development in the Alps. The public panel discussion on the topic "Open-space photovoltaic plants in the landscape" was particularly emotional, with Raimund Rodewald from the Swiss Landscape Conservation Foundation highlighting the importance of untouched landscapes.

The CAA Commission for Mountaineering, Training and Safety met at the invitation of PZS (Slovenia) on 6-7 October in the Vrata Valley for its annual meeting. Elaboration was made upon ten recommendations on sport climbing outdoors. There are numerous recommendation papers that have already been developed since 2016 on various mountain sports highlighted [here](#).



Prof. Dr. Jovica Ugrinovski (below), the initiator and long-time President (2009-2019) of the Balkan Mountaineering Union (BMU) and the former President of the North Macedonian Mountaineering Federation (2001-2021) [passed away in November at the age of 77](#). The BMU sadly lost an important member, ex-president, who was the heart and soul of the Union. He made an immeasurable contribution initiating the establishment of BMU and strengthening the cooperation among the mountaineers of the Balkan countries. He was one of the initiators for establishment of EUMA and is a EUMA Honorary member.



During his successful career Dr. Ugrinovski was respected and well-known doctor of neurosurgery and full professor at the Faculty of Medicine in Skopje. He will leave a big gap in the BMU and be sorely missed as a true mountaineer, noble doctor and above all a great and dear man. The BMU will remember him fondly. He had a rare ability to bring mountaineers together.

BMU meeting minutes from May 2022 can be found [here](#): highlighting their many activities and also their members involvement in EUMA's projects.

The BMU also reported on a Balkan mountaineering orienteering competition which took place in Pokljuka, Slovenia from 30 September until 2 October. It was attended by 31 orienteering teams from six Balkan countries.

### ANNUAL CONTINENTAL MEETINGS 2023

Hosted by the FPSM (North Macedonia), the annual EUMA General Assembly was held in Skopje as part of the UIAA Spring meetings with 53 participants from 27 countries and four new members were welcomed. EUMA welcomed as new members:

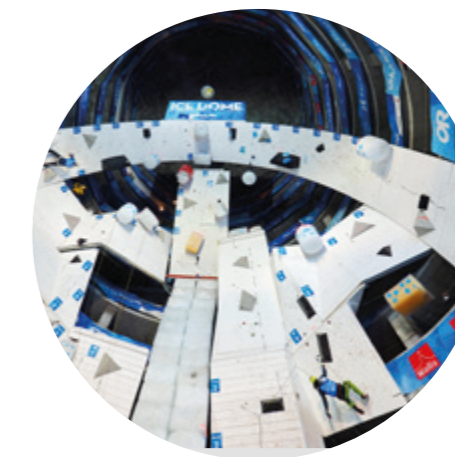
*Bulgarian Tourist Union (BTS, full member), Hungarian Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Association (MHSSZ, full member), the Norwegian Trekking Association (DNT, associated member) and the Transylvanian Carpathian Tourist Association (SKV, associated member)*

[The Club Arc Alpin met on 13-14 May in Ljubljana](#)

The main outcome was the CAA should be integrated into EUMA as a regional council, and from 2024 it will focus primarily on its

observer function at the Alpine Convention and its Commission for Nature Conservation and Alpine Spatial Planning, while the tasks of its two Commissions for Huts and Trails and for Mountaineering, Training and Safety are to be dealt with by EUMA within the framework of possible temporary expert groups. The exact structure of this merger is to be worked out in 2023.

### SPORT COMPETITIONS



### UIAA ICE CLIMBING 2022-23 SEASON EUROPE

A weekend to remember in [Oulu, Finland closed the 2022-23 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour](#). Organised in collaboration with the Finnish Climbing Association and the Climbing Club of Oulu, the event featured the concluding round of the European Cup season. Athletes from 18 countries competed. However, the standout event was the [UIAA Ice Climbing World](#)

[Championships held in Saas-Fee](#), Switzerland. Across speed and lead competitions, the spread of nationalities represented both on the start list (160 athletes from over 20 nations) and on the podium was impressive. Equally impeccable was the organisation of the UIAA Ice Climbing World Championships by Saas-Fee in collaboration with the Swiss Alpine Club, host federation. A total of seven events were held in Europe including six European Cups.

*Please refer to the Ice Climbing chapter of this report for further details.*

**Sky Snow**, the new Skyrunning discipline launched the [first World Championships](#) on February 4-5, in Andalusia at the Sierra Nevada Ski and Mountain Resort, Granada, Spain.



The eleventh edition of the **Skyrunning European Championships** will take place for the first time in the Balkans, in Gusinje, Montenegro in the Prokletije National Park from 14-16 July 2023.

The **Ski Mountaineering World Championships 2022** was held in Boí Taüll, in the heart of the Spanish Pyrenees. Results can be found [here](#) with mainly finalists from Europe in all race categories.

Ski mountaineering is a new Olympic sport for the Winter Games of Milano Cortina 2026. There is the inclusion of three medal events: men's sprint, women's sprint and mixed relay.



Credit: Jose Miguel Munoz/ISF



The quota assigned to ski mountaineering is 36 athletes equally divided between females and males.

#### IFSC Europe - Continental Championships (B,S,L) - Munich (GER) 8-11 August, Munich

This was a large event encompassing lead, boulder and speed as reported [here](#). Slovenia topped the medal table. 200 athletes were present from 26 countries and territories competing in eight medal events. This joined European-based World Cups in Meiringen, Brixen, Innsbruck, Villars, Chamonix, Briancon, Koper and Edinburgh. The IFSC is going from strength to strength and heading towards its second Olympics in Paris 2024.

#### PROJECTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF SOME UIAA EUROPE MEMBERS

##### Support for Ukrainian climbers and mountaineers

The [BMC](#), [PZA](#) and many other UIAA member federations and climbers are supporting the

challenges faced by Ukrainian climbers and mountaineers. *Further details are provided in the General Assembly review.*

Promoting and encouraging solidarity between its member associations has always been a core principle of the UIAA. A recent example has been the support that the [Polish Mountaineering Association \(PZA\) offered Ukrainian climbers ever since the Russian invasion of Ukraine](#). Between sheltering from air raids, contacting loved ones and defending their streets, Ukrainians are resolutely sharing the reality of the conflict on social media and appealing to others to spread their message and demand assistance and condemnation from global governments.

There are many actions of solidarity, identifying the role of our sport in society, supporting not just climbers and mountaineers but wider collaboration, as we strive towards sustainable development of climbing and mountaineering.

##### Growing a federation - sport development

**Simon Alden, President of the Malta Climbing Club** highlights a weekly programme of climbing meets and activities including the coaching of kids, bolting of new sport routes and maintenance of the sport climbing infrastructure. One of the Malta Climbing Club's main activities during 2022 was working with the UIAA Training Commission to set up a UIAA Sport Climbing Single Pitch Instructor Award with its first assessment of local instructors planned for June 2023. The Kids Zone competition team performed very well and the youth and competition committee is planning a Maltese national bouldering championships in September 2023. A Kids Zone group will be travelling to the UK for coaching from former ClimbGB coach Ian Dunn in April.

##### Climate change action -

**Robin Baks, director of NKBV (Netherlands)** reports on an incredible project Climbing 4 Climate in which Dutch mountain guide [Roeland van Oss](#) climbed all 82 4000-meter peaks in the Alps CO2 neutral, without using lifts etc. And transport by bicycle. The UIAA [interviewed](#) Roeland about his project.

##### Good governance and climbing and mountaineering

**Goran Nikoloski of the Mountaineering Federation of North Macedonia, FPSM** highlights the importance of the EUMA EU Erasmus + project "EUMA - Improvement of good governance of climbing and mountaineering in Europe" in which FPSM was one of eight partners among with Czech, German, Austrian, Slovenian mountaineering associations, ERA and Charles University in Prague. A new management of FPSM was elected in June 2022 and in 2023, FPSM will celebrate 75 years since the beginning of organised mountaineering under the umbrella of the Mountaineering Association of the Republic of North Macedonia.

##### Trad climbing mentorship

**Stein Tronstad, President of the Norwegian Climbing Federation** reports, that over the last few years the Norwegian Climbing Federation has developed a mentorship programme in trad climbing for teenagers and young adults. Although Covid-19 still affected its activities in 2022, several member clubs were able to complete the programme last year, giving dozens of young climbers a skilled introduction to the noble art. The aim of the programme is to introduce young climbers to trad climbing in a safe setting, give them the tools to become independent trad climbers, and to create a

club-based social environment where young climbers can be inspired and learn from each other. The NCF have recruited inspirational, competent, and strong leaders in the interested climbing clubs to be their mentors. Each mentorship scheme runs over ten days during the spring and autumn seasons, giving the participants the opportunity to work on their new skills on their own as well. The mentorship programme has become very popular, and each year more local climbing clubs are joining.

##### Supporting mountain people - as an expedition as a tool for fundraising with carbon offsetting

**Gregor Dürrenberger President of the Academic Alpine Club of Zurich (AACZ)**, reports that UIAA associate member celebrated its 125-year anniversary in June. An expedition to the Changla Himal in the far western region of Nepal saw 19 members reaching the summit of two previously unclimbed 6000m peaks. The AACZ and the expedition team members organised two aid projects: in 2021, when the climbing expedition was cancelled, they still raised 20,000 euros for the national medical NGO Ek Ek Palia ([ekek-paila.org](#)) for financing cataract operations that restored the sight of 180 blind people. In 2022 they raised 12,000 euros for the Humla-based development NGO RIDS ([rids-nepal.org](#)), with which they are improving the living conditions in the village of Durpa. In addition, the 62-tonne carbon footprint of the expedition was double-offset.

##### 2023: ACTIVITIES

Results of the EUMA questionnaire will be announced at the EUMA GA in Leeds as well as some further results of the existing Erasmus + surveys - something to look forward to as

EUMA delves into the fascinating facts obtained during the last Erasmus + project. An update of European goals will be discussed as well as a new Erasmus + project application. There have been various Brussels meetings held with more expected. Action will be furthered on the EU forest strategy and water directives and the new EUMA homepage and database. Capacity of EUMA is expected to grow as its new structure finds its feet and enables further development under the guidance of its new President.

Situated on the new EUMA website there is now an [integrated map](#), co-funded by the Erasmus + programme, which has come on in leaps and bounds since December 2021. It does however need more input from federations in supplying data on their trails, huts and rock climbing areas. Currently the huts section is the most complete.

A further invitation has been made by EUMA to federations in February 2023 requesting a quick response on those who are/were experienced in working with young people with disabilities in connection with inclusive hiking, the facilitation of inclusive sports and recreational activities, that in turn promote comprehensive well-being. Mountain co-operation, sustainable tourism and access to sport could be important in the coming year.

##### Report by

##### ANNE ARRAN

UIAA Management Committee

Continental Representative for Europe

**British Mountaineering Council, BMC**



Photo: Adam Ondra at Mavrovo Cave. Credit: Dimitar Popov





## PART 5: SPECIAL REPORTS

### Strategic Plan

*The UIAA continues to fulfil the objectives of its Strategic Plan 2021-2024. At the 2020 GA, agreement was reached on its guiding principles and structure (safety, sport, sustainability). During subsequent years, a road map has been developed defined to create an executive plan while working with UIAA Commissions to deliver priority projects.*

The overarching focus of the SP is the question of providing the right benefits to members and ensuring the UIAA is clear on identifying what those benefits are.

The Strategic Plan is guided by three key objectives:

#### 1. PROVIDE INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE

**Progress in 2022:** Included the publication of UIAA international statements ([such as the ban on Russian officials and athletes](#)), delivery of new medical ([high altitude sickness](#)) and safety ([role of Safety Label](#)) guidance videos, as well as confirmation that the [UIAA is to update its environmental objectives and guidelines](#) in 2023.

Furthermore, the UIAA created its first global members' newsletter to focus specifically on providing greater access to information and guidance from UIAA member associations.

#### 2. SET AND MAINTAIN STANDARDS IN CERTAIN DEFINED AREAS

**Progress in 2022:** In the field of training, the UIAA continues to offer members world-class skills courses for mountain leaders with the delivery of a new database rendering access more efficient.

The UIAA maintains high standards in its programmes for anti-doping/clean climbing and across its work in safety. New and revised safety standards are being developed for corrosion and stress corrosion of rock anchors as well as guidelines for canyoning harnesses and eventually a new standard for headlamps.

In the field of mountain medicine, the UIAA is leading updates to advice papers for women and children. Furthermore, the UIAA has committed to deploying more resources and a working group to manage its collection of data on accidents and near misses.

#### 3. REPRESENTING THE INTERESTS OF THE CLIMBING AND MOUNTAINEERING COMMUNITY ON A GLOBAL LEVEL

**Progress in 2022:** Significant strides were made with the creation of a Climate Change Taskforce to spearhead the UIAA's commitment to tackling climate change. This includes reviewing the federation's own impact, creating resources for climate plans and environmental guidelines, developing a plan of UIAA participation and advocacy strategy and formulating ideas on how to assist UIAA members and commissions in developing action-oriented sustainability plans.

Other developments include the decision to create a working group to place recommendations for the [future direction of the UIAA's activities in competition sport](#) and specifically the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour.



The Strategic Plan, 2021-2024, can be downloaded [here](#).



## Climate Change Taskforce

Through its presence at major international conventions and its projects in sustainability, the UIAA aims to encourage all mountain stakeholders to engage in concrete measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change effects. Towards the close of 2021, the UIAA bolstered its commitment to countering climate change by setting up a Climate Change Taskforce. The Taskforce, whose role will continue to evolve, will lead the way in climate action, and offer members a platform to share and exchange best practices.

### CLIMATE CHANGE TASKFORCE IN 2022

The most significant work of the Taskforce was the hosting of two climate change talks in 2022.

#### UIAA Spring Meetings, May 2022

The first took place at the UIAA Spring meetings in Skopje, North Macedonia in May. Here members of the UIAA, EUMA (European Union of Mountaineering Associations) and the BMU (Balkan Mountaineering Union) provided updates about their own commitment to tackling climate change and the challenges involved.

During this workshop a number of themes were addressed:

**Peter Muir, UIAA President**, accepted that for all international sports organisations the challenges are significant and need to make up for lost time is paramount. One of the considerations for the UIAA will be how to act as an environmentally responsible organisation without impacting on its own ability to operate and serve its members. Muir pointed to the set-up of the Climate Change Taskforce as a fundamental moment for the UIAA and pledged regular updates on its findings and progress.

**Josef Klenner, President of the German Alpine Club (DAV)/UIAA Management Committee**, addressed the work the DAV has

undertaken as one of the leading federations in committing resources to monitor and tackle climate change. Klenner reflected on the DAV's findings that mobility was clearly the biggest cause of carbon emissions and how the federation was establishing solutions and measures to reduce its carbon footprint in this area. This extends to programmes to encourage its own members to consider how the travel to mountain areas. The DAV's work will become a standard bearer for many other federations.

**Mrika Nikçi, UIAA Youth Commission**, raised the subject of how to empower youth to lead action on climate change. Nikçi, 21, *became the youngest women to complete the 'Seven Summits'* in 2019. She witnessed first-hand the devastating retreat of many glaciers. Her views were supported by **Jean Miczka, the youngest member of the UIAA Management Committee**. Miczka identified the need for federations to run more educational programmes in the mountains akin to the project undertaken by the Swiss Alpine Club which won the *UIAA Mountain Protection Award in 2019*. Miczka also addressed the need to promote sustainable mountain tourism and to tackle the issue of falling populations in mountain villages.

**Ingrid Hayek, representing EUMA as Vice-President and the Austrian Alpine Club**, provided a passionate speech identifying the

challenges for all people to understand the impact they are making and how better to understand our climate offset in tangible terms. Hayek presented information about the *goclimate.com* website which offers all people the opportunity to measure their impact on the environment. Hayek also detailed the work the Austrian Alpine Club has undertaken in measuring the impact of climate change on glaciers in Europe.

**Juan Jesús Ibañez Martin, representing both the UIAA Management Committee and EUMA as Vice-President**, identified how it is possible to host competition sports while respecting mountain protection. His case study was skyrunning events in Spain where collaboration between national parks and competition organisers has worked effectively and can be a model for other parts of the world.

#### First UIAA Climate Change Summit

In October, the UIAA held its first ever Climate Change Summit. This was organised as part of the federation's General Assembly in Banff, Canada.

The aim of the Summit was to provide an opportunity to discuss topics related to sustainability and climate change, the role of the recently created UIAA Climate Change Taskforce, and to learn and to better understand needs and expectations of member federations.

### HEADLINE CONCLUSIONS

- Climate action is a high priority for mountaineering federations and for mountaineers, as impacts are undeniable.
- The mountaineering world must adapt to climate change (climbing techniques, equipment development, where/when to travel, route choice and access) and mitigate its impact where possible (avoid, reduce and compensate for greenhouse gas emissions).
- Only a handful of UIAA member federations currently calculate their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions footprint.
- Resources of the UIAA and member federations (people, time, money, expertise) varies and must be considered when making recommendations on climate action.
- Travel and mobility are the main contributors of mountaineers' carbon footprint, whether at the individual, as a section, national or international organisation level
- The UIAA, through its new Taskforce, should lead the way in climate action, and offer its members a platform to share and exchange best practices.



### UIAA COMMITMENT

#### THE UIAA:

- is a signatory to the "Sports for Climate Action Initiative" of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), signed in March 2019; and
- is a signatory to the World Tourism Organization's *Glasgow Declaration on Climate Action in Tourism*, signed in November 2021;
- and has confirmed its *pledge* to the UNFCCC "Sports for Climate Action Initiative" to reach Net Zero by 2040 and reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with core activities carried out at the UIAA by 50 per cent by 2030, signed in September 2022.

#### THE CLIMATE CHANGE TASKFORCE'S INITIAL BRIEF IS TO:

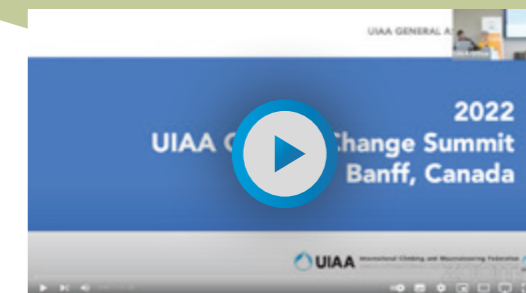
- Conduct a review of the UIAA's current carbon footprint including recommendations of

defining the included elements and recommending steps to the Management Committee for reducing the footprint to meet the UIAA's undertakings and reflect its own responsibilities.

- Develop a resource of existing climate plans and environmental guidelines issued by UIAA member federations as foundation for the UIAA's own use in development and for the information and use of UIAA members.
- Develop a plan of UIAA participation and advocacy strategy in the world climate change dialogue to define when, where, who and how the UIAA will effectively advocate its positions on climate change, and;
- Formulate ideas on how to motivate and assist all UIAA members and Commissions to develop action-oriented climate change and sustainability plans.
- Work closely with other federations. In 2022, collaboration began with the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC). The two federations are working towards coordination across activities in the field of climate change.

A comprehensive review of the Climate Change Summit can be viewed [here](#).

The Climate Change Taskforce is co-chaired by Peter Muir (UIAA President) and Dr Carolina Adler (UIAA Mountain Protection Commission President). Carol Kahoun-Kauer (UIAA Office) is Project Lead.



Watch: Climate Change Summit





## Communication

### STRATEGY

*The UIAA communication strategy is built around collaboration with all of its Commissions, member associations, partners as well as events and projects. The strategy put in place ensures all aspects of the UIAA's activities, and all priorities of the UIAA as deemed by the Strategic Plan (SP), are covered throughout the year.*

The UIAA's communication strategy is overseen by the Communication Working Group comprised of UIAA Communication Manager Peter Bourne, UIAA Director of Operations Nils Glatthard and Executive Board member Lode Beckers. Communication support is also provided by UIAA Social Media specialist Tom Tushaw.

The Communication Working Group typically meets on a monthly basis to discuss the execution and progress of the UIAA annual communication plan, the evolution of the Annual Report, upgrades to the UIAA website and digital tools, the drafting of UIAA statements on key issues and addressing improvements to internal and external communication tools.

### Annual Report

One of the key deliverables to its members is the UIAA Annual Report (AR). A digital-first product, the AR continues to be well received, scoring over 8.5/10 in the annual GA survey.

A print version is available on demand. An archive of Annual Reports dating back to 2009 can be viewed [here](#).

### Website

The UIAA website was last overhauled in 2016 and has undergone incremental updates ever

since. A major revamp of the UIAA website is currently taking place. A full audit, brief and plan was created together with the chosen development team in 2022. Most of the content curation and the first sign-off on the design is being coded and tested from January-May 2023. Furthermore, a number of new database elements (such as a new members' platform and new training system) will be integrated into the new website.

Competition [ice climbing](#) has its own dedicated website, launched in November 2021.

UIAA website figures in 2022

- **+250k** unique users
- **+170K** new users
- **+320K** sessions
- **+480K** page views

Most viewed pages on UIAA website in 2022(\*):

- Certified equipment =
- Safety standards =
- Rock climbing grades (↑)
- Safety landing page =
- Women going to altitude (new entry)
- Mountaineering =
- About the UIAA =
- Children at altitude (new entry)
- Mountain medicine landing page (↑)
- Member federations (↑)

(\* Excludes home page)

### Newsletters

As of 2022, the UIAA produces two newsletters. The traditional monthly newsletter recaps the main news and updates from the UIAA. As of April 2022, a new quarterly newsletter the 'Global Members' Newsletter' was created. Produced in collaboration with the

UIAA Management Committee Continental Representatives, this newsletter provides updates from the UIAA's 94 member organisations in 69 countries on six continents. The idea behind this concept is to provide a regular platform for information from UIAA members and to shine a spotlight on the main global headlines and stories. This helps the UIAA in fulfilling its role as the Global Mountain Network.

To subscribe to the UIAA newsletter please click [here](#).

### Social Media

In 2022, the UIAA began a full review of its social media strategy. This was led by the communication manager and social media specialist. As a result of the review, an independent plan was created for social media, designed to cater for the specific audiences and nature of each platform while ensuring synergy with objectives of the overall UIAA communication and strategic plans.

The UIAA is active on social media as a means of engaging with the climbing community and ensuring a wide distribution of UIAA information.

The UIAA is present on:

- Facebook
- Twitter
- YouTube
- Instagram

(the UIAA has also created a new account uniquely for the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour)

- Flickr
- LinkedIn

As of 2022, the UIAA revived its LinkedIn channel with the aim of engaging with UIAA delegates as well as other international and national federations.

### Member Associations

The UIAA Communication team is always keen to share information about member association activities. Please email [news@theuiaa.org](mailto:news@theuiaa.org).

Likewise, any material produced by the UIAA is free of restrictions for members to use and share in their own publications and across digital channels. Working together we can provide the climbing and mountaineering world with the information important to them.

*The UIAA believes that more of its projects, news and work could be amplified on member association websites. To facilitate this and to support members additional support, the UIAA will work on distributing a toolkit to UIAA members. This will include UIAA logos, mission statement and information on member benefits.*



Report by

**Peter Bourne**

UIAA  
Communication Manager





Photo: Rainbow Mountain in Cordillera de los Andes (Peru)

## UIAA Court

*In every structured and democratic organisation, there are normally three separate powers: legislative, executive and judicial.*

The UIAA Court is this internal and independent judicial body of the UIAA (AoA 23). When requested, its task is to solve any possible disputes between the UIAA, UIAA members and UIAA bodies, and between UIAA member organisations. This is a first instance internal arbitration court where possible disputes must be brought before any appeal to an external one, in this instance the Court of Arbitration for Sport at Lausanne ([AoA 23 3\) and 24\)](#).

This is not the sole mission assigned to the UIAA Court. It is also the independent judicial body founded to decide upon the alleged violations of the UIAA Code of Ethics ([Article 4](#)). Additionally, the UIAA Court is also the Ethics Panel in charge of conflicts of interests, should the Executive Board be unable to reach a decision.

*No case of any kind was filed in 2022. The main role of the Court over the past twelve months has been to offer advice about AoAs and UIAA regulations.*

In Banff, the General Assembly voted to elect a new arbitrator. He is Mohammadali Abdollahi, an Iranian lawyer, from the Iran Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation. The UIAA Court continues to look to recruit the expertise of a female arbitrator. Any federations who have experienced female arbitrators, lawyers or managers, are invited to propose a candidate to the UIAA Court.



Report by

**Pierre Humblet**  
(CMBEL, Belgium)

President, UIAA Court

### Court Members

Mohammadali ABDOLLAHI  
(IMSCF, Iran)

Denis PONCELIN (FFCAM, France)

Franz STÄMPFLI-GLATTHARD  
(SAC, Switzerland)

Marco DEL ZOTTO



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## Unit Member International Skyrunning Federation

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



#### SkySnow

With no less than four world championships, the rich 2022 season kicked off with the new SkySnow discipline on 4-5 February, where twenty-one medals were at stake across the Vertical and Classic disciplines, the Combined title, and the country ranking.

SkySnow embraces the traditional concept of skyrunning - in this case, during the winter and exclusively on snow wearing micro crampons. Despite a difficult post-pandemic situation, fifteen ISF Member countries took part from across the world: *Andorra, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, USA*



#### Youth Skyrunning World Championships

23-24 July saw the seventh edition of the Youth Skyrunning World Championships take place in Andorra. Participants aged between 15 and 23 competed in the Vertical and Sky disciplines where they fought for the 57 medals. For many, it was their first experience of running at altitude, where the highest summit reached 2,749m.

This strong-growing Championship represents an occasion where young talent can test their skills on the international stage and emerge as future skyrunning champions.



#### Skyrunning World Championships

The biennial Skyrunning World Championships held in Ossola, Piedmont, Italy were a welcome comeback to full-on top-level competition with the participation of no less than 35 countries in three disciplines from 9-11 September.

Overall 27 medals were at stake with a record ten countries taking a share. Italy, Spain and Japan headed the list.



#### VK OPEN Championships

Closing the 2022 events season on 15 October, was the Grand Finale of the VK OPEN Championships with the Vertical discipline. An annual event, the second edition featured ten races in nine countries stretching across the world from China to Brazil to land in Limone su Garda, Italy. Underlining the international appeal of the Vertical Kilometer®, the VK OPEN winners were from Slovenia and Chile.

#### ISF General Assembly

The 15th International Skyrunning Federation General Assembly was held on 9 September, concomitant with the 2022 Skyrunning World Championships in the ancient town of Domodossola. For the first time post pandemic, the Assembly was held in person, after last year's Zoom meeting. The ISF counts a total of 48 nations, between full members, associate members and aspirant members. Twenty-four voting members, either direct or by proxy, were represented out of the federation's 42 voting members.

Looking towards 2023 and beyond, General Secretary Alexander Keim announced the Skyrunner® World Series has a new management which will focus on expanding the circuit outside Europe with 15-20 races.

*More important novelties to emerge at the GA included the introduction of a skyrunning card (see photo, top right) and a performance-based ranking for early 2023. The ranking is based exclusively on races carrying the Course Certified Label - attesting it fits within skyrunning parameters. The technical difficulty is also listed.*

The objective of these initiatives is to clearly define the sport to the community, fans and outsiders, to create revenue, and to offer benefits to athletes and organisers on a single platform.



#### Report by

#### Marino Giacometti

ISF President

To discover more about the International Skyrunning Federation, please visit:

[www.skyrunning.com](http://www.skyrunning.com)





## Part 6: Commissions

The UIAA fulfils its Mission Statement mainly through the work of its Commissions, which make recommendations, set policy and advocate on behalf of the international mountaineering community. UIAA Commissions are comprised of experts in their field.

The UIAA operates through the following Commissions:

**Anti-Doping • Ice Climbing (currently a Working Group) • Legal Affairs • Medical • Mountaineering • Mountain Protection • Safety • Training • Youth**

## PART 6: COMMISSIONS

### Mountain Protection

Since it was founded in 1969, the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission (MPC) has worked to guide action and be the voice of the UIAA for advocacy on mountain protection – the mountains being one of the last natural and free spaces of significance on Earth. The MPC's goal is to ensure that the mountains' unique environment and cultures will still be there for the benefit of future generations of mountaineers and wider humanity. The MPC also promotes the work of UIAA members and the broader mountaineering community that contribute positively to sustainable mountain development.

#### 2022: A SIGNIFICANT FOCUS

Supporting the UIAA in celebrating 2022 as the UN-proclaimed International Year for Sustainable Mountain Development (IYMY2022).

In December 2021, and with the support of over 90 sponsoring countries, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) proclaimed 2022 as the International Year for Sustainable Mountain Development.

In the adopted resolution, countries and stakeholders from civil society institutions and organisations were invited to observe the IYM2022 by raising awareness of the "importance of sustainable mountain development and the conservation and sustainable use of mountain ecosystems".

These included:

- [Policy brief on Keeping Mountains Plastic Waster-free](#), which was presented at a side event as part of the Mountain Partnership Global Meeting held in September 2022 in Aspen, Colorado (USA).
- [Policy brief on Mountain and Heritage-making](#), which was presented at the ninth session of the General Assembly of the States Parties to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, held at [UNESCO Headquarters](#), Paris, from 5-7 July.

As the UIAA is a member of the Mountain Partnership, MPC delegates also participated in the [Mountain Partnership's Global Meeting](#) with inputs in formal proceedings, as well as side events such as "Keeping our Mountains Waste-Free".

The International Year in 2022 commemorated 20 years since the first International Year on Mountains was proclaimed by the UNGA in 2001 for 2002.

UIAA MPC delegates participated in the Open-Ended Scientific Committee (OESC) set up via the Mountain Partnership to support the collective advocacy efforts around the IYM2022 observance, thereby ensuring that the UIAA, its members and mountaineering community at large were actively represented as part of these key messages and outreach.

Key contributions made by UIAA MPC delegates included inputs to [policy briefs](#) that were produced by the OESC.



Mountains Matter:  
for people and the planet





## 2022 UIAA MOUNTAIN PROTECTION AWARD

At the 2022 General Assembly, the UIAA announced the [Establishment of Self-Managed Climbing Parks](#) project by Asociación 7a Escalada, Peru, as the ninth winner of the UIAA Mountain Protection Award (MPA). In doing so it became the first project from South America to win the Award.

*"The Assessment Team particularly valued the project's emphasis on the development of fair and inclusive job opportunities, including the administration of camping areas, shelter, food services, transportation services and guiding services that we agree are roles that need to be filled and managed by the community members themselves through carefully planned training and employment support. Furthermore, the UIAA places particular interest in seeing the prize money invested in the infrastructural development of the climbing area, supporting the refuge building; improving waste treatment; installing toilets; creating designated spaces for camping, campfires and composting; and improving water access through environmentally-efficient design and water use,"*

– Carolina Adler, UIAA Mountain Protection Commission President

*"The Project by Asociación 7a Escalada in Peru is this year's well deserved winner of the UIAA Mountain Protection Award as it is a truly sustainable project balancing its many different aspects in an impressive way. The core of the project is its focus on the involvement of, and the collaboration with, local communities, youth and various NGOs in creating an attractive climbing park. By establishing the climbing area in such a way, already it has become a best practice for other initiatives."*

– Paul Kwakkenbos, member of the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission and MPA assessor.

A total of 16 projects operational in more than 15 countries and on four continents were [showcased as part of the 2022 MPA](#). The nominated projects in 2022 focused on a number of sustainability topics including climate change, water pollution, waste management, education and youth, and closer engagement with decision makers and local authorities.

All nine MPA winners since 2013 have come from different countries and now from five continents. The 2022 winner received 10,000 euros in prizemoney thanks to the support received for the MPA from Bally Peak Outlook Foundation.



### Award Winner:

[Establishment of Self-Managed Climbing Parks](#)

by Asociación 7a Escalada, Peru



### Runner-Up:

[Clean Hikers project](#)

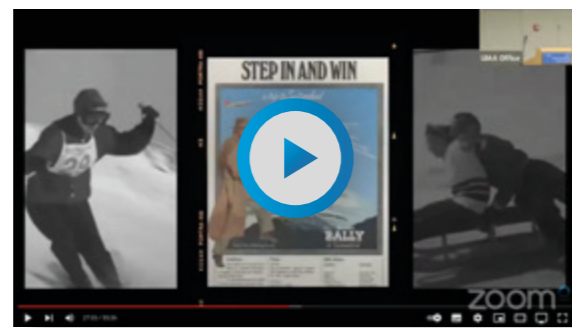
by Leave Good Trace, Korea



### Best New Initiative:

[Save Rinjani](#)

by FPTI, Indonesia



Watch: 2022 UIAA Mountain Protection Award Ceremony



**Further Reading**  
[2022 UIAA Mountain Protection Award winner interview](#)



**Further Reading**  
[2022 UIAA Mountain Protection Award showcase](#)

## 2022: OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

### Mountains in the IPCC's Sixth Assessment

MPC President Carolina Adler, in her role as lead author, co-led the [Cross-Chapter paper on Mountains for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change \(IPCC\)'s Sixth Assessment on climate change \(AR6\)](#), which was a four-year scientific assessment effort that culminated with the report's adoption by the Panel on 28 February. The cross-chapter paper was included in the Working Group II contribution to AR6 on Climate Change Impacts Adaptation and Vulnerability, in which the key impacts and adaptation actions associated with climate change – including on mountaineering and mountain tourism and recreation – were highlighted. This is the first time in almost 30 years that 'mountains' have a dedicated space in the IPCC reports, providing an up-to-date robust assessment based on scientific evidence of the accelerating pace of climate change that is now felt in mountain regions worldwide. The [report](#) was adopted by country members of the Panel on 28 February, following an approval session that lasted two weeks and held entirely online.

### UIAA MPC delegates at the International Mountains Conference, 2022

Delegates were active and present at the [International Mountains Conference](#), held every three years, in which the mountain research and practitioner communities come together to take stock of the latest scientific research in and on mountain regions and address key issues relevant to mountain areas, such as climate change, ecosystems, and sustainable recreation and tourism. MPC delegates Carolina Adler (NZAC) and Irena Mrak (PZS) were present at this event. Irena presented research on "Aspects of

mountaineering and mountain tourism at high altitudes: the case of Gilgit Baltistan".

### Agreement and endorsement from UIAA members to review the UIAA Environmental Guidelines (2002)

The year 2022 was declared the International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development (IYM2022). This was twenty years on from the first UN declared International Year of the Mountains, in 2002. On that occasion the UIAA released its seminal paper, [Environmental Objectives and Guidelines](#).

Twenty years later, and as a contribution from the UIAA to the observance of the IYM2022, the UIAA MC endorsed the MPC's proposed project to update these important guidelines, a decision that was also supported by the UIAA members at the GA. Developments over the past twenty years need to be reflected in the document, for example the greater access to data and information on the threat of climate change and its impact on climbing and mountaineering and, conversely, reflecting on mountaineering's own impact on the mountain environment through waste, biodiversity loss, and carbon footprint. The intention is for the new paper to be released on International Mountain Day, 11 December, in 2023.

UIAA Mountain Protection Commission President Dr Carolina Adler explains its significance: *"The project has been an idea and priority for some time, and with the proclamation by the UN General Assembly of 2022 as the International Year for Sustainable Mountain Development, the impetus and opportunity to kick-start this process are now here. I am grateful to the UIAA leadership and member federations for their support, and to our delegates in the MPC and external partners for their commitment and expertise. As the MPC, we look forward to making a*

*fruitful contribution that we hope will encourage and empower our members and broader mountaineering community to live by mountain protection values and lead by example as we put them into practice".*

### Benefit for UIAA Members on the updating of the Environmental Guidelines and Objectives:

- A relevant and up-to-date framework on principles that support mountain protection.
- Implementation support for UIAA member federations through facilitation and guidance from the MPC.
- Using a video and other communication outreach materials addressing key UIAA sustainability priorities in the mountains (with option to subtitle in different languages).

For further details please refer to the dedicated [UIAA news release](#).

### MPC IN 2022

In 2022, the MPC welcomed six new delegates:

- Jan Cools (CMBEL)
- Paul Kwakkenbos (NKBV)
- Tore Lundberg (NTK)
- Arda Odabasioglu (TDF)
- Doma Sherpa (NMA)
- Abolfazl Zamani (IMSCF)

The MPC would like to express its sincere gratitude to [Joop Spijker](#) who represented the NKBV as a full member of the Commission for a number of years and was an invaluable asset. Joop left the Commission in May 2022. The MPC is also very grateful for the valuable contributions of Raluca Ana, Romania (CAR) who ended her term in the lead up to the UIAA's GA in 2022.

## Annual Meetings

The Commission reconvened virtually a number of times in 2022. Among the main discussion points in those five meetings were national updates from delegates, such as a new via ferrata project in Norway; follow up from 2021 on advocacy requests in Cochamo, Chile; and waste and overcrowding issues on K2. Regarding its own key projects, the MPC actively debated on how to improve the UIAA Mountain Protection Award and kick-start the review of the UIAA Environmental Objectives and Guidelines following the endorsement from members of the MC and support from GA delegates in Banff.

The UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Framework and set out targets were presented and the need for the UIAA as a whole to reduce its carbon footprint highlighted. *Please refer to the dedicated [Climate Change chapter](#) of this report and the [UIAA news release](#).*

### Support for Climbing Community/ UIAA members

Given the Commission delegates' extensive and active engagement in several global platforms and initiatives on mountains and sustainability as part of its daily professional work, the MPC offers the UIAA and all its members ample representation and opportunity to "carry their voices" at these important spaces for advocacy, able to present their ideas and concerns on their behalf.

As always, the MPC is also available to provide all UIAA members and other Commissions professional advice on environmental sustainability issues or concerns, as the need or request arises.



**2023: THE YEAR AHEAD**

**UIAA Environmental Objectives and Guidelines**  
 Adopted at the 1997 UIAA General Assembly in Kranjska Gora, Slovenia, the UIAA declaration on Environmental Objectives and Guidelines will be reviewed and updated to reflect the needs and issues of today. The MPC is looking to implement and carry out the final consultations with UIAA members and finalise the drafting of the guidelines, to be presented at the UIAA GA in 2023.

**2023 UIAA Mountain Protection Award**



Partnered with the **Bally Peak Outlook Foundation**, the MPC will launch the application process for the 2023 edition of the award on 1 March. It marks the Award's tenth year and tenth edition. Projects from developing countries are particularly welcome to apply and will receive valuable input from members of the assessment team, as well as benefit from the global mountain network. A dedicated MPA working group, spearheaded by Commission member Mary Sanseverino (Canada, ACC), is focusing specifically on the continued evolution of the Award.



**Key Links**



**Mountain Protection**  
[www.theuiaa.org/mountain-protection](http://www.theuiaa.org/mountain-protection)



**Mountain Protection Award**  
[www.theuiaa.org/mountain-protection-award](http://www.theuiaa.org/mountain-protection-award)



**Report by**

**Dr Carolina Adler**  
 Mountain Protection Commission President  
[mountainprotection@theuiaa.org](mailto:mountainprotection@theuiaa.org)

**Full Members**

- Carolina ADLER, New Zealand (NZAC), President
  - Michael MAUNSELL, Ireland (MI), Vice President
  - Hussein BAGHIROV, Azerbaijan (WCU)
  - Harshwanti BISHT, India (IMF)
  - Jan COOLS, Belgium (CMBEL)
  - Ganesh GURUNG, Nepal (NMA)
  - Miyoung JEONG, Korea (KAF)
  - Pauk KWAKKENBOS, Netherlands (NKBV)
  - Arda ODABASIOGLU, Turkey (TDF)
  - Doma SHERPA ,Nepal (NMA)
  - Dave TURNBULL, United Kingdom (BMC)
- For a list of Corresponding Members please visit the [UIAA website](http://www.theuiaa.org).



# DONATE: Financial support for climbing

Support the **UIAA**, its members and partners in delivering international projects which *make a difference*.



<https://www.theuiaa.org/donate>





UIAA Youth Ice Climbing Camp, Guillestre (France)  
Photo credit: Lena Drapella

## Youth

*The Youth Commission (YC) provides safe and exciting opportunities for young people to experience climbing and the mountains. The Commission encourages not only an individual's technical development in a given discipline but also an appreciation for the environmental, cultural and ethical aspects of the areas the UIAA is engaged in. Young people are the future guardians of our wild spaces and it is our mission to teach respect for, and understanding of, these places. UIAA Youth Commission events therefore have not only a technical focus but also an environmental and cultural emphasis.*

### 2022: RETURN OF EVENTS

The year 2022 was all about re-establishing UIAA youth events again following the pandemic. The UIAA managed to coordinate six youth camps in 2022 with two events in France, two events in Romania, and one each in Cyprus and in Switzerland (run by Mountaineering Ireland). These events were generated by the newly created Youth Innovation Panel whose purpose is to develop and approve camps.

The other main achievement of the year was the development of the skills system that the YC is planning to implement in 2023. This involved working in conjunction with the newly-established Training Commission to set up syllabuses for each of the different activities/skills that organisers should adhere to in running their events. The camp organisers can use the off the shelf courses and syllabus to 'build' their camp programmes and at the end of it there will be a UIAA approved certification process and online testing. This project is still ongoing and will be implemented throughout 2023.

### OTHER PROJECTS

The Commission developed a five-year post-Covid strategy with targets and development projects for the coming years - these included the numbers of camps per year as well as developing the training pathway and certification for the events the Commission is involved with.

The target for youth camps in 2022 was seven events with the YC managing to deliver six. The Commission has also been working on developing its section of the new UIAA website, with information on how federations can apply for camps and how they can use the new syllabus and certification system.

### COMMISSION IN 2022

The Commission met several times online and also in person at the UIAA Spring Meetings in North Macedonia. The Commission had new members join the innovation panel from Hong Kong and Italy. The collaboration with the Training Commission and especially its President - Steve Long has been invaluable. Steve has been assisting the YC with the development of the new tier of youth events for the commission. This collaboration will continue well into 2023.

### SUPPORT FOR CLIMBING COMMUNITY/ UIAA MEMBERS

*The YC would like to extend its reach to work with several new federations in the near future to support them and offer the skills and information needed to organise their first youth camps. Hopefully this will pave the way to allow further integration with other federations in the future to really expand the number and global development of UIAA youth camps. Furthermore, the YC is seeking to partner with larger UIAA federations to encourage youth exchange programmes and tap into the impressive work being done.*

### 2023: THE YEAR AHEAD

The Youth Innovation Panel has set a target of ten events for 2023 and is creating its calendar for the year, with regular events in France and Romania already confirmed. The Panel has received interest in events from Chile and Italy. The new certification system put in place for camps and procedures will be clarified in terms of how camps can use the syllabus the UIAA provides, how the certificates will be issued, how the costs will be dealt with and what they are. Other areas to be addressed are how the information will be dealt with at a YC level and what will be done with the income from the certification and how that will be used to develop events and federations in the future.



Report by

**Pavlos GEORGIADES**  
Youth Commission President

### Full Members

Pavlos GEORGIADES,  
Cyprus (CMCOF), President

Mircea IGNAT, Romania (CAR),  
Vice President

Dainius BABILAS, Lithuania (LMA)

Barbara BAJCER, Slovenia (PZS)

Christian BIARD, France (FFCAM)

Jane CARNEY, Ireland (MI)

Bhaskar DAS, India (IMF)

Irena DIKOV, North Macedonia (FPSM)

David EVANS, United Kingdom (BMC)

Niki KAROULLA, Cyprus (CMCOF)

Mrika NIKCI, Kosovo (KMAF)

Batsaikhan OCHIRBAT, Mongolia (MNCF)

Vladimir TRPOVSKI,  
North Macedonia (FPSM)

[Click here for a full list of \*Corresponding Members\*](#)

### Website Page

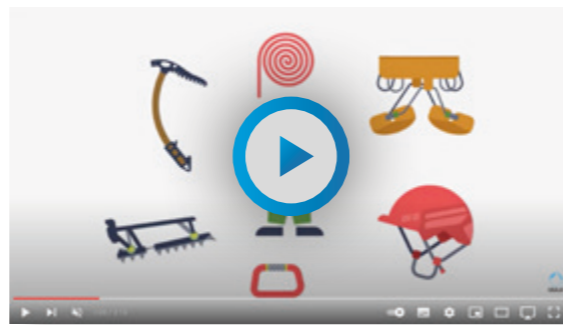
[UIAA Youth Commission](#)

Photo credits:  
Christian Biard  
Lena Drapella  
Niki Karoulla



## Safety

Throughout its history, mountain safety has been at the forefront of the UIAA's activities. The UIAA Safety Label, and associated safety standards, have been in operation since the 1960s. The UIAA Safety Commission (SafeCom) is formed of experts with engineering backgrounds from different UIAA member federations, as well as international manufacturers with certified UIAA Safety Labels and accredited testing laboratories. SafeCom meets annually and is responsible for developing the UIAA Safety Standards and consequently working to help minimise accidents related to climbing and mountaineering gear.



Video animation: What is the UIAA Safety Label?



### 2022: MAIN PROJECTS

#### Release of UIAA Safety Label video

The UIAA Safety label or the acronym 'UIAA' can be found on climbing and mountaineering gear worldwide. These four letters signify that this piece of climbing equipment has been accredited to meet the UIAA global safety standards.

[The UIAA Safety Commission, responsible for the development of UIAA Safety Standards](#) for over 25 types of climbing gear, produced an animation in 2022 explaining both the importance of the [UIAA Safety Label](#) and how the process of accrediting a piece of equipment actually works.

#### Certified Rock Anchors

The climbing market saw the release of the first UIAA certified rock anchors as per the updated UIAA Standard 123 ([revised in 2020](#)).

Please refer to the dedicated guides: [English](#), [French](#), [Chinese](#), [German](#), [Italian](#), [Japanese](#), [Portuguese](#) and [Spanish](#).

The Standard examined High SCC and General Corrosion Resistance (SCC), General Corrosion Resistance (GC) and Low Corrosion Resistance (LC).

### 2022: OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

Work resumed on the creation of a common accident database between the Mountaineering and Safety Commissions. The goal is to compare the existing databases from various countries, establish guidelines and learn from experiences to gain information. This will be spearheaded by a Working Group (WG).

### UIAA 123 Rock Anchors

On the subject of testing welded anchors, SafeCom decided to make a second analysis on the welded areas. This is an ongoing investigation with an independent testing laboratory. Based on the test results received, SafeCom will decide if the standard needs to be updated to potentially certify welded anchors. At a minimum, the internal safety commission and plenary, made up of safety label certified manufacturers and accredited laboratories, will develop welding guidelines.

#### Textile degradation analysis

SafeCom has become aware of drastic decrease in strength of canyoning harnesses and rope course lanyards with ageing: ongoing analysis with accelerated UV + temperature + humidity (including washing machine cycles) are being conducted to better understand the influence of these factors.

#### Helmet rim impact

Thanks to some surplus budget, this WG could start again with inter-lab testing and comparison. The Commission was able to purchase a new jig, which will be used to better evaluate impact from lateral, front and back sides. Results are expected in 2023, and will be followed by discussions to decide if an update of the standard is meaningful.

#### Future standard for headlamps

Discussions are ongoing.

### COMMISSION IN 2022

The first in-person meeting since 2019 was held in May in Skopje, North Macedonia.

SafeCom had a strong presence of its plenary members, with a hybrid option for those who were not able to join. Hybrid meetings are appreciated allowing people from far away to be able to participate remotely. This is important to keep active worldwide participation. The hybrid meetings will be kept in the future.

SafeCom paid tribute to Carlo Zanantoni, a long-time delegate and Honorary Member of the Commission who passed away in November 2021. He was born in 1930 and was the CAI delegate within the UIAA SafeCom from 1970 until 2009.

### SUPPORT FOR CLIMBING COMMUNITY/ UIAA MEMBERS

#### UIAA Safety Label

The UIAA Safety Label logo is a registered trademark of the UIAA.



The official logo of the UIAA Safety Label

The UIAA Safety Label on a piece of climbing gear means that samples of the equipment have been tested by an accredited, independent third party and shown to satisfy the requirements set forth in the UIAA Standard. However, no lab testing can ever truly reflect the range of situations encountered in practice.

*Purchasing climbing and mountaineering equipment bearing the UIAA Safety Label supports the UIAA and its global mission to promote safety, one of the key pillars of the UIAA. The Safety Commission's WG research is fully funded by the UIAA Safety Label.*

In ensuring its standards are always relevant, the SafeCom regularly studies the market and analyses accidents to determine if existing standards should be revised or upgraded. Furthermore, it accredits laboratories that test mountaineering and climbing equipment to ensure that the test results are in accordance with UIAA standards.

### BENEFITS FOR UIAA MEMBERS/ CLIMBING COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Research conducted by the Commission has a direct benefit for all climbers worldwide. For example, the scientific findings on [rock anchor corrosion](#) are now integrated in the updated standard and will drastically improve safety when the certified products will be in place.

The UIAA issued many first international standards such as those for belay lanyards, snow pickets, snow shovels, avalanche probes and crash pads. These standards are set by an expert team of skilled engineers from national climbing and mountaineering federations, from manufacturers and testing laboratories.



In parallel to standardisation work, SafeCom, in cooperation with the Training Panel, is also offering the general climbing community with advice and expertise, such as through its [online Q&A online series](#) and advice articles such as tips for [purchasing climbing equipment](#).

An archive of topics covered can be found on the [UIAA website](#). Areas addressed include static ropes, types of knot, retiring carabiners and disinfecting climbing equipment.

## 2023: THE YEAR AHEAD

Priorities in 2023 include:

- Assessing viability for a future standard on very low elongation ropes.
- Assessing viability for a future standard on headlamps.
- Avalanche beacon improvements.
- Laboratory accreditation: updating regulations for certified UIAA testing authorities.
- Edge test on dynamic ropes.
- Close collaboration with CEN, to avoid doubling respective working group projects and find greater synergy.



## SAFECOM IN NUMBERS

- **2,271** Active Safety Label certificates
- **101** Active Safety Label Holders
- **26** UIAA Safety Standards

Global Manufacturers  
(Certified Label Holders)

- **42** from Europe
- **23** from the Americas
- **36** from Asia



Report by

**Lionel Kiener**

Safety Commission President

[UIAA & Safety](#)

### Full Members

Lionel KIENER, Switzerland (SAC), President

Alexis MALLON, France (FFCAM),  
Vice President

Gebhard BARBISCH (ICAR)

Per FORSBERG, Sweden (SCF)

Nicholas GALPIN, United Kingdom (BMC)

Stephen GLADIEUX, United States (AAC)

Julia JANOTTE, Germany (DAV)

Artiomus KURANOVAS, Lithuania (LMA)

Ali SAHIN, Turkey (TDF)

For a full list of Corresponding Members please visit the [UIAA website](#).

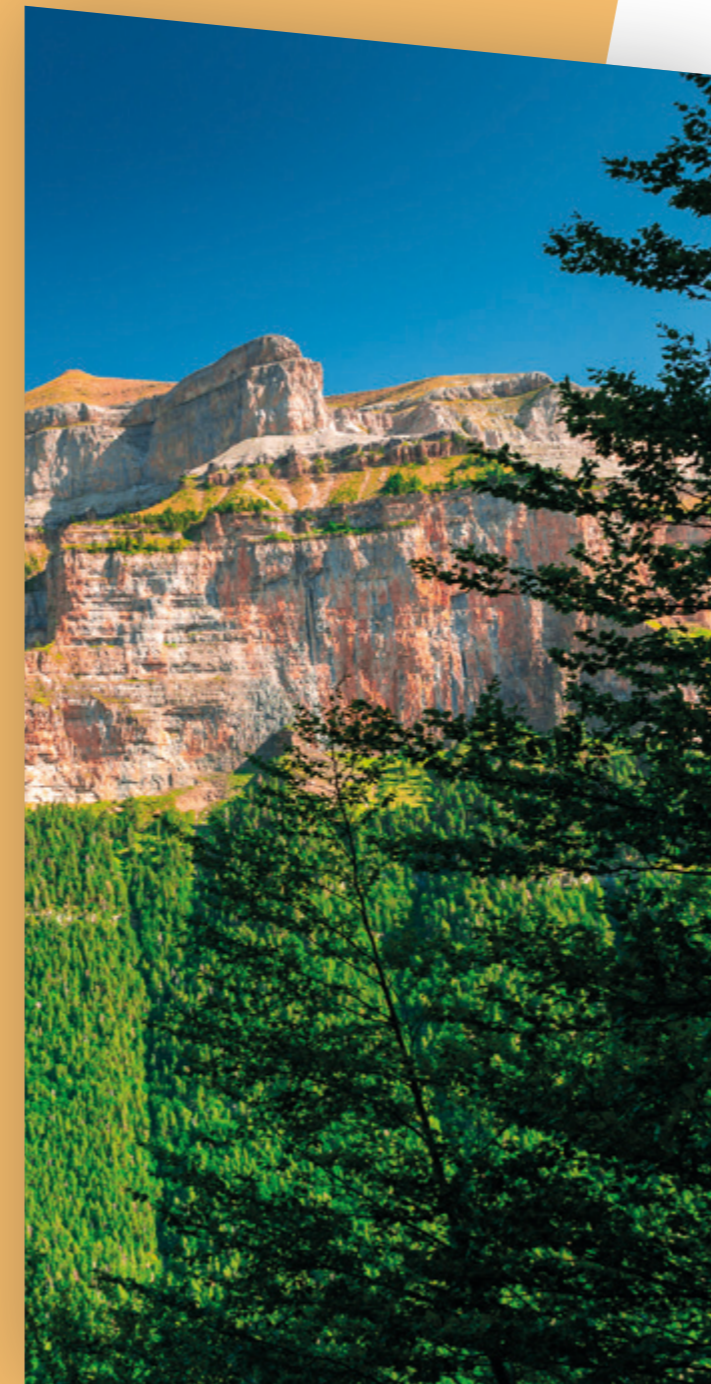


Photo: Ordesa and Monte Perdido National Park (Spain)

## Legal Affairs

*The Legal Affairs Commission (LAC) emerged in spring 2022 from the Legal Working Group. The Commission's goal is to provide legal assistance in support of other UIAA bodies in the delivery of their projects. It is important to state that the LAC is no UIAA attorney.*

### MOUNTAINEERING CASE-LAW DATABASE

In 2022, the LAC started working on the creation of a legal database of judgements related to accidents in the mountains and climbing facilities all over the world.

From the perspective of the end user, the database will be publicly accessible from the UIAA website and will enable everyone to search for cases based on different criteria (country of accident, country of judgement, mountaineering activity involved, and more). As a search result the user will access both the summary of the judgement as well as the original text of the judgement in its original language. Each summary will contain comments from the LAC which will emphasise the important takeaways.

Only authorised members will be allowed to add a case to the database; however, national associations, climbers or general public are encouraged to report a case to LAC so that it can be assessed, summarised and listed in the database. *Full details on how to do this will be communicated in 2023 on the delivery of the database.*

### LAC IS ONBOARDING NEW MEMBERS

LAC has members across different continents, but it is always looking for new recruits. For example, German speaking countries are currently not represented, and there is no member from the United Kingdom or Canada, which should be changed.

If any UIAA member association wants to nominate a member to LAC, the simple requirements for a LAC member are: *to be a lawyer; English speaking and writing at a level sufficient to prepare and review legal texts; cooperation with UIAA member associations, preferably knowledge of legal problems of national associations; experience with applying law in mountains/mountaineering in their practice; willingness to spend at least 15-30 hours a year volunteering for the LAC (online meetings and other remote work).*



Report by

**Klara Dvorakova**

President, Legal Affairs Commission

### Full Members

Klara DVORAKOVA  
Czech Republic (CMLA), President

Mohammadali ABDOLLAHI, Iran (IMSCF)

Paul CARSTENSEN, South Africa (MCSA)

Bénédicte CAZANAIVE, France (FFCAM)

Anna GILLOOLY, New Zealand (NZAC)

Mohan LAMSAL, Nepal (NMA)

Juliana STOJANOVSKA,  
North Macedonia (FPSM)

For a full list of Corresponding Members please visit the [UIAA website](#).





Photo credit: ISF/Ian Corless

## Anti-Doping

The UIAA promotes Clean Climbing by adopting and implementing the World Anti-Doping Code. The UIAA Anti-Doping Commission (ADC) manages the federation's anti-doping programme, including in-competition and out-of-competition testing and results management process. In parallel, the UIAA is responsible for ensuring that all member associations and athletes respect and comply with all relevant International Standards and all the principles inherent to the World-Anti Doping Code, including education for successful prevention of doping in sport. The UIAA contributes to advancing a clean sport through scientific research and outreach initiatives under Clean Climbing.



Photo credit: UIAA/Kasper Kellerhals

### STATISTICS OF UIAA DOPING CONTROLS IN 2022

	Number of in-competition doping controls	Number of out-of-competition doping controls	Additional analyses EPO	Additional analyses GHRF
Ice Climbing/UIAA	4	4	2	1
Skyrunning/ISF	14		2	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>

#### In-competition doping controls

Controls in ice climbing were only conducted at the World Championships held in January 2022 in Saas-Fee.

#### Out of competition doping controls

Out-of-competition controls were performed on ice climbers in the registered testing pool who fulfilled their duties regarding whereabouts information. For the last few years, and to be continued in 2023, the UIAA Anti-doping Commission has been supporting the International Skyrunning Federation (ISF) regarding their doping controls because they are under UIAA custody on that level.

#### Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs)

Four TUE (Therapeutic Use Exemptions) were approved for medication that climbers used in their therapy/treatment. These had to be approved as they contained prohibited substances. There were no positive doping cases in 2022.

The online education programme for ice climbers is still active and ongoing. Many athletes have already successfully completed it.

#### 2022: OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr Marija Andjelkovic, President of the UIAA Anti-Doping Commission, has been part of the UIAA MedCom Women's Health Project since 2020. Led by eminent experts in the field of mountain medicine, this project provides updated reference information about women-specific health concerns in the mountains and at high altitudes. Dr Andjelkovic wrote about recommendations regarding nutrition. In 2023 this document is scheduled for publication by the UIAA Medical Commission.

#### COMMISSION IN 2022

The Anti-Doping Commission, which for years has been an expert in the field of anti-doping, will continue to fulfil all requests from WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency).

Close cooperation was again established in respect of the Arbitral Award CAS 2020/O/6689 World Anti-Doping Agency versus Russian Anti-Doping Agency (RUSADA). The UIAA implemented all actions regarding Russian member federation participation in the UIAA Ice Climbing World Championship(s) (excluding junior and masters events) and to the local organiser.

With the full support from the UIAA Office, the Anti-Doping Commission successfully submitted all requirements and documents to WADA.

Commission member Professor Nenad Dikic officially became in charge of the ISF (International Skyrunning Federation) Medical and Anti-Doping Commission. The ISF is a Unit Member of the UIAA.

#### 2023: THE YEAR AHEAD

The year ahead will be challenging because the UIAA will receive WADA's Code Compliance Questionnaire as part of the World Anti-Doping Agency's (WADA's) World Anti-Doping Code (Code) Compliance Monitoring Program, which was established in 2016. International Federations (IFs), and the UIAA, in this case, will receive the second Code Compliance Questionnaire (CCQ) in WADA's history.

The purpose of the CCQ is to assess the implementation of the 2021 Code and International Standards by Code Signatories to strengthen further and harmonise the global anti-doping system. Therefore, completion of the CCQ is a mandatory requirement for each Signatory.



Report by

#### Dr. Marija Andjelkovic

Anti-Doping Commission President

[UIAA & Anti-Doping](#)

#### Full Members

Marija ANDJELKOVIC (President), Serbia (PSS)

Nenad DIKIC, Serbia (ISF)

Borja Osés GARCIA, Spain (EMF)

#### Key Links

[Further Reading](#)



## Medical

The mission of the UIAA Medical Commission is to give the best possible advice through its network of doctoral-level mountain medicine experts, the International Diploma in Mountain Medicine, and the dissemination of advice papers, translated into over ten languages. All MedCom members are doctors and many are active teachers in their respective countries.

### MedCom in Numbers

33

Medical & high-altitude advice papers

13

Different languages

172

High-altitude papers in total

### 2022: SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES

Following an advice video on water treatment methods, produced in 2021, UIAA MedCom released another pertinent video recommendation, this time on [Altitude Illnesses](#).

A [conference on Women Going to Altitude](#) was hosted by UIAA MedCom at Diavolezza, above Pontresina, Switzerland. It brought together the main contributors to a review of the existing UIAA MedCom recommendation papers on women's health. During the event some pre-eminent experts provided engaging, scientific and inspirational talks on a wealth of topics related to women at altitude. Over 60 people attended the conference including international delegates from the Czech Republic, Nepal, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The first [in-person meeting](#) since 2019 was held in Hathersage, England. A total of 18 UIAA Medical Commission members and delegates attended with a further 15 participating online. The meeting always unites the most important bodies

involved in mountain medicine and rescue and, as is custom, welcomed members of the medical commission of the International Commission for Alpine Rescue (ICAR) as well as the International Society for Mountain Medicine (ISMM).

### 2022: OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

The women in mountaineering topic remains a big focus of the Commission with a revision to the current paper due early in 2023. A dedicated working group of UIAA MedCom members in collaboration with external experts has spent over two years reviewing the most recent science to publish advice on related subtopics such as menopause, pregnancy, contraception, HAPE, AMS, nutrition, and more.

The UIAA advice paper on [children](#) is in the process of being updated with a working group assigned to manage this process. Its release is penned for 2024. Another working group has started revising the UIAA's high altitude papers dedicated to specific peaks ([Aconcagua](#),

[Denali](#), [Kilimanjaro](#) and [Mera Peak](#)). In addition to revising these papers, the MedCom will look into covering other peaks or more broadly geographical ranges.

The possibility of releasing a paper on rescue at very high altitude was discussed between the UIAA and ICAR. The latter will take the lead in this project.

### 2022: COMMISSION CHANGES

MedCom did not receive any new nominations in 2022, however it reconfirmed the following full members: Rianne van der Spek (the Netherlands, NKBV) and Marieke van Vessem (the Netherlands, NKBV), both very active and committed delegates the Commission is grateful to have.

Thomas Küpper (Germany, DAV) left the Commission in May. The Commission extends its thanks for his dedicated work especially on recommendation papers and publications. Long-time member Sundeep Dhillon (UK, BMC) also left MedCom in October due to professional work commitments. His many contributions and valuable input during the years he served on the Commission were always appreciated.

The UIAA Medical Commission paid tribute to its former member and longstanding associate [Jim Milledge](#) who passed away on 9 February aged 91.

MedCom continues to seek partnerships and collaborations with ISMM and ICAR as well as national mountain medicine bodies where appropriate.



Watch: Women Going to Altitude Conference



Watch: Animation on Altitude Illnesses

### SUPPORT FOR CLIMBING COMMUNITY/ UIAA MEMBERS

MedCom provides a range of services for both UIAA members and the wider mountaineering community. Its high-altitude advice papers are internationally respected and the fruits of years of research compiled by Commission representatives from UIAA member associations worldwide.

Translated into 13 languages they are a valuable resource which can be shared through member association communication channels. This expertise provides a broad range of mountain users - gap year travellers, novice climbers, experienced mountaineers and those with specific medical considerations and conditions - with potentially life-saving information.

Furthermore, the UIAA International Diploma in Mountain Medicine helps improve knowledge and increase expertise amongst medical practitioners across the world. UIAA members are reminded to reach out to UIAA MedCom with requests or topics they wish to be covered.

### 2023: THE YEAR AHEAD

- Throughout 2023, individual chapters on Women's Health at High Altitude will be published over several issues of the HAM&B journal. Lay versions of these recommendation papers will be made available on the UIAA website.
- A working group is dedicating its time to updating advice papers on specific peaks, notably Denali, Kilimanjaro, Aconcagua - which all have standing profiles on the UIAA website, needing revision - as well as profiling additional high peaks among others the Seven Summits, Mont Blanc and mountain ranges of high interest.
- The update of the standing recommendation on [Children at Altitude](#) is ongoing. A working group is reviewing the latest available literature and formulating most up-to-date recommendations as a result of it.
- UIAA MedCom is looking to join the ISMM/WMS conference held near Salt Lake City, Utah, USA in July-August 2024. The exact format is still being discussed.

Medical working group projects are supported by a dedicated number of individuals bringing expertise from a range of different fields. To discover who is working on each of the projects please click [here](#). The Medical Commission thanks everyone for their commitment and passion.



### Report by

#### Urs Hefti

Medical Commission President  
[UIAA & Mountain Medicine](#)

### Full Members

Urs HEFTI, Switzerland (SAC), President

Pierre BOUZAT, France (FFCAM)  
Anil GURTOO, India (IMF)  
David HILLEBRANDT, UK (BMC)  
Matthias HILTY, Switzerland (SAC)  
Lenka HORAKOVA, Czech Republic (CMF)  
Alzamani IDROSE, Malaysia (NAA)  
Norihiro KAMIKOMAKI, Japan (JMSCA)  
Kaste MATEIKAITE, Lithuania (LMA)  
Iñigo SOTERAS MARTINEZ, Spain (FEDME)  
John MCCALL, Canada (ACC)  
George RODWAY, USA (AAC)  
Sonam Zangbu SHERPA, Nepal (NMA)  
Rianne VAN DER SPEK, Netherlands (NKBV)  
Marieke VAN VESSEM, Netherlands (NKBV)  
Eduardo VINHAES, Brazil (CBME)

Click here for a full list of [Corresponding Members](#)





Photo: UIAA youth camp in Ariège, France.  
Credit: Christian Biard

## Mountaineering

*The restructuring of the UIAA commissions in 2022 had a significant impact on the Mountaineering Commission (MountCom). The Training Panel, which included a high number of MountCom members, became an independent commission just like the former Legal Experts Working Group.*

Until the restructuring, a major part of MountCom's activities was related to training. In some years this equated to up to 60-70% of the focus. In recent times the role and definition of the Commission has not always been clear and in this vacuum MountCom has often handled projects which did not naturally fit the profile of other Commissions.

MountCom now has a more defined focus, presented to and agreed by the Management Committee during the last General Assembly in Banff.

The centre of MountCom's activities is the promotion of best practices in climbing and mountaineering, including but not limited to:

- the proper use of equipment
- climbing in good style

- promoting and strengthening women's role in mountaineering
- accident analysis and advice papers to avoid them
- working conditions of mountain workers

Consequently, the Commission's new projects have been designed along this line:

- [Accident analysis and reporting](#) - MountCom is a partner in this cross-commission project
- Advice on the impact of climate change on route grades and/or safety
- Review of UIAA declarations, updating the most important one - the [Tyrol Declaration](#). The latter is the only declaration in mountaineering that has achieved global attention and it is associated with UIAA, even if it was drafted by the participants of an international conference where UIAA was represented by MountCom. In the 20 years that passed since the creation of the Tyrol Declaration, many things have changed, new disciplines (e.g. canyoning have appeared), necessitating the updating of the declaration.
- Awarding the ten best-style first ascents
- Hiking and trails - a new project initiated by the Italian Alpine Club (CAI).

Photo: Seis am Schlern, South Tyrol, Italy



Report by

**Peter Farkas**

Mountaineering  
Commission President

### Full Members

Peter FARKAS, Hungary (MHSSz),  
President

Pavlos GEORGIADES, Cyprus (CMCF),  
Vice President

Chiaki AOYAMA, Japan (JMA)

Marcel BLANES, Spain (CEC)

Miguel BOLDÚ DELGADO, Spain  
(FEDME)

Pedro CUIÇA, Portugal (FCMP)

Reena DHARMSHAKTU, India (IMF)

Xabier EZEIZABARRENA, Spain (EMF)

Ron FUNDERBURKE, USA (AAC)

Kul Bahdur GURUNG, Nepal (NMA)

Tul Singh GURUNG, Nepal (NMA)

Ulrike KIEFER, South Africa (MCSA)

Jinsuk KIM, Korea (KAF)

Aleksandar KIRKOVSKI, North  
Macedonia (FPSM)

Jordi MAGRINA GUELL, Spain (FEEC)

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Laza POPARA, Serbia (PSS)

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Omer SHAVIT, Israel (ILCA)

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Macedonia (FPSM)

Harald SWEN, The Netherlands (NKBV)

Jiri VOGEL, Czech Republic (CMF)

Lal Bahadur WAIBA, Nepal (NMA)

Frederick YU & Shirman SO, CHKMUCU  
(Hong Kong)

Oh YOUNG HOON, Korea (KAF)

Click here for a full list of [Corresponding  
Members](#)





## Ice Climbing

### ICE CLIMBING IN 2022

*The UIAA released the following statement on the future of competition ice climbing in September 2022:*

The UIAA Management Committee is working to advance the fundamental aims of its [UIAA Strategic Plan 2021-2024](#), including focus on the sport pillar and the management, progress and development of ice climbing as a competitive sport.

While there have been many years of hard work through dedicated volunteers and staff, competition ice climbing has not developed to the reasonable expectations of members federations, athletes, stakeholders, sponsors and partners.

Last year, the UIAA Executive Board formed an Ice Climbing Working Group (ICWG) made up of a member from each of the Executive Board, the Management Committee, the Athletes' Commission and the general membership to review the ice climbing situation.

The Ice Climbing Working Group prepared a report for the Management Committee. Based on the report, the Management Committee concluded that the current situation is untenable with significant and increasing impact on the athletes and the entire sport if not addressed in a timely manner. Therefore, on 27 August 2022, the Management Committee resolved to:

- 1) immediately dissolve the Ice Climbing Commission, and
- 2) put in place an interim governance solution for the immediate future and to work on a new governance structure to be presented to the Management Committee as soon as possible, but no later than in May 2023.

In addition, the Ice Climbing Working Group was entrusted with a mandate to oversee preparations and running of the 2022-23 competition season and to propose a new governance structure for ice climbing.

UIAA President Peter Muir explained:

*“These decisive first steps demonstrate the UIAA’s strong and renewed commitment to the sport of ice climbing. We are confident they will lead to a sustainable development and annual competition programme of which the UIAA will be justifiably proud. This will over the long-term serve the interests of all stakeholders, most importantly the athletes, event organisers, member federations, officials, sponsors and other supporters of competition ice climbing.”*

### IN NUMBERS

2021-22

- 7 Countries
- 1 UIAA Ice Climbing World Championships
- 1 UIAA Ice Climbing World Youth Championships
- 1 UIAA Ice Climbing European Championships
- 1 UIAA Ice Climbing North American Championships
- 6 UIAA Ice Climbing European Cups

790

Total event entries

6

events livestreamed

2021-22

400k

Unique views of video content from three events

3.3M

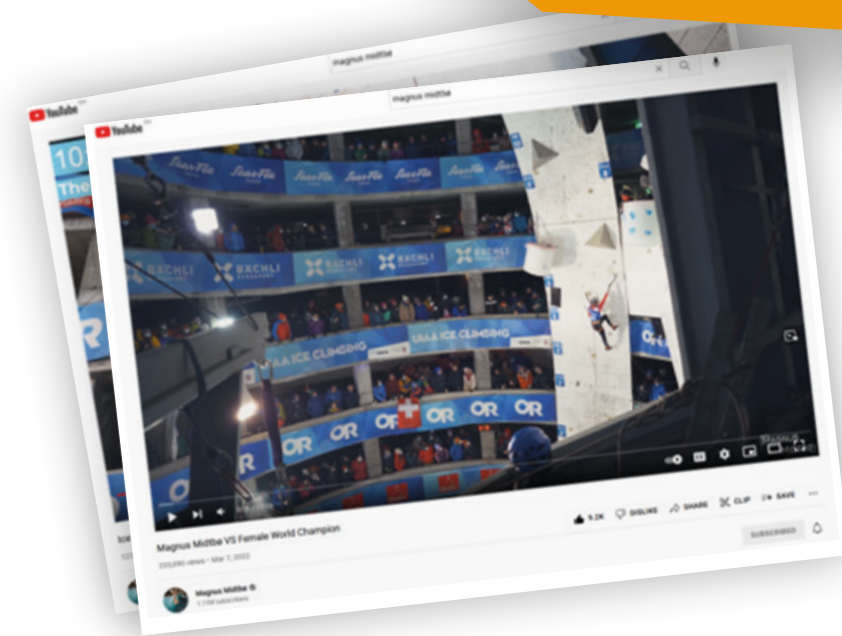
Views of Instagram reel content

3

Dedicated media distribution partners - Extreme Media, EpicTV, Swisscom TV, Swiss-Sport TV, beln Sport and other new broadcasters

1.1

Television reach of 270 million households with over 20,940 minutes of terrestrial TV broadcast



### Magnus Mitdbø

The UIAA invited YouTuber and sport climber Magnus Mitdbø to Saas-Fee where he made three videos for his channel.

Magnus has over a million subscribers on YouTube.

The videos ([I tried the World Championships](#), [Women's World Championships](#), [Speed duel](#)) have over 1.84 million views on YouTube.



# UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD TOUR CALENDARS

## 2021-22

2021/22 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD TOUR CALENDAR		
<b>Cheongsong, Korea</b> <i>POSTPONED</i>	14-16 January 2022	Lead & Speed
<b>Saas-Fee, Switzerland</b> WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS	26-29 January 2022	Lead & Speed
<b>Ouray, Usa</b> NORTH AMERICAN & NORTH AMERICAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS	4-5 February 2022	Lead & Speed
<b>Oulu, Finland</b> EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS & EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS	18-20 February 2022	Lead & Speed
<b>Tyumen, Russia</b> <i>CANCELLED</i>	4-6 March 2022	Lead & Speed
<b>Kirov, Russia</b> <i>CANCELLED</i>	11-13 March 2022	Lead & Speed

2022 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS		
<b>Saas-Fee, Switzerland</b>	26-29 January 2022	Lead & Speed

2021/22 UIAA ICE CLIMBING CONTINENTAL CUPS		
<b>Bern, Switzerland</b>	13 November 2021	Lead
<b>Zilina, Slovakia</b>	27 November 2021	Lead
<b>Brno, Czech Republic</b>	4 December 2021	Lead
<b>Utrecht, Netherlands</b>	11 December 2021	Lead
<b>Malbun, Liechtenstein</b>	22 January 2022	Lead
<b>Oulu, Finland</b>	20 February 2022	Lead

## 2022-23

UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS	
<b>Oulu, Finland</b>	24-26 February 2023

UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD CUPS		
<b>Cheongsong, South Korea</b>	13-15 January 2023	Round 1 - Lead & Speed
<b>Champagny-en-Vanoise, France</b>	20-22 January 2023	Round 2 - Lead & Speed
<b>Saas-Fee, Switzerland</b>	26-28 January 2023	Round 3 - Lead & Speed

UIAA ICE CLIMBING EUROPEAN CONTINENTAL COMPETITIONS		
<b>Zilina, Slovakia</b>	26 November 2022	Round 1 - Lead
<b>Brno, Czech Republic</b>	3 December 2022	Round 2 - Lead
<b>Glasgow, UK</b>	18 February 2023	Round 3 - Lead
<b>Oulu, Finland</b>	25-26 February 2023	Round 4 - Lead



## 2021-22 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD TOUR SUMMARY

- Fantastic headline event in Switzerland with the World Championships and World Youth Championships being combined into the same weekend for the first time allowing young climbers to complete alongside their role models.
- Good relationships strengthened between the UIAA and the event organisers even when certain events had to be cancelled at short notice due to global issues.
- The ice climbing community were very excited to be back at competition events after a very short season in 2020-21.
- Continued development of the digital side of the sport with a new [website](#), new interactivity with the results system and athlete biographies. Planned growth on the social media side as well.
- Unfortunate cancellation at short notice of all three World Cup level events due to global issues was disappointing for all involved.
- A full European Cup series was one of the highlights of the season. An extended North America & Asian series will be developed for the future. The hosting of three international events with youth categories was also another great step forward for the sport.
- Although the World Championships and World Youth Championships were a success, there were some good learning points on how to run this sort of combined event in the future.
- Loss of the UIAA Instagram account prevented a lot of the planned growth of social media, but good groundwork and plans have been laid for the future.
- With all the global issues occurring this year, it was very difficult to put any development plans for the sport into action. Further planning is required here.
- Lack of ice on all the event structures does not make a good impression.
- Excellent progress made by a number of organisers in implementing the UIAA's sustainability guidelines for competition sport. A particular mention to FINICE (Oulu, Finland).

## 2021/22 SOCIAL MEDIA STATISTICS

### INSTAGRAM

[@uiaaiceclimbingworldtour](#)

- Without any explanation or warning, Instagram shut down the existing uiaamountains account down at the beginning of the season. A new account - @uiaaiceclimbing-worldtour was setup and now stands at over 4000 followers.
- Accounts reached - **439,000**
- Accounts engaged - **15,500**
- Posts - **21**, Stories - **243**, Reels - **21**, Videos - **17**
- Most viewed reel - **204,000** views
- Total views **569,000** views

### FACEBOOK

[facebook.com/theuiaa](#)

- **1,102** new followers gained during the season (from 45,548 to 46,650)
- Reach for season posts **198,00** (only video content)
- **18,550** total video views
- **5,209** page visits

### YOUTUBE

[youtube.com/user/uiaabern](#)

- **124,500** unique views
- **10,300** subscribers up by 1350
- Watch time - **33,700** hours
- Impressions - **1.3** million
- Average watch time - **17** minutes
- Audience - USA, Germany, UK, Canada, Russia
- **25-34** years largest demographic
- Most viewed video - Saas-Fee Lead Finals - **20,000** views

### NEW UIAA WEBSITE

[iceclimbing.sport](#)

- **134,086** page views between 1 November and 1 April
- **19,291** unique visitors
- **31,342** sessions

### FLICKR

All the images taken by the photographers at the events can be viewed on UIAA Flickr:  
[flickr.com/photos/uiaa\\_mountains/albums](#)



**REPORT FROM  
UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORKING GROUP**

Since its creation in September 2022, the Ice Climbing Working Group conducted the following:

- An in-depth assessment of the current situation.
- Broad first evaluation of future governance models.
- Confirmed its presence at all 2022-23 World Cup events.
- Supported renewal of presenting sponsorship agreement until 2025 competition season.
- Fostered strong athlete involvement in its process.
- Ensured a continued smooth collaboration with operational level.
- Helped lay the foundations for the 2022-23 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour with a projected total of 800 athlete event entries from 21 nations across three World Cups, four European Cups and a World Youth Championships.

**WORLD TOUR IN NUMBERS**



**400,000**

total views from 2021-22 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour livestreams



**224**

athletes who took part in the 2021-22 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour



**26**

member federations who registered athletes for the 2021-22 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour



**2023 AND NEXT STEPS FOR THE ICE CLIMBING WORKING GROUP**

- Continue to serve as interim governing body for ice climbing
- Develop and propose models for a future governance body/structure, working with a Swiss lawyer (SAC legal commission)
- Populate a pool of future officials and WG members (survey/application process)



**Report by**

**Rob Adie**

UIAA Sports Events Coordinator



**Peter Bourne**

UIAA Communication Manager



**Martin Lascano**

UIAA Executive Board Member & ICWG Chair

**ICWG Members**

Martin **LASCANO** - UIAA Executive Board Member - FASA (Argentina), chair, former FASA General Secretary and Argentinian Olympic Committee advisor for Sport Climbing during 2018 Youth Olympic Games

Eimir **MCSWIGGAN** - UIAA Athlete Commission Member - Mountaineering Ireland, active Ice Climbing athlete

Phil **POWERS** - UIAA Management Committee Member - American Alpine Club, former AAC Executive Director

Andy **SYME** - UIAA General Member representative - British Mountaineering Council President

**UIAA & Ice Climbing**

Please note that this report covers the 2021-22 season only.

GALLERY: 2022 UIAA ICE CLIMBING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS



Credit: Kaspar Kellerhals/UIAA





Photos: Training in Mongolia and Saudi Arabia.  
Credit: Steve Long

## Training

*Training, which officially became an independent Commission in 2022, is one of the core services offered by the UIAA. In particular, the UIAA Mountain Qualification Label (MQL) is an internationally recognised accreditation and certification scheme which examines and evaluates the training and assessment programmes of UIAA member federations.*

### GENERAL PURPOSE OF UIAA TRAINING COMMISSION:

- To support climbers and mountaineers gain access to high quality training, leaders and instructors.
- Develop, revise and upgrade international standards for qualifications and personal skills training courses.
- Advise member organisations on how to develop training programmes and qualifications.
- Accredite qualifications that meet the standard of the UIAA's Mountain Qualification Label.

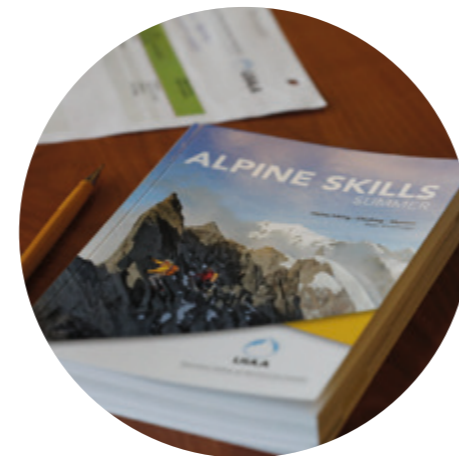
### 2022: TRADEMARK LOGO

Working in partnership with the Safety Commission to produce Standard Operating Procedures, the Training Commission gained approval to use a trademarked logo for its accreditations of qualifications. Following three

years of piloting, the Commission also launched personal skills certification for hiking and rock climbing, and started working on a syllabus for mountaineering.

### 2022 OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

At the request of national federations, the Training Commission delivered hiking and rock climbing training courses in Saudi Arabia, and a mountaineering leadership course in Mongolia. A self-rescue workshop was delivered in Cyprus, to coincide with a meeting of several commissions. UIAA certified skills courses were attended by almost one thousand students, spread across several countries. An interim new edition of the Alpine Handbook (Summer Skills) was published and distributed to attendees at the General Assembly in Banff. Work has also begun on a new handbook to cover winter activities. Several successful validations and renewals were requested and successfully accredited.



### COMMISSION IN 2022

Training became a full Commission in 2022, following a significant period as a panel within the Mountaineering Commission. Several new members joined the commission, representing a broad range of educational backgrounds. Criteria for approving mentors and validators have been produced for accrediting qualification programmes. The skills graduation system has also allowed the development of other teaching materials and can also be used for webinars and community chats.

### SUPPORT FOR CLIMBING COMMUNITY/ UIAA MEMBERS

UIAA training collates advice and experience worldwide from federations and commissions and shares lessons learned with the climbing and mountaineering community, along with advice and support on how best to disseminate this information effectively. The new service of certifying skills training gives recognition to instructors who have completed an accredited qualification and allows them, in turn, to educate novices and intermediate participants in safe and sustainable practice for mountain activities. Participants in the skills certification programme also gain access to the relevant section of the online Alpine Handbook. Past students have expressed satisfaction at being able to demonstrate completion of basic training to an approved standard, and some organisations have found that skills certification has assisted in negotiating accident insurance, and partnership with sponsors.

### 2023: THE YEAR AHEAD

In 2023 the Training Commission plans to complete the ongoing work on a new database, which will be integrated with the UIAA membership facility and also the world map of current and ongoing accreditations of qualifications. A full print run is planned for the Alpine Handbook, which will be divided into two publications, hiking and climbing. The digital online version will probably remain as a single volume. The third phase of qualification development will be delivered in Mongolia in May, this time focussing on rock climbing instructors, and several other requests have been received for teaching or train the trainer input from both existing and prospective UIAA member organisations. A review of current guidance and administrative documents is also planned.



### Report by

**Steve Long**  
Training Commission President

### Full Members

Steve LONG, United Kingdom (BMC), President

Andreas ANDREOU, Cyprus (CMCF)

Jan BLAZEJ, Slovakia (JAMES)

Pedro CUIÇA, Portugal (FCMP)

Ron FUNDERBURKE, United States (AAC)

Pavlos GEORGIADIS, Cyprus (CMCF)

Tul Singh GURUNG, Nepal (NMA)

Stojan HADJJEVIMOV, North Macedonia (FPSM)

Patrick LAMARQUE, France (FFCAM)

Jordi MAGRINA GUELL, Spain (FECC)

Goran NIKOLOSKI, North Macedonia (FPSM)

Matjas SERKEZI, Slovenia (PZS)

Omer SHAVIT, Israel (ILCA)

Jiri VOGEL, Czech Republic (HPS)

For a full list of Corresponding Members please visit the [UIAA website](#).



# Partners

## SPONSORS



BALLY PEAK OUTLOOK FOUNDATION  
[theuiaa.org/mountain-protection-award/](http://theuiaa.org/mountain-protection-award/)



OUTDOOR RESEARCH  
[iceclimbing.sport](http://iceclimbing.sport)



PETZL FOUNDATION  
[theuiaa.org/training](http://theuiaa.org/training)

## PARTNERS

The Bern office and Executive Board are continually exploring new commercial opportunities and means of approaching sponsors as well as increasing the UIAA's international network through partnerships with likeminded organisations.



*Outdoor Research* is dedicated to inspiring the journey ahead with innovative technical apparel and accessories designed for outdoor adventures. Outdoor Research is the Title Sponsor of the **UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour until 2025**.



The Bally Peak Outlook Foundation, partners of the **UIAA Mountain Protection Award**, was established in 2020, demonstrating the Swiss luxury brand's long-term commitment to mountain preservation. With a mission to safeguard fragile alpine environments from the adverse effects of global warming and excessive outdoor tourism, the Bally Peak Outlook Foundation aims to raise awareness around the issues threatening the future of these extreme landscapes and empowering local communities and reputable, on-the-ground partners to drive positive and sustainable change. To learn more, visit [Bally.com/peakoutlook](http://Bally.com/peakoutlook)

## INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER MEMBERS



ICAR  
[International Commission for Alpine Rescue](http://International Commission for Alpine Rescue)



IFMGA  
[International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations](http://International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations)



UIMLA  
[Union of International Mountain Leader Associations](http://Union of International Mountain Leader Associations)



ISA  
[International Slackline Association](http://International Slackline Association)

## MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS



ARISF  
[Association of IOC Recognised International Sport Federations](http://Association of IOC Recognised International Sport Federations)



MRI  
[Mountain Research Initiative](http://Mountain Research Initiative)



PEACE AND SPORT  
[peace-sport.org](http://peace-sport.org)



SPORT ACCORD  
[sportaccord.sport](http://sportaccord.sport)



UNEP  
[United Nations Environment Programme](http://United Nations Environment Programme)



10YFP  
[United Nations 10-Year YFP Sustainable Tourism Programme](http://United Nations 10-Year YFP Sustainable Tourism Programme)

Organisation recognised by the



INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

Recognised since 1995 by the International Olympic Committee (IOC)









**International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation**  
UNION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIATIONS D'ALPINISME

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