Call for expression of interest for exhibitors

Introduction

Despite their key goods and services they provide, mountains still remain among the ecosystems least documented, offering services least accounted for. Globally, approximately 40% of the mountain population in developing countries is vulnerable to food insecurity, and half are chronically hungry. The situation is exacerbated by global climatic, environmental and socioeconomic changes. There is need for urgent political actions to enable environments at global and local levels and to facilitate the implementation of Sustainable Mountain Development (SMD) activities.

In order to promote SMD in view of the considerable global challenges ahead, a program funded by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) named “Sustainable Mountain Development for Global Change (SMD4GC)” was initiated. One of the activities of the SMD4GC Programme is to support different multi-stakeholder events to enhance policy dialogue as well as knowledge sharing.

The backbone of these events is the World Mountain Forum (WMF) – an outstanding platform for SMD. Following the last two WMF-the first held in Lucerne, Switzerland in 2012 and the second held in Cusco, Peru in 2014- the third WMF (wmf.mtnforum.org) is jointly organised by the Albertine Rift Conservation Society and the Government of Uganda with financial and technical support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). It is also technically supported by Sustainable Mountain Development for Global Change (SMD4GC) partners all over the world. The WMF 2016 will bring together mountain stakeholders to share lessons and experiences on past activities in sustainable mountain development and to discuss challenges and opportunities for SMD in the future referring to the recommendations from the last WMF 14 and conclusions of on-going international policy processes including climate change negotiations and new Sustainable Development Goals.
Guidelines for exhibitors
More than 250 participants around the world are expected to attend the WMF2016. This is an opportunity to showcase your best practices or products as your contribution in promoting sustainable development in mountain regions. ARCOS (Secretariat of the WMF 2016) invites interested parties to express their interests through filling the form available at the bottom of this page. The National Organising Committee will retain the right to accept or decline any application for exhibition at the forum.

The exhibition space will be located at Mbale Resort Hotel and will be open daily from 16th October 2016, during both the Forum and the Mountain Partnership General Assembly. All exhibitors, except the sponsors of the event, are expected to pay 100 USD per each booth used.

The exhibition package
• A booth in the exhibition area (counter, table, chairs, brochure stand, power socket, and spot lights)
• Your logo and corporate description in the printed exhibition guide distributed to all delegates of the WMF 2016
• Your logo (with a link access to your website) on the event’s website
• Assistance and logistic support (in the run up and during the event)

Terms and conditions
For a good and enriching experience of participants of the WMF 2016 and in order to facilitate the logistics involved in organizing the event, all exhibitors accept to follow the conditions below:

• Exhibition packages will be confirmed only upon receipt of payment. Payment by bank transfer only, in USD.
• The event partners reserve the right to reject sponsorship package.
• Once the application for exhibition has been received and approved by the secretariat and the applicant have confirmed their participation in writing, subsequent withdrawal will be liable to payment the following cancellation charges.
  1. Cancellations received 2 (two) months prior to the event will receive a rebate of 50% of the fees paid to that date.
  2. Cancellations received 1 (one) month prior to the event will receive a rebate of 25% of the fees paid to that date.
  3. Cancellations received less than 2 (two) weeks prior to the event will receive a rebate of 0%.
• Exhibitors are expected to meet their transport to and from the event venue and to cover their accommodation during the days of the event.
• Exhibitors are encouraged to share materials that will exhibited digitally with the secretariat for future references.
• Exhibitors are expected to demonstrate good care of the environment during their exhibition-related activities by using recyclable or recycled materials, locally-sourced materials and/or as organic long-lasting materials.
• If there are some items to sell or give out as promotional materials, ARCOS encourages the exhibitors to offer useful items that can be reused and which have been produced ethically, using environmentally-friendly materials (such as organic unbleached natural fibres, recycled, nontoxic or biodegradable materials).

Application process (Expression of interest)
Expression of interest is done through filling the registration form found at the following address: http://goo.gl/forms/s59tAgu8c9f0LiZW2. When registering, applicants are asked information on the background of the exhibitor, their activities and how they relate to SMD, the list of products/materials that will be exhibited, and the number of booths that will be needed. The registration period will be closed on 30th June 2016. After the closing of the registration, applicants will contacted individually by the secretariat to confirm their participation and be given payment methods.