

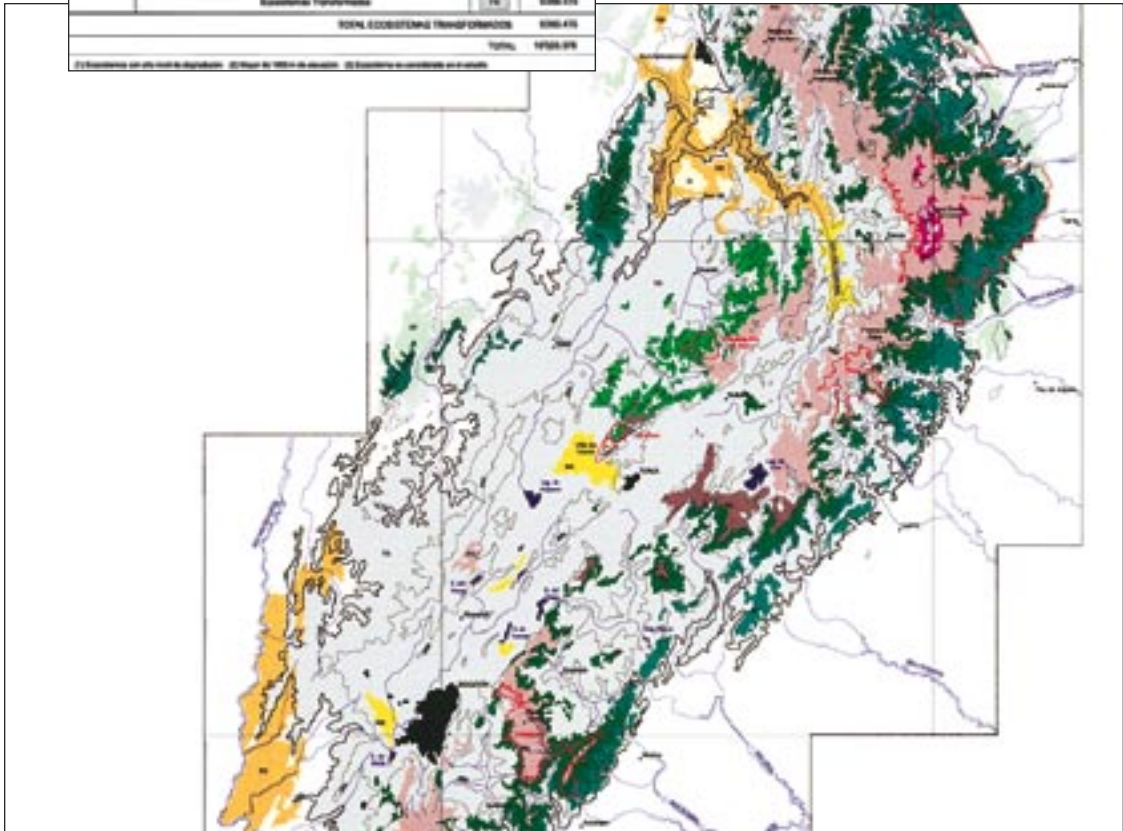
MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT

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LEYENDA				
TIPO GENERAL DE ECOSISTEMA	Subtipo	ECOSISTEMAS	ÁMBITOS	SUPERFICIE ACTUAL (km ²)
ECOSISTEMAS DEL NEÓGENO - CUARTO CUARTO	Cordillera Occidental	Reserva Biológica y patrimonio secundario andino de valle interandino (1 - 1000 m s.n.m.)	101	10100
		Reserva Biológica y patrimonio secundario andino de valle interandino (1 - 1000 m s.n.m.)	102	10100
		Reserva Subandina (1000-1500m)	103	17000
		Reserva Andina (1500 - 1800m)	104	17000
		Parque Nacional	105	10000
		Parque Biológico	106	10000
		Reserva Biológica	107	10000
	Patrimonio Andino	Reserva Subandina de Bolívar	108	10000
		Salvación Vida andina (1 - 1000m)	109	10000
	Industria Andina	Reserva Biológica	110	10000
		Reserva Transitoria del Magdalena Medio, Antioquia y el Cauca	111	10000
	TOTAL ECOSISTEMAS NATURALES			200000
Ecosistemas Transformados			100	100000
TOTAL ECOSISTEMAS TRANSFORMADOS			100	100000
TOTAL				300000

1. Ecosistemas con alto nivel de degradación. 2. Menos de 1000 ha de extensión. 3. Ecosistemas en condiciones por mejorar.



Map courtesy Diéno Armenteros, Carol Franco, and Hector Villaveal, Alexander von Humboldt Biological Research Institute.

Part of a study of ecoregions in the eastern Andes Mountains of Colombia, this map was put together with satellite images. The biodiversity of the region is vulnerable to development, and one of the goals of the project was to identify areas needing protection.

Definition

Abruptly elevated land forms dominating landscapes, blocking pathways for transportation, and impeding the movement of air and water.

Description

Mountains occupy about 20 percent of Earth's land surface, and are important sources of water, energy, and biodiversity. About 10 percent of the world's population lives in the mountainous areas, and about half of the world's population depends on the mountain resources in some way. Mountains are important factors in mining, forestry, agriculture, and tourism. Mountain ecosystems are fragile, dynamic, and complex, particularly associated with the high frequency of natural disasters such as floods, landslides, and volcanic eruptions. Global warming is causing most of the world's mountain glaciers to retreat, some of which are the major sources of water for millions of people.

The Rio summit in 1992 successfully placed these mountain issues on the political agenda (as reflected in Chapter 13 of Agenda 21). However, sustainable mountain development in the twenty-first century can only be successfully undertaken by mountain people themselves, with the support of sound national economic policies and increased international cooperation.

Bibliography

United Nations. 1992. *Agenda 21*. New York: UN.

Web sites

www.mountains2002.org

www.unep-wcmc.org

United Nations Environment Programme–World Conservation Monitoring Centre, provides information for policy and action to conserve the living world.

www.icimod.org.sg

International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, sustainable livelihoods for mountain communities.