



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Working together for mountain peoples and environments



Peru ©Heinz Plenge







WHO WE ARE

The Mountain Partnership is a United Nations voluntary alliance that brings members together to work towards a common goal: improving the lives of mountain peoples and protecting mountain environments around the world.

The Mountain Partnership has over 280 members from governments, intergovernmental organizations, civil society and the private sector.

For a full list of members, visit www.mountainpartnership.org/members



Mountain Partnership members share a vision: a world in which sustainable mountain development receives greater public and private sector attention, commitment, engagement and investments.



OUR VISION



WHY DO MOUNTAINS MATTER?

Mountains in numbers

- cover about 22 percent of the earth's land area
- are home to 13 percent of the world's population; 91 percent of whom live in developing countries
- provide 60-80 percent of the world's freshwater resources for domestic, agricultural and industrial consumption
- host approximately 25 percent of terrestrial biodiversity as well as vital genetic resources for locally adapted crops and livestock
- house almost 60 percent of all Biosphere Reserves and 30 percent of all World Heritage Sites
- attract about 15-20 percent of global tourism



Key challenges

Mountain peoples are among the world's poorest and hungriest: in developing countries, a vast majority live below the poverty line and 1 out of 3 faces the threat of food insecurity.

Deforestation, ill-managed mining and tourism, unsustainable farming practices and population growth can endanger livelihoods, increase erosion and desertification, threaten biodiversity and trigger disasters such as floods and landslides.

Mountain ecosystems are extremely vulnerable to climate change – and consequences, such as rapid glacier melting, are far-reaching and potentially devastating.

Local communities possess traditional knowledge and best practices in managing and enhancing the resilience of fragile mountain ecosystems, but their voices often go unheard.



WHAT WE DO

The Mountain Partnership is a platform for joint action and programmes. Members join forces to promote, facilitate and implement initiatives at national, regional and international levels and to raise awareness about the challenges faced by mountain peoples and environments.



Advocate for global attention

- leading international campaigns and holding events to highlight mountain issues globally
- ensuring that sustainable mountain development is included in global, regional and national negotiations and policies
- drafting policy and issues briefs, key messages and UN reports

Promote joint projects

- sharing information about project calls and funding opportunities
- creating an enabling environment to foster collaboration among members
- supporting members to develop joint proposals and projects

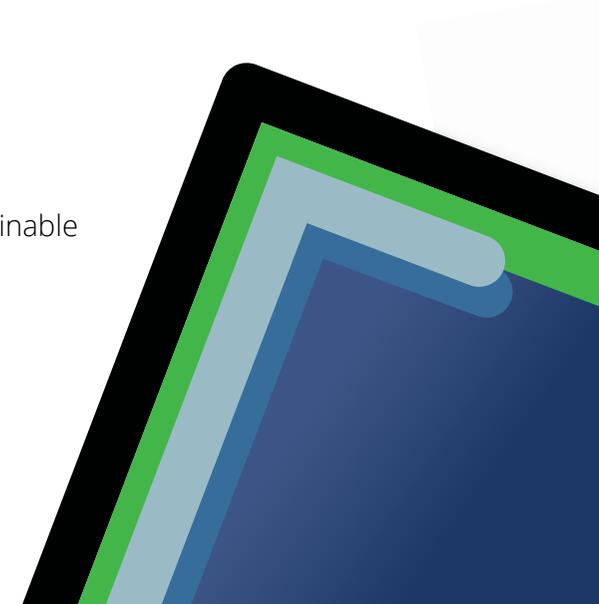
Share knowledge

- producing technical publications, a website, brochures, videos and newsletters
- conducting research and analysis of data for evidence building
- fostering communication among members

Strengthen capacity

- conducting the annual International Programme on Research and Training on Sustainable Management of Mountain Areas (IPROMO) course
- encouraging technology transfer among members
- organizing workshops and training sessions

Find out more about our work at www.mountainpartnership.org/our-work





THE PARTNERSHIP IN ACTION

Mountains and the Sustainable Development Goals

Thanks to the advocacy efforts of Mountain Partnership members, three mountain-related targets were included in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Mountain Green Cover Index was developed as an indicator by the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) to monitor progress on SDG target 15.4. The MPS was appointed as the entity responsible within FAO to coordinate measuring progress towards the target.

Creation of a global mountain label

Mountain Partnership members are joining forces to develop a voluntary certification to brand high value mountain products as a strategy to boost local economies. The initiative, part of the Mountain Partnership project Climate Change and Mountain Forests, is funded by the Government of Italy, and will focus on value chain analysis and capacity development in different mountain areas.

Courses on sustainable mountain management

Government officials, technicians and experts working in the development of mountain regions further their knowledge during the annual two-week course known as IPROMO. Each year since 2008, a different focus has been selected to better face the challenges of developing mountains sustainably. The Mountain Partnership Secretariat works with the University of Turin and the Town of Ormea to hold the course in the Italian Alps.

Promoting sustainable mountain development in Africa

Mountain Partnership members in Africa are advocating for mountains in the region. Sustainable mountain development was mainstreamed in the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment of 2015 and several governments are working on national sustainable mountain development plans, following Madagascar, who produced one in 2015. The capacity to address climate change, food security and a green economy was strengthened during a workshop attended by participants from 12 African countries.

Central Asia focuses on climate change

The Mountain Partnership Central Asia Hub is addressing climate change issues throughout the region. At the local level, a new initiative is supporting the adaptation capacity of eight mountain villages in Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan. At the national level, the Climate Change Dialogue Platform, a multi-stakeholder consultation forum, is encouraging inclusive climate governance in Kyrgyzstan. In Tajikistan, the Hub, jointly with Tajik Parliamentarians, is supporting policy dialogue for a new legislative bill on mountain territories.



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Italian Development
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Mountain Partnership Secretariat

FAO Forestry Department
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00153 Rome, Italy
info@mountainpartnership.org
www.mountainpartnership.org
www.facebook.com/mountainpartnership