

# A year-long ascent

**Mountain Partnership Secretariat  
Annual Report 2014**



©Mountain Wilderness International/Anna Susterski



Mountain Partnership





# **A year-long ascent**

## **Mountain Partnership Secretariat Annual Report 2014**

2015

Published by the Mountain Partnership Secretariat

Rome, Italy

A United Nations voluntary alliance, the Mountain Partnership is dedicated to improving the lives of mountain peoples and protecting mountain environments around the world. Founded in 2002, the Mountain Partnership promotes the sharing of resources, knowledge, information and expertise to carry out its mission.

In April 2015, the Partnership had 252 members: 56 governments, 13 intergovernmental organizations, 178 major groups (e.g. civil society, NGOs and the private sector) and 5 subnational authorities.

The Mountain Partnership is supported by a Secretariat which is hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Rome, Italy, and a 16-member Steering Committee.



# WHAT IS THE MOUNTAIN PARTNERSHIP?

# Contents

A message from the MPS Coordinator .....	1
Elevating peaks .....	2
Communicating the progress .....	4
Flying the flag .....	8
Trekking together .....	10
Training for the climb .....	14
Beyond the peaks .....	16
Propelling the expedition .....	18
A look at Central Asia .....	20
Mountains top meeting agendas .....	24
Equipment and gear .....	26
List of members.....	28
Financial report .....	34
Mountain Partnership Steering Committee .....	35
Powering the Mountain Partnership Secretariat.....	36







## A message from the MPS Coordinator

Mountain climbing shares some commonalities with striving to overcome development challenges. Each step forward is steadied by the last. Both challenges are best undertaken by a group, gradually and with concern for the environment. In 2014, great strides were made in the ascent the Mountain Partnership (MP) embarked on more than ten years ago.

Thanks to an international advocacy campaign promoted by the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) last year, mountains were included in the final document of the UN Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals. Working together and speaking with one voice, we made one of our most important achievements yet: three mountain-related targets are expected to ensure concerted sustainable mountain development efforts for at least the next 15 years.

The MPS dedicated 2014 to carrying out the work decided by the Fourth Global Meeting of the MP, which was held in late September 2013 in Erzurum, Türkiye. That meeting generated significant momentum, promoted action and renewed members' commitment. It offered a unique opportunity to network, be creative and propose solutions. In 2014, the MPS began fulfilling the ambitious recommendations made by the general assembly, implementing the four-year strategy and adhering to the new governance structure.

In addition to leading a successful advocacy campaign, last year the MPS and MP members undertook impressive initiatives, such as promoting regional collaboration and institutional strengthening, holding thematic conferences, conducting field activities, developing capacities and carrying out communication efforts.

As we look back and celebrate the formidable accomplishments described in this annual report, I invite the entire MP constituency to keep up the momentum, continue to trigger change and fulfill the expectations of mountain communities around the world. Together we can reach great altitudes.

Thomas Hofer, Coordinator of the Mountain Partnership Secretariat



## Elevating peaks

In 2014, the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) focused on promoting the inclusion of sustainable mountain development in the Post-2015 development agenda. In collaboration with several Mountain Partnership (MP) government members and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), the MPS organized five events in New York, United States of America, in conjunction with sessions of the UN Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The gatherings saw the participation of a vast number of MP government and civil society members based in North America, who were instrumental in achieving three mountain-related targets – one in proposed Sustainable Development Goal 6 and two in SDG 15.

The MPS also ran an information campaign, frequently sharing updates and issues briefs with members and friends of the Partnership. With partners, UN Environment Programme, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Austrian Development Agency and FAO, five SDG-related issues briefs were produced in English, French and Spanish and two were also issued in Arabic and Russian.

The MPS drafted a four-year advocacy strategy and related calendar of events outlining how and where to raise awareness of and promote SMD at global, regional and national level. The Secretariat promoted the 'Mountain Agenda' at several UN



conferences, regularly provided input on mountain issues and wrote mountain-related briefing points for high-level meetings with diplomats and government officials.

Other advocacy events organized and/or attended by the MPS include:

- A seminar, co-organized by FAO, Earth Day Italia and the MPS, on World Environment Day, called 'Mountains, intelligent territories: opportunities for future investment – social, environmental and financial innovation' (5 June 2014; Rome, Italy).
- In collaboration with the Permanent Representation of Peru in Rome, a lunch was organized to present the Mountain Partnership and sustainable mountain development issues as well as to explore potential new partnerships with the Heads of the FAO Regional Groups (21 July 2014; Rome, Italy).
- Participation at Euromontana conference in Bilbao and presentation by the MPS about Mountain Family Farming (22–24 October 2014; Bilbao, Spain).
- For the 20th session of the Conference of Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the MPS worked with the Governments of Switzerland, Bhutan, Argentina, Guinea, Kyrgyzstan, FAO and the Mountain Institute to organize a high-level side event on 'Mountains and Climate Change – from understanding to action' (11 December 2014; Lima, Peru).
- Perspectives on Mountains and Sustainable Development in a Post-2015 World – IMD observance event (11 December 2014; UN HQ, New York, United States of America).



© Mountain Productions

## Inspiring goodwill

Jake Norton, a climber, filmmaker and philanthropist, was designated Mountain Partnership Ambassador. He made his first speech with the new title at an event in observance of International Mountain Day (11 December), at UN Headquarters in New York, United States of America.



© FAO/Sara Manuelli

## Communicating the progress

The Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) widely disseminated news about sustainable mountain development (SMD) – both about its own advocacy and technical work as well as those of Mountain Partnership (MP) members. Knowledge and experiences were collected and shared to recognize achievements and inspire further actions in SMD.

Knowledge Management efforts mainly consisted of contributing to and producing publications on SMD. In 2014, the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS), partnering with various members, produced a number of publications to increase awareness, deepen understanding and inspire concrete policy action on SMD. (See page 28 for a complete list.) The MPS and partners produced five policy briefs targeting policy makers, experts, media and civil society to secure the prominent presence of mountains in the proposed Sustainable Development Goals. It also produced the International Mountain Day fact sheets and posters.

During the course of the year, the MPS carried out communication activities prescribed by the Fourth Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership in late 2013. The MPS updated the website to reflect the structural, governance and other changes required by the general assembly. With support from the task force of communication expert members representing the six regions of the Partnership, the MPS drafted a four-year communication strategy.

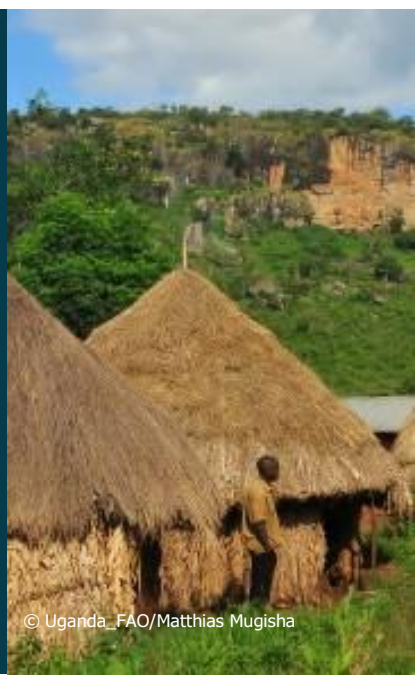
The MPS also drafted and provided UN reports, speeches, speaking points, presentations, resource mobilization communication tools and tailored messages to ensure that (MP) members had access to information about the Partnership's activities and the information they needed to communicate and advocate for mountains at global, regional and local level.

The Secretariat's main achievements in communications and knowledge management in 2014 were:

- increasing the visitors to its website, which was updated almost daily with news and events;
- expanding its Facebook followers by featuring an average of two posts per day;
- bringing the number of pictures that put the world's mountains in focus on its Flickr account to more than 15 000;

## Charting a path for SMD in Africa

The Albertine Rift Conservation Society, an MP member that promotes regional collaborative action in the Albertine Rift, organized the First African Mountains Regional Forum in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, in October 2014. More than 100 government officials, civil society actors, private sector representatives and researchers gathered to chart a path for sustainable mountain development (SMD) in Africa.



- reaching 12 000 viewers with the 52 videos on its YouTube channel, which hosts videos produced by the MPS and MP members;
- producing a monthly newsletter that has an above industry average readership of 28 percent, received by more than 2 000 subscribers around the globe; and
- disseminating numerous targeted messages to its three electronic mailing lists.

Signs reflecting the effectiveness of the integrated social media/web communication approach that was introduced in late 2013 became evident in 2014, such as Facebook becoming the third source of referral traffic to the website.

The MPS regularly encouraged and received contributions from members in all six geographical regions on an array of themes. It also generated external media coverage, including about ten international radio and TV interviews on SMD issues granted by Thomas Hofer, MPS Coordinator, and Rosalaura Romeo, MPS Programme Officer.











## Mountain family farmers

Feeding people, nurturing the planet

### Flying the flag

#### UN day puts mountains in world spotlight

More than 50 events around the world marked International Mountain Day (IMD) on 11 December 2014, when mountain lovers, governments and civil society groups joined forces to raise the flag for mountain peoples and environments.

The Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) in close coordination with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), the lead UN agency coordinating the annual celebration, and Mountain Partnership (MP) member governments and civil society organizations raised public awareness of the relevance of mountains to sustainable development. IMD also brought about governmental action and heightened cooperation at national and regional level.

Celebrations took place in more than 30 countries in the form of conferences, hikes, runs and walks in the mountains, concerts, mountaineering equipment auctions, social media photography competitions, arts festivals, photo exhibitions, tree planting activities and a tea growers' workshop.

The theme, 'Mountain Family Farming', chosen to tie in with the International Year of Family Farming, was the focus of many members' seminars and conferences,

addressing mountain family farmers' substantial contributions to reducing poverty, feeding families and communities and ensuring the sustainability of natural resources.

IMD was also featured virtually – a big hit on the web and social media. The MPS produced a video, "Celebrating Mountains on 11 December," in English and Spanish which received about 1 800 and 1 000 views, respectively, on YouTube. Tweets using the hashtag #welovemountains reached 53 110 people. Dedicated Facebook posts on IMD in multiple languages reached more than 12 000 people around the world. Global media coverage of the day was also very extensive, with the national press in Algeria, Bangladesh, Chile, Iran, Italy, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru and Spain among others, featuring news articles.

At global level, the day was also an opportunity to make strong calls for action. The Mountain Partnership Secretariat co-organized three events.

## **MPS highlights mountains at international level**

- In Lima, Peru, during the UN climate change conference, the MPS co-organized a side event, 'Mountains and Climate Change – from understanding to action,' with Argentina, Bhutan, FAO, Guinea, Kyrgyzstan, Switzerland and The Mountain Institute a side event to bring mountains into focus in advance of the international agreement on climate change expected to be made at COP21 in 2015 in Paris, France.
- In New York, United States of America, the MPS alongside the Permanent Mission of Argentina, the Permanent Mission of Romania and FAO convened government and civil society representatives at UN headquarters, where they agreed to strive to keep mountains high on the Post-2015 agenda. Panelists included representatives of Argentina, Italy, Switzerland, Utah Valley University and the newly appointed MP Ambassador, Jake Norton. A Mountain Focus group was also held in the afternoon.
- Building on the success of its publication, 'Mountain Farming is Family Farming', the MPS produced communication materials on the IMD theme of Mountain Family Farming in the six UN languages, disseminated news of its members IMD plans, produced a video and carried out a wide-reaching social media strategy. An issue of Peak to Peak was dedicated to reporting IMD celebrations in early 2015.




## Trekking together

The Mountain Partnership (MP) serves as a platform for governments and organizations to work together on projects that have impact on the ground. The Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) facilitates collaborative action among members and others on sustainable mountain development.

A regional mechanism was created and officially announced in 2014 by Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. Meanwhile, other mountain-related regional collaboration was strengthened – such as that on the African continent, which galvanized support in 2014 during the World African Mountains Forum in October 2014 in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania.

In June 2014, MP members expressed how and in which areas they would like to work with fellow members in an online survey conducted by the International Center of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE). Nearly all respondents, 50 out of 54, were



interested in participating in joint actions – especially conferences, workshops, seminars; capacity building and education; and development projects.

Members came together throughout 2014 to work on a number of projects, sharing experiences and launching initiatives.

- The MPS helped organize and attended the International Symposium on Mountain Economy, which focused on the interrelated social, environmental and economic components that together make up the framework for sustainable mountain development. (6-8 May 2014, Guiyang, China)
- The MPS supported the organization of the World Mountain Forum in Cusco that was organized by CONDESAN, Mountain Forum, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, University of Central Asia, FDDM, ICIMOD, University of Bern, ARCOS, University of Zurich and attended by many of the MP members as speakers and panelists, including the Government of Peru, the Government of Kyrgyzstan, the Government of Uganda, the Government of Bhutan,





the Government of Switzerland, FAO and representatives of major groups organizations from South Africa, Asia, Europa and South America. (23–24 June 2014; Cusco, Peru)

- At the request of Italian MP members, a meeting was organized by the MPS with the FAO unit working on EXPO 2015. A week dedicated to mountains during EXPO 2015 was proposed and a list of event ideas as well as possible speakers generated. The MPS, Ministry of Environment of Italy and the Alpine Convention reached out to additional partners to elaborate Mountain Week, which was scheduled for 4–11 June 2015 in Milan. (10 September 2014; Rome, Italy)
- The World African Mountains Forum was organized by MP members ARCOS and the Africa Mountain Partnership Champions Committee, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The three-day forum saw the participation of numerous MP member institutions. The Arusha Outcomes Declaration with contributions from the MPS sets forth the SMD agenda for the region. (22–24 October 2014; Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania)
- Five members of the MP held the Ninth Negros Island Organic Farmers' Festival in the capital of the Negros Occidental province of The Philippines with the theme 'One Negros, One Green Economy'. The MPS assisted the organization by liaising with the Philippines FAO Representation and providing background communication material on mountain family farming. (19–23 November 2014; Bacólod City, Negros Occidental, the Philippines)
- During the IUCN World Park Congress Ev-K2-CNR, the MPS and FAO launched a Federation of Mountain Protected Areas (FMPA), which is open to MP members who would like to participate. The Federation will use an online tool that aims to support mountain protected areas around the world by facilitating the flow of information; the exchange of good practices, knowledge and experiences; the implementation of instructions and directives and the sharing of successful management guidelines. (13 November 2014; Sydney, Australia)
- The Geoinformatics team of the Centre for Development and Environment of the University of Bern and the FAO Statistics Division, with the support of the MPS are collaborating on a study that analyses the causes behind the vulnerability to food insecurity and malnutrition of mountain communities and develops a new set of indicators to assess them with the aim of quantifying the number of vulnerable people living in mountain areas. The study is intended to inform policy makers and provide sound data for mobilizing support and political commitment for mountain



issues. (Ongoing; expected release date: mid 2015)

- Interdisciplinary Mountain Research – Austrian Academy of Science collaborated with several MP members through the CH-AT alliance on mountain research. (Ongoing; worldwide)
- The Environmental Research Center of the Khazar University, Azerbaijan, collaborated with the Turkish Government on two studies about mountains.
- Two Kyrgyzstan mountain communities, involved in MP members' projects, met to exchange experiences and build their respective capacities to harvest mushrooms and grow medicinal plants. (23 June 2014; Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan)

## A regional mechanism for the Andes

Six South American governments - Argentina, The Plurinational State of Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru - all MP members, formed a regional coordination mechanism in 2014 to foster dialogue and coordination among Andean governments and organizations. The regional mechanism is expected to coordinate efforts to sustainably improve the lives of communities living in the Andean highlands.






© FAO/Nasir Hussain

## Training for the climb

The Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) strives to build the capacity of Mountain Partnership (MP) members, mountain communities, development workers and sustainable mountain development institutions to enhance their effectiveness and impact. Training courses, learning platforms, educational campaigns and the identification of technologies are some of the ways the MP carries out capacity development and technology transfer activities.

### IPROMO

The annual International Programme on Research and Training on Sustainable Management of Mountain Areas, better known as IPROMO, has been offered since 2008 by the MPS, the University of Turin, FAO and the Town of Ormea to national government officials, technicians and experts working in mountain regions. The two-week course improves participants' understanding of the challenges that mountain peoples and environments encounter.



In 2014, the MPS selected participants from 21 countries to study sustainable farming in mountain areas, the theme of the International Year of Family Farming. For centuries, mountain communities have developed farming practices - such as crop diversification, the integration of agriculture with livestock activities and soil conservation practices - that are in harmony with nature.

The MPS also began planning courses for 2015: the IPROMO course, which will see the University of Milan join as a partner and involve a visit to EXPO 2015; and supported a sustainable mountain development course developed in Costa Rica by CATIE and MP member, Fundecor, and Proalsur.

An IPROMO Alumni network is facilitated by the MPS to ensure long- term communication and experience exchanges.

The MPS produced and shared an array of sustainable mountain development educational tools and materials, especially those created by MP members.



## **IPROMO**

*was an enriching experience - a platform, not only for knowledge generation and sharing, but a strong network for the participants from different parts of the world. The course has helped me understand the needs of mountain peoples from a different perspective and supported my work in mountain agriculture.*



Lipy Adikhari,  
ICIMOD Research Associate  
and 2014 IPROMO participant

## **Boosting media coverage of climate change in the Himalayan region**

The Centre for Environment Education (CEE Himalaya), an MP member working on environmental education and communication interventions towards sustainable development in the fragile mountain ecosystems of the Indian Himalayan region, brought together journalists to receive training from thematic experts to strengthen their capacity to report on climate change and development issues in the Himalayan region.



© Anna Karaymbek

## Beyond the peaks

The Mountain Partnership (MP) fosters the generation and sharing of new ideas while valuing traditional knowledge and practices that improve the livelihoods of mountain communities while also ensuring environmental sustainability. It encourages informed and inspiring dialogue that leads to better defined priorities and innovative solutions.

In line with the decision made by the Fourth Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership in 2013, innovation was a principle of the activities led by the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) in 2014. The MPS facilitated and shared innovative and traditional techniques to promote exchanges within and across mountain regions. By disseminating knowledge and encouraging members to engage with one another directly, the MPS helped create and link informed and inspiring dialogues.





In 2014, the MPS prepared informative materials using new or creative approaches to reach new audiences as well as consolidate those already interested, including:

- starting a process to establish a global label for mountain products,
- mapping mountain communities' vulnerability to food insecurity,
- producing five videos that were posted on YouTube,
- introducing a new MP Ambassador, Jake Norton,
- expanding its social media reach, in particular, Flickr and Facebook, and
- producing a quiz and two photo stories to promote sustainable mountain development (SMD) at EXPO 2015.

## Mountain products enjoy new certification in Europe

Euromontana, an MP member and a European multi-sectoral association for cooperation and development of mountain areas, organized a conference to announce the European Union's approval of the quality term 'mountain label', showcasing the potential of mountain products to boost mountain development.

Thanks to a specific regulation and associated delegated act, this certification will provide recognition of mountain products and a new opportunity which could benefit many European mountain areas, producers and the general public, as consumers associate the term 'mountain' with the idea of purity, authenticity and quality.





# Propelling the expedition

The Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) engages with resource partners, seeks financial support for sustainable mountain development (SMD) initiatives and facilitates partnerships among members, bilateral aid agencies as well as foundations and the private sector to ensure focused and tangible impacts on sustainable mountain development issues. In addition to financial resources, the MPS also welcomes in-kind support, goods and services to promote SMD.

In 2014, the MPS developed a guide to assist Mountain Partnership (MP) members in mobilizing, allocating, managing and reporting the use of resources. Funding opportunities and potential donors are shared with MP members on a regular basis.

The MPS created an online funding database that lists all the major resource partners for SMD activities. The database can be searched by geographical area or area of work. Presented to the Steering Committee in February 2015, the platform will be launched in early June 2015.

The MP began developing a Mountain Facility concept in 2014 to support mountain development initiatives through small grants to better adapt to climate change, manage natural resources, build resilience, farm sustainably as well as support decision makers at all levels.



## A walk through Lebanon's mountains

The Lebanon Mountain Trail Association, an MP member working in sustainable tourism, completed its six annual, month-long walk on 4 May 2014. The long-distance walk (470 km) injected more than USD 31 000 into trailside local economies while engaging in environmentally and socially responsible tourism.







## A look at Central Asia

The Mountain Partnership Central Asia Hub (CAMH), closely associated with the Mountain Partnership Secretariat and hosted by the University of Central Asia, brings together stakeholders, including members of the Mountain Partnership global alliance, to ground the sustainable mountain development (SMD) concept into practice at regional, national and sub-national levels. Hub activities include SMD policy advocacy; building partnerships to enhance capacities at the local level through cross-learning and exchanges of best practices; and advancing the mountain agenda and mountain people's concerns in global, regional, national and sub-national development and policy making processes.

CAMH coordinates joint activities in Central Asia by supporting SMD information exchanges and regional knowledge sharing. In 2014, climate change was a key thematic focus for Hub activities. Key activities and outputs included:

- Launching the Climate Change Dialogue Platform of Kyrgyzstan to improve public participation in climate governance. The goals of this multi-stakeholder, interactive platform are to encourage two-way communication, engage a broad range of stakeholders in climate response actions, and ensure that informed and evidence-based decision making takes place at all levels.
- Holding a policy dialogue series in Tajikistan to bring mountain community concerns and perspectives to the attention of decision makers.
- Participating in the World Mountain Forum 2014 in Cusco, Peru.
- Facilitating exchanges to establish long-term linkages between Central Asia and India and other regions on high value mountain products and product marketing.
- Supporting mountain stakeholders to document and capture good SMD practices through two case studies in "Mountain Farming is Family Farming", by the Mountain Partnership, and a photo story for EXPO 2015 in Milan, Italy.
- Conducting a rapid assessment survey on local level climate responses in 40 villages in three countries of Central Asia, in partnership with AGOCA. The findings will be used to guide geographic focus and prioritization of activities for a new pilot initiative to establish a regional network of climate resilient villages to support community-based adaptation efforts.
- Compiling a Pocket Manual for Farmers to be launched at the Regional Mountain Forum 2015 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.



- Publishing the monthly Aiyl Demi newspaper for remote mountain communities.
- Training of trainers for eight participants from the Altai Republic, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan as part of regional scaling up and replication of the 2013 SMD online training course for youth.
- Supporting regional stakeholders in resource mobilization.
- Supporting the Foundation for Sustainable Development of Altai in publishing and advocating the 'Methodological Guidance on assessing the mountain specificities in context of the Altai Republic'.
- Planning south-south exchanges and cross learning between Altai and Tajik parliamentary groups for 2015 to better integrate mountain concerns into development processes.







**Every mountain top is within  
reach if you just keep climbing.**

**— Barry Finlay,  
*Kilimanjaro and Beyond***

© Mountain Wilderness International/Anna Sustersic

# Mountains top meeting agendas

The Mountain Partnership Secretariat organized and participated at events to promote the sustainable mountain development agenda in 2014, including:

## **IMD Observance Event at the United Nations**

UN, New York, United States of America; 12 December 2014

## **Side event 'Mountains and water - from understanding to action'**

UNFCCC COP 20, Lima, Peru; 11 December 2014

## **Launch of the Federation of Mountain Protected Areas**

IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney, Australia; 13 November 2014

## **Presentation of Mountain Family Farming**

IXth European Mountain Convention, Bilbao, Spain; 22–24 October 2014

## **Meeting to discuss how to highlight mountains at EXPO 2015**

FAO, Rome, Italy; 10 September 2014

## **Lunch to present the Mountain Partnership hosted by the Permanent Mission of Peru to the International Organizations in Rome**

FAO, Rome, Italy; 21 July 2014

## **International Programme on Research and Training on Sustainable Management of Mountain Areas (IPROMO): Promoting Sustainable Farming in Mountain Regions**

Ormea, Italy; 8–18 July 2014

## **Side event 'Mapping Vulnerability in Mountains'**

22nd Session of the Committee on Forestry, Rome, Italy; 23 June 2014

## **World Environment Day seminar 'Intelligent territories: opportunities for future investment - social, environmental and financial innovation'**

FAO, Rome, Italy; 5 June 2014

## **Presentation of Mountain Family Farming**

World Mountain Forum, Cuzco, Peru; 23–24 May 2014

## **Meeting to discuss the creation of a regional mechanism for the Andes**

San Carlos Bariloche, Argentina; 7–9 May 2014

## **International Symposium on Mountain Economy**

Guiyang, China; 6–8 May 2014

## **Meeting, 'Raising the Profile of Mountains in the Sustainable Development Goals', hosted by the Permanent Mission of Romania to the UN**

New York, United States of America; 29 April 2014

## **Working lunch on the SDGs hosted by the Permanent Representative of Peru to the UN**

New York, United States of America; 6 February 2014

## **Side event 'Forests and Mountains in the Post-2015 development agenda'**

UN Open Working Group on SDGs, New York, United States of America; 5 February 2014

## **Presentation of the Mountain Partnership at the 21st Session of the Near East Forestry and Range Commission**

Jordan, Amman; 26–30 January 2014

## **Presentation of the Mountain Partnership to the FAO Near East Regional Group**

FAO, Rome, Italy, 15 January 2014

## **Side event 'Building Resilience to Climate Change in Mountain Areas'**

UN Open Working Group on SDGs, New York, United States of America; 10 January 2014



# Equipment and gear

To equip policy makers, local communities and project coordinators with new and emerging scientific knowledge that can be used to develop mountains sustainably, the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) produced and made a number of tools available – publications, issues briefs, videos and brochures.

## The publications issued in 2014:

**Mountain Farming is Family Farming** (English, French, Spanish)

**Mountains and Climate Change - A global concern** (English, Spanish)

**Cordillera de Los Andes** (Spanish)

**Tourism in Mountain Regions - Hopes, Fears and Realities** (English)

## The issues briefs, brochures and fact sheets produced in 2014:

**Mountains as the water towers of the world - a call for action on the SDGs**

(English, French, Spanish)

**Mountains and the Sustainable Development Goals - a call to action**

(English, French, Russian, Spanish)

**Why Mountains Matter for Energy – a call to action on the SDGs**

(Arabic, English, French, Russian, Spanish)

**Why Mountains Matter for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction – a call to action on the SDGs**

(English, French, Spanish)

**Why Mountains Matter for Forests and Biodiversity – a call to action on the SDGs**

(English, French, Spanish)

**Mountain family farmers - feeding people, nurturing the planet**

(Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish, Russian)

**Working together for mountain peoples and environments**

(English, French, Russian and Spanish)

## **The videos produced in 2014:**

### **Celebrating Mountains on 11 December**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oLUnrUvMWCA&list=UUPbcO3Ai3oYkPQ7Q3tyZbtQ>

Published on 27 Nov 2014

### **Celebrando las Montañas el 11 de Diciembre**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISASsGdfW18&index=4&list=UUPbcO3Ai3oYkPQ7Q3tyZbtQ>

Published on 27 Nov 2014

### **Mountains Link the World**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nCE6Rs4DSgo>

Published on 30 Apr 2014

### **FAO/Mountain Partnership Secretariat at Earth Day Italia 2014**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=degvhwALhxE>

Published on 23 Apr 2014

### **Forests and Mountains**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=38nkEJC-Vlg>

Published on 10 Feb 2014



Video: 'Mountains Link the World'



# List of members

As of April 2015, the following governments and organizations belonged to the Mountain Partnership:

## Governments

Afghanistan

Algeria

Altai Republic of the Russian Federation

Andorra

Argentina

Armenia

Austria

Bangladesh

Bhutan

Burundi

Cameroon

Chile

Colombia

Costa Rica

Cuba

Democratic Republic of Congo

Ecuador

Ethiopia

France

Georgia

Ghana

Guatemala

Guinea

Indonesia

Iran

Italy

Jamaica

Jordan

Kenya

Kyrgyzstan

Lesotho

Liechtenstein

Madagascar

Malawi

Mexico

Monaco

Morocco

Nepal

North Macedonia

Pakistan

Peru

Romania

Serbia

Slovakia

Slovenia

Spain

Sri Lanka

Swaziland

Switzerland

The Plurinational State of Bolivia

Tunisia

Türkiye

Uganda

Ukraine

Venezuela

Yemen

## **Intergovernmental Organizations**

African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN)  
Alpine Convention  
Carpathian Convention  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)  
International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)  
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)  
Secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)  
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)  
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)  
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)  
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)  
United Nations University (UNU)  
World Bank (WB)

## **Major Groups**

3 Sisters Adventure Trekking  
Active Remedy Ltd.  
African Conservation Foundation (ACF)  
Agency of Development Initiatives (ADI)  
Agrarian Platform  
Agriculture Research Council of Italy- Department of Agronomy, Forestry and Land Use (CRA-DAF)  
Aigine Cultural Research Center  
AlbaForest  
Albertine Rift Conservation Society (ARCOS)  
AleeVee8  
Alliance of Central Asian Mountain Communities (AGOCA)  
Altai Assistance Project, Inc.  
American Councils for International Education (ACTR/ACCELS)  
Argentinean Environmental Centre (CAMBIAR)  
Aspen International Mountain Foundation (AIMF)  
Association Ardito Desio  
Association for Development of Mountain Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria (ADMMRB)  
Association for Social Development (ADESO)  
Association for the Development of Mountain Regions in the Republic of Macedonia (MAKMONTANA)  
Association of Forest and Land Users of Kyrgyzstan (AFLU Kyrgyzstan)  
Association of Forest and Land Users of Tajikistan (AFLU Tajikistan)  
Association pour la Protection des Montagnes du Burundi (APMB)  
Avalon Historico-Geographical Society  
Balkan Foundation for Sustainable Development (BFSD)  
Bingol University  
BIOM Ecological Movement

Bolivian Mountain Institute  
 Broad Initiatives for Negros Development (BIND)  
 Bulgarian Association for Development of Mountain Regions (BulMontana)  
 Cameroon National Network of Associations and NGOs of the Mountain Partnership (RENAASONGCAM)  
 CAMP Alatoo  
 CAMP Kuhiston  
 CarbonLab, University of Queensland  
 Central Himalayan Environment Association  
 Central-Asian Institute for Applied Geosciences (CAIAG)  
 Centre for Climate Change and Disaster Reduction  
 Centre for Development and Environment (CDE)  
 Centre for Environment Education (CEE Himalaya)  
 Centre for Mountain Studies (CMS)  
 Centre International de Hautes Etudes Agronomiques Méditerranéennes (CIHEAM)  
 Centro Científico Tropical (Tropical Science Center)  
 Centro de Investigação de Montanha - CIMO  
 Consortium for Sustainable Development of the Andean Ecoregion (CONDESAN)  
 Crescente Fértil  
 Dean's Beans Organic Coffee Company  
 Deraya University  
 Earth Day Italia Onlus  
 Ecoforum  
 Ecological Tourism in Europe (ETE)  
 EKOIS  
 ElEco Youth Environmental Movement  
 Environment and Tourism Support (EATS)  
 Environmental Research Center of the Khazar University (ERCKU)  
 Euromontana  
 European Academy (EURAC)  
 European Association of Elected Representatives from Mountain Areas (AEM)  
 European Mountain Forum (EMF)  
 Ev-K2-CNR Committee  
 Federal Institute for Less-Favoured and Mountainous Areas (BABF)  
 Federation of Organic Development Bio-KG  
 Focus Humanitarian Assistance Pakistan  
 Fondazione Courmayeur Mont Blanc  
 ForestAction Nepal  
 Foundation Ecohabitats  
 Foundation for Environment and Development (FEDEV)  
 Foundation for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions (FDDM)  
 Foundation for Sustainable Development of Altai (FSDA)  
 Foundation Pangea

Foundation ProYungas  
 Fundación Agreste  
 Fundación Cordillera Tropical  
 Fundación EcoAndina  
 Fundación Estación Biológica Guayacanal  
 Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Cordillera Volcánica Central (FUNDECOR)  
 Fundación para el Desarrollo Sostenible de las Zonas de Páramo y sus Áreas de Influencia  
 Fundación Sendero de Chile  
 Fundacion CoMunidad (Panama)  
 Ghana Wildlife Society (GWS)  
 Global Mountain Action  
 Global Mountain Biodiversity Assessment  
 Go Green & Go Organic  
 Gruppman International Violin Institute  
 Guizhou University of Finance and Economics (GUFE)  
 gvSIG Association - GISMAP  
 HimalAndes Initiative  
 Huayhuash Peru  
 Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education (TEBTEBBA)  
 Integrated Mountain Initiative (former Indian Mountain Initiative)  
 Interdisciplinary Mountain Research – Austrian Academy of Sciences  
 International Center of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE)  
 International Commission for the Protection of the Alps (CIPRA)  
 International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC)  
 International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)  
 International Mountaineering and Climbing Federation (UIAA)  
 International Potato Center (CIP)  
 International Scientific Committee on Research in the Alps (ISCAR)  
 International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)  
 Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement Nepal  
 Journal of Mountain Science  
 Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Centre (KIRDARC)  
 Kastamonu University  
 Kavala Institute of Technology (KavTech)  
 Lebanon Mountain Trail Association  
 Les Compagnons Ruraux  
 MAB-6 Center  
 Makerere University  
 Metsovia Interdisciplinary Research Center (M.I.R.C)  
 Migration and Development  
 Millennium Institute  
 Mountain Areas Conservation and Development Services

Mountain Duck  
 Mountain Environment Protection Society (MEPS)  
 Mountain Forum  
 Mountain Research and Development  
 Mountain Research Initiative (MRI)  
 Mountain Societies Development Support Programme  
 Mountain Studies Institute (MSI)  
 Mountain territories of Dagestan  
 Mountain Wilderness  
 Muras Bashaty  
 Museo Nazionale della Montagna "Duca degli Abruzzi"  
 National Integrated Development Association (NIDA-Pakistan)  
 National Meteorological Institute of Costa Rica  
 National Organization of Mountain Municipalities, Communities and Bodies (UNCCEM)  
 New World Hope Organization (NWHO)  
 New Zealand Alpine Club  
 Nilgiri Documentation Centre  
 Pan Himalayan Grassroots Development Foundation  
 Pendeba Society  
 PlaNet Finance  
 Practical Action  
 Pragma Seeds Nepal  
 Prakriti  
 ProMONT-BLANC  
 Public Foundation "Ergene"  
 Public Foundation Kyrgyzstan Mountain Societies  
 Red de Agroindustria Rural del Perú (REDAR Peru)  
 Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia  
 Regional Environmental Centre for the Caucasus  
 Resources Himalaya Foundation  
 Romanian Mountain Forum  
 ROMONTANA - National Association for Mountains Rural Development  
 Rural Development Fund  
 School of Wildlife, Ecology & Conservation, Zimbabwe  
 Society for Conserving Planet and Life (COPAL)  
 SORAINA Uganda  
 Sports Medicine School  
 Suldoz Kouhyaran Institute  
 Sultan Qaboos University  
 Sunrise On Africa's Peaks  
 Swat Youth Front  
 Switch ON - ONergy



Tajik Social and Ecological Union  
 Tatra Agency for Development Promotion and Culture  
 Tatra Mountains Cultural Foundation  
 Telluride Institute  
 The Association for Sustainability and Governance of Mountainous Areas  
 The Mountain Institute (TMI)  
 Trento Film Festival  
 Turkish Geographical Society  
 UNESCO Club of Serres  
 UNISON  
 University of Milan - GE.S.DI.MONT.  
 University of Central Asia  
 University of Rome Sapienza - Department of Environmental Biology  
 University of the Mountains (Greece)  
 University of Turin - Department of Agricultural, Forest & Food Sciences (DISAFA)  
 Utah Valley University and Utah-Russia Institute  
 VICAM: Vicuñas, Camélidos y Ambiente  
 Vista 360°  
 Volunteers for Africa / ECODECO Partnership  
 Wojtowiec - Back to the Future  
 Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and NRM (WOCAN)  
 World Economic Forum  
 World Mountain People Association (WMPA)  
 World Wildlife Fund International (WWF-International)  
 Yachay Wasi  
 Yrystan Public Foundation for Sustainable Community Development

### **Subnational Authorities**

Aspen (City of United  
 States of America)  
  
 Basalt (Town of United  
 States of America)  
 Municipality of Dénia (Spain)  
 Orem (City of United States  
 of America)  
 Province of Negros Occidental

# Financial report

In 2014, the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) was financed by the Italian Development Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), which also hosts the MPS. The World Bank provided a grant to fund activities on mountains and climate change.

The MPS budget was in line with the work plan approved by the MP Steering Committee for the 2014–2015 biennium. Its functional areas are defined by the 2014–2017 Governance and Strategy document that was approved at the Fourth Global Meeting in Erzurum, Türkiye, in September 2013.

	Switzerland	Italy	World Bank	FAO	Total
<b>USD</b>	250,000	385,000	243,864	154,007	1,032,871
<b>%</b>	24	37	24	15	100

	Operational	Advocacy	Knowledge Management and Communication	Capacity Development and Technology Transfer	Joint Action	Total
<b>USD</b>	149,001	275,274	242,577	151,640	214,378	1,032,871
<b>%</b>	14	27	23	15	21	100

# Mountain Partnership Steering Committee

The Steering Committee of the Mountain Partnership provides programmatic orientation to the Mountain Partnership, oversees the preparation of a four-year strategy and a two-year work plan. The 16-member body monitors the work of the Mountain Partnership Secretariat, the implementation of the 'Mountain Agenda' and the achievements and impacts of their respective electoral groups.

Steering Committee members are elected to four-year terms to represent the various membership categories and regions. They meet annually and select a Chair and Vice Chair. The following governments and organizations are serving on the 2014-2017 Steering Committee:

## **Governments**

Argentina (Chair), Cameroon, Mexico, Nepal, Tunisia, Türkiye

## **Major Group Organizations**

Albertine Rift Conservation Society (Vice Chair), Aspen International Mountain Foundation, Euromontana, Fundación Agreste, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, Mountain Environment Protection Society, The Mountain Institute

## **Intergovernmental Organization**

United Nations Environment Programme

## **Donor Organization to the MPS**

Italy

## **Host Institution of the MPS**

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

# Powering the Mountain Partnership Secretariat



Thomas Hofer  
Coordinator of the MPS



Rosalaura Romeo  
Programme Officer



Sara Manuelli  
Programme and  
Communication Officer



Mia Rowan  
Communication and  
Advocacy Officer



Antonella Sorrentino  
Administrative Assistant



Diletta de Leonardi  
Junior Consultant



Nasir Hussain  
Junior Consultant



Alessia Vita,  
Junior Consultant







Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



Italian Development  
Cooperation  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

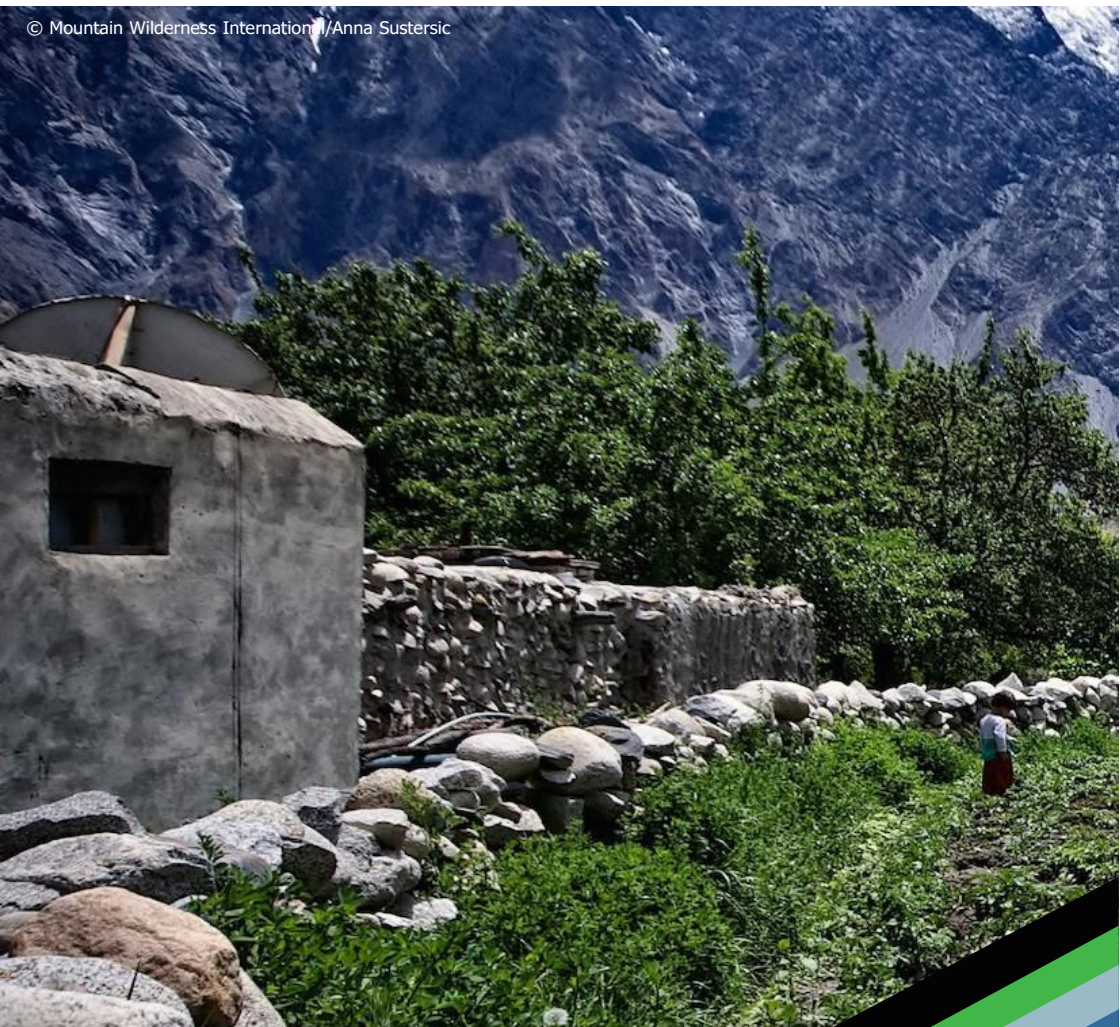


Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra



In 2014, the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) was financed by the Italian Development Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), which also hosts the MPS. The World Bank provided a grant to fund activities on mountains and climate change.

© Mountain Wilderness International / Anna Sustersic



#### Mountain Partnership Secretariat

FAO, Forestry Department  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla – 00153 Rome, Italy  
[info@mountainpartnership.org](mailto:info@mountainpartnership.org)  
[www.mountainpartnership.org](http://www.mountainpartnership.org)  
[www.facebook.com/mountainpartnership](https://www.facebook.com/mountainpartnership)