

174th Session of the FAO Council

Item 19: Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions

This agenda item provides information on the Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions, on recent progress related to its implementation.

The Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions 2023–2027 was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly through resolution A/RES/77/172¹ on 14 December 2022 to “enhance the awareness of the international community of the problems of mountain countries and to give new impetus to the international community’s efforts to address the challenges and problems of mountain countries”. The Resolution invites Member States and relevant United Nations agencies, within their mandates, to further enhance support to sustainable mountain development, including through participation in the Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions.

FAO is the lead agency for sustainable mountain development within the United Nations (UN) system and, since 2003, hosts the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS). At its 172nd Session, held from 24 to 28 April 2023, the Council took note of the Five Years of Action.² At its 173rd Session, held on 10 July 2023, the Council took note of the discussion relating to the Five Years of Action.³

The Mountain Partnership Secretariat has facilitated the development of the Global Framework⁴ for the Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions 2023–2027. The Global Framework provides a basis for all stakeholders to enhance existing efforts and initiate new ones aimed at improving the resilience and sustainable development of mountain regions across the world and engaging in impactful advocacy for mountains at the global level.

The Global Framework proposes four interlinked pathways for action by all stakeholders: 1) scale up nature-based solutions to reduce climate risks and promote adaptation and mitigation in mountains; 2) improve mountain communities’ access to services and sustainable infrastructure; 3) enhance international cooperation, security and multi-level governance in mountain regions; and 4) empower mountain communities and reduce inequalities, with a priority focus on women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

The Global Framework outlines five action areas for increased collective efforts during the Five Years of Action: 1) leverage regional and international processes in support of mountain development; 2) strengthen policies, governance mechanisms and institutions; 3) promote inclusive research, innovation and data collection; 4) increase awareness and communication on mountain issues, challenges and solutions; and 5) increase sustainable public and private investment under the institutional umbrella of the Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions.

The Global Framework⁵ was launched by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic during the High-level Political Forum on 19 July 2023, in New York. The Kyrgyz Republic shared the Global Framework with UN Member States in September 2023, and the President of Kyrgyz Republic presented it at the 78th Session of the UN General Assembly on 10 September 2023.

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¹ <https://undocs.org/A/RES/77/172>

² See the Report of the 172nd Session of the Council of FAO: <https://www.fao.org/3/nm116en/nm116en.pdf#page=17>

³ See the Report of the 173rd Session of the Council of FAO: <https://www.fao.org/3/nm791en/nm791en.pdf#page=8>

⁴ <https://www.fao.org/3/cc6910en/cc6910en.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.fao.org/3/cc6910en/cc6910en.pdf>