



Mountain High! Festival of People & Products

Concept Note

17-28 December 2015

Nature Bazaar

New Delhi, India

Mountain peoples, who are largely family farmers, have over generations developed sustainable production systems adapted to their local environments, which favour the production of niche and mountain-specific products and services.

Worldwide demand for quality, high-value and traditional foods and crafts produced in mountain areas, such as coffee, cheese, herbs and spices, as well as handicrafts and medicines is on the rise. Mountain producer-groups from all over the world have an opportunity to tap into niche markets such as organic, fair trade, or high-end quality ones, and fetch premium prices. The promotion of high-value products and services can improve their livelihoods, generating additional employment and income.

The Mountain Partnership members are holding a mountain producer-groups exhibition in New Delhi between 17 -28 December. Over 25 producer-groups from all over the world will showcase textiles, crafts, hand-knitted woollens, rugs and safe foods like fruit preserves, spices, herbs, beverages, chamomile tea, coffee, honey and quinoa. The exhibition will be held at the Nature Bazaar space, a venue managed by Dastkar, an NGO dedicated to the promotion of artisanal groups. The event is being organized by Mountain Partnership Secretariat, FAO, Rome in partnership with MP member Pan Himalayan Grassroots Development Foundation, a voluntary organization working in the Indian Himalayan Region since 1992.

The participants are also members of the Mountain Partnership [initiative on mountain products](#), geared towards the creation of a voluntary certification to brand high value products. The exhibition will also be a chance to celebrate [International Mountain Day 2015](#), which is dedicated to promoting mountain products as a strategy to boost mountain economies.

Among the MP members participating are: REDAR from Peru, Fundacion Comunidad from Panama, the Bolivian Institute from Bolivia, the Mountain Institute from Nepal, the Pan Himalayan Grassroots Foundation from India, and several producer-groups from Central Asia.

A workshop dedicated to exchanging good practices, sharing lessons learned, and assessing the results on several surveys on the perception of mountain products will be held on 18 December with the participation of Slow Food.