



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Become a Champion for Mountains

Working together for mountain
peoples and environments



Mountain Partnership



Peoples

- Almost 1 billion peoples live in mountain areas.
- Mountains attract about 15-20 percent of global tourism and are places of spiritual and cultural value.
- Peoples living in mountain regions are among the world's poorest. One out of every three mountain dwellers lives in extreme poverty and is at risk of food insecurity.
- Mountains and mountain peoples are often neglected in national policies and in global fora.



Ecosystem services

- Mountains cover 22 percent of the world's land surface area.
- More than half of the human population globally depends on mountains for water, food and clean energy.
- Mountain cryosphere (glaciers, snow, permafrost) is responsible for storing, providing and regulating freshwater resources.
- Mountains have a role in the regulation of natural hazards, carbon storage and watershed protection.



Climate change

- Climate change has caused more than 600 glaciers to disappear, resulting in springs and rivers drying up.
- Extreme weather events, climate change and unsustainable land use can endanger livelihoods and trigger disasters such as floods and landslides.

Mountain Partnership Secretariat

FAO Forestry Department

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla – 00153 Rome, Italy

Contact: yuka.makino@fao.org

www.fao.org/mountain-partnership

www.facebook.com/mountainpartnership



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Mountains Matter

Mountains are key ecosystems, providing goods and services to the planet and supporting the livelihoods of a vast number of people. In particular, mountains provide and regulate up to 80 percent of global freshwater resources. Climate change has an enormous impact on mountain areas, increasing the occurrence of disasters and exacerbating desertification, land degradation, and soil erosion. Consequently, life in mountain areas is increasingly difficult and the vulnerability of mountain peoples to food insecurity is worsening, often forcing people to migrate. Despite their vulnerability, mountain peoples often lack equitable access to public services. An urgent challenge now is to identify new and sustainable opportunities that can build the resilience of mountain peoples and environments.

Why a Mountain Partnership?

The Mountain Partnership is a United Nations voluntary alliance of partners dedicated to improving the lives of mountain peoples and protecting mountain environments around the world. Founded in 2002, the Mountain Partnership addresses the challenges facing mountain regions by tapping into the wealth and diversity of resources, knowledge, information and expertise of its members. Currently, the Mountain Partnership has over 340 members, including governments, intergovernmental agencies, organizations and civil society. Together, they are working towards a world in which sustainable mountain development receives greater public and private-sector attention, commitment, engagement and investment. Members committed to a Framework for Action for 2030 to support concrete actions, put in place long-lasting processes, and establish national development policies to strengthen the resilience of mountain peoples.

The Mountain Partnership Secretariat

The Mountain Partnership Secretariat is hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), serving members' needs and advocating for sustainable mountain development worldwide. The Secretariat's work is structured around four main pillars:

- **Advocacy** – raising awareness through social campaigns about sustainable mountain development via international processes and events to attract investments and targeted policies;
- **Capacity development** – offering wide-ranging courses on sustainable mountain development and agrobiodiversity, plus workshops on the Mountain Green Cover Index to monitor progress on achieving Sustainable Development Goal 15 (Life on Land);
- **Knowledge sharing and communications** – a facilitating platform developed for creating, collecting and sharing publications, data, online tools and news to raise awareness about mountain issues;
- **Joint action at the global level** – supporting collaboration among Mountain Partnership members through joint activities and projects.

Join the Mountain Partnership

Become an active member of this United Nations alliance to:

- have an impact and catalyse commitments to build resilient mountain communities and environments;
- have a hand in guiding the work of the Partnership — as a member, you are eligible for election to the Mountain Partnership Steering Committee;
- play a prominent role in relevant global and regional fora and advocacy events, and in the implementation of the Framework for Action to include mountains in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- benefit from tailored capacity-development programmes, technical transfers, and South-South knowledge exchanges on specific mountain issues.

Become a resource partner; in addition to member's benefits above, you will:

- become a leader and gain visibility in a political alliance promoting sustainable mountain development;
- focus your efforts on reducing food insecurity and help to lift mountain peoples out of poverty;
- help to protect freshwater resources;
- support mountain communities to adapt to climate change and cope with natural hazards;
- help to reduce out-migration from mountains.

Partner Circles

Join the Mountain Partnership Circles and become a Champion for Mountains. Provide voluntary contributions and become a friend, a sponsor or a leader for mountains. As a champion, you will be given a wide range of benefits, according to your sponsorship level.

Partner Circles	Member	Friend	Sponsor	Leader
Contribution level in USD	0	≥ 10 000	≥ 100 000	≥ 200 000
Mountain Partnership (MP) Secretariat's services	✓	✓	✓	✓
Access to MP Global Meetings	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eligible to be elected in the MP Steering Committee	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recognition on MP communication materials		✓	✓	✓
Eligible to be elected into the Mountain Facility Steering Committee			✓	✓
Identification of priorities of the Facility			✓	✓
Visibility in High Level MP events				✓

Financing windows



Human Resources or in-kind support

Provide funding or secondment of human resources (APO, visiting scientists, etc.) to enhance the capacity of the Mountain Partnership Secretariat.



Mountain Facility

Fund the Mountain Facility to promote sustainable mountain development through climate-change adaptation, natural-resource management, strengthen local economies, provide policy support, capacity development and data collection.

