

Personal presentation

Michelle Geringer 

Mountain Partnership Secretariat

michelle.geringer@fao.org



IPROMO

*Environmental and economic issues
to enhance mountain sustainability*

Ormea – Pieve Tesino 5-19 July 2017

Education

2012 - ***Master of Science in Geography***, Centre for Development
2015 and Environment, University of Berne, Switzerland

- Focus on Sustainable Regional Development / Sustainable Land Management / Political Geography
- Master Thesis „Agricultural Transformation in Khon Kaen Province, Thailand - From main commodity rice to cash crop sugarcane. Impacts on household level“

2007 - ***Bachelor of Science in Geography*** with Minor in Ecology
2011 and Geology, University of Berne

Personal Interests:

Hiking, skiing, snowboarding, running, baking

Employment and main activities

- Since 2016 • **Mountain Partnership Secretariat, FAO, Rome, Italy**
- Assist in the overall development of the Mountain Products Initiative
 - Contribute to the activities of the Mountain Partnership Secretariat
- 2015 - 2016 • **Federal Office for Agriculture, Switzerland**
- Internship in the International Sustainable Agriculture Unit with focus on the dossiers of biodiversity and genetic resources on national and international level
- 2015 - 2012 • Teaching school classes on biodiversity and water quality for an environmental education program in Switzerland

Mountain Products Initiative



- The MPS, with Slow Food, has launched the **Mountain Partnership Product Label**
- Voluntary label for quality mountain products to promote access to markets for small mountain producers in developing countries.
- Criteria: **altitude, small-scale, environmental sustainability, equity**
- Phase I: 16 products from 7 different countries: Bolivian cheeses, Peruvian jams, Nepalese lentils and beans, Indian rice varieties, Panama's coffee, Kyrgyz teas, Kyrgyz silk-and-felt scarves and felt toys from Mongolia.



Mountain Products Initiative II

- Start of Phase II: Establish a **compliance mechanism** (Environmental sustainability criteria)
- Continue the **promotion** of the Initiative on a global level
- Strengthen **value chains** of selected mountain products > Cuba
- Study on **the region of diversity** of priority crops and the potential of **crop wild relatives** in mountain areas in the framework of **climate change adaptation** and mountain **economic development**

Mountain Partnership Products Database

