Cusco Framework for Action for the Mountain Partnership (or 'Cusco Framework for Action')

This framework aims to provide guidance and recommendations for the development of existing specialized Partnership Initiatives, as well as the launching of new ones, under the Mountain Partnership.

It should help members to better define their contribution to the Mountain Partnership and at the same time enable them to take advantage of the experiences of other members.

In developing any Partnership Initiative under the Mountain Partnership, members are urged to focus inter alia on the following elements:

- Strengthening policies for sustainable development
- Institutional capacity-building
- Financial resource mobilization
- Accountability through monitoring and evaluation

As a building block of the Mountain Partnership, a Partnership Initiative should:

1. Specify its link and contribution to the main goals of the Mountain Partnership as defined in the Mission Statement in the 'Organization, Membership and Governance' paper.
2. Define its objectives and expected development impacts. Elements to consider in the formulation of the objective might include contribution to human and institutional strengthening, policy dialogue, information sharing and networking, and advocacy for sustainable mountain development.
   Members of each Initiative should also conduct an initial assessment of what work is already being done on the theme or in the region to which the respective initiatives are devoted and what gaps exist that might require new work to be done through the Initiative. This should include the work of both Mountain Partnership members and non-members.
3. Define the role of lead members in a given Initiative, the role of other members, and the role of non-members who will be involved — either as external partners or as beneficiaries — in the work of the Initiative.
4. Identify opportunities of linkages and synergies between other members of the Mountain Partnership as well as with other Initiatives. Regional consultations must be the oriented inputs in developing and prioritising actions within thematic Initiatives.
   Assess the financial needs and define their own contributions and identify needs to mobilize resources. With the help of the administrative structure of the Mountain Partnership, Initiatives should explore ways and means to get support from other sources including the private sector.
5. Establish its own monitoring and evaluation procedures. In this regard, common tools would help in standardizing the monitoring and evaluation of the Initiatives, thus making the impacts of the Initiatives comparable. The monitoring and evaluation results of each Initiative should be made public through the Secretariat, keeping in mind the reporting responsibilities of the Secretariat to the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD). This reporting should cover both the operational and financial situation of each Initiative. See Annex 1 for further details and suggestions on planning, monitoring, and reporting tools.

The Mountain Partnership Secretariat is the networking point of the Mountain Partnership. Its core functions are to promote synergies between Initiatives and partners, to provide support to Initiatives on a demand basis, to mobilize financial resources, and to provide the information and

communication services needed by the Mountain Partnership. The Secretariat should work with the Initiatives to further elaborate the services expected from it, in accordance with the principles laid down in the Mountain Partnership 'Organization, Membership, and Governance' paper.

The Secretariat is responsible for producing the periodical reports of the Mountain Partnership activities to the CSD. This report will cover the situation of each Initiative under the Partnership, the specific contributions to the Mountain Partnership by all members as well as the achievements of the Secretariat, including in fundraising. The first report will be presented to the CSD-14 meeting in 2006, and every three years thereafter.

29 October, 2004
Cusco, Peru

Annex

The following logframes are suggested tools for how Initiatives might plan, monitor/evaluate, and report on their activities. Initiatives are strongly urged to use the categories (e.g. objectives, capacity needs, etc.) in the tables. The content under each category is provided as suggestions for each category and element (e.g. strengthen policies, institutional capacity-building, etc.). This content may be used as it is, or modified, or added to, or deleted as suits the needs of each Initiative. A financial report on all activities should also be included, listing contributions by each Partnership member involved in the activity and any external funding that was obtained.

1. Strengthen Policies for Mountain Sustainable Development
a) National, Sub-regional and Regional Laws and Regulations

Objectives	Capacity needs	Activities/ actions/ recommend- ations	Time-frames	Indicators	Responsible agency	Outputs
Create synergies and cooperation between all members, involving particularly national authorities and relevant stakeholders		(i) Comparative legislation on relevant issues for mountain ecosystems	Before 2006	Each country partnership has made a legislative comparison document related to important elements for mountain ecosystems	Country Partnership members, in coordination with other members and the Secretariat	Identification of countries with a lack of appropriate legislative framework
		(ii) Sub-regional proposals for the harmonization of laws	Before 2007	At least one per sub-region	Different agencies	Sub-regional harmonized proposals
		iii. Seminars for local, sub-regional and regional	On-going	At least 3 seminars per country during the	Each member with collaboration of	Local, regional and national seminars

authorities < td>		period	international agencies and the Secretariat	reports, and authorities informed

1. Strengthen Policies for Sustainable Mountain Development
b) Participation at International Fora

Objectives	Capacity needs	Activities/ actions/ recommend-ations	Time-frames	Indicators	Responsible agency	Outputs
Identify and facilitate mechanisms for technical cooperation		(i) Elaboration of documents to be submitted to international fora	(i) On-going	At least one on each international fora	Each member with the collaboration of international agency and the Secretariat	Documents and reports on meetings held

2. Institutional Capacity-Building
a) Human Capacity-Building

Objectives	Capacity needs	Activities/ actions/ recommend-ations	Time-frames	Indicators	Responsible agency	Outputs
Building human capacities at local, regional and national level, supporting the sustainable development of mountain regions	Organize distribute and make accessible the scientific, technical and technological information relevant for the sustainable development of mountain regions	(i) ConfIrmation of electronic nodes wit specific metadata included	Before 2006	Workable and inter-operable central portal with interconnection and access to other databases	The sub-regional and regional focal points with the Secretariat	A efficient and inter-operable net system
		(ii) Development of toolkits to facilitate access to the electronic information	Before 2006	All members' access and make accessible information through their national focal points	The Secretariat with the sub-regional focal points	A dynamic activity between all national focal points

2. Institutional Capacity-Building
b) Infrastructural Capacity-Building

Objectives Capacity needs Activities/ actions/ recommend- ations Time-frames Indicators Responsible agency (national /regional level) Outputs

Organize distribute and make accessible the scientific, technical and technological information relevant for the sustainable development of mountain regions	i. Conflrmation of national, sub-regional and regional nodes	Before 2006	All members are interconnected and interoperable	National and regional members (universities through alliance with foreign institutions, organizations, etc)	All national focal points connected with the central portal
	ii. Strengthen capacities for use of virtual communication systems	Before 2006	All members hold regular courses, workshops, etc	National and regional members	All members familiarized with the use of virtual communication

2. Institutional Capacity-Building
c) Administrative Capacity-Building

Objectives Capacity needs Activities/ actions/ recommend-ations Time-frames Indicators Responsible agency (national /regional level) Outputs

Building administrative capacities at local, regional and national level, supporting the sustainable development of mountain regions	Organize distribute and make accessible the scientific, technical and technological information relevant for the *sustainable development of mountain regions*	i. Training on the use of informatic programs for project learning and monitoring	Before 2006	All projects are in line with the use of MS project management system	Regional nodes with collaboration of universities and the Secretariat	Partners responsible for project implementation with the knowledge of project management programs
		ii. Regulation of organization and functions of the Secretariat (administrative si mplification)	Before 2006	All projects are in line with the use of MS project management system	The Secretariat	A regulation for the Secretariat

3. Financial resources
a) Creation of financial mechanisms

Objectives Capacity needs Activities/ actions/ recommend- ations Time-frames Indicators Responsible agency (national

Objectives	Capacity needs	Activities/ actions/ recommend- ations	Time-frames	Indicators	Responsible agency (national /regional level)	Outputs
Establish a financial mechanism to ensure sustainability of the initiatives	Financial resources for all partners to develop the Initiatives	i. Establishment of a fiduciary fund for development of priority projects	Before 2007	All partners have the needed financial resources to develop the Initiatives	The Secretariat in close collaboration with all partners	A fiduciary fund available to support the Initiatives

4. Monitoring and Evaluation

An open and transparent reporting system of projects and tasks for each member of the Partnership, which respond to the efficiency indicators on the achieved results.

Objectives	Capacity needs	Activities/ actions/ recommend- ations	Time-frames	Indicators	Responsible agency (national /regional level)	Outputs
Have a transparent system to follow up the Initiatives and check their impact in relation to the real objectives of the Mountain Partnership	Efficiency of the action	i. Milestones and results achieved by projects available in an information exchange system	Before 2006	Number of projects with goals achieved placed in an electronic system	All members, project responsible	Project reports available in electronic system