The Mountain Partnership

Global Grassland Dialogue Platform
8 February 2022
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The mountain agenda

1992 Rio Earth Summit - Chapter 13 of Agenda 21
1995 Alpine Convention founded
2002 International Year of Mountains
2003 Carpathian Convention founded
2012 Rio+20 - The Future We Want
2014 Andean Initiative founded
2015 2030 Agenda and SDGs
2017 MP Framework for Action
2022 International Year of SMD
Why Mountains Matter

- 27% of the earth land surface
- 15% of the global population (±1.1 billion)
- 60-80% of global freshwater
- 40% of mountains are covered by forests
- 15-20% of global tourism
- 1 in 2 rural mountain people is facing hunger and malnutrition
The Mountain Partnership

Founded in 2002

446 members:
The only United Nations voluntary alliance of partners dedicated to improving the lives of mountain people and protecting mountain environments around the world

60 Governments and 10 Subnational Authorities

18 IGOs

26 Global Major Groups

332 Civil Society Organizations

Secretariat hosted by FAO, supported by Italy, Switzerland and Andorra
How to join the Mountain Partnership

The criteria for establishing and maintaining membership of the Mountain Partnership include:

• Endorsement of the vision, mission and guiding principles of the MP

• Be a formal entity with a proven level of stability in terms of funding and organizational capacity

• Nomination a focal point for regular interaction with members and the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS)

• Willingness to join forces and cooperate with other MP members

• Ability to access information and communication technologies to participate effectively in MP activities

Learn more: www.fao.org/mountain-partnership/about/join-us
Pillars of work

- **Advocacy** - raise awareness through global campaigns about sustainable mountain development, events at the UN Conventions, UN Food Systems Summit, HLPF, UNSG Report on SMD, yearly observance of International Mountain Day.

- **Capacity Development** - courses on sustainable mountain development and agrobiodiversity.

- **Knowledge sharing and communications** - produce and share publications, members' news, data, online tools, website, newsletter, videos and social media.

- **Joint action at the global level** - supporting collaboration among MP members, joint proposals, networking, funding opportunities.
International Year of Mountains 2022

- Proclaimed by UNGA on 16 December 2021 at the proposal of the Kyrgyz Republic
- Sponsored by 94 governments
- The Mountain Partnership was invited to facilitate observance of the Year
- Specifies that costs of all activities are to be met through voluntary contributions
- Kyrgyzstan proposes a five-year action plan for the development of mountain regions
Mountain grasslands

- Grasslands cover **15.9 percent** of the area of the **28 countries** of the European Union and represent the third most dominant ecosystem in Europe.

- Grasslands represent as one of the most widespread habitats in mountains.

- Mountain grasslands deliver a number of **public goods** and **ecosystem services**, such as:
  - food production
  - carbon storage
  - soil stabilisation and water quality.
  - recreational and cultural services
Mountain grasslands have an important yet under-recognized role to play in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Climate change and socio-economic pressures seriously endanger mountain grasslands.

The state of mountain grasslands – and thus the services and goods they provide – depends on environmental and socio-economic factors.

Sustainable management of mountain grasslands
Changes in the environment and climatic conditions, unsustainable management practices, and socio-economic changes are strongly affecting grasslands in European mountains.

For this reason, to preserve mountain grasslands, it is important to consider the three dimensions of sustainability:
- environment
- economy
- society
Opportunities for collaboration

- UN Biodiversity Conference (CBD COP 15) in Kunming, China
- High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
- UN Decade on Restoration
- UN Secretary-General's Report
- International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development
- International Mountain Day – 11 December
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