



Mountain Partnership

# The Mountain Partnership

Global Grassland Dialogue Platform

8 February 2022

Rosalaura Romeo, Mountain Partnership Secretariat



# 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 ( $\pm 1.1$  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**



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



Cooperazione Italiana  
Ministero degli Affari Esteri  
e della Cooperazione Internazionale



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,  
Education and Research EAER  
Federal Office for Agriculture FOAG



Govern d'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](http://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**



An aerial photograph of a mountain landscape. In the upper left, a river flows through a dense forest. Below the river, a small village with several houses is visible. The middle section of the image shows terraced grasslands, some of which are yellow, possibly due to dry grass or a specific crop. The lower part of the image shows more green grasslands and a small structure. The overall scene is a mix of natural and human-made elements in a mountainous region.

# Mountain grasslands

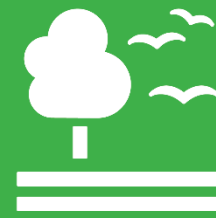
- Grasslands cover **15.9 percent** of the area of the **28 countries** of the European Union and represent the third most dominant ecosystem in Europe
- Grasslands represent as one of the most **widespread habitats in mountains**
- Mountain grasslands deliver a number of **public goods** and **ecosystem services**, such as:
  - food production
  - carbon storage
  - soil stabilisation and water quality.
  - recreational and cultural services



# Sustainable management of mountain grasslands

- 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.

15 LIFE ON LAND



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION





A photograph of a mountain landscape. In the foreground, there are two metal frames holding prayer flags and small white prayer wheels. The prayer flags are in various colors: red, yellow, green, blue, and white. The background shows a vast mountain range with a large glacier or snowfield in the center. The sky is blue with some clouds. The overall scene is a high-altitude mountain environment.

# Climate affecting 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**

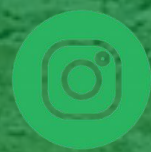






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Спасибо

GRACIAS

謝謝你

THANK YOU

