



# Why mountains matter



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## Mountains are lifelines

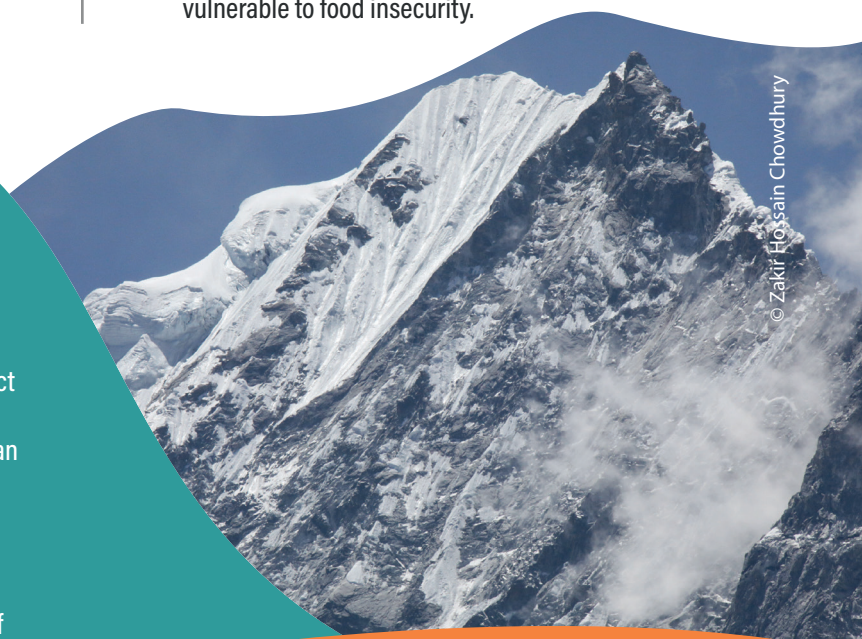
- Mountains are home to around 1.1 billion people (15 percent of the global population).
- Mountains cover about 27 percent of the earth's land surface and host 25 of the world's 34 biodiversity hotspots.
- Mountains supply freshwater to an estimated half of humanity.
- Mountains and mountain peoples continue to be neglected in national policies and global fora.

## Threats and challenges

- Biodiversity loss, land degradation and pollution are severely and increasingly affecting mountain livelihoods and ecosystems.
- Climate change is negatively impacting mountains worldwide, resulting in mountain glacier retreat, permafrost thaw and climate related hazards, with implications on water supply in the lowland.
- One in two rural mountain people in developing countries is vulnerable to food insecurity.

## Opportunities for change

- The Mountain Partnership (MP) is leading global efforts to support the livelihoods of mountain communities and protect their environments.
- Nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based adaptation can help mountain communities build resilience, diversify their livelihoods and reduce dependencies on unsustainable practices.
- Investments, training, innovation and digitalization can empower mountain communities, who are the custodians of mountains and stewards of their precious resources.



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# The Mountain Partnership's vision and mission

Founded in 2002, the MP is the United Nations voluntary alliance of partners dedicated to improving the lives of mountain peoples and protecting mountain environments. Bringing together very diverse stakeholder groups, it empowers communities and increases commitment and investment to address the planetary crises affecting mountains and ensure the social and economic well-being of mountain people, leaving no one behind.



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## The Mountain Partnership Secretariat

The MP is supported by a Secretariat (MPS) that is hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome.

### Advocacy

Raising awareness through high-level campaigns and participation in international processes and events to attract investments and promote mountain-specific policies



## Pillars of work



### Joint action

Fostering collaboration among MP members through joint activities, campaigns and projects

### Capacity development

Training practitioners, technicians and officers on sustainable mountain development topics



### Knowledge sharing

Creating, collecting and sharing publications, data, online tools and news on mountain issues

## Invest for impact, join the global movement

You can contribute by:

- funding the MPS to expand its areas of work and to better sustain members and their initiatives
- providing human resources, also by staff secondment, to enhance MPS's capacity
- contributing to ongoing initiatives
- financing an event or a publication on a focus area/topic according to your country or organization's priorities

Become an active member of this UN alliance to:

- impact and catalyse commitments to build resilient mountain communities and environments
- guide and contribute to the work of the MP — as a member, you can be elected to the MP Steering Committee
- play a prominent role in relevant global and regional fora, and advocacy events
- benefit from training programmes, technical transfers, and knowledge exchanges



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