



# Mountains under pressure climate, hunger, migration

11-13 December 2017

FAO HQ, Rome, Italy

## Background

Almost one billion people live in mountain areas, and over half the human population depends on mountains for water, food and clean energy. Yet mountains are under threat from climate change, land degradation and natural disasters, with potentially far-reaching and devastating consequences both for mountain communities and the rest of the world.

The extreme vulnerability of mountains puts their natural resources under increasing pressure, which in turn affects mountain peoples, exacerbating hunger, poverty and forcing migration. The vast majority of mountain dwellers live below the poverty line, and one-third face the threat of food insecurity. Despite clear evidence of their importance and vulnerability, mountains continue to be marginalized in international negotiations and national policy-making efforts.

Coinciding with the International Mountain Day and the 15th anniversary of the Mountain Partnership, the Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership will raise awareness of the need to place mountain ecosystems and peoples at the centre of international negotiations, policies and investments. The meeting will launch a Framework for Action to support concrete actions, put in place long-lasting processes and establish policies that strengthen the resilience of mountain peoples and environments. It will also aim to ensure that sustainable mountain development is integrated into the 2030 Agenda and in the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Participants will include high-level representatives from mountainous countries, goodwill ambassadors, and representatives of intergovernmental organizations, the private sector and civil society, in addition to Mountain Partnership members.

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Day 1 – Monday, 11 December 9.00–17.00

High-Level Segment | RED ROOM (A121)

8.00 – 9.00	Registration
8.00 – 9.00	Welcome coffee
9.00 – 10.00	<p><b>Opening of the High-Level Segment and celebration of International Mountain Day</b></p> <p>Moderator: Thomas Hofer, Coordinator, Mountain Partnership Secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Remarks by founding members: Maria Helena Semedo, Deputy Director-General, FAO; Statement on behalf of Mario Giro, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy; Andrea Olivero, Vice Minister of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Policy, Italy; Dominique Kohli, Assistant Director-General, Federal Office for Agriculture, Switzerland; and Tim Christophersen, Coordinator of Freshwater, Land and Climate Branch, UN Environment</li><li>Remarks by Mountain Partnership ambassadors: His Holiness Drikung Kyabgön Chetsang; Arjun Gupta, founder, TeleSoft Partners; and Jake Norton, founder, MountainWorld Productions</li><li>Remarks by Andrew Taber, Chair, Mountain Partnership Steering Committee</li><li>Videos: <i>International Mountain Day</i></li></ul>
10.00 – 11.00	<p><b>Launch of the Framework for Action</b></p> <p>Moderator: Dominique Kohli, Assistant Director-General, Federal Office for Agriculture, Switzerland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mountains under pressure. Keynote speaker: Petteri Taalas, Secretary-General, WMO</li><li>Launch of the Framework for Action: Grammenos Mastrojeni, Assistant Director-General, Coordinator for the Environment, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy</li><li>Statements</li><li>Conclusion</li></ul>
11.00 – 12.00	<p><b>The Framework for Action and the 2030 Agenda – challenges and responses</b></p> <p><b>Session: Mountains: climate change and disaster risk management</b></p> <p>Moderator: Aydın Tüfekçioğlu, Professor, Artvin Coruh University, Turkey</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“Climate change in the mountains: trends, impacts, challenges and opportunities”, Martin Price, UNESCO Chair, University of the Highlands and Islands, United Kingdom; and</li><li>“FAO’s contribution to disaster risk management in mountain areas”, Shukri Ahmed, Deputy Strategic Programme Leader – Resilience, FAO</li></ul> <p><b>Session: Mountains: food and water</b></p> <p>Moderator: Ambassador Isaura Torres, Director of Environment and Ocean Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“Climate change and water security”, Anil Mishra, Programme Specialist, Section on Hydrological Systems and Water Scarcity, International Hydrological Programme, Division of Water Sciences, UNESCO; and</li><li>“Sustainable management of mountains for food and water: experiences from Mount Elgon, Uganda”, Paul Mafabi, Director of Environment Affairs, Ministry of Water and Environment, Uganda</li></ul>
12.15 – 14.00	Lunch and opening of the exhibitions (Atrium)
14.00 – 15.30	<p><b>The Framework for Action and the 2030 Agenda – challenges and responses (cont.)</b></p> <p><b>Session: Mountains and their goods and services</b></p> <p>Moderator: Ambassador Christian Guillermet-Fernández, Director-General of Foreign Policy, Costa Rica</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>“Understanding the benefits of mountain ecosystems: 15 years of progress”, Tim Christophersen, Coordinator of Freshwater, Land and Climate Branch, UN Environment; and</li><li>“Securing mountain goods and services through local enterprise: works in progress”, Andrew Taber, Executive Director, The Mountain Institute</li></ul>



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14.00 – 15.30	<p><b>The Framework for Action and the 2030 Agenda – challenges and responses (cont.)</b></p> <p><b>Session: Mountain communities and migration</b></p> <p>Moderator: Ambassador Mumtaz Kassam, Permanent Representation of Uganda to FAO</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Migration in the HKH region: governance, drivers and consequences”, Laurie Vasily, Knowledge and Communication Manager, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development; and</li><li>• “Mountain communities and migration: perspectives from the International Network of Mountain Indigenous Peoples”, Alejandro Argumedo, Director, Asociación ANDES</li></ul> <p>Conclusions and Q&amp;A</p>
15.30 – 17.00	<p><b>Making a Global Framework work – showcasing practical approaches</b></p> <p>Moderator: Tehmina Akhtar, Deputy Global Manager, GEF Small Grants Programme, UNDP</p> <p>Panel discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nurlan Jumaev, Deputy Director, State Agency for Environment Protection and Forestry, Kyrgyz Republic; and Matthias Fiechter, Communications Associate, Secretariat of the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program;</li><li>• Matt T. Reed, Chief Executive Officer, Aga Khan Foundation, Aga Khan Development Network;</li><li>• H.E. Ambassador Hersey Kyota, Ambassador of the Republic of Palau to United States of America, Board Chair, Global Island Partnership; and Kate Brown, Executive Director, Global Island Partnership; and</li><li>• Matthias Jurek, Programme Management Officer, UN Environment, Carpathian Convention</li></ul> <p>Discussion and conclusions of High-Level Segment</p>
17.00 – 18.30	<b>Cocktail (SHEIKH ZAYED CENTRE)</b>

Day 2 – Tuesday, 12 December 9.00–19.30

**Fifteen years of the Mountain Partnership | Stocktaking and new priorities for the Global Framework | RED ROOM (A121)**

8.00 – 9.00	<b>Coffee</b>
9.00 – 10.30	<p><b>Mountain Partnership’s global achievements, priorities and challenges</b></p> <p>Moderator: Eva Müller, Director, Forestry Policy and Resources Division, Forestry Department, FAO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of progress made and results achieved: Thomas Hofer, Coordinator, Mountain Partnership Secretariat</li><li>• Discussion: remarks and feedback by members</li></ul>
10.30 – 12.00	<p><b>Reports by Steering Committee members on the achievements, priorities and challenges in their constituencies</b></p> <p>Moderator: Andrew Taber, Chair, Mountain Partnership Steering Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Steering Committee members</li><li>• Discussion and Q&amp;A</li></ul>
12.30 – 14.00	<p><b>Lunch and side events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Promoting mountain products to improve local economies and livelihoods – SHEIKH ZAYED CENTRE (Atrium)</li><li>• Education in mountains – PAKISTAN ROOM (A127)</li><li>• Launch of Mountain 2018 – ESPACE GABON (A024)</li></ul>
14.00 – 15.30	<p><b>Resource mobilization</b></p> <p>Moderator: Andrey Kushlin, Deputy Director, Forest Policy and Resources Division, Forestry Department, FAO</p> <p>Learning from major players:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Arjun Gupta, founder, TeleSoft Partners;</li><li>• Tehmina Akhtar, Deputy Global Manager, GEF Small Grants Programme, UNDP;</li><li>• René Castro Salazar, Assistant Director-General, Climate, Biodiversity, Land and Water Department, FAO; and</li><li>• Sameer Karki, Technical Officer (Natural Resources), GEF Coordination Unit, Climate and Environment Division, FAO</li></ul>

15.30 – 17.00	<p><b>Governance issues</b> (<i>Mountain Partnership members only</i>)  Moderator: Thomas Hofer, Coordinator, Mountain Partnership Secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion and endorsement of the <b>Governance Paper</b></li> <li>• Discussion of <b>Options Paper</b> for membership fee scheme</li> <li>• Discussion and endorsement of <b>Advocacy Strategy</b></li> <li>• Discussion and endorsement of <b>Communication Strategy</b></li> </ul>
17.30 – 19.30	<p><b>Side events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding landscape and watershed management in mountains – ETHIOPIA ROOM (C285/289)</li> <li>• Science and research for evidence-informed policy and action on the ground: experiences and outlook in mountain-specific cases – LEBANON ROOM (D209)</li> <li>• Andean Mechanism – PAKISTAN ROOM (A127)</li> </ul>
<b>Official dinner (Cafeteria, Building B, 8th floor)</b>	

Day 3 - Wednesday, 13 December 9.00 – 17.00

**Gearing up the Mountain Partnership to support the Global Framework implementation | RED ROOM (A121)**

8.00 – 9.00	Coffee
9.00 – 10.00	<p><b>Reports from side events (day 2)</b>  Moderator: Thomas Hofer, Coordinator, Mountain Partnership Secretariat</p>
10.00 - 11.00	<b>Breakouts by electoral groups: endorsement of Steering Committee candidates</b> ( <i>Mountain Partnership members only</i> )
11.00 – 12.00	<p><b>Reports by electoral groups and election of the Steering Committee</b> (<i>Mountain Partnership members only</i>)  Moderator: Thomas Hofer, Coordinator, Mountain Partnership Secretariat</p>
12.30 – 14.00	<b>Lunch and speed geeking session – SHEIKH ZAYED CENTRE (Atrium)</b>
14.00 – 16.00	<p><b>The Mountain Partnership looks ahead: setting priorities and identifying the main areas of work for the next biennium</b>  Moderator: Sam Kanyambwa, Executive Director, Albertine Rift Conservation Society  Breakout sessions according to main priorities of members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocacy, capacity development, joint action and communications sessions; and</li> <li>• Regional or thematic topics</li> </ul>
16.00 – 17.00	<p><b>Discussion and conclusions</b>  Moderator: Andrey Kushlin, Deputy Director, Forest Policy and Resources Division, Forestry Department, FAO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hiroto Mitsugi, Assistant Director-General, Forestry Department, FAO;</li> <li>• Thomas Hofer, Coordinator, Mountain Partnership Secretariat;</li> <li>• Andrew Taber, Chair, Mountain Partnership Steering Committee;</li> <li>• Grammenos Mastrojeni, Assistant Director-General, Coordinator for the Environment, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy; and</li> <li>• François Pythoud, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to FAO, IFAD and WFP, Switzerland</li> </ul>
17.30 – 19.30	<b>Steering Committee meeting</b> ( <i>Steering Committee members only</i> )

