



Mountain Partnership

Mountain Partnership Secretariat, FAO Business Incubator and Accelerator for Mountains and Islands

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The Mountain Partnership (MP)

Founded in 2002, the MP is the only United Nations alliance of governments and civil society organizations dedicated to protecting mountain environments around the world.

459 members in 98 countries

- **61** Governments
- **18** Intergovernmental Organizations
- **368** Major Groups & Organizations
- **12** Subnational authorities

Secretariat hosted by FAO, supported by Andorra, Italy and Switzerland



Why #MountainsMatter



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



Mountains under pressure

- Mountains are under pressure for climate changes, hunger, poverty, migration, etc.

- Mountain peoples are among the poorest and most malnourished in the world

- Since 2000, vulnerability to food insecurity has constantly increased in rural mountain areas

- In developing countries, a great majority lives below the poverty line, and more than 1 in 2 rural mountain people faces food insecurity (±350 million)

- COVID-19 has compounded the vulnerabilities of mountain communities, disrupting mountain livelihoods based on agriculture, tourism and remittances

Mountain Partnership Products Initiative

Certification and labelling scheme for ethical, fair & organic mountain products

WINNER OF
EXPO 2020
DUBAI'S GLOBAL
BEST PRACTICE
PROGRAMME

- **Labelling**: A narrative label to raise awareness about products' environmental, cultural and social values
- **Certification**: The first international network of Participatory Guarantee Systems to empower mountain communities
- **Marketing**: Smallholder producers better equipped to promote their products in the market





19 000 farmers involved
60% women producers
8 countries
45 products labelled
35 producer organizations

Commercial development



Business Incubator and Accelerator for Mountains and Islands

PROMOTING SOCIAL BUSINESSES IN FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS

Increase the resilience of mountain and island communities enhancing innovative entrepreneurship by providing:

OBJECTIVE

- grants
- technical assistance
- capacity development



Business Incubator and Accelerator for Mountains and Islands

3 types of support:

- 1. Grant - Financial support:** from USD 15 000 up to 50 000
Applicant's matching contribution 50% of the requested grant (cash and/or in-kind);
- 2. Business Incubator - Technical support:** improve business plan to increase the feasibility, sustainability, potential impact, replicability, and economic efficiency
- 3. Business Accelerator - Capacity development:** boost businesses, by seizing existing growth opportunities



Business Incubator and Accelerator for Mountains and Islands

10 countries:

- Dominican Republic
- Guatemala
- Fiji
- Kyrgyzstan
- Malawi
- Mongolia
- Nepal
- Peru
- The Philippines
- Uganda

Business Incubator and Accelerator for Mountains and Islands

Eligibility and priority criteria:

- Applicants: Producer Organizations or NGOs
- Grant allowed to purchase mainly fixed assets (machinery, equipments)
- Promote social businesses approaches
- Promote value chains that generate positive externalities for ecosystems and biodiversity
- Promote mountain and island products as well as short value chains as a strategy for food security
- Promote organic certified products



Thank you for your attention

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