

## **PART 1:**

**Commitment type:** Collective commitment

**Title of initiative:** Mountain Partnership

**Please provide the main objective and rationale for the initiative (Maximum 400 words):**

*Describe the main objective behind the initiative and if necessary sub-objectives*

The Mountain Partnership is the only United Nations voluntary alliance of partners dedicated to promoting the world's mountains and mountain peoples. Mountains contribute to sustaining the livelihoods of 1.1 billion people living in mountains and those of a much larger number of people in the lowlands. They provide up to 80% of the total freshwater used by humanity for domestic consumption, irrigation, industry, food and energy production. Mountains are an important repository of agrobiodiversity that might be key to the future of world food security in the face of climate change by providing a gene pool of resilient crops.

The Mountain Partnership has actively engaged in the process leading up to the Food Systems Summit through the hosting of an independent dialogue and a parallel session during the Pre-Summit as well as contributing to a number of information materials to ensure that role of sustainable food systems in mountains is acknowledged.

The Mountain Partnership continues to advocate for policies, investments and programmes for mountains in the form of actionable commitments to protect mountains as the “water towers of the world”, promote their adaptation to climate change, and recognize their role in ensuring food security. Food systems in vulnerable ecosystems such as mountains play a central role in sustainable transformation and food security, both at local through food provision and rural development and at global level through the provision of ecosystem services such as water. Promoting more resilient and sustainable food systems in mountains is a prerequisite to lift mountain communities out of high rates of food insecurity and malnutrition, which are expected to increase with the COVID-19 pandemic. Sustainable land use practices, agroecological principles, traditional and indigenous agricultural knowledge and practices are essential for maintaining healthy mountain ecosystems. The investment and promotion of specialty mountain products and certification schemes can advance equitable livelihoods.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development explicitly recognizes the importance and vulnerability of mountains with three dedicated Sustainable Development Goal targets (6.6, 15.1 and 15.4). However, mountains' role in supporting sustainable food systems is still neglected. We aim to heighten visibility of and political support for the relevance of mountains to sustainable development and food systems, in the spirit of the 2030 Agenda of leaving no one behind.

**Please specify the area or action that relates to the commitment \***

- Nourish All People
- **Boost Nature-Based Solutions of Production**
- Build Resilience to Vulnerabilities, Shocks, and Stresses
- Advance Equitable Livelihoods, Decent Work, & Empowered Communities

- Means of Implementation
- Other/NA

**Identify geography where the commitment(s) will impact \***

- **Global**
- Regional
- Country

**List 3 keywords linked to the commitment \***

- Mountain Partnership
- Sustainable mountain development
- Mountains

## **Part 2: Organisation(s) making commitment(s)**

Name of prime organisation(s)

Name of organisation focal point(s)

Position within Organisation

Email

Organization(s) (Separate with a comma)

**Constituency \***

- Member state(s)
- Civil society
- Indigenous peoples
- Private sector
- Producer organizations
- Youth
- Cities
- Academic
- Other

Attach additional documents related to the commitment (Maximum file size 10MB)

- [Vulnerability Study](#)
- [Agroecology Study](#)
- [FAO RAP Strategy Paper \(with MPS contribution\) - Mountain Agriculture Opportunities for harnessing Zero Hunger in Asia](#)
- [Biodiversity infosheet \(IMD 2020\)](#)
- [Infosheet - contribution to the discussion on sustainable food systems](#)

- [Official report from the MPS SFS Independent Dialogue](#)
- [MPS Annual Report 2020](#)
- [The White/Wiphala Paper on Indigenous Peoples' food systems](#)