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Why focus on **MOUNTAINS?**

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Mountains cover 22% of the earth's land surface



Mountains offer globally important services



Water



Energy

Products



Biodiversity



Mountain peoples offer globally important solutions



Mountains in the international agenda: 1992 - 2002 – 2012 - ???

► 1992 – Rio Earth Summit – Agenda 21 Chapter 13



► 2002 – WSSD – Plan of Implementation – para 42



► 2012 – Rio+20 – The Future We Want – paras 210, 211, 212



► 2015 and beyond?



Mountain Partnership a UN alliance

- **Launched:** WSSD 2002
- **Membership:** 235, 53 Gov. (18.6.2014)
- **Functions:** **advocacy**, capacity development, communication and **knowledge management**, resource mobilization, joint action, innovation
- **MPS resource partners:** ITA, SWI, WB, **FAO**



FAO – the UN lead agency for sustainable mountain development

- Task Manager of **Chapter 13** of Agenda 21
- Lead Agency for the **International Year of Mountains** (2002)
- Coordinator of the **International Mountain Day** (11 December)
- Host of the **Mountain Partnership Secretariat**



Mountains are the home of ~300 million (?) vulnerable people



- Challenging environment
- Difficult access
- Marginality

Thank you for this opportunity!



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