



PROJECT BRIEF | MOUNTAIN SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS

Global change is affecting environmental, social, and economic dynamics across the world. Communities are responding by assessing material areas and risks, measuring impacts, and taking actions.

What is the MSI Project Concept & Tool?

The Mountain Sustainability Indicators (MSI) intend to accelerate a mountain community's sustainability performance and actions.

The indicators are intentionally aligned with the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs). They measure progress towards this global framework and place-based priority goals.



Why is it valuable?

Mountain communities will benefit from the MSI Tool by:

- Engaging with the SDGs and body of knowledge
- Learning about key areas of sustainable development
- Measuring and tracking performance indicators
- Identifying and mobilizing priority actions
- Sharing sustainability data and practice

How does it work?

The MSI Tool offers a menu of mountain specific performance indicators. Communities compile data for each or select indicators. This enables mountain communities to focus on priority areas, leverage points, and actions.

The MSI Tool acts as an 'incubator' and is designed with self-sufficiency and institutional capacity building in mind. Subject matter experts and graduate students may support the MSI Tool's application and use.

Who is involved? Where? When?

The MSI project is a collaboration between Aspen International Mountain Foundation (AIMF) and the Mountain Resilience Coalition (MRC).

The MSI Team has completed the project's concept and pilot phase. Wider rollout of the MSI Tool as a 'starter' resource for mountain communities across the UN Mountain Partnership regions is underway.

The MSI Tool will be published via an online portal as an *open access* resource for mountain communities using a Creative Commons license.



Map delineates mountain geographies in the UNMP North/Central American & Caribbean region. Image by Aubrey Schoff (2019)