

## PAPERS AND DATA ON FOOD SECURITY IN MOUNTAINS

Dear FSN-Members,

I am Claudia Veith and am currently working for the Forestry Department at the FAO Headquarter in Rome. As part of my work I am supporting and facilitating the preparations of the **International Mountain Day 2008** a UN General Assembly initiative that will take place on December 11<sup>th</sup> (For further information please refer to:

[http://www.fao.org/mnts/intl\\_mountain\\_day\\_en.asp](http://www.fao.org/mnts/intl_mountain_day_en.asp).)

Of the world's 850 million chronically undernourished people, 245 million live in mountain areas and are at risk of, or actually experiencing, hunger and food insecurity. This year's International Mountain Day aims to raise awareness about this critical issue and **its theme will be "food security in mountains"**.

In order to collect material on which the background text for the International Mountain Day 2008 will be based, I wish to ask for your help. According to the topic **we are looking for papers, data, statistics, case studies and points to highlight related to food security in mountains** that deal with the following sub-themes:

- Disproportionate number of food insecure and vulnerable people in mountain areas
- Potential and opportunities in mountains
- Soaring food prices and their effects on mountain communities
- Markets, mountain products, economic valuation
- Nutrition in mountain areas
- Need for increased productivity in mountain areas

Any background material or documented cases dealing with these issues will be highly appreciated and contributing to the success of this international event taking place in different countries. At a later stage, the material provided will be further used to generate a, hopefully, lively discussion on this forum.

Thank you all in advance for your contributions and assistance.

Best regards

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