

## Statistics for the SDGs - global indicators



<b>Name of the indicator</b>	<b>15.4.2 Mountain Green Cover Index</b>
<b>Sustainable Development Goal</b>	Goal 15. Life on land
<b>Target</b>	15.4 By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development
<b>Definition</b>	The percentage ratio of green vegetation in mountain areas - i.e. forest, grassland, shrubland, pasture land, crop land, etc. to mountain area.
<b>Unit</b>	percent [%]
<b>Available dimensions</b>	total, Kapos class
<b>Methodological explanations</b>	<p>Mountains are defined according to the UNEP-WCMC classification that identifies them according to altitude, slope and local elevation range as described by Kapos et al. 2000:</p> <p>Class 1: elevation &gt; 4,500 meters  Class 2: elevation 3,500-4,500 meters  Class 3: elevation 2,500 - 3,500 meters  Class 4: elevation 1,500 -2,500 meters and slope &gt; 2  Class 5: elevation 1,000 - 1,500 meters and slope &gt; 5 or local elevation range (LER 7 kilometer radius) &gt; 300 meters  Class 6: elevation 300 - 1,000 meters and local elevation range (7 kilometer radius) &gt; 300 meters</p>
<b>Data source</b>	Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography
<b>Data availability</b>	Annual data; since 2019
<b>Notes</b>	Mountains classification described in: Kapos V. Developing a map of the world's mountain forests., w M.Price i N.Butt (EDS.) Forests in sustainable mountain development: a state of knowledge report for 2000. Wallingford: CAB International.
<b>Data updated on</b>	26-08-2025
<b>Metadata updated on</b>	05-06-2020