# Statistics for the SDGs – global indicators

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| **Name of the indicator** | **15.4.2 Mountain Green Cover Index** |
| **Sustainable Development Goal** | Goal 15. Life on land |
| **Target** | 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 |
| **Definition** | The percentage ratio of green vegetation in mountain areas - i.e. forest, grassland, shrubland, pasture land, crop land, etc. to mountain area. |
| **Unit** | percent [%] |
| **Available dimensions** | total, Kapos class |
| **Methodological explanations** | 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:<br><br>Class 1: elevation > 4,500 meters<br>Class 2: elevation 3,500-4,500 meters<br>Class 3: elevation 2,500 - 3,500 meters<br>Class 4: elevation 1,500 -2,500 meters and slope > 2<br>Class 5: elevation 1,000 - 1,500 meters and slope > 5 or local elevation range (LER 7 kilometer radius) > 300 meters<br>Class 6: elevation 300 - 1,000 meters and local elevation range (7 kilometer radius) > 300 meters |
| **Data source** | Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography |
| **Data availability** | Annual data; since 2019 |
| **Notes** | 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. |
| **Data updated on** | 26-08-2025 |
| **Metadata updated on** | 05-06-2020 |