



# Mount Kilimanjaro Porters Society M K P S



[www.kilimanjaro-porters.org](http://www.kilimanjaro-porters.org)

# MKPS

**MOUNT KILIMANJARO PORTERS SOCIETY**

Mount Kilimanjaro Porterst Society is a non-governmental organization registered under the Non-Governmental Organization Act No.24 of 2002 of the United Republic of Tanzania with certificate no 13296.



## Why partner with MKPS?

### Our Projects

- **Our Core Values**
- **Health Insurance**
- **Financial Management Education**
- **Opening of Bank Accounts**
- **First Aid Training**
- **MKPS Communcity Service**
- **Mt. Kilimanjaro Cleanup Volunteer Trek**
- **Tree Planting Project**
- **Ocean Clean Up**

### Porters' Benefits

- ◆ **Trainings**
- ◆ **Insurance**
- ◆ **Gear**
- ◆ **Sponsorship**
- ◆ **CSR**
- ◆ **Publicity**
- ◆ **Networking**
- ◆ **Unity**
- ◆ **Development**
- ...

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## Why Partner With MKPS?

There are several reasons why a company should consider partnering with the Mount Kilimanjaro Porters Society (MKPS):

### 1. Open Tipping Policy:

The MKPS advocates for an open tipping policy, which ensures that porters are paid fair and transparent wages. By partnering with the MKPS, a company can support this policy and demonstrate its commitment to fair labor practices.

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### 3. Trekking Gears:

The MKPS provides porters with proper equipment and training, including trekking gear. By partnering with the MKPS, a company can support the safety and well-being of porters on the mountain and promote responsible tourism practices.

### 4. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR):

Partnering with the MKPS demonstrates a company's commitment to social responsibility by supporting an organization that works to improve the working conditions and welfare of porters on Mount Kilimanjaro, and promotes sustainable tourism practices.

### 5. Positive Public Image:

By partnering with the MKPS, a company can demonstrate its commitment to social and environmental causes, which can help to enhance its public image and reputation. This can improve brand awareness and customer loyalty.

## **6. Access to Local Networks:**

The MKPS has strong connections to the local community in Tanzania and East Africa. Partnering with the MKPS can provide a company with access to local networks, which can be valuable for expanding business operations in the region.

## **7. Sustainable Tourism Practices:**

The MKPS promotes sustainable tourism practices, which can help to protect the environment and ensure that tourism in the region is responsible and sustainable. Partnering with the MKPS can demonstrate a company's commitment to sustainability and responsible tourism practices.

## **8. Support for Community Development:**

The MKPS provides support services to porters, including training programs, medical care, and emergency assistance. By partnering with the MKPS, a company can support community development and contribute to the well-being of the local community

In summary, partnering with the MKPS can provide a company with opportunities to support fair labor practices, promote the health and well-being of porters, and support responsible tourism practices on Mount Kilimanjaro.

# MKPS

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Porters are the backbone of the trekking world, the society is affiliated with different sponsors such as travel and tourism companies, sustainable NGO, and individual mountain climbers from all over the world.



In the quest to advance Sustainable Tourism Development in Tanzania all sponsors have sustainably impacted and continues to impact thousands of lives in Tanzania, as currently MKPS employs nearly 1,410 on both permanent and seasonal basis, sustaining thousands of families in a country where unemployment prominently exists.

For a porter being a member of MKPS, she/he has an immeasurable benefits: Through the employment opportunities provided by tourism companies where by a significant number of Porters support their families and earn their livelihoods. Porters has been at the frontline in revolutionizing their working conditions creating a dignified, fair and decent work environment them.



## CORE VALUES OF MOUNT KILIMANJARO PORTER'S SOCIETY (MKPS) IN OPERATION

As an ethical organization, partners (tour companies) obey and promotes the rules and regulations as provided by the laws of Tanzania and never at any time our partners have been sued or questioned by the authorities for not keeping and upholding the law set forth by the state.

According to rule 7 of the Mountains National Parks Regulations of 2003 a tour operator and its guides shall only hire or employ porters who are honest, disciplined and trustworthy and who are members of a registered Porter's association holding valid identity cards issued by the registered porters Association.

We at MKPS provides employment opportunities to porters who fulfil the above criteria only and we urge all our partners to take responsibility in ensuring quality climbing gear for the porters as well as financial support and mentorship to MKPS whenever needed.

### The Mount Kilimanjaro porters' society abides to the rules and regulations set forth as follows;

- The society provides proper wages to its porters as per minimum wages set by the Labour Institutions Wage Order of 2013 GN No. 196 of the United Republic of Tanzania. Porters are paid more than the set standard wages.
- It provides three meals a day to the working porters.
- It provides proper climbing gear (clothing )to its porters including but not limited to technical clothing that is a prerequisite when trekking in high altitude conditions which includes water and wind resistant jackets, pants, gloves, base layers, socks, hats, sunglasses and proper footwear.
- The society also provides proper shelter as porters are given access to tents or provided with sleeping quarters, sleeping bags and mats.
- In collaboration with all partners, a proper tipping policy is being observed as there are tipping guidelines and sheets filled by the visitors. This ensures that full transparency is observed and the tip is being shared to the group as suggested by the visitor.



- Loads are restricted to reasonable weight limits, which are measured in hotels and confirmed by the Kilimanjaro National park authority when they reach the respective gate/entry point. As per rule 12 of the Mountains National Parks Regulations of 2003 which limits the luggage to weigh between 18-25 Kilogram.

All the aforementioned corresponds to rule 5 of the Mountains National Parks Regulations of 2003 which provides that each tour operator and his guide shall make sure that all climbers have all necessary, suitable and adequate climbing gears and adequate foodstuff.

The society exists as a shield for porters who are registered under it with the goal of improving the living and working conditions of these porters. The porters gain the following benefits as being the member of the society;

## HEALTH INSURANCE

With the nature of the work the porters do, it is easy to get sick or injured on the job. Therefore, all porters under Mount Kilimanjaro Porters Society are registered on the National Health Insurance fund to provide them security if they get sick or injured while working. At the beginning of every high season (where there are more tourists climbing Kilimanjaro), Mount Kilimanjaro Porter's society ensures that all porters are healthy and medically checked, so that at the start of the season everyone is physically fit. This benefit goes hand in hand with rule 8 of the Mountains National Parks Regulations of 2003 which provides that the Registered Porters Association shall make sure that all porters intending to climb any mountain are healthy and physically fit and have justified their fitness by submitting medical certificates. They do this once every twelve months



## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT EDUCATION

Being knowledgeable about proper methods of saving and spending money ensure that the porters have concrete ways and strategies of spending money, this enables them to better take care of their families. In collaboration with all sponsors, Mount Kilimanjaro Porter's Society arranges financial management training classes for porters occasionally and ensures that all porters have bank accounts where their salaries are paid into. Bank accounts allow the porters to save money for the future, especially during low season when fewer tourists climb the Kilimanjaro.



## OPENING OF BANK ACCOUNTS

The Porter's society has opened an account at Diamond Trust Bank where all porters have their own bank accounts and bank cards. This helps them handle their money better.

## FIRST AID TRAINING

To reduce the risk of losing lives, for tourists, porters and guides, the society in collaboration with all sponsors has facilitated First Aid training for the porters under Mount Kilimanjaro Porters society. They are provided with basic mountain first aid training. This enables them to be of help for each other, in the case of an emergency and has also proven to be effective in incidents where a client is ill. The training is usually done during low season because this ensures that there are many porters available in town, allowing the course to attain a high attendance rate.

## MKPS COMMUNITY SERVICE

Apart from the benefits gained by the porters by being the members of MKPS, the porters also have the opportunity to give back to the environment and the community by participating in Various Sustainable Tourism Projects Spearheaded such as;

### **The Mount Kilimanjaro Clean Up Volunteer Trek**

Since 2014, Organizes A Kilimanjaro Clean up Volunteer trek. The six day event biannual event happens every April (sometimes early May depending on climatic conditions) and November. This project involves the climbing of Mount Kilimanjaro with the goal of picking up rubbish and other unwanted materials on the mountain. MKPS plays a significant role of providing manpower, restoring the trails and planting trees in the forest. The aim of this trek is to raise awareness on climate change and conserve the environment by preserving this precious ecosystem and biodiversity.



## Tree Planting Project

All our partners have been committed to practicing sustainable tourism. They engage in various outreach projects that benefit the community, the economy and the environment. This has allowed partners to engage in a forestation for environmental conservation more effectively, MKPS participates in the various tree planting campaigns and in educating the community on the importance of trees.



## Ocean Coastline Clean Up

Ocean Coastline clean up Ocean plastic is estimated to kill millions of marine animals every year. Nearly 700 species, including endangered ones, are known to have been affected by it.

For the second time this year, MKPS joined with all partners alongside sponsors and Foundations anti-plastic pollution and Indian Ocean Coastline clean up. The team engaged in a thorough clean up of the Coastline focusing in the area called Deep Sea. The team was able to extract over 7 tons of waste 95% was plastic bags, 3% mineral water bottles and 2% other garbage.

MKPS is not a mere society of porters but an organization that plays a significant role in improving working conditions and the livelihood of all porters. We are proud of the progress made by MKPS in the years it has partnered with it and will continue to support and play an important part in the lives and wellbeing of all our staff and partners.





# The Roof of Africa

ENJOY EVERY MOMENT

## CLIMB WITH US

We are experienced and qualified Guides and Porters with years of climbing and vast knowledge regarding Kilimanjaro, Nature, Vegetation and all that makes the trekking experience as you ascend to the summit and the way down!

It's a pleasure working with you from all angles of the world! Our duty is to take you to the top of Africa and give you the most memorable view and lifetime memories!

Check us out for info on trekking, Kilimanjaro experience and more regarding climbing adventures.



## Kilimanjaro

The roof of Africa, the highest free standing volcanic mountain that can be climbed to the top.

Come and see the world from the roof of Africa as you explore nature through arid and semi-arid areas with varying landscapes of unique beauty and full of life, from wild animals of all sorts to rare blue monkeys and more.

Experience sunrise on the roof of Africa!



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