



# MKPS

MOUNT KILIMANJARO  
PORTERS' SOCIETY

---

Standing up for the fair treatment and  
proper working conditions for our porters.







## HOW IT ALL BEGAN

---

Mount Kilimanjaro porters' 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.

Porters are the backbone of the trekking world. In the quest to advance sustainable and responsible tourism in Tanzania, Mount Kilimanjaro Porters' Society (MKPS) was founded. Through over 15 years of hard work, MKPS has benefitted the lives of over 1,000 porters and their families. Furthermore, from their efforts, porters of MKPS are able to provide for their families, have consistent employment, and be assured of a safe and welcoming work environment.

Partnerships formed between tour operators and MKPS gives exclusivity to MKPS as the officially contracted porters for all clients during Mt Kilimanjaro climbs.

## Core Values of MKPS

---

The core values of MKPS exist to run an ethical organization and ensure the safety of the porters. MKPS works in accordance with the law to provide a safe and beneficial environment for their members/employees of tour operators. MKPS provides valid identity cards to all their porters whom register with the association, which acts in accordance with Rule 7 of the Mount Kilimanjaro National Park Regulations of 2003.

# Rules and Regulations Followed by MKPS

---

- The society provides a minimum proper wage to its porters as per minimum wages set by the Labor Institutions Wage Order of 2013 GN No. 196 of the United Republic of Tanzania. Furthermore, porters of MKPS are paid more than the set standard wages.
- The society provides three meals a day to working porters.
- The society provides proper climbing gear to its porters including but not limited to:
  - Wind/water resistant jackets, pants, gloves, base layers, socks, hats, sunglasses, proper footwear, etc.
- The society provides proper shelter (tents, sleeping bags and foam mats).
- The society provides a proper tipping policy that will be shared with guests.
- The society provides equitable guidelines for splitting tips amongst the porters.
- The society requires guides to fill out a recording sheet to ensure full transparency with distributing tips. These may be collected at anytime per request of the society.
- The society requires loads to be restricted at 30 lbs per porter. Loads will be measured before reaching the park and again by the Kilimanjaro National park authority upon arrival at the respective gate/entry point.

Mount Kilimanjaro Porters' Society exists as a shield for porters who are registered under it with the goal of improving the living and working conditions of porters. In addition to following a standard of rules and regulations while on the mountain, porters also gain benefits for being a part of the society off the mountain as well. The following pages outline the benefits that porters of MKPS receive in addition to those outlined above.







# FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT EDUCATION

---

Being knowledgeable about proper methods of saving and spending money ensure a high quality life for our porters and their families. MKPS hosts financial management training classes for porters. Here, they learn smart financing, and file paperwork to open a bank account through [Diamond Trust Bank](#). Having your own bank account provides a secure location for wages to be deposited, and for safe-keeping during low seasons where fewer tourists climb Kilimanjaro.



# FIRST AID TRAINING

---

MKPS facilitates First Aid training for the porters under MKPS each year during the slow climbing season. While attending this training, porters learn basic mountain first aid skills – knowing and attending to signs and symptoms of acute mountain sickness, stopping bleeding, checking oxygen levels, etc. With this training, porters are equipped not only to help tourists with their needs, but also their peers and fellow porters if needed.





## SUSTAINABLE PROJECTS

---

Apart from the personal benefits that come with being a member of MKPS, the porters also have the opportunity to give back to the environment and the community by participating in various sustainable projects, including The Mount Kilimanjaro Clean Up Trek. This biannual six-day event happens every April and November. Throughout the 6 days, porters along with climbers trek Kilimanjaro while cleaning up waste on the mountain, and raising awareness of climate change in the effort to conserve the beautiful mountain and parks of Tanzania.



Another project that MKPS proudly hosts is the "Plant a Tree" campaign. With this project, climbers have the opportunity to plant a tree at the base of Kilimanjaro to encourage afforestation and environmental conservation.




## OCEAN CLEANUP

---

Ocean pollution kills millions of marine animals every year. MKPS runs an anti-plastic pollution project where porters and volunteers help clean up the Indian Ocean Coastline. So far, this projected has extracted over 7 tons of waste. MKPS looks forward to continuing to fight one of the world's greatest challenges; plastic pollution.

# MOUNT KILIMANJARO PORTERS' SOCIETY CREDENTIALS

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 and success we have seen over the years. We are happy to continue to partner and work with multiple tour operators it has partnered with it and will continue to support and play an important part in the lives and well-being of all our staff and partners.

 FORM S.O. 3


THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
*The Societies (Application for Registration) Rules, 1954*  
(Rule 5)

**CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION SO. NO. 13296**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE MOUNT KILIMANJARO PORTERS SOCIETY  
(MKPS)

has this day been registered under the Societies Ordinance, 1954.

Dated this 30TH day of SEPTEMBER 2005.

  
(G. R. MBUNDA)  
Ag. Registrar of Societies  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

GP Dsm—Tanzania.

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

Telephone: +255-22-2112035/40  
Fax: +255-2122617/2120486  
Email: ps@moha.go.tz



P. O. Box. 9223  
Dar es Salaam

In reply please quote:

Ref. No. **SO. 13296/15**

2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2010

The Secretary,  
The Mount Kilimanjaro  
Porters Society - MKPS,  
P. O. Box 1990,  
**MOSHI - KILIMANJARO.**

**RE: MKPS ACTIVITIES**

We acknowledge receipt of your recent MKPS activities. The registrar of Societies gives a very warm congratulations to your Society, for such behavior. Actually this is to comply with S.21 (d) of the Societies Act Cap. 337.

We advice you to maintain it, because this will assists the registrar's office to know exactly what is happening in your Society.

Thank you in advance.

  
S. R. Fella  
For: REGISTRAR OF SOCIETIES

