



South Asian Network for Development
and Environmental Economics

NEWSLETTER

No. 19

Fall 2009

SANDEE....

The South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics is a regional network that brings together analysts from across South Asia to address its environment-development problems. SANDEE's mission is to strengthen the capacity of individuals and institutions to undertake research on the inter-linkages among economic development, poverty, and environmental change and to disseminate practical information that can be applied to development policies.



Editorial:

Dear Friends and Colleagues

Our hearty congratulations to Elinor Ostrom, the first woman to win the Nobel Prize in Economics. She won the prize for her theoretical and empirical work on common property resources and she shares it with Oliver Williamson. SANDEE has had a strong focus on common property issues and our first book "Promise, Trust and Evolution" is a collection of papers on managing the commons. We are delighted that Lin won the Nobel because of the limelight this puts on an important issue in South Asia and also because Lin has been such a source of inspiration for many of us at SANDEE.

On the research front, SANDEE continues to build its portfolio on climate change economics and regional pollution issues. We are supporting an interesting set of case studies on rice-wheat residue burning in different countries in South Asia, which should shed some light on why farmers' burn and what incentives may allow them to use alternative ways of managing crop residue. Further, in order to take research ideas directly to policy makers, SANDEE, along with UNDP,

In This Issue

From the Editors	1
Research News	2
New SANDEE Grants	2
Research Completed	3
Publications and Presentations	5
Focus	6
Discussion	7
Training through SANDEE	8
Other News	10

UNEP and the Planning Commission of Bangladesh, recently held a policy workshop on climate economics in Bangladesh.

Ecosystem services are vital to our daily lives but are continually being carelessly eroded. In order to understand the economic underpinnings of managing services such as watershed, carbon sequestration and storm protection services, SANDEE organized its first pan-Asian course on Ecosystem services jointly with our East Asian sister organization EEPSEA. This issue will likely become an important research topic in the future.

On the institutional front, SANDEE bid goodbye to our former host IUCN-the World Conservation Union. We are very grateful for the many good years we spent with IUCN in Kathmandu and we hope to continue to partner with them on various fronts. We will miss our many friends there. In our next phase, we will be hosted by ICIMOD in Nepal. Please do visit us there if you are in Kathmandu.

With best wishes
Priya, Rucha and the SANDEE team

Research News

New SANDEE Grants

In the last round, we received a total of 40 concept notes on a variety of topics and the following 7 grants were made.



18th R&T, July 2009, Club Dolphin, Sri Lanka

Impact of Climate Change in Bangladesh: A Multi-sector Analysis, Sarwar Jahan and Afsana Haque, Bangladesh

This research is designed to study the impacts on national income and employment due to direct and indirect effects of climate changes, such as sea level rise. It will focus primarily on the agricultural sector and the macro-changes that may emerge because of the impacts on agriculture. The study will estimate the losses in agricultural output as a result of inundation of agricultural land under different scenarios of sea level rise and possibly from salinization.



Economics of Rice Crop Residue Burning in Rice – Wheat Cropping System of the Punjab, Bashir Ahmad and Tanvir Ahmed, Pakistan

Rice-wheat residue burning contributes to regional pollution and it is therefore useful to understand how to reduce burning. In Punjab Pakistan, in order to prepare land, crop residue is either removed or burnt, and in rare cases incorporated into the soil. This study proposes to estimate the determinants of and private costs associated with various rice-wheat crop residue management practices.

Payment for reducing open-field Rice-straw Burning in plains of Nepal, Krishna Pd. Pant, Nepal

Farmers' decisions on crop residue burning affect local and global communities by contributing to smoke and green house gas emissions. This study seeks to measure the effects of different monetary incentives on rice straw burning by the farmers in Nepal. A field experiment is proposed with 300 farm households in 30 villages randomly and equally allocated to five treatment groups and one control group.

The economic causes of crop residue burning in the Rice-Wheat System of the Indo-Gangetic Plain, Ridhima Gupta, India

This study seeks to estimate the probability of straw burning with the aim of uncovering factors that lead to burning in Northern India. Farmers resort to large scale burning of rice residue because it is the most cost effective way of disposing it. This study will analyze the decision to burn and why some farms choose to do so and others follow alternate practices.

A study of appropriate tax and regulatory policies for the use of plastic bags in urban India, Kanupriya Gupta, India

Plastic bags and packaging materials are a significant component of solid waste in most countries. In this study, Kanupriya proposes to examine the effects of both price and non-price incentives in reducing the use of plastic and other single-use bags in urban areas around Delhi.

Effect of Climate on Health, Water Quality and Adaptive Behaviors: A Household Production Approach, Sumeet Patil, India

The research, which builds on a large pre-existing dataset in Maharashtra, will examine the likely impacts of climate conditions on access to clean water and the implications for household health. The main focus will be on understanding the role of



SANDEE Advisors -the force behind SANDEE

adaptive behaviors and how they may affect health outcomes.

Climate change and economic growth nexus: evidence from selected Asian countries, Naeem Akram, Pakistan (Conditional Grant)

Naeem hopes to analyze the impacts of climate change on economic growth in Asian countries. By incorporating a damage function into a growth model, impacts of climate change on GDP Growth and its components i.e. agriculture, manufacturing and services, will be examined. The study will also shed light on possible consequences of climate change on different sectors of the economy in the future.

Research Completed

The Place of Nature in Economic Development, by Partha Dasgupta, SANDEE Working Paper No. 38-09

Are humanity's dealings with nature sustainable? Can we expect world economic growth to continue over the foreseeable future? Should we be confident that knowledge and human skills will increase in such ways as to lessen our reliance on nature in relation to humanity's growing numbers and rising economic activity? These are some of the issues that are re-examined in this paper.

A Glimpse of the Tiger: How much are Indians willing to pay for It?, by Indrila Guha and Santadas Ghosh, SANDEE Working Paper No. 39-09

This study estimates the recreational demand for the

Indian Sundarban, which is a World Heritage site and a mangrove ecosystem that borders India and Bangladesh. In 2005-06, the Indian Sunderban received some 64,000 visitors. Based on the zonal travel cost method, the study estimates the annual recreational value of the Indian Sundarban to be about INR 15 million (US\$ 377,000). The study recommends that the current fees of INR 15 be increased to INR 154 per visitor per day, which would raise total revenues to park authorities by more than 300%. Improved facilities and infrastructure are also likely to boost visitation and revenues.



Rough Guide to Impact Evaluation of Environmental and Development Programs, by Subhrendu Pattanayak, SANDEE Working Paper No. 40-09

Evaluation of programs, either before they are designed or after they are implemented, are increasingly viewed as critical for learning and improving accountability of public policies. Unfortunately, resource and environmental economists in developing countries have little or no training or guidance on how to conduct such evaluations using sound and rigorous empirical methods. This paper is a “rough guide” for evaluation of programs, projects and policies in the environment and development arena

Should Shrimp Farmers Pay Paddy Farmers? The Challenges of Examining Salinization Externalities in South India, L. Umamaheswari et. al SANDEE Working Paper No. 41-09

This study estimates the external cost of shrimp-induced salinity on crop production by comparing two similar villages in southern India. Soil salinity status was normal in both villages in the period prior to shrimp farming in 1994-95. However, soil samples taken in 2006 show high soil salinity in Poovam, the village next to shrimp farms, while salinity is in the normal range in adjacent Thiruvettakudy. Paddy yields are significantly lower in Poovam compared with Thiruvettakudy. The study finds that farms with highly saline soils can gain from Rs 1,000 to Rs 5,000 per hectare if soil salinity is reduced to safe levels.

Plenary Talks at the SANDEE Research and Training Workshop, July 2009

Strategic Corporate Sustainability: The emerging paradigm for Sustainable Business

During the R&T workshop a Plenary Session was held on the evening of 28th June 2009 which was addressed by Ravi Fernando, CEO of the Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (SLINTEC) and Director Corporate Branding and Strategic Sustainability at MAS Holdings Ltd and on the Board of MAS Fabric Park. He is the United Nations Global Compact Focal point for Sri Lanka and on its Human Rights Working group. Businesses the world over practice the art of maximizing shareholder values and the corporate managers’ incentives are intimately connected to the same. Fernando argued that there is, however, an emerging paradigm that involves pursuing long-run goals that include social, ethical and environmental responsibility. This “triple bottom line” approach is different from simple Corporate Social Responsibility which is concerned only with the image of the company. More corporate organizations are likely to identify future environmental concerns like energy and water shortages or GHG emissions and take voluntary mitigating actions. He cited several examples of corporate giants who have adopted policies towards regeneration, reusing and recycling in order to ensure their own long term survival.

Gautam Bandopadhyay
gautamju@yahoo.com

Cap and Trade Principle and Design Issues: Experience from Current US Climate Change Legislative Proposals

Brian Murray of Duke University gave two plenary presentations. In this one, he compared tax versus cap-and-trade systems to reduce GHG emissions. In general, taxation often results in higher cost of reducing emissions compared to cap-and-trade system. For example, SO₂ trading program in US saved 30-50% cost compared to command and control. However, whether cap-and-trade is the best strategy depends on how steep the expected marginal damage function is (*i.e.* how sensitive climate is to marginal changes in emissions). If the marginal damage function is steep, then cap-and-trade system is preferred over fixed emission price (tax) whereas tax is a better option for flatter marginal damage function. So far, the arguments in favor of steep damage function, and thus, cap-and-trade system are winning.

Publications and Presentations

Ojha, V P (2009), 'Carbon Emission Reduction Strategies and Poverty Alleviation in India', *Environment and Development Economics*, vol. 14, issue 03.

M. Jahangir Alam Chowdhury (2009), 'Microfinance and Environment: Does the Participation in the Microcredit Based Social Forestry of Proshika in Bangladesh Improve Environmental Literacy?', No 47843, Working Papers from University of Dhaka, Center for Microfinance and Development

Mia, Monayem (2009). 'Valuing soil conservation benefits in hill areas of Bangladesh' in *Water, Agriculture, and Sustainable Well-Being*, Edited by Unai Pascual, Amita Shah and Jayanta Bandopadhyay, Oxford University Press, 360 p.

Guha Indrila, Ghosh Santadas (2009), "Tourism, Local Livelihood and Conservation: A Case Study In Indian Sundarbans", in *kumar. P and Muradian. R (ed.), Payment For Ecosystem Services*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi

Khuda Baksh wrote a newspaper article: 'Growing BT cotton: merits and demerits', for Dawn Newspaper, 2009, Pakistan. Please see http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/in-paper_magazine/economic-and-business/growing-bt-cotton-merits-and-demerits-559

Pant, K. P. (2007), 'Valuing Interventions to Reduce Indoor Air Pollution— Fuelwood, Deforestation, and Health in Rural Nepal', *The Pakistan Development Review*, 2007, vol. 46, issue 4, pages 1169-1187

Muhammad, Irfan (2007), 'The Impact of Open Sewerage Smell on House Rent in Rawalpindi', *The Pakistan Development Review*, 2007, vol. 46, issue 4, pages 803-815

Asha Gunawardena presented her work "Post tsunami livelihood interventions on Sri Lanka's fishery sector: impacts on distribution and environment" at the regional workshop on "Disaster risk management : Sharing experiences and lessons learned " organized by IUCN at Cinnamon Lodge, Habarana , Sri Lanka from 26th to 29th April, 2009.

Indrila Guha presented a paper on 'Tourism, Local Livelihood and Conservation A Case Study in Indian Sundarbans' (with Santadas Ghosh), at the Society for Conservation Biology meeting, at Beijing, China, during 11-16 July, 2009.

Saudamini Das presented at paper on 'Valuing the Storm Protection Services of Mangroves: Methodological and Data Challenges' at the SCAPES workshop on 'Valuation of Regulating Services', Bangalore, June 15th- 16th, 2009.

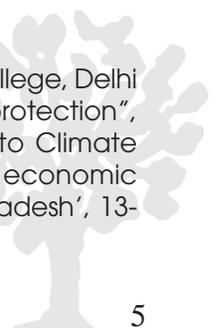
Manoj Thibbotuwawa and Dilhani Marawila presented the findings of their SANDEE study "Assessing Urban Recreation in Sri Lanka: Case of Diyawanna Oya" at a stakeholder workshop on the 7th August 2009 at IPS Main Conference Room, Colombo. They also presented a paper at the Third Annual Research Forum of Sri Lanka's Agricultural Economics Association on the 2nd October, 2009

Priya Shyamsundar made a presentation based on SANDEE work on 'Local Revenues and Expenditures from an Environmental Perspective' at a workshop on 'Local Government's Role in Environment, Natural Resource Management and Climate Change, organized by UNCDF, UNDP and UNEP on 5-6, October 2009, Bangkok. Priya was also invited to make a presentation on environmental concerns, poverty and SANDEE at Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment's Board of Visitors meeting in Durham, NC. Her third dissemination activity earlier this year was as a discussant of a panel on Sustainable Development at the 10th Annual Global Development Network Workshop in Kuwait.

The 17th EAERE Conference, hosted by the Department of Spatial Economics and the Institute for Environmental Studies, was held at the Virje University during 24th -27th June, 2009 in Amsterdam. SANDEE had a noticeable presence in the conference where its grantees Saudamini Das, M. Jahangir Alam, Prasenjit Sarkel and Kanupriya Gupta made presentations based on their research.

Kavi Kumar, Madras School of Economics - "Agricultural production and food security - research results from India", presented at 'Economic Approaches to Climate Change and Poverty: a workshop for economic policy makers and researchers in Bangladesh', 13-14 October 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Saudamini Das, Swami Shradhanand College, Delhi University - "Natural barriers and storm protection", presented at 'Economic Approaches to Climate Change and Poverty: a workshop for economic policy makers and researchers in Bangladesh', 13-14 October 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh



Economic Instruments for Conserving Urban Ecosystems

M N Murty
mnm@iegindia.org

Urban development, if unregulated, can cause irreversible damages to urban resources such as land, air, water and forests. Damages to ecosystems will result in loss of health and recreation benefits and water stress to urban residents. The carbon footprint of urban consumption, production and solid waste management can also contribute to the global externality problem of climate change.

Sustainable urban development requires regulation and planning such that its ecological footprint does not exceed the carrying capacity of local ecosystems. Integrated urban ecosystem management methods, which usually combine regulatory instruments instituted by the government and community participation and market-based incentives, can contribute to sustainable production and consumption practices in an urban economy. Sustainable production practices involve process changes and input changes in production and relocation of industries. For example in the case of urban transport, the most air polluting of urban activities, process changes might imply changes in the mode of transport say from road to metro rail and fuel changes involving compressed natural gas (CNG) substitution for petrol. Urban authorities can use a variety of regulatory instruments to reduce pollution by influencing people behavior or demand for various goods and services. Some instruments that are in use globally include pollution taxes and emission trading mechanisms to control air and water pollution, user charges to manage demand for water and waste disposal, and deposit refund methods for solid waste management.



Inter-disciplinary approaches are needed for integrated urban ecosystem management. Take for example the management of urban atmospheric air quality. The ambient atmospheric air quality depends upon air pollution from different sources - households, industry and urban transport - and reducing ambient air pollution requires the reduction of pollution at all these sources. An environmental engineer has to undertake air quality modeling to tell us how much of pollution at each source has to be reduced in order to improve ambient atmospheric quality such that it meets safety standards. An epidemiologist would then be able to examine how much of a reduction of disease incidence is likely to occur if pollution is reduced to safe levels. An economist would then be able to estimate the costs of pollution reduction at different sources and the health benefits to urban residents if ambient air quality is maintained at a safe level. All this inter-disciplinary information is required for designing economic instruments such as pollution taxes or marketable pollution permits for controlling urban air pollution. There are of course significant implementation issues that need to be considered in order to manage urban pollution.

Many South Asian cities are in urgent need of urban planning and management. However, the good news is that pollution reduction is possible to undertake. The next decade may see the evolution of several strategies that will help create better and more livable cities and urban areas.

Discussion

Bangladesh: Protecting the Urban Ecosystem in Dhaka

Tanzir Chowdhury
tanzir.chowdhury@ucl.ac.uk

With the positive economic impacts of rapid growth in developing countries come the negative impacts on the environment. This environmental degradation from economic development is more pronounced in the urban areas due to the sharp increase in the standard of living. Dhaka, the capital city of Bangladesh, which accommodates roughly ten percent population of the entire country, faces the same challenge.

To reduce the urban environmental damage caused by economic growth, the Government of Bangladesh has undertaken various policies over a period of time. For controlling the problem of outdoor air pollution, it introduced unleaded fuel in 1999, and converted the highly polluting two-stroke auto-rickshaws to CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) powered four-stroke three-wheelers in 2003. Through the economic incentive of subsidized pricing of CNG, the government managed to convert more than ninety percent of the total vehicles in Dhaka to run on CNG – this is a success story. The government has also taken steps to reduce industrial water pollution in the city. It has introduced specific guidelines for effluent treatment for the textile industry, and allocated a large area outside the city for relocating the leather industry. This will reduce river pollution significantly in the area where the industry is currently located. The government has also implemented specific guidelines for medical waste disposal in the city. It has banned use of polythene shopping bags in Dhaka since 2002, and has undertaken various measures to promote and implement 3R-strategies (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) through awareness raising, capacity building and technological innovations.

The government has introduced various other policies for protecting and managing the urban ecosystem in Bangladesh and its capital city Dhaka. But in most cases, the success of these strategies would lie largely on people's awareness, behavior and active participation in protecting the environment.

India: The Problem of ubiquitous use of Plastic bags In Urban Centers of the World

Kanupriya Gupta
Kanupriya.gupta@gmail.com

Solid waste has become a serious concern in many urban centers of the world. In developing countries over one-third of the solid waste generated is left uncollected. Much of this is non-biodegradable and a sizable fraction of that is plastic waste. The share of plastic waste in total solid waste, for example, in India has risen from 0.6% in 1996 to 9.2% in 2005. Over 50% of this comprises used plastic bags and packaging.

The environmental externality of solid waste associated with plastic bag consumption illustrates the classic tragedy of commons. Individual consumers benefit from the use of plastic bags because of its convenience, while whole society bears the collective cost of its disposal. However, awareness about the litter and environmental health problems caused by plastic waste is growing in several parts of the world. Yet, in many places the potential costs of plastic litter continue to be not well recognized, especially in developing countries.

Plastic litter has led to clogged drains resulting in sanitation and sewage problems, it often gets ingested by animals, and its indiscriminate disposal by incineration pollutes the air and releases toxic substances. The Mumbai floods in India in which

about a thousand people died was blamed in several quarters to drains being clogged from plastic bags. These concerns have caused many states in India and governments across the world to introduce legislation to limit the use of plastic bags. A variety of regulatory instruments have been used towards this purpose. These include the mandatory pricing of plastic bags, explicit state levies on each bag, taxes at manufacturing level, discounts on use of own bags, awareness campaigns, command and control approaches and in some cases, total ban on the use of plastic bags.

The evidence on the effects of such policies is mixed. While plastic bag retail levies in Ireland have resulted in a dramatic fall in the demand for plastic bags, and environmental levy at the manufacturing level in Denmark has also been effective, experiences with complete ban have been mixed. Complete bans on the use of plastic bags in San Francisco and in the Indian state of Himachal Pradesh have been largely effective, but it seems to have not to have worked in Bangladesh.

Sri Lanka: Urban ecosystems

*Dilhani Marawila
devsenara@yahoo.com*

Urban ecosystems in contemporary Sri Lanka are characterized by wetlands with high biodiversity and ecological significance. These are rich habitats and include endemic and nationally threatened species while providing a variety of ecological, hydrological and recreational services. However, urban wet lands are poorly represented in the national protected area network and very few are declared as wetland sanctuaries with none accorded the Ramsar status. Instead, they are vulnerable ecosystems subject to disturbance and destruction from intense urban and industrial development pressure.

Zoning and identifying critical wet lands and protecting them through a coherent wetland policy, strict regulations, awareness programs and punitive action against degrading practices are important aspects of the restoration and conservation of the wetlands. However, lack of financial and human resources and continuous pressure from development projects makes this difficult. Nonetheless, there is a clear need for conservation and eco-friendly revenue generating activities. Promoting nature based recreation projects in less-disturbing wetland patches would likely be a good investment and enhance recreational and conservation benefits to Sri Lankans.

Training through SANDEE: Some Reports

A Forest Management Seminar, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, April 2009

SANDEE organized meetings and a seminar by Prof. Randy Bluffstone, Professor and Chair, Department of Economics, Portland State University. Randy gave a talk on 'Child Labor, the Wealth paradox and Common Forest Management in the Bolivian Andes' on April 2, 2009 at the Central Department of Economics, Tribhuvan University.

Course on Payment for Ecosystem Services, Chiang Mai, April 2009

A course on 'The Science, Economics and Institutions of Managing and Paying for Eco-system Services' was co-organized by EEPSEA, SANDEE and World Agro forestry Centre and held at Chiang Mai, Thailand between April 21-29, 2009. The course was designed to expose participants to the idea of PES, the science behind it, economic valuation techniques and managing such schemes. Topics of discussion included carbon stocks, land use change, water shed functions, storm protection services etc. The emphasis was on integrating economics and natural science to value ecosystem services. However, the course was not merely based on lectures alone. Management issues, for example negotiation tactics for PES and adoption of such



Irfan and Resham, PES Workshop, Chiang Mai, April 2009

schemes, were taught through class games. Moreover, field trips were designed to help us learn the science of ecosystems. The lead resource persons were Meine van Noordwijk , Steve Polasky, Chetan Agrawal, David Thomas, Jim Peters, Orapan Srisawalak-Nabangchang, Dr. Prasit and Saudamini Das. It was a unique course in that it covered three different aspects of ecosystems. It was also an opportunity for SANDEE and EEPSEA researchers to learn from each other.

Muhammad Rafiq , sufipk@yahoo.com



EE 2009, Thailand

A Training Course in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics, Bangkok, May 2009: Views from a non-economist

The three weeks training course on Environmental and Natural Resources Economics organized by SANDEE from 5th to 21st of May, 2009 largely included economists except for a few. Participants were trained on the tools and methods for studying the economics of the environment and natural resources. For a non-economist, the course module was quite a challenge. During the first week, there was concern as to whether we would make it through. However, amazing team work was displayed by the participants and towards the end, we were all successful. Proposals and concept papers were presented by each participant. Some of these were chosen for a final presentation at the Research and Training Workshop in Sri Lanka. A great deal of knowledge has been gathered and for a non-economist like me, this training has inculcated an eagerness to sharpen and advance on my basic skills of economics. I hope to develop a proposal for submission to SANDEE in the near future.

Evanshainia Syiem, daniella21783@gmail.com



Research and Writing Workshop, Godavari, September 2009

Research and Writing Workshop, Kathmandu, September 2009 - A Unique Experience of Learning

The very first impression a young researcher gets after receiving invitation for participation in the R & W workshop is that of facing a very critical team of SANDEE experts – where everyone is trying to dominate the sessions. Nonetheless, this impression changes as one enters the workshop venue. Everyone comes to the workshop with a proposal to be exposed for further improvement. The comments of the experts from a range of South Asian nationalities force the authors to alter the whole methodology. The expert suggestions are, however, transmitted in such a precise and convincing manner that the author willingly agrees to incorporate them. This has been my personal experience and I really appreciate the practice. The SANDEE workshop is a unique way of interchanging experts' opinion in such a friendly and fruitful fashion that one feels quite at home during the proceedings.

Jan Inayatullah, inayat43@yahoo.com



Researcher and Advisor at discussion

Economic Approaches to Climate Change and Poverty, Dhaka, October 2009



Economics approaches to Climate Change and Poverty Workshop, Bangladesh

The Planning Commission of Bangladesh, UNDP, UNEP and SANDEE organized a joint workshop during October 12-13, 2009 to discuss some emerging issues related to the economics of climate change in Bangladesh. The workshop, titled 'Economic Approaches to Climate Change and Poverty: a workshop for economic policy makers and researchers in Bangladesh'. The workshop was aimed to inform the government's integration of climate change adaptation into Bangladesh's development agenda and to support on-going dialogue between the research and policy communities.

Other News

Congratulations!

- Ratna Kumar Jha has started a Ph.D. in National Chung Hsing University Taichung, Taiwan.
- Md. Tarekul Hasan Chowdhury from Chittagong University, Bangladesh got a scholarship to pursue a Ph. D. at Deakin University, Australia.
- Rucha Ghate and Pranab Mukhopadhyay won the first Karl Maler Fellowship for Environmental Economics and will spend time at the Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics undertaking research on commons management. They will be working with Ingela Termstrom.

Books of possible interest

- Kadekodi G., R. Kanbur and V. Rao, 2008. 'Development in Karnataka: Challenges of Governance, Equity and Empowerment', Academic Foundation.
- Kadekodi G. and B. Viswanathan, 2009. 'Agricultural Development, Rural Institutions and Economic Policy', Oxford.
- Institutional Economics Perspectives on African Agricultural Development edited by Johann F. Kirsten, Andrew R. Dorward, Colin Poulton, and Nick Vink, IFPRI, USA.
- Murty M.N., 2009. 'Environment, Sustainable Development and Well-being Valuation, Taxes, and Incentives', Oxford University Press, New Delhi.

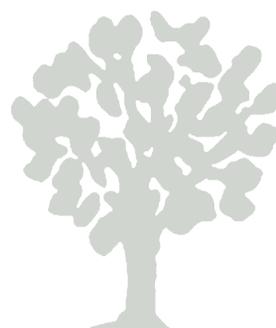
Thanks to SANDEE

I wish to share some information regarding my work during the last 2-3 months.

- I got an opportunity to work as a team member at the Ministry of Finance for preparing the Government of Nepal's budget for the fiscal year 2009/2010 during June-July of this year.
- While working with the government, I raised environment related issues such as use of plastics, solid waste management, global warming and equity in community forestry.
- Recently I have become a member of the Board of Directors of Rastriya Vanijya Bank, a government owned commercial bank of Nepal.
- I was also got promoted as Associate Professor.

There is lot of direct and indirect contribution of SANDEE in this process. Thanks to the SANDEE family.

Ramchandra Bhattarai.



Move to ICIMOD

SANDEE secretariat is now hosted by International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD). It was previously hosted by International Union for Conservation of Nature for the last ten years and moved to ICIMOD on August 1, 2009. The last few months have been a transition period for SANDEE but we are now well versed with ICIMOD's rules and regulations. We look forward to many productive years with ICIMOD and to working in collaboration with them.



Farewell to IUCN colleagues

Opportunities

- The Ambedkar University, Delhi announces admissions for 2009-2010 to various Masters Programs: <http://www.aud.ac.in/programs.asp>
- New Fellowship for Women Scholar-Practitioners from Developing Nations
http://sarweb.org/index.php?news_campbell_fellowship
- South Asia Director, International Rivers, based in India or another convenient location in South Asia
www.internationalrivers.org/en/node/4669.



New SANDEE Fellows

Saudamini Das, Keshav Kanel, Pranab Mukhopadhyay, Nikhat Sattar, and U. Sankar have been added to the distinguished list of SANDEE Fellows! SANDEE Fellows are identified every year based on their support to SANDEE and their contribution to the field of environment and development. We often identify a few senior experts as Fellows along with SANDEE researchers. This is a way to reward SANDEE researchers who have done well and to keep the SANDEE family thriving. Welcome aboard.





The SANDEE Team, Retreat 2009

Events

19th Biannual Research and Writing Workshop
Shangri-La Village Resort
Pokhara, Nepal
7th - 12th Dec. 2009

A course in Estimating Limited Dependent Variable Models in
Valuation Studies
The Shangri-La Hotel
Kathmandu, Nepal
13th -14th Dec. 2009

An Introduction to Quantitative Environmental Economics
Nepal
22nd - 27th Jan.2010

A Training Course in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
AIT CC, Pathumthani, Thailand
3rd - 21st May 2010



Our mailing address:

SANDEE, c/o ICIMOD, Nepal
P.O. Box: 8975 EPC-1056
Kathmandu, Nepal
Telephone: 977-1-5003222
Fax: 977-1-5003277
E-mail: info@sandeeonline.org
Information about SANDEE and our
activities can be obtained online at
www.sandeeonline.org

