

about the authors

Tang Ya is currently Professor of Environmental Biology at the College of Environment, Sichuan University, China. He received his doctorate from the Kunming Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, in 1990 after which he joined the Chengdu Institute of Biology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, where he was promoted to research professor (the top professional position) within five years, becoming one of the youngest professors in China, and served as Deputy Head and Head of the Department of Botany and Ecology. He worked at ICIMOD from July 1995 to December 2001 as project coordinator, agroforestry/soil conservation specialist, Acting Head and then Head of the Mountain Farming Systems Division. Before joining Sichuan University in 2003, he worked as a professor and Chairman of the Academic Committee of Chengdu Institute of Biology. Dr Tang Ya has published widely, with around 100 papers and book chapters credited to his name, and during the course of his career has been elected to the boards of a number of science journals. His current research interests include sustainable mountain development, environmental biology, and biodiversity and environment studies.

Pradeep Man Tulachan has a B.Sc (Hons) in Agriculture from Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar, India, an M.Sc from the University of Illinois, USA, and a PhD in Agricultural Economics from Cornell University, USA. He began his career as a Lecturer at the Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science, Rampur, Nepal, worked in Papua New Guinea as a Senior Farming Systems Economist, and then for USAID as a Senior Project Manager and Agricultural Economist. He has been working as a farm economist at ICIMOD since 1996. At present he is the key professional working on various issues of livestock in mixed farming systems in high pressure mountain areas and is also involved in various research projects including research into the main issues and options for marginal farms in the HKH.