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Founding of ICIMOD

The fundamental motivations for the founding of this first International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development were widespread recognition of the alarming environmental degradation of mountain habitats and the consequent increasing impoverishment of mountain communities. A coordinated and systematic effort on an international scale was deemed essential to design and implement more effective development responses to promote the sustained well-being of mountain communities.

The establishment of the Centre is based upon an agreement between His Majesty's Government of Nepal and the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) signed in 1981. The Centre was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Nepal in December, 1983, and began its professional activities in September, 1984.

The Centre, located in Kathmandu, the capital of the Kingdom of Nepal enjoys the status of an autonomous international organisation.

Participating Countries of the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region

- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- China
- India
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- Pakistan

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