

Income

The generation of income through tourism-related employment (primarily portering) is the most substantial income impact of tourism in mountain areas. The impact of mountain tourism on income accruing to the private sector is significant (Table 9). Group tourists have a greater impact on income because they generally hire larger support staff. The income generated by mountaineering tourism is also substantial and competes fairly closely with that generated by trekking tourism. In addition, mountaineering also generates substantial revenue in the form of royalties which, however, remain with the government (Table 9). The total income that accrues from tourism in mountain areas is not retained locally as lodge owners are, for the most part, from outside the region, food has to be imported, and income is remitted to family members living in urban areas. In general, a large proportion of the income from agency-organised trekking goes to people living outside the area. Besides, over the last decade the real per capita tourist expenditure has not increased (Banskota and Sharma 1994).

Table 9: Income Generated by Mountain Environmental Resources
(in Rs '000')

Year	Wates (NRs)	Food (NRs)	Mountaineering		Trek & Park	Peak fee	Total Mountain Revenue		Per Trek-ker per day	
			Exp. (NRs)	Roy-alty (NRs)	NRs	NRs	NRs	US\$	NRs	US\$
1980	16328	35558	15827	843	3295	2121	73971	6216	192	16
1981	18595	39073	18217	5281	3525	1760	86452	7265	210	18
1982	22811	47206	17504	1036	3880	2108	94545	7217	209	16
1983	24836	52414	18575	1150	3876	2521	103372	7179	229	16
1984	36343	74121	20169	2752	4945	3104	141434	8677	245	15
1985	31483	64272	17870	3298	3928	3646	124497	7074	272	15
1986	52485	117298	28854	4063	5949	5602	214251	10154	309	15
1987	55596	115481	34020	4330	5673	7770	222870	10223	337	15
1988	81310	159630	42582	5079	7353	8523	304477	12956	355	15
1989	89938	184416	63976	7222	7303	1389	354244	12929	416	15
1990	103952	197112	68368	7266	7451	1605	385754	13256	444	15
1991	120225	309618	156363	8929	7892	13053	616081	14428	669	16
1992	146663	332838	101355	30351	8573	20883	640662	15039	641	15

Shares

Year	Wages (NRs)	Food (NRs)	Mountaineering		Trek & Park	Peak fee	Total
			Exp. (NRs)	Roy. (NRs)	NRs	NRs	
1980	22.07	48.07	21.40	1.14	4.45	2.87	100.00
1981	21.51	45.20	21.07	6.11	4.08	2.04	100.00
1982	24.13	49.93	18.51	1.10	4.10	2.23	100.00
1983	24.03	50.70	17.97	1.11	3.75	2.44	100.00
1984	25.70	52.41	14.26	1.95	3.50	2.19	100.00
1985	25.29	51.63	14.35	2.65	3.15	2.93	100.00
1986	24.50	54.75	13.47	1.90	2.78	2.61	100.00
1987	24.95	51.82	15.26	1.94	2.55	3.49	100.00
1988	26.70	52.43	13.99	1.67	2.41	2.80	100.00
1989	25.39	52.06	18.06	2.04	2.06	0.39	100.00
1990	26.95	51.10	17.72	1.88	1.93	0.42	100.00
1991	19.51	50.26	25.38	1.45	1.28	2.12	100.00
1992	22.89	51.95	15.82	4.74	1.34	3.26	100.00

Source: Banskota and Sharma 1994.

Although the number of mountain tourists in India and Pakistan far exceed the number in Nepal, impacts at both national and local levels appear to be more pronounced in Nepal. Income impacts are more pronounced in Nepal as mountain tourism here is characterised by high income international tourists. In the case of India and Pakistan, mountain tourists are mostly domestic tourists whose incomes are relatively low (Saiyeda and Nazeer 1994; TARU 1994).