PARTNERSHIPS IN THE HKH REGION

CONTENTS

- Partnerships in Mountain Development: Securing the Future of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas
- Partnership: Making it Work, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China
- Partnership through Collaborative Programmes, the GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development, India
- Partnership for Watershed Management, the Pakistan Forest Institute
- Partnership for Sustainable Development, the Forest Department, Myanmar
- Partnership to Support GIS Planning, the Local Government Engineering Department, Bangladesh
- Partnership in Agricultural Research, Nepal Agricultural Research Council
- Farmers Innovations in Different Shifting Cultivation Systems of the Eastern Himalayas (new programme)
  www.southeastianfoods.org

CENTRE NEWS

- Special Board Meeting
- Exhibitions
- Around and About ICIMOD
- Recent ICIMOD Publications
- Visiting Scientists
- Staff on the Move
- ICIMOD Staff Members

Special Article
Global Mountain Women Raise Questions, by Anita Anand

The Hindu Kush-Himalayan (HKH) Region

Map of the HKH region with countries and basins.
Partnerships In Mountain Development: Securing the Future of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas (HKH)

The Hindu Kush-Himalayan (HKH) region extends 3,500 km from Afghanistan in the west to Myanmar in the east sustaining over 150 million people. The people of the HKH are disproportionately vulnerable, poor, marginalised, and cut off from access to markets and social services. Mountain areas of the world including the HKH are home to most of today's conflicts. Yet promising new opportunities exist for sustainable community-based natural resource management, new products and incomes, hazard mitigation, social inclusion and empowerment, long-term sustainability, and effective sharing of information and knowledge.

Together with regional countries and 300 international, regional, national and local partners, ICIMOD works jointly to attain the long-term livelihood security and sustainability of mountain people and their environments. ICIMOD's vision is of prosperous and secure mountain communities committed to peace, equity and environmental sustainability. It's mission is to help develop and provide integrated and innovative solutions, in cooperation with regional and international partners, which foster action and change for overcoming mountain people's economic, social and physical vulnerability.

ICIMOD can attain its mission only in partnership with like-minded institutions. Partnership encompasses a broad number of types of relationships. It is "an undertaking to do something together..., a relationship that consists of shared and/or compatible objectives and an acknowledged distribution of specific roles and responsibilities among the participants which can be formal, contractual, or voluntary, between two or more parties" (Partnership Resource Kit 1995). Partnership types include funding and sponsorship, cooperation, coordination, and collaboration.

This issue of the newsletter is dedicated to ICIMOD's partnerships as it is a key element in the Centre's work. Not all partnerships are direct - some are as 'partners of partners'. However there is a strong nucleus of around 60 long-term regional partnerships that have played a continuing positive role in ICIMOD's undertakings.

Partnership Development: Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM), Nepal and International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD). Mr. Adarsh Prasad Pkhrel, Director General of DHM, and Dr. J. Gabriel Campbell, Director General of ICIMOD, shaking hands.
Partnership: Making it Work
Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

As organisations with limited personpower, many international or regional organisations like ICIMOD operate their programme activities through collaboration with national institutions. This mechanism not only overcomes personnel shortage but also helps build the capacities of national institutions. Partnership development is a critical element of the operational mechanism at ICIMOD. Partnership development with institutions in the regional member countries is the cornerstone of our work. Partnership also plays a key supporting role with institutions beyond the HRH region. However, the level of partnership development in many cases determines whether or not, or to what extent, programme activities will succeed.

Experiences in the past indicate that when the partnership ends with institutions at the national or provincial (state) level, it is often difficult to realise originally planned goals. Success has been found when partnerships extend down to the local level: county, village, and community. An important lesson learned is that ICIMOD must encourage its major partner institutions to develop partnerships with local institutions.

The Asian Development Bank funded a project on Appropriate Technologies for Soil Conserving Farming Systems which achieved great success in Ningnan County, Sichuan Province, China. An analysis indicated that the major partner institution, the Chengdu Institute of Botany of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, had been operating the project through collaboration with the local county government. The local government had provided not only necessary logistical support to implement the project but also strong financial support for training courses and technology extension to farmers’ fields because it had a sense of ownership. In other areas where collaboration with local institutions is lacking, such successes have yet to be seen. Partnerships should be established with those having a common interest and commitments because some institutions might have economic considerations or reasons other than interest and commitment. Investment should be made in capacity building of the right institutions.

Dr. Tang Ya
Chengdu Institute of Biology
Chinese Academy of Sciences

KEY PARTNERSHIPS IN CHINA
- Chengdu Institute for Mountain Hazards and Environment
- Chengdu Institute of Biology
- Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences
- Chinese Academy of Sciences (Focal Point)
- Eastern Bee Research Institute
- Kunming Institute of Botany
- Ningnan County Government
- South West Forest College
- Tibet Academy of Agriculture and Animal Sciences
- Tibet University
Partnership through Collaborative Programmes
The GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development, India

The GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development (GBPIHED) established a partnership with ICIMOD in 1992 in the form of a direct collaborative programme. It was felt to be the 'need of the time' in light of the degrading state of the natural resources throughout the HKH region and also due to the objectives shared by both institutions.

One of the first outputs of this partnership was a workshop on approaches to sustainable development organised at Manali, Himachal Pradesh, which was attended by representatives of both the Institutions, participants from various research and development organisations, and NGOs working in this region. As a result, mutual understanding was developed for a future programme on sustainable development of the Himalayan ecosystem. This gradually emerged into a long-term collaborative partnership in a variety of programmes, including PARDYP, SALT, GIS-support, mountain risk engineering, and marginal farmers.

ICIMOD provided financial assistance for exchange visits of the faculty and a small research and development programme was introduced to document traditional knowledge systems on a regional basis. At the same time, the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, identified GB Pant Institute as a nodal agency for collaborating with ICIMOD in the Indian Himalayan region.

This partnership needs to be strengthened by exploring possible reasons for and potential concrete solutions to mitigate crises and ensure that ultimately the people of the Hindu-Kush Himalaya benefit.

Er. Kireet Kumar
Head of LWRM Division, GBPIHED

KEY PARTNERSHIPS IN INDIA
- Academy of Administration, Uttarakhand
- CSK Palampur Agricultural University, Himachal
- GB Pant Institute of Agriculture and Technology
- GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development
- Himachal University, Palampur
- Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow
- Ladakh Hill Development Council
- The Missing Link, Society for Environment and Communication, Guwahati
- Ministry of Environment and Forests (Focal Point)
- Shree Bhubaneswor Mahila Ashram
- Vivekananda Institute of Hill Agriculture
- YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry

Interview: Dr. Tej Partap

Tej Partap is the Vice Chancellor of CSK Palampur Agricultural University, Himachal Pradesh, India. He has a doctoral degree in Agroecology and 25 years of experience in the fields of agricultural development and natural resource management on marginal/degraded lands, seven years of this as head of ICIMOD’s Mountain Farming Systems’ Division. Dr. Partap is an Hon. Professor of Mountain Agriculture at the Tibetan Academy of Agriculture and Animal Sciences, Lhasa, and Hon. Professor of Mountain Agriculture at the Institute of Geographical Science and Natural Resource Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing. In 2000, he was elected Representative of the Asia Pacific Mountain Network on the Board of Directors of the Mountain Forum.

Question: How can organisations benefit from 'partnering' with ICIMOD?
Answer: ICIMOD is unique among organisations in its mountain perspective and policy knowledge. Its partner organisations are technically strong with established national networks to implement programmes, but lack the mountain specific outlook and policy advantage. To achieve sustainable mountain development, it is vital that we share a common language with common values and goals, and that communication be frequent and on-going. Partner organisations can benefit from ICIMOD by learning and imbibing the mountain perspective and can gain policy leverage through the vast knowledge that ICIMOD has gathered over the years on mountain specific policies. ICIMOD publications are a valuable resource for both of these. I have used them to develop out training packages for my staff and students at Palampur.

Question: What can ICIMOD do to strengthen its partnerships?
Answer: ICIMOD must communicate aggressively with and train its partners. It must encourage its partners to spread the mountain message by linking nationally with other institutions and facilitate policy exchange. ICIMOD can further build capacity by providing work opportunities and placements at its office.
Partnership for Watershed Management  
The Pakistan Forest Institute

The Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar (PFI), is a national organisation mandated for research and training in forestry, watershed management and allied disciplines. It enjoys a close relationship with the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Kathmandu, Nepal. A memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the two organisations was signed in 1998 followed by a phase-wise research project ‘People and Resource Dynamics Project (PARDYP).’ Since 1996, this project has also operated in three other countries of the region – India, Nepal, and China. Pakistan commenced this partnership two years later than the other countries but with the devoted work of PFI scientists and strong support from ICIMOD, especially from the Regional Coordinator of PARDYP, has achieved most of the project objectives.

ICIMOD provided full financial, technical, and management support during the project operation period. In addition, the Director General and Regional Coordinator have often visited PFI and project areas. The scientists of PFI were also invited to attend workshops, seminars and meetings at ICIMOD in Nepal and in other countries of the region. ICIMOD’s literature and inputs for different interventions were also provided.

The PARDYP partnership between the PFI and ICIMOD resulted in the achievement of project objectives in the field of hydro-meteorology, agriculture, forestry and range management. The activities of the project were also targeted at the enhancement of skills in local communities that assist in socioeconomic development. A network of social organisations of both genders has also been established. The members of these organisations had regular meetings and played their role in the implementation of different interventions for the socioeconomic development of the area on a sustainable basis.

Another achievement of the PARDYP project is the publication of 30 reports on research studies and posters for raising awareness about the project objectives and achievements.

A farmers’ day was celebrated in the year 2002 and its success was greatly acknowledged in internal and external evaluation reports. This was only possible through a strong partnership between PFI and ICIMOD. It is hoped that such cooperation will continue as Phase-III of the PARDYP project beyond the year 2005.

Dr. Mohammad Ayaz  
Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar-Pakistan

KEY PARTNERSHIPS IN PAKISTAN
- Aga Khan Rural Support Programme
- Honeybee Research Institute
- Khush-Halı Associates
- Ministry of Agriculture (Focal Point)
- National Arid-Land Development and Research Institute
- Pakistan Agricultural Research Council
- Pakistan Council for Research in Water Resources
- Pakistan Council of Renewable Energy Technologies
- Pakistan Forest Institute
- Rangeland Research Institute
- University of Peshawar
Partnership for Sustainable Development

The Forest Department, Myanmar

The mountain areas of Myanmar are mainly located in the states of Shan, Rakhine, Chin, Kachin, Kayin and in the division of Mandalay. These areas are home to 12 million people, or 24% of the country's total population of about 50 million. The mountain areas constitute 42% of the geographical area of the country, with altitudes ranging from 600 to 6,000 metres above sea level.

Myanmar's mountain areas make a significant contribution to the country's national development. Home to critical watersheds, the mountains influence many sectors downstream, including agricultural productivity, hydropower generation, and tourism. Locally, mountain areas and their natural resources sustain people's livelihoods, and support a rich cultural, ethnic, and biological diversity.

Adhering to the forestry principles adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development 1992, the Myanmar Forest Policy (1995) was formulated in a holistic and balanced manner within the overall context of sound environmental management and sustainable development. The Policy has identified six imperatives for achieving broader national goals and objectives. Inter alia, it emphasises the importance of people's participation and raising awareness. Myanmar Forest Law (1992) was enacted and Community Forestry Instructions (1995) issued with the objective of attaining environmental stability and meeting the basic needs of rural communities. Since 1995, approximately 15,000 ha of community forests have been established throughout the country.

Collaboration with ICIMOD in Strengthening Participatory Forest Management in the Mountain Areas of Myanmar

Since it became a member of ICIMOD in 1990, Myanmar has received technical and financial assistance from ICIMOD for the development of mountain areas.

First National Workshop on Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in Myanmar

The First National Workshop on Participatory Forest Management: Implications for Policy and Human Resource Development in the Mountain Areas of Myanmar was held in Yein, Myanmar, in December 2000. The Workshop was attended by foresters of all different career levels, representatives of forest user groups, and others. Resource persons from Nepal, India, and China shared their experiences of community forestry in their own countries. In addition to paper presentations, a major aspect of the workshop activities was broad-based and focus group discussions. A brief report has been published in the series ‘Partnership platforms’ 1/02.

Local market in Putoao – farmers selling their products in the morning
Curriculum Revision Process at the Institute of Forestry

A study tour consisting of three forestry professionals travelled to Nepal and India in 2001 to gain a better understanding of curriculum revision implications at the Institute of Forestry (IOF) and other training institutes. ICIMOD provided modest financial assistance to the IOF to purchase recent publications and materials related to Participatory Forest Management (PFM).

Research Fellowships in Community Forestry Management

ICIMOD provided fellowships to the IOF for research activities pertaining to PFM. The following research projects have been accomplished and the outcomes will be reported to ICIMOD in due course.
(a) Cost and benefit analysis of banana cultivation and current market situation in the Yezin area
(b) Assessing extension needs to enhance participation of shifting cultivators in community forestry activities: a case study of Paunglaung watershed
(c) Sustainability of natural resources through NTFP-based income generation activities in Paunglaung watershed
(d) Cases study on shifting cultivator communities for soil conservation management
(e) Ethnobotanical aspects of medicinal plants in Paunglaung watershed

Sub-Regional Workshop and Capacity Building in PFM implementation

A workshop on ‘Sub-Regional Consultation on Conservation of Hkakaborazi Mountain Ecosystems in the Eastern Himalayas’ was held in Putao, Myanmar in October 1999. Twenty-nine participants from government and research institutions in Myanmar and China, representatives of WCS (INGO) and ICIMOD attended the Workshop. As a follow-up, a training Workshop on ‘Preparing a Model Management Plan for Paunglaung Wildlife Sanctuary’ was held in Myitkyina of Kachin State, Myanmar, in December 2000. A total of 32 participants attended the workshop, the majority from Myanmar.

Demonstration of Best Practices on Sloping Lands

The Forest Department and Myanmar Agriculture Services have jointly implemented activities pertaining to PFM in northern Shan State. The main activities were demonstration of growing hedgerow plants, application of sloping agricultural land technology (SALT), soil conservation, sediment

NTFPs as a source of family income

Meeting with local communities

amount sampling, biomass production, trial planting of soil erosion control species, soil sampling, and soil fertility improvement.

ICIMOD has long been a credible partner with the Forest Department in Myanmar in managing the forests of mountain areas. We are fully confident that our partnership will remain so in the future and ICIMOD will continue its support for maintaining the momentum gained in implementing community participatory forest management in Myanmar, with reference to the mountainous border areas.

Kyaw Htun
Associate Professor
ASEAN and International Relation Unit,
Forest Department, Ministry of Forestry

KEY PARTNERSHIPS IN MYANMAR

- Forest Department (Focal Point)
- Institute of Agriculture, Yezin
- Institute of Forestry, Yezin
- Yezin Agricultural University
- Yezin Agricultural University
Partnership to Support GIS Planning
The Local Government Engineering Department, Bangladesh

The Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Bangladesh is one of the prime engineering organisations active in the development efforts of Bangladesh. It is headed by the Chief Engineer and has a total staff of 9548, 550 of them engineers at different levels. The LGED home is at http://www.lged.org

With support from ICIMOD’s Mountain Environment & Natural Resources Information System Division (MENRIS), LGED has established a GIS (geographic information systems) unit with the long term aim of establishing a computerised national database for planning and implementation of infrastructure development activities. The main aims of the GIS Unit are to:
- establish a computerised system for mapping activities;
- facilitate establishing a local government database;
- create a national database as a tool for rural infrastructure planning; and
- institutionalise GIS technology in LGED.

The GIS activities are supported by ICIMOD, UNDP, SIDA, and NORAD. ICIMOD has provided guidance, training, and software support (through ESRI, California). In total, 80 LGED professionals have undergone GIS, remote sensing, and GPS training at various national and international institutions including ICIMOD, AIT-Bangkok, SPARRSO, Kinura - Sweden, and the UK.

Since the installation of the first PC-based GIS system in 1991, the GIS activities have grown to accommodate more than 40 GIS systems with various platforms. LGED now has holdings that include SPOT images, aerial photographs, topographic maps and statistical data.

LGED has prepared digital base maps for all 460 thanas in Bangladesh and is now preparing digital district base maps and a growth centre connecting road map.

ICIMOD partnership with LGED is continuing under the IDRC funded project 'Towards a Regional Geographic Information Infrastructure (RGII) in the HKI'. Consultative meetings were held with various GIS stakeholders in Bangladesh during a visit in May 2002 and tasks were identified for the implementation of the project. ICIMOD will provide the basic framework and technical support in transferring the knowledge and skills to the LGED GIS Unit. ICIMOD, in cooperation with LGED and other institutions, conducted a national level training programme for various GIS technical staff drawn from different institutions and a one-day policy workshop on Bangladesh NGII. The LGED-GIS Unit will take a lead role in NGII and will coordinate with other institutions and strengthen their technical capability. The LGED GIS team will put together information for entry into the GIS portal system.

ICIMOD provided a one-week long training on ‘Sharing Geographic Information using Internet Mapping Technology’ in August in Kathmandu, in which three participants from LGED participated and were trained on the use and handling of the GIS portal framework that will enable them to develop a national geographic information framework (NGII). ICIMOD will continue to collaborate with LGED on this project and on areas of other mutual interest.

Basanta Shrestha
Acting Division Head MENRIS, ICIMOD

KEY PARTNERSHIPS IN BANGLADESH
- Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board
- Green Hills NGO
- Jahangirnagar University
- Local Government Engineering Department
- Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs
- Ministry of Environment and Forest
- University of Dhaka

ICIMOD and LGED jointly organised GIS workshop in Bangladesh
Partnership in Agricultural Research
Nepal Agricultural Research Council

Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC) and International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) share the common goal of facilitating improved livelihoods of rural people. Nepal is a predominantly agricultural country; the majority of the population depend on agriculture and the rural people are farmers. NARC and ICIMOD are both concerned about the ever-increasing population, deteriorating trends in natural resources, environmental pollution, loss of biodiversity, and limited access to food.

**NARC's objectives**
NARC is an autonomous national apex body for agricultural research, charged with the responsibility of conducting research and studying different aspects of agriculture, solving agricultural problems, and helping the government formulate agricultural policies. NARC works towards generating location-specific and problem-oriented technologies through its different disciplinary divisions, commodity research programmes, regional and other location-specific research stations and various outreach research sites scattered throughout the country.

**NARC and the partnership approach**
Agriculture is the key development sector that can address the overriding national concern for poverty alleviation and improve the livelihoods of rural people in Nepal. Poverty alleviation is only possible through sustainable agricultural development and commercialisation of the agricultural sector. In this context, the partnership approach has been used for agricultural technology generation and dissemination. NARC's recently released strategic vision for the next 20 years endorses encouraging partnerships proactively among national, regional and international organisations and agencies in order to maximise efficiency in the use of available resources.

Some of the areas for partnership and collaboration that NARC may seek in natural resource issues are socioeconomic aspects of farming systems, price analysis and marketing, on-farm water management, selective mechanisation, crop, horticulture, livestock, fisheries & aquaculture, agro-forestry and gender issues.

**NARC - ICIMOD partnership**
NARC and ICIMOD have a long-standing relationship in the promotion and coordination of sustainable mountain agriculture and environment. Both organisations are concerned about the declining soil fertility and continual degradation of agricultural land that challenge sustainable agricultural growth and environmental balance. Various research programmes have been conducted under NARC-ICIMOD collaboration to address this challenge.

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed in 1994 for implementing 'Appropriate Technologies for Soil-conserving Farming System (ATSCFS) Project.' The Project ended in 2001. "The People and Resources Dynamics Project" was also implemented in partnership to improve the understanding of the environment, socioeconomic processes associated with land degradation and rehabilitation in the mountain ecosystem as a multi-disciplinary approach. A multidisciplinary team of soil fertility specialists / microbiologists/ outreach specialists/agronomists was formed to identify technologies and strategies to improve soil fertility and to control soil erosion. Moreover, cooperation from ICIMOD for information systems' establishment and development in NARC has also been highly valued. Both organisations have agreed to a publications' exchange programme. Continued cooperation is expected to help in the mission of promoting poverty reduction through effective and efficient use of scientific information in agriculture and related natural resources.

*Krishna Raj Bhatta*
Editor, Communication, Publication and Documentation Division
Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC)

**KEY PARTNERSHIPS IN NEPAL**
- Centre for Rural Technology
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Forest and Soil Conservation
- Intermediate Technology Development Group
- Kathmandu University
- King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation
- Ministry of Population and Environment (Focal Point)
- National Planning Commission
- Nepal Agricultural Research Council
- Rural Women's Development and Unity Centre
- The Mountain Institute
- Tribhuvan University, MRE Unit
'Farmers Innovations in Different Shifting Cultivation Systems of the Eastern Himalayas',
A Closer look into Upland Agriculture Systems and Natural Resource Management

Shifting cultivation is often seen to be an environmentally damaging form of land use, and in many areas development efforts have focused on settlement of shifting cultivators and formalisation (and limitation) of land ownership. However, there are compelling examples within different shifting cultivation systems in the Eastern Himalayan countries of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, and Nepal, where communities have successfully managed natural resources, within a broad range of agricultural and agroforestry based land-use systems using shifting cultivation. Principles and practices might be drawn from these farmer proven experiences which could have implications for current-day (and future) policy and programming. However, there is a huge gap in the literature of relevance to policy makers in South Asia, particularly with regards to shifting cultivation.

The new programme 'Farmers' Innovations in Different Shifting Cultivation Systems of the Eastern Himalayas', supported by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), has been launched to fill this need. The aim is to develop a knowledge base of indigenous practices and farmer-derived strategies found in different shifting cultivation systems so that lessons can be drawn and used to foster a more conducive policy environment for communities of shifting cultivators. Dr. Eklavya Sharma, Head of ICIMOD Mountain Farming Systems division, will be the overall coordinator.

The programme started with an initiation workshop organised by The Missing Link – Society for Environment and Communication, the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, and the North Eastern Hills University (NEHU), at the NEHU campus, Meghalaya in April. Potential advisory group members, focal point representatives and lead persons from the countries of the Eastern Himalayas joined together in intensive brainstorming sessions to develop a strategy. The aim was to outline a three-year programme based on the ideas and experience of the participants. Specific topics included a detailed presentation on the potential of improved fallows, and descriptions of farmers' innovations for intensification of shifting cultivation including soil fertility management, manipulation of the fallow vegetation, weed and pest management, post slash treatment of fallow biomass, seedbed preparation, crop residue management, crop selection and patterns, land shaping and soil, and water conservation. Innovative programmes undertaken by the IFAD supported North East Region Community Resource Management Project (NERCRM) and a watershed-based forestry project of the Ministry of Environment and Forests helped the participants to understand recent trends and developments in different projects.

Country-teams formulated individual action plans to document the different shifting cultivation systems in their areas according to an agreed set of parameters. The intention is to create country-specific inventories (listings) of indigenous practices, of existing research and development projects, and of programmes and policies of relevance to communities of shifting cultivators. A designated focal point within each of the five countries will be responsible for coordinating the documentation of shifting cultivation systems, and will subsequently act as a policy advisor for organising country-level multi-stakeholder workshops on shifting cultivation systems. The participation of every single person that attended this workshop made it possible. This is just the beginning of this very exciting programme.
Working Together Towards Regional Cooperation

In collaboration with regional partners, ICIMOD and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) have now started a long-term project with the long-term aim of establishing an operational flood information system for the HKH region. As a first step, ICIMOD and the WMO, supported by the US Department of State (Regional Environmental Office of South Asia), US Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance, and DANIDA, organised a high-level consultative meeting on 'Developing a Framework for Flood Forecasting and Information Exchange in the HKH Region' in Kathmandu in May 2001. Participants from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Nepal, and Pakistan agreed upon an initial 'Action Plan for Regional Co-operation for Flood Information Exchange'.

The meeting recommended the development of a website as a regional platform for flood information exchange. Hence ICIMOD, in consultation with regional partners and WMO, has started to develop the South Asian Floods (SAF) website. SAF is a regional network working towards regional cooperation in facilitating exchange of hydro-meteorological information between Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Nepal, and Pakistan. SAF works with regional partners to ensure quality information through the Internet. All data pertaining to the region are sourced through the country node in order to authenticate the information.

The main objective of forming a regional partnership is three-fold.
- To enhance the quality of information
- To ensure an authentic source of information
- To encourage participation and convey a feeling of belonging among all regional countries

The ultimate goal, however, is to channel relevant information and empower a coalition of national offices at policy-making level to ensure proper planning and early warning and influence the process and results of flood preparedness in the region by encouraging inter-governmental decision-making.

The regional country partners are:
- Bangladesh,
- Bhutan,
- China,
- India,
- Nepal, and
- Pakistan.

The Ministries of Water Resources, Departments of Hydrology and Meteorology, and Flood Forecasting units of these countries will be the lead agencies for this project. Some universities in the countries involved in this sector will also be actively involved. The principal implementing partner is the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Other key partners include:
- the U.S. Department of State Regional Environmental Office of South Asia
- U.S. Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance,
- DANIDA,
- UNESCO, and
- other international agencies as follow.
  - U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
  - U.S. Geological Survey
  - World Bank
  - Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, UK
  - European members of HKH-FRIEND
  - German National Committee for the International Hydrological Programme (UNESCO)
  - Operational Hydrological Program (WMO)
  - Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (Thailand)

The HKH-FRIEND Secretariat, located at ICIMOD, will also be actively involved in the implementation of the project.
A Special Board Meeting and Special Joint Meeting of the Board of Governors and Support Group (ISG) of ICIMOD was held on July 1-2, 2002, in Berchtesgaden, Germany, with the main aim of discussing the draft of the new Strategic Plan for ICIMOD’s activities in the next phase from 2003 to 2007. The members of ICIMOD’s Board had been invited to participate in a meeting organised by GTZ, UNEP CIPRA International, and the German Government at the end of June on the experiences of the Alpine Convention process. This meeting was of great interest to ICIMOD as the convention is a powerful model for cooperation among mountain states, and the timing provided an ideal opportunity to discuss the plans for ICIMOD’s next programme cycle.

The Special Meeting was attended by Regional Members from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (Chair), India, and Nepal, with Afghanistan represented by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture; Independent Board Members from Canada (Vice Chair), Germany, India, The Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, and Switzerland; and representatives of the organisations in the Independent Support Group - UNEP/EAPAP and UNEP/ Europe. Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italian Committee for 2002-YJM, SDG (Switzerland), BMZ (Germany), FAO, and NORAGRIC (Norway).

ICIMOD was represented by the Director General, the Director of Programmes, the Head of Administration, and four others including two Heads of Division. Comments were received in writing from the Regional Members for Pakistan and Myanmar and the representatives for ACB (Austria) and ADC (Austria) in the Independent Support Group who were unable to attend.

The main topic of the meeting was discussion of ICIMOD’s draft Strategic Plan (see box) for the new five-year phase starting in January 2003. The title of the plan – ‘Partnerships in Sustainable Mountain Development: Securing the Future of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas’ – reflects ICIMOD’s commitment to partnership and cooperation as the means to moving forward in mountain development. The plan was discussed in detail in group discussions and then in the full meeting. Participants welcomed the increased emphasis on involving the Regional Member Countries and on moving towards a more strategic demand-driven approach. ICIMOD should remain involved in implementation, with a move towards
implementation through partners and working through national institutions. A medium-term action plan will be prepared laying out the priorities and the basis for prioritisation. The Board endorsed the overall strategy and the major programmes described in the draft and made recommendations for improvement in strategy and further elements to be included in the revised version.

The Board endorsed a presentation of this strategy for partnerships to be presented at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to be held at the end of August in Johannesburg. The Board also discussed the potential for closer links between ICIMOD and the Kyrgyz Republic and requested the Centre to examine ways of formulating a potential policy for associate membership. This would be a new departure for ICIMOD, and would open the way for closer formal cooperation with the Central Asian republics whose mountain ranges are geographically a continuation of the Himalayan area.

The plans to establish a trust fund are also closer to being fulfilled. This has been proposed as one of a series of approaches aimed at ensuring long-term financial security. The Board approved the establishment of the ICIMOD Foundation and has appointed Dr. Ruth Egger, Dr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Dr. Anne Whyte, and Prof. J. Singh as the Board of Directors for the ICIMOD Foundation. The Director General of ICIMOD will be the Secretary to the Board.

The next regular Board Meeting will be held between December 9th and 12th, 2002 in Kathmandu, at which time the plans will be finalised.

Partnerships in Sustainable Mountain Development:
Securing the Future of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas
The ICIMOD Strategic Plan for 2003 - 2007

The new Strategic Plan, now in a late draft stage, has been developed through layers of consultations with ICIMOD staff and partners and the regional member countries. The plan provides a strategic framework for ICIMOD to work with its partners to address the economic, physical, and social vulnerabilities of the HKH mountain region. It is built on a performance management framework with clearly defined outcomes and indicators, and pathways to overcome mountain poverty and create more secure and sustainable livelihoods for mountain people.

The new strategy will focus on clearly identified opportunities for increasing ICIMOD's impact as a Mountain Learning and Knowledge Centre. Particular attention will be placed on employing criteria for programme prioritisation that ensure ICIMOD's work with partners can increase scale of impact, regional cooperation, partner synergy and capacity, and effective use of limited resources. Communication and knowledge management strategies will be stressed along with policy-oriented programmatic outputs.

Integrated programmes with specific Action Initiatives are being developed to build on previous ICIMOD work and partner interest. These include integrated programmes in natural resource management; agriculture and rural income diversification; water resources and hazard management; culture, equity and governance; and cross-cutting programmes on information and knowledge management, and policy and partnership and institutional development. Priorities will be determined for action initiatives and individual components according to the criteria affirmed by the Board, including the availability of appropriate support. The final action plan will be presented to the ICIMOD Board of Governors for approval in December 2002.
ICIMOD participated in the 6th Nepal Educational and Environmental Book Fair from 3-11 May 2002, organised by Global Expositions and Management Services Pvt Ltd, by setting up an International Year of Mountains (IYM) Pavilion/Village with the name, Hamro Sundar Pahadi Gaun (Our Beautiful Mountain Village) in celebration of IYM2002. Local material such as thatched roofs, kharoski (stings of red pepper), dallo (basket), nanglo (winnowing tray), kUCHO (brush), lasun (garlic), halvi (maize), phansi (pumpkin), gigiro (jar), and jhato (pounder) were used in the 95 sq m exhibition space as decorations to give it a typical Nepali village look. Twelve INGOs, NGOs, and government offices took part in this together with ICIMOD.

The objectives of the Pavilion were to
- promote the conservation and sustainable development of mountain regions and to impart information and create awareness among the public on the importance of mountains for the sustenance of life for both mountain and lowland communities.
- The twelve organisations that took part were the Department of Soil Conservation and Watershed Management (DSCWM), Helvetas, Himalayan Grassroots Women's Natural Resource Management Association (HIMAWANTI), King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation (KMTNC), Mountain Forum Secretariat, Nepal Forum of Environmental Journalists (NEFEJ), Nepal Mountain Association (NMA), SNV Spiny Babblers, The Mountain Institute (TMI), World Conservation Union (IUCN), and World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

His Majesty the King Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev visits the ICIMOD stall in the exhibition at the International Seminar on Mountains, organised by RONAST

Four educational corners within this IYM village - Prem Panda Quiz Corner, Essay Writing Corner, a CD/Internet Corner, and Video Corner - were much enjoyed by the school children visiting the Pavilion.

The Director General of ICIMOD, Dr. J. G. Campbell, was invited as a special keynote speaker at the inaugural ceremony of the Book Fair. The Chief Guest was the Vice Chancellor of Kathmandu University, Prof. Suresh Raj Sharma. At this ceremony, prizes were presented to the winners of ICIMOD's Prem Panda short story writing competition held in February/March 2002.

The Pavilion stood out amidst all the conventional book stalls at the fair and was visited by visitors. After the fair, the IYM Pavilion was gifted to Pokhara's International Mountain Museum (IMM). The IMM is a project under the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) and was opened on 29 May 2002.

(For photos see back page)

Outreach: Exhibitions and Fairs from
January - July 2002

- Nepal Tourism Board IYE/IYM Exhibition, 7-8 January 2002, Kathmandu, Nepal, to launch programmes on the occasion of IYE/IYM
- Exhibition at the 1st South Asia Water Forum, 26-28 February 2002, Soaltee Crowne Plaza, Kathmandu, Nepal
- Exhibition at the International Seminar on Mountains, 6-8 March 2002 organised by RONAST and co-sponsored by ICIMOD with four other organisations, Birendra International Convention Centre, Kathmandu
- World Water Day Seminar and Exhibition on 22 March 2002, organised by UNIS/ESCAP Bangkok, Thailand
- IYM Pavilion 2002 at the International Mountain Museum (IMM), which had its soft launch on May 29, 2002
- Exhibition-cum-sale at the Asia High Summit Meeting, May 6-8, 2002, Soaltee Crowne Plaza, Kathmandu, Nepal
- ICIMOD's entry of the book, 'Mountains Forever' at the Banff Mountain Book Festival, October 30 - November 3, 2002, organised by the Banff Centre, Canada
- Exhibition at the KUPEX 2002, 12-13 May 2002, Dhulikhel, Nepal, organised by Kathmandu University
Around and About ICIMOD

Asia High Summit 2002

One of the major regional activities during the International Year of Mountains was the Asia High Summit 2002, held in Kathmandu, Nepal from 5-10 May. The Asia High Summit 2002 was part of the High Summit 2002 International Conference Around the World's Highest Mountains. Similar simultaneous regional conferences also took place in Nairobi for Africa, Milan for Europe, and Mendoza for South America. The principal goals of the Asia High Summit 2002 was to bring forward challenges of poverty and degradation of resources that mountain people face everyday and to find ways in which their lives and those dependent on them can be substantially improved.

The five themes under which these issues were discussed in the conference were: (1) Water - a symbol of nature and the environment, since all life on earth depends on water, and it is a valuable resource shared within the mountain commons; (2) Culture - representing humanity, which includes the creation and transmission of cultural knowledge and values that safeguard ecosystems and life around them; (3) Economy - vital to finding ways in which to alleviate poverty, develop marginalised communities, and provide long-term sustainability for mountain regions; (4) Risk - an element evident within marginalised communities, it is important to find preventive measures to reduce environmental, economic, and social risks in order to pave the way for sustainable development; and (5) Policy - an overarching theme that is crucial to the understanding of how to best plan and implement strategies that sustain human life and resources in the mountains.

The Asia High Summit 2002 strengthened existing partnerships and provided the groundwork for future partnerships between participants - researchers, scientists, scholars, decision-makers, politicians, and others - to raise awareness about mountain life and ecosystems through the discussion of these themes. Over 100 participants from over 20 countries attended: they included regional participants from Turkey, Iran, Russia, and Kyrgyzstan in Western Asia; Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, and Bangladesh in South Asia; China, Myanmar, Malaysia, Japan, the Philippines, and Australia in East Asia and the Pacific, in addition to participants from North America and Europe. This regional conference also promoted facilitation of transboundary cooperation and exchange of ideas to help frame policies that recognise the importance of protecting mountain environments through sustainable development of mountain areas and communities through actual and virtual participation. With the aid of Internet technology and videoconferencing, it was possible to foster global collaboration on various mountain issues. In fact, one of the main highlights of the Asia High Summit 2002 was the interaction among participants of the High Summits taking place on the other continents every day in order to help towards a better understanding of global mountain issues.

Cooperation among the actual and virtual participants also culminated in the production of the Asia High Summit 2002 Recommendations, which consist of supporting scientific guidelines on the future development of mountain areas in Asia, to be used in preparation for the Global Mountain Summit in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. The Recommendations state the challenges and opportunities in mountain areas of Asia and also suggest policies in relation to watershed and natural resource management, hydropower, indigenous knowledge, gender and youth participation, human and social development, equity and law, environmental compensation, hazard mitigation and risk reduction, public awareness, the need for more research, and decentralisation of the decision making process. It is hoped that the Recommendations, which require partnership and collaboration among Asian countries, will be promoted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and implemented by governments and regional institutions.

The Asia High Summit 2002 was organised by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) in partnership with the Italian Committee for the International Year of Mountains 2002 and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.
GLOF Workshop

A national workshop presenting the inventory of glaciers, glacial lakes and glacial lake outburst floods, monitoring and early warning systems in Nepal, was held on 15 March 2002 at Hotel Himalaya, Kathmandu. About seventy people from various organisations and institutions participated. During the workshop, Dr. J. Gabriel Campbell, high-lighted the project carried out in collaboration with UNEP/ Regional Resource Centre for the Asia Pacific (RRC-AP) and the Department of Hydrology & Meteorology of HMG Nepal and Mr. Pradeep Mool gave a presentation of the details and findings of the project.

ICIMOD received support from June 1999 to March 2002 from the Regional Resource Centre for Asia Pacific of the United Nations Environment Programme to work on the Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) phenomenon in Nepal and Bhutan. The project has prepared an inventory of glaciers and glacial lakes in Nepal and Bhutan using geographic information systems (GIS), combined with image processing, topographic maps, aerial photos and satellite images. The main purpose of the inventory was to assess the threat from glacial lakes and to highlight where GLOF events are likely to occur and cause serious damage to human life and property unless the danger is mitigated. The project has prepared an inventory of glaciers, glacial lakes and glacial lake outburst floods, monitoring and early warning systems in Nepal and Bhutan. To disseminate the results and outputs of the project, the published reports were released last December. The report with a GIS database in digital format, has been prepared in the form of a multi-media CD-ROM.

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Participatory Action Research Programme on Equity and Poverty in the Management of Common Property Resources in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas

A two-day regional consultation workshop was held from 19-20 April 2002 under the auspices of the Participatory Action Research Programme on Equity and Poverty in the Management of Common Property Resources in the HKH. The objective was to develop guidelines for the operational phase of the Programme during which case studies will be conducted through local partners of ICIMOD in the mountain areas of the HKH. There were 33 participants from different academic disciplines, governments, NGOs, universities, and CBOs. This Programme intends to enhance the understanding of equity and poverty linkages at the grass roots in terms of access, withdrawal, use and management rights over resources in forest, irrigation/drinking water, and rangeland. Emphasis is on reviewing existing policies and practices to recommend improvements for enhancing the well being of poorer and disadvantaged sections of mountain communities. During the workshop, participants provided suggestions for finalising the research framework to guide the case studies. Key issues and cases, including case sites, were shortlisted for six countries. Cases from the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region were presented by some participants to familiarise others with current issues. An Advisory Group to guide the case studies was formed with ICIMOD as its member secretory. After the workshop, participants visited a community forestry user group in Chaimale VDC on the outskirts of Kathmandu. A key challenge was to frame a consensus on what is meant by the term 'common property resources'. Distinctions were made on key aspects of 'common pool resources' and 'common property resources'. The concept of 'legal pluralism' in which multiple rules governing access and withdrawal of resources overlapped was considered to aid the understanding of de facto governance systems and mechanisms in resource management.

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The Changing Face of Pastoralism in the HKH-Tibetan Plateau Highlands

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development and The Tibetan Academy of Agriculture and Animal Sciences jointly organised a strategy workshop 'The Changing Face of Pastoralism in the HKH-Tibetan Plateau Highlands', held in Lhasa, Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), May 12-19, 2002. The objectives of the workshop were:

- to increase understanding of the current state of pastoralism in the highlands of the Tibetan Plateau
- to celebrate the knowledge and strengths of mountain rangeland communities
- to highlight success stories of development programmes and policies that have fostered sustainable pastoral livelihoods in a world of rapid change, and
- to collectively devise working strategies for future innovations in pastoral development and rangeland conservation.

Presentations covered a variety of topics relevant to pastoral development and rangeland conservation: they included pastoral production systems research; resource tenure policies and impacts; alternative livelihoods for pastoralists (marketing of niche products, medicinal plants, ecotourism, and more); successful participatory approaches for pastoral development and conservation of rangelands; institutional strengthening of social services in remote pastoral areas; improving organisational performance of government agencies; and institutional and policy models for Co-Management of Rangelands (China and Mongolia). In addition a number of working groups were conducted on the following topics: demonstration of IFAD's livestock and rangeland knowledge base; developing an agro-pastoral conceptual model for the Agri-Karakorum Project, Northern Areas Pakistan; rangeland conservation on the Tibetan Plateau; appropriate institutional arrangements and policies for community-based rangeland management; integrated research and extension needs for participatory rangeland management and pastoral development; international science and technology cooperation under EC's FP6; and an RRP meeting to plan consultations for the next phase. Field visits included a Cultural Fair in the pastoral region of Damxiqiang County, north of Lhasa, and a juniper restoration site adjacent to Drepung Monastery near Lhasa.

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Consultative Panel Meeting on Floods

The First Meeting of the Consultative Panel for Development of a Framework for Regional Cooperation in Flood Forecasting and Information Exchange in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region was held in Kathmandu from 19-21 May 2002 with the objective of continuing the process of developing a regional flood information system to reduce flood vulnerability in the HKH region. The meeting was attended by panel members who were high-level government and technical representatives from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Nepal, and Pakistan and observers from the United States Geological Survey (USGS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), US Department of State (Regional Environment Office for South Asia), US Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), Danish International Development (DANIDA), UNESCO, Asian Development Bank, World Bank and HKH Flow Regimes From International Experimental and Network Data (HKH-FRIEND).

The meeting was organised by ICIMOD and WHO and funded by the US Department of State and OFDA.

The Panel reviewed the project website (www.southasianfloods.org) and discussed the future course of activities. The meeting agreed on the regional concept of a flood information system and recognised the need for enhancing existing agreements to contribute to the regional exchange of flood-related data and information. The panel also prepared a short, medium- and long-term action plans to carry the process forward and proposed the implementation of pilot projects to demonstrate the quality and reliability of operational flood forecasting services on a national level and flood advisory services on a regional level as well as the institutionalised sharing of flood data and information.

The project will organise a second High-Level Consultative Meeting in December 2002 to discuss the Project document this will be followed by a State Secretary level meeting in 2003 to obtain government approval on the document.

Visit the project website www.southasianfloods.org for more details. Mandira Shrestha, mshrestha@icimod.org.np

Press Release

A press conference on the GLOF project studies of Nepal and Bhutan and the launch of their inventory CD-ROMs took place in London on 15 April 2002 - a day before the IPCC meeting in Geneva to coincide with the International Year of the Mountains 2002. Twenty-five press/medic people attended the press conference held at the UN Information Centre at Millbank Tower and about fifty in Geneva in the Palais des Nations (UN Building).

Executive Director of UNEP Dr. Klaus Toepfer, was present at the Geneva press conference and the Director of UNEP/RCCAP, Mr. Surendra Shrestha, and UNEP Press Officer and Europe Spokes-person, Dr. Robert Bisset, at the London venue. The coordinator for the GLOF project in ICIMOD, Mr. Pradeep Mool, and other UNEP professionals also took part. Dr. Toepfer highlighted and appreciated the work carried out by ICIMOD.

The story was covered by a wide range of press groups and agencies including the BBC, CNN, Reuters, AP, AFP, IPS, Times of India, Xinhua, Indo-Asian News Service, Nepal News, and many other international, national and local newspapers, and radio and television programmes.


The full reports of the GLOF project, including video clips and photographs can be found at:
http://www.rccap.unep.org/glof/bhutan/start.htm (for Bhutan)
http://www.rccap.unep.org/glof/nepal/start.htm (for Nepal)

Maps pinpointing those glacial lakes assessed as dangerous prepared by GRID-Norway can be found at:

Posters displayed from 15 -16 April 2002 can be found at:

Water Synthesis Activities

Within the framework of the ‘People and Resource Dynamics of Mountain Watersheds in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas Project (PARDYP) the Hydrology Group of Bern University and PARDYP-ICIMOD organised a workshop on the synthesis of water- and erosion-related activities in Kathmandu from 3-7 June 2002 with representatives from each of the five PARDYP watersheds (in China, India, Nepal and Pakistan). The workshop addressed the:

- state of knowledge on water- and erosion-related factors;
- identification of key issues;
- establishment of a framework for the synthesis at the watershed level as well as on a regional scale;
- initiation and operational planning of the synthesis; and
- first discussion on phase III (probably starting in 2003).

The results of the synthesis activities will be published in 2002/2003 in the form of a multimedia CD which will address key issues from the five watersheds - including their current status, the relevant processes, possible 'push' factors in the future, and tested solutions. Discussions during the workshop revealed that shortages in irrigation and drinking water are at the top of the list of problems weighing upon local residents. Other discussions were on Regional key issues related to water and the contributions of the PARDYP network to the understanding of these issues.

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The Alpine Experience: An Approach for Other Mountain Regions?

An international conference on The Alpine Experience: An Approach for other Mountain Regions? was organised by the International Alpine Protection Commission CIPFA, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Federal Republic of Germany (Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and Federal Ministry for Consumer Protection, Food and Agriculture), the Free State of Bavaria, and the Society for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) as part of the International Year of Mountains programme. The conference was held in Berchtesgaden, Germany from 26-30 June, 2002. Around 150 participants gathered at the conference representing governments, non-governmental organisations academic and research institutions, and the private sector from the Alpine, Eurasian, Andean, and African mountains. Thematic workshops were held on (a) Regional Convention Processes in Mountain Regions, (b) Regional Planning and Hazard
Management, (c) Nature Conservation and Appropriate Land Use, and (d) Tourism in Mountain Regions. Special sessions were organised to discuss specific mountainous areas such as the HKH, Carpathian Mountains, Caucasus, Central Asia (Pamir, Tien Shan), Altai, and Alps. About 30 delegates from the HKH region participated, among them the members of ICIMOD Board of Governors from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Nepal, and Pakistan, and Dr. J. G. Campbell, Dr. B. Bhadra, Dr. E. Sharma and Dr. F. Ahmed from ICIMOD. Dr. Bhadra in his presentation on the Hindu-Kush Himalayan region brought out various issues for regional cooperation. In the concluding session, Mr. Heinz Scheiter of Austria and Dr. Eklavya Sharma of ICIMOD presented the “Bergheitsgaden Declaration” and “Bergheitsgaden Recommendations”, respectively. The Bergheitsgaden declaration will be presented at the Bishkek Summit.

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**GLOF Training**

In collaboration with the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN), a professional level training cum workshop on the inventory of glaciers, glacial lakes and glacial lake outburst flood monitoring and early warning systems in the HKH region was conducted from 24 June to 5 July 2002 in Kathmandu. There were two representatives each from Bhutan, China, India, and Pakistan and three from Nepal. Pradeep Mool was coordinator supported by Samjwal Ratna Bajreacharya as a resource person. The main objective was to provide knowledge and skills in GIS and remote sensing and its application in the study and inventory of glaciers and glacial lakes. ICIMOD plans to conduct similar studies to those in Nepal and Bhutan in the whole HKH region. The workshop led to the formulation of projects for the Tibet Autonomous Region of China, India, and Pakistan.

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**Stakeholders’ Meeting on Issues and Options of Marginal Farms in the HKH**

A stakeholders meeting was held on ‘Issues and Options of Marginal Farms in the HKH Region’ in Kathmandu from 8-10 July 2002. The meeting provided a platform for different stakeholders from Bhutan, India, and Nepal to share the findings of studies they had undertaken over the last three-year period. There were two phases of studies carried out in the mountain regions. The first phase focused on issues and the second on options for marginal farms. The participants shared the findings of both phases during the meeting and developed a first draft research proposal as a follow-up to the three-year project which is funded by ACIAR.

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**South Asia Youth Environmental Network (SAYEN) Meet**

Young people from eight South Asian countries came together in a three-day meeting in Kathmandu from 17-19 July 2002 to launch SAYEN. Hosted by ICIMOD, the meeting was organised by the Centre for Environment Education (C3E), India and UNEP/RCCAP. Mr. P. L. Singh, Hon. Minister for Population and Environment, Government of Nepal, inaugurated the meeting which discussed the formation of SAYEN, its vision for the youth of the region, and its objectives. The Centre for Environment Education has been selected to serve as the Secretariat for the first year. The next meeting will be held on 18-19 December 2002 in Bangladesh.

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**Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and Its Likely Transboundary Effects for South Asia**

The Phase II Network Meeting for the Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and its likely Transboundary Effects for South Asia was held in the Himalaya Hotel from 18-19th July 2002. The meeting is a continuation of the process that began in Bangkok in March 1998 where a policy dialogue concerning regional air pollution in South Asia was held at AIIT. Several other meetings took place before the completion of phase I in March 2000. Participants at the meeting included representatives from the Ministries of Environment and National Implementing Agencies (NIA) of eight South Asian countries. ICIMOD, SACEP, SEI, and UNEP. The meeting was organised jointly by the Ministry of Population and Environment, United Nations Environment Programme/Regional Resource Centre Asia Pacific (UNEP/RRCAP) and ICIMOD, in collaboration with SACEP and SEI. The meeting was inaugurated by the Hon’ble Minister, Mr. P. L. Singh, Ministry of Population and Environment, Dr. J. C. Polkareal, Hon. Member of the Planning Commission, Dr. Aqbar Jash, Acting Secretary of MOPE, Dr. Binaayak Bhadra, Deputy Director General, ICIMOD; and Mr. Surendra Shrestha, Director, UNEP/RRCAP, also addressed the inauguration.

Phase II of the project has the objective of putting in place the expertise, equipment and information needed for the quantitative monitoring, analysis, and policy recommendations for the eventual prevention/control of air pollution. Specific objectives for Phase II implementation are (1) establishing a monitoring network; (2) strengthening monitoring facilities; (3) studying the transboundary effects of air pollution; and (4) analysis of monitoring results and dissemination. Phase II will continue to 2004. National level capacity building activities began in May 2002 with technical training on monitoring and analysis of transboundary air pollution. The network meeting concluded with the aim of establishing a transboundary monitoring station by December and starting sampling and analysis.

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**Empowering Environmental Education through Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)**

A three-day workshop on Empowering Environmental Education through Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) was held from 28-31 July 2002 in Kathmandu, Nepal. The workshop was facilitated by the United Nations Environment Programme’s Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP/ROAP).

The workshop’s aim was to examine the ICT potential for environmental education in Asia schools using the LearnZ project model. LearnZ is an internet-based online education programme first used in New Zealand in 1995. Twenty-one environmental educators, professionals, and scientists from around the Asia Pacific region attended the workshop, actively
contributed to LearnZ-Nepal, and explored ways in which ICT could be used for EE in their own countries. The participants visited ICIMOD's Trial and Demonstration site at Godavari, St. Xavier's School at Godavari, and hiked up to Lathia Bhanjyang near Phulchowki - facilitated by Mr. Suraj Thapa of the Godavari site. Over 100 schools in New Zealand joined this virtual trip to Kathmandu. Visit www.learnz.org/nepal to read up on this exciting initiative. 

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**Bee Planning Workshop**

A planning workshop for the newly approved phase of the beekeeping project was held in ICIMOD from 16 - 18 May 2002. Austroprojekt project team members and a consultant also participated. During the planning workshop, plans for 2002 and 2003 were detailed and finalised, and a tentative plan for 2004 prepared.

**FAO Gateway**

An internet based country report on Nepal was prepared and posted on the 'Gateway' web site of the Land and Water Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as a collaborative effort of ICIMOD and FAO, Rome. The country report was prepared by Mr. Binod P Sharma, an independent consultant soil scientist, on behalf of FAO. Mr. Sharma was assisted by Mr. Govinda Joshi, MENRIS. Mr. Basanta Shrestha provided supervision and necessary facilities. The report consists of basic information on the land and water resources of Nepal and is illustrated with more than 25 maps made available from the ICIMOD Map Library. The report is organised into the following broad sections: Overview, Land Resources, Water Resources, Plant Nutrient Resources, Hot Spots, and Bright Spots. Relevant links to other web sites and references to published reports are also provided. The site can be accessed at the following address and there is a link to the site from ICIMOD's main web site. http://www.fao.org/waicent/facinfo/agricult/agl/swtwpm/y_sw_yp_ni.html.

**Regional Hydrological Data Centre at MENRIS**

The fresh water reservoirs of the high mountains have the potential to generate enormous power and irrigate thousands of hectares of land. This potential can improve the economy and thereby contribute substantially towards the alleviation of poverty in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan (HKH) Region. A prerequisite for this is a better understanding of the complex environment of this region, which is possible through collaborative regional study on the hydrology of the HKH-Region. In order to facilitate hydrological research studies with necessary data, a Regional Hydrological Data Centre (RHDC) was also established as part of the Hindu Kush Himalayan - Flow Regimes from International Experimental Network and Data (HIGHFRIEND) project. The RHDC envisages working through active collaboration with national and regional agencies/national hydrological and meteorological services (NHMS) to develop an operational network in the region with appropriate hydrological and associated database to support the different research initiatives undertaken in the HKH region.

On 7th August 2002, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM), Nepal and ICIMOD for the development of a hydrological database at RHDC. On behalf of ICIMOD, Dr. J. Gabriel Campbell, Director General, ICIMOD and Dr. Adarsh P Pokhrel, Director General, DHM signed the MoU.

RHDC is located in the MENRIS Division of ICIMOD and receives financial support from the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH), Wallingford, UK. The RHDC Team is led by Mr. Basanta Shrestha, Head, MENRIS Division and supported by Mr. Rupak Rajbhandari, Data Analyst, RHDC, and Mr. Birendra Bajracharya, GIS Analyst. Further information can be obtained from http://www.hkh-friend.net/.

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**GIS Portal News**

A Mountain GIS Portal has been developed for GIS resources addressing sustainable mountain development issues in the HKH region. The GIS resources include training and educational resources, database and metadata base resources, map resources and application resources. It uses a common platform to access and share information and knowledge about GIS technology and its application to mountain development. The Portal is an important step in accomplishing a Regional Geographic Information Infrastructure (RGII), thus facilitating the sharing, integration, and use of geographic information across a broad userbase, giving particular consideration to standardised datasources and using the potential of modern information and communication technologies, particularly the Internet. The portal will be a virtual platform for sharing data and information, offering a new one-stop experience for geographic data needs in the region. For more information visit www.gis.net

**Myanmar Training**

Mr. Sushil Pradhan attended the Second Conference on Environmental Education and Research for Sustainable Development, from 24 - 28 June, 2002, in Yangon, Myanmar. The workshop was organised by Yangon University to promote the sharing of knowledge and facilitate academic cooperation for the furthering of sustainable development. There were 32 participants.

**Dr. Jodha Selected IASP President-Elect**

Senior Advisor to the Mountain Development Policies & Programmed Project, Dr. N. S. Jodha, has been selected as President-Elect of the International Association for the Study of Common Property (IASCP). An international forum, IASCP promotes collaboration on understanding and promoting the interest of the commons by both researchers and field activists. Dr. Jodha is the first Asian to be elected as President. This is a great honour for Dr Jodha and also for ICIMOD. Visit http://www.iascp.org to learn more about IASCP.

**Dr. Tianchi Invited To Join ERD KUNDE Advisory Board**

Dr. Li Tianchi has accepted an invitation to join the Advisory Board of ERD KUNDE, a leading scientific geographical journal in Germany. Dr. Tianchi's term is for five years.

**New Agreement Signed with Austroprojekt**

A new agreement between ICIMOD and Austroprojekt was signed for continuing support to the beekeeping programme from May 2002 - December 2004. According to this agreement Austroprojekt will provide 719,000 Euro to support beekeeping activities in ICIMOD.
from different countries - Australia, Canada, USA, Italy, UK, Thailand, Malaysia, China, Pakistan, India, Nepal, and Myanmar. The conference consisted of parallel workshops with the two main themes: (1) Environmental Information Systems' Management and Community Awareness, and (2) Biodiversity and Wildlife Conservation. The themes focused on the need for environmental education and research on environmental data using GIS and remote sensing technologies in promoting sustainable development. During the session, Mr. Pradhan presented a paper entitled 'Geo-Information Technology and Environmental Management in the HKFT discussing how GIS and remote-sensing technologies were being used in the region for environmental education and environmental management and planning, and the impacts from these activities.

ESRI Users Conference and Annual SCGIS Conference
Basanta Shrestha, Sushil Pandey, Birendra Bajracharya and Govinda Joshi attended the Twenty-Second Annual ESRI International User Conference held from July 8-12 2002 in San Diego, California. The theme for the 2002 Conference was 'Geography, Sustaining our World.' Among the conference highlights was a global showcase of 'My Community, Our Earth' showing how international organisations and students around the world can use geographic information to promote sustainable development. This year the rotating Presidential Award, awarded to ICIMOD last year, was awarded to the New York GIS team that set up GIS for rescue operations after the September 11 mishap.

SARD Mountains 2002
An International Conference on Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Development in Mountain Regions was held in Adelboden, Switzerland, from 16-20 June 2002. ICIMOD's delegation included Dr. Eldabya Sharma, Head, Mt. Farming Systems Division; Dr. Farooq Ahmad, Coordinator, Beekeeping Project and Dr. Pradeep Tulachan of Mt. Farming Systems Division. The conference was jointly organised by SDC and FAO. Discussions were held on issues of constraints and potentials of mountain regions, the role of mountain agriculture in the economy development, upland-lowland interactions, poverty eradication, and equity and integrated rural development in the mountain regions, and issues of intensification, diversification, people's participation, transfer of technology and innovative financing mechanisms for mountain development. The conference was well organised in the green and high tech landscape of Switzerland and included many interesting visits to mountain enterprises and households. ICIMOD's delegation presented three papers along with posters which attracted many people from around the globe. The conference provided very interesting opportunities for interactions with development professionals from the Andes, Africa, Alps, and Rockies. The Adelboden declaration was adopted by the Conference; ICIMOD's delegation actively participated in its formulation.

ICIMOD ALUMNI
Dr. Tejwani Awarded WASWC Honorary Membership
The World Association of Soil and Water Conservation (WASWC) conferred honorary membership on Dr. Khubchand Tejwani on 31 May 2002. Dr. Tejwani was a Resident Associate at ICIMOD from 1975-1981. He is currently Director of Land Use Consultants in New Delhi and also Founder Member and Founder President of the Indian Association of Soil and Water Conservationists, a member of the Board of Directors of the International Soil Conservation Organisation, and a Founding Member and Vice President of WASWC.

AAA Conference
Dr. Surendra Raj Joshi and Mr. Min B. Gurung participated in the 6th AAA Conference held in Bangalore, India from 24 February to 1 March and presented four papers. Our two staff members also visited the Keystone Foundation and observed its work on non timber forest products and their marketing.

Map India 2002
Basanta Shrestha, Birendra Bajracharya, and Sushil Pradhan from MENRIS participated in Map India 2002, held in New Delhi from Feb. 5 to 8, organised by the Centre for Spatial Data (CSDMS). They made presentations on ICIMOD GIS training, application of GIS for municipal level planning, and regional land cover mapping.
Global: Mountain Women Raise Questions, Give Answers

By Anita Anand, Women's Feature Service

"Chambéry, France, July 8, (WFS) -- In the majestic city hall of the town of Chambéry, located in Southern France, a two-day meeting on mountain women begins. André Gilbertas, President of Montanea, welcomes the participants.

"During the French Revolution, Sylvie de Concordeit exclaimed: 'At a time when women's heads are being cut off, it is only natural that they demand to know why.' Gilbertas stresses that questions about mountain women are complex, difficult and sensitive. Mountain women face the same problems as women of the plains, but more amplified.

The United Nations General Assembly announced 2002 as the International Year of the Mountains (IYM), and Chambéry is the French focal point. This beautiful and medieval city, nestled in the valley between the Bauges and Chartreuse massifs, served as host for the European preparatory meeting for Celebrating Mountain Women (CMW). A global gathering, CMW will be held in Thimphu, Bhutan, in October this year.

How different are the lives and concerns of European mountain women from women in other parts of the world? "In traditional Alpine society, women were the first to get up and the last to go to bed. Just like their male peers, girls started working from the moment they could walk. Despite this, the financial well-being of the family, community and village revolved around the women," says Michela Zucca of the Centre for Alpine Ecology in Trento, Italy.

From the times of the hunters and gatherers, young girls and mothers maintained the ancient inheritance of knowledge which allowed for the exploitation of forest resources, says Zucca. Medicinal herbs, small fruits and mushrooms were collected and sold in markets. They worked the loom, knitted, provided clothing and linen, and made their homes more welcoming. In some areas, women would rent rooms or do 'seasonal' work in hotels.

There was no such thing as a holiday for women. A man had the local tavern, where a woman was not allowed to enter unless she went to collect her drunken husband. In times of economic hardship, women left the villages before the men in some areas. Under the 'hereditary farm' system, daughters were forbidden to inherit land if they had brothers. They either married a prospective heir, or became servants in their fathers' homes. Otherwise they left home for evermore, and did the most menial of jobs far from their own village. Under these conditions, female protests were voiced in lyrical form or by telling or rewording stories of legends and myths. Thus women also became the custodians of customs, memories and culture.

Migration from the mountain areas to plains is worldwide, and also common in the Alps. Zucca says that women began migrating when the men left. But women also left to get away from priests, villages, fathers, brothers and husbands. She points out that in the last few years, the situation has changed. Disillusioned by the urban reality, more women in the Alpine region have begun economic activity and initiatives.

The main economy of the Alps -- luxury hotels, mountain lift systems, and tendering of public works -- is in the hands of men. But the economy of the valley or the family business that allows people to continue living in the high mountains is in the hands of women. Tourism has for a long time overtaken agricultural income, animal breeding and weaving. It is the main income earner in the Alps, and in the hands of women. The majority of the tourism businesses are family run, and even though the proprietor is a man, it is women who manage the business.

The Alps and Sardinia, both regions with great pastoral traditions, are leading the way in linking agriculture to tourism. In Sardinia, women have founded a farm-tourism association. 'There is a new economic concept: the identity economy,' says Zucca. Businesses whose origins date back to a remote past are developing in a modern way, with modern technology, and with different goals and objectives. In addition to generating an income, these initiatives preserve and assist a "re-launch" of traditional cultures, allowing them to become the base for supplementing incomes.

This is also happening in other parts of the world, a positive reconciliation of the old and new ways of working and making a living. The transition economies of Eastern Europe -- Bulgaria, Slovenia, Albania, Armenia and Ukraine -- bring similar stories, with a difference. They are younger countries, with years of tradition, not unlike what is happening in the Alps. There is a dearth of gender-disaggregated data, and few pro-women policies that are being implemented.

'Domestic violence in Albania remains behind closed doors and is supported by the traditional and patriarchal attitude attendant to the Kanun (code of customary laws used in northern Albania)," says Xhixhri Xenit Sinakoli. Despite this and other discrimination and obstacles facing women, there is an overwhelming need of women in this region to be economically independent, and the entrepreneur spirit is fierce.

'Women played an important role in the first entrepreneurial wave in Slovenia during the early 1990s," says Patricia Verbole. The transition from self-management to a market economy removed many administrative barriers for the establishment of a new venture. The service sector grew, and global trends increasingly favoured conditions that fostered women's entrepreneurship. In addition, says Verbole, high unemployment and a job market in which women were not skilled to enter the workforce, or be in managerial positions, encouraged them to the turn to entrepreneurial activities.

The European gathering agreed on a Chambéry declaration, which will serve as a draft to the Thimphu declaration, to be finalised in the October global gathering, and sent to the Fishleak Global Mountain Summit (BGMS) -- the final event of the IYM.

The Chambéry declaration calls for recognition of the strength and contribution of mountain women to the national and international economy. It seeks policy measures that enable mountain women to create a life of dignity for themselves and their communities. It spells out what an enabling environment for health and well-being should be, and it stresses the importance of structures for information dissemination, knowledge sharing and networking, and the promotion of indigenous knowledge and culture. It hails the entrepreneurial spirit of mountain women and calls for more support for expanding this activity for women.

Raising questions and giving answers is a first step for European Mountain women. Working to get structures to work for them is a longer haul. But moving mountains has never been easy, and all mountain people, women know this best."
Recent ICIMOD Publications

The major documents published between Jan 2002 and Aug 2002 are shown below with abstracts. The three prices quoted for each publication are applicable to Developed Countries, Developing Countries, and ICIMOD’s Regional Member Countries respectively and include p&p. For some publications there is a local price without p&p. For institutions actively involved in sustainable development of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas, relevant publications can be provided free of charge.


Over the past decade, the Government of Nepal has passed progressive legislation regarding decentralisation and the devolution of powers to local communities - including the Forest Act of 1993 and the Local Self Governance Act of 1998 (LSGA). This publication analyses the provisions of these Acts regarding the management and development of forest resources and pertaining to other natural resources. The difficulties inherent in each Act and overlapping provisions between them are examined.

The reader will find a clear and precise summary of the situation, together with suggestions on the changes needed to ensure clarity in the provisions. The authors stress the need for consultation and dialogue between forest user groups and local elected institutions to address concerns of local government, at the same time as maintaining the autonomy, powers, and functions of the FUGs.


This publication summarises the presentations, discussions, and findings of the First National Workshop on Participatory Forest Management: Implications for Policy and Human Resource Development in the Mountain Areas of Myanmar, held in Yezin, Myanmar, in December 2000. The workshop was attended by foresters at various stages of their careers, representatives of forest user groups, and resource persons from Myanmar, and China who shared experiences of community forestry in their own countries. Workshop participants identified the factors for successful participatory forest management and within the mountain areas of Myanmar in particular. The findings are summarised in the form of action points to be taken up and implemented by the relevant authorities.


Mountain areas of the HKH region not only have a relatively high proportion of people living in poverty, the forms and sources of their poverty also differ from those commonly seen in the plains. This paper looks at the prevalent concepts on, measurement methods of, and approaches to alleviation of poverty in the specific context of mountain areas of the HKH. It points out certain specificities of poverty and its sources and outlines the basic elements of a framework for analysis and alleviation of poverty in mountain areas. The paper is organised into five sections (i) Manifestations of Poverty in Mountain Areas; (ii) Sources of Poverty; (iii) Poverty-Natural Resource Degradation Linkage; (iv) Common Strategies and Interventions; and (v) Towards a Framework for Poverty Alleviation.


Participatory forest management (PFM) has emerged as a successful strategy in almost all countries in the HKH region. One of the earliest recorded examples of an attempt to formally involve communities in forest management was the introduction of the Kangra Forest Cooperative Societies (KFCS) in 1940 in Kangra District, now in Himachal Pradesh (HP), India. This paper examines the KFCS providing an historical overview, reviewing past processes and milestones, and discussing the present problematic situation. Before attempting to look for solutions, the author analyses the roles played and positions taken by the various actors and reviews the recent history of PFM in Himachal Pradesh. The ideas are not only relevant for decisions now being taken in Himachal Pradesh, they provide insights that will be useful for foresters and policy-makers across the region.


This publication summarises the presentations, discussions, and findings of the regional workshop on Water-Induced Disasters in the HKH Region held in December 2001 in Kathmandu. The aim of the workshop was to achieve a shared vision of regional cooperation and to create the basis for an information and knowledge-sharing network for disaster mitigation in the HKH region. It was organised by ICIMOD together with the new 'Participatory Disaster Management Programme', whose objective is to improve Nepal's capacity at local and national levels in the areas of
disaster preparedness and management, and to mainstream disaster management into regular development activities at both levels. Presentations were made summarising the knowledge and information generated during the first year of the programme and other important experience, information, and knowledge from the region. Participants included government officers, academics, and representatives from international development organisations and universities from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Japan, the Philippines, and Thailand. Together participants prepared a set of conclusions and recommendations related to effective disaster management in the region called the 'Kathmandu Recommendations'. The twenty-four presentations on a range of themes are summarised and presented together with the results of the intensive discussions and the recommendations.

Water and Erosion Studies of PARDYP Nepal: Data of the Jikhu Khola Watershed

Water and Erosion Studies of PARDYP Nepal: Data of the Yarsha Khola Watershed.
English (Book, 8p + CD) 2002 ISBN 92-9115-510-1 US$ 20, 15, 10
Nepali ISBN 92-9115-538-1 100p

Reliable climatic and hydrological data and information, particularly micro- to meso-scale, is important for the design of engineering structures such as bridges and culverts, for agricultural applications, and for research into the understanding of natural processes, but there is little available in the Himalayan region.

These publications provide the climatic, hydrological, and erosion plot data collected since 1993 under the SDC-supported People and Resource Dynamics Project (PARDYP) and its predecessor the IDRC-supported Mountain Resource Management Project (MRM) in the Jikhu Khola watershed in the middle mountains of Nepal, and since 1997 by the SDC supported PARDYP in the Yarsha Khola watershed.

The English language publications consist of a brochure, which provides a brief introduction to PARDYP and its activities, and a CD-ROM, which contains the daily time series data (in *.csv format), and monthly and annual summary sheets (in *.pdf format), (for the years 1993 onwards in the Jikhu Khola and 1997-2001 in the Yarsha Khola). A subscription form is provided to enable the reader to obtain updates of the CD-ROM as they are issued. The companion publication in Nepali provides the same background information together with the monthly and annual summary sheets in hard copy form. The complete data set is also available at the PARDYP Secretariat. ICIMOD and can be viewed by appointment and photocopied at cost. Special conditions apply to the dissemination and use of this data; details supplied on request.

GENERAL PUBLICATIONS
ICIMOD Catalogue of Publications
Annual Report 2001
Newsletters
APMN Bulletin, Vol.6, No.2
GIS Portal in the HKH Regions - (Bulletin)
Views from High Places, Linking Projects to Policy ICIMOD/FAO Collaboration Newsletter,
Issue 1
Mountain Voices Bulletin p4 ISSN 1562-7337
# 1 Nepal International Year of Mountains, May 2002.
# 2 Mountain Voices Bulletin 2: Asian High Summit, May 2002

Brochures
Indigenous Honeybees of the Himalayas
Partnerships in Mountain Development
IYM (Chinese, English, Hindi, Nepali)
Conference on Rural Transport Infrastructure
Development in the HKH Region
Current Journals in the ICIMOD Library
ICIMOD Library Brochure

ICIMOD publications on-line -- order direct at
http://www.icimod.org/publications/pubmenu.htm
http://www.panasia.org.sg/mos/icimod.htm
http://www.earthprint.com/icimod

Mountain Development Profiles
#4 Ahmad F. Indigenous Honeybees of the Himalayas
#5 Richard C. Regional Rangeland Programme
#6 Shrestha M Regional Cooperation in Flood Forecasting and Information Exchange

Briefing Paper
Why the Himalayas Need the Indigenous Honeybee Apis cerana. April 2002
Visitors at the Godawari Test and Demonstration site

HRH Crown Prince Paras Bir Bikram Shah Dev

On 18 June, His Royal Highness (HRH) Crown Prince Paras Bir Bikram Shah Dev visited the Godawari test and demonstration site. HRB Crown Prince Paras is chairman of the King Mahendra Trust of the Nature Conservation (KMTNC). On the occasion His Royal Highness the Crown Prince viewed with keen interest the water, soil and vegetation management, livestock, high value cash crops/horticulture, energy and other works being carried out. HRH the Crown Prince was briefed by the Director General, Dr. J. Gabriel Campbell and Director of Programmes, Dr. Binaik Bhatta, on ICIMOD activities. HRH Crown Prince was also briefed by Geeta Rana, Nirma Tashi, Suraj B. Thapa, Prayakar B. Shah, Gopal Nakarmi and Uma Partap on various activities.

HRH Prince Ulukolola Labaka Ata Prime Minister of Tonga and other delegates

Dr. J. Gabriel Campbell, Director General, ICIMOD welcomed the delegates of the XXVI FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific to the ICIMOD Godawari Test and Demonstration Site on May 16, 2002. Dr. Campbell presented an overview of ICIMOD and Dr. Binaik Bhatta, Director of Programmes, presented the programmes and activities. Dr. Bhim Singh, Head of the Mountain Farming Systems Division, talked about the basic concepts of the Godawari Site. Dr. Farooq Ahmad and Mr. Suraj Thapa led the delegates on a field visit explaining the different activities being carried out for natural resources conservation and development. Management of degraded natural forest and shrubland, indigenous medicinal and aromatic plants, warm-temperate orchids, conservation farming, water harvesting, renewable energy, meteorological data monitoring, soil erosion monitoring, horticulture, Himalayan Carana bee-keeping, goat husbandry, angora rabbits, and plant nursery management were keenly observed by the delegates.

Visiting Scientist

Professor Richard Heggen

Richard Heggen, visiting scientist at ICIMOD, is Professor Emeritus at the University of New Mexico. He holds degrees in civil engineering, environmental engineering, and water resources engineering. He has authored approximately 100 articles on open channel hydraulics, surface water hydrology, econometrics, numerical modeling, and systems' analysis. In New Mexico, he served as departmental graduate programme director and developed a fluid mechanics laboratory to model hydraulic structures in supercritical flow. Richard has served as Chair of the American Society of Civil Engineering Surface Water Hydrology Committee and was the technical editor for the ASCE Hydrology Handbook. He is a professional hydrologist with the American Institute of Hydrology and has held various leadership roles with the International Rainwater Catchment Systems Association.

Richard has lectured in approximately 20 countries and taught longer-term in Micronesia, Bolivia, Pakistan, China, and now Nepal, where he is on the Water Resources Engineering faculty, Institute of Engineering, Tribhuvan University. He is a reviewer for various ASCE, IWRA, AWRA journals and other, more technical, engineering publications.

Richard’s consulting practice includes rainfall-runoff modeling, hydraulic design, floodplain analysis, sediment transport and flash flooding. He compiled a multi-year assessment of emergency flood control structures for the US Army Corps of Engineers. Much of his work, both academic and applied, has focused on arid regions.

Richard is currently working with PARDYP on a research expansion to arid mountainous regions and with MNR on transboundary flood forecasting possibilities. He is seconded to ICIMOD from the United Mission to Nepal, where his wife, Carolyn, serves in the personnel department. As he’s always interested in broadening his involvement, give Richard a call if you see mutual interests.
BANGLADESH
A. Toda/Feb. For Operational Plan formulation for Chittagong Hill Tracts ICIMOD/IFAD programme, DHAKA & CHITTAGONG
B. Shrestha & B. Bajracharya/May For a consultative meeting for the IDRC project, DHAKA

BHUTAN
B. Bhutra/April Meeting on RETA/ADB and country consultation for strategy planning, THIMPHU
K. Rijal/April To finalise field sites for UNEP Project on Gender, Water & Health, HA & WANGDI
A. Anand/April To make preliminary preparations for Celebrating Mountain Women (CMW), THIMPHU
P. Tshering/May To finalise field sites for the UNEP project and discuss CMW, THIMPHU, FARO & WANGDU
B. Bhutra, N. S. Jochu & A. Toda/May To participate in and present a paper at the IFAD South Asia Portfolio review workshop, THIMPHU

CHINA
S. Rui/April To meet potential partners and become familiar with cases and issues in Common Property Resources (CPR) management, KUNMING, CHENGDU & LHASA
S. Sali/April To conduct a study visit for partners for India & Pakistan, BEIJING & CHENGDU
N. Tashi/May To attend the Rangeland Meeting in LHASA, TIBET
K. Shrestha/May To settle travel expenses of all ICIMOD sponsored participants, LHASA, TIBET
J. D. Tenzing/May To facilitate the Rangeland Meeting in LHASA, TIBET
R. White/June To discuss future collaboration, KUNNING & BAOSHAN
C. Richard/Feb To meet with TAAAS to plan for the Rangeland meeting in May, LHASA, TIBET
N. Tashi/April To organise the consultation on ICIMOD’s Strategic Planning in LHASA, TIBET

INDIA
A. Toda/Jan To set up the basic framework for the shifting cultivation initiative, NEW DELHI
R. White/Jan For India/PARDYP review of Indo German Watershed Management project, DELHI. SHIMLA & PALAMPUR
B. Shrestha, S. Pradhan, To participate in Map India 2002 and discuss the organisation of GIS Forum South Asia 2002 on the occasion of IFYM,
B. Bajracharya, R. Thapa, NEW DELHI & S. Pradhan/Feb

M. Burung, S. R. Joshi/Feb To visit keystone foundation Nigiri and attend 6th Asian Apicultural Association (AAA) conference BANGALORE & NILGIRI HILLS
J. D. Campbell & To identify IDRC Regional Consultation in NEW DELHI
E. Sharma/March
S. Pandey/March To participate in the ITC & Development Workshop, NEW DELHI
P. Tshering/April To attend IFAD meeting/NEW DELHI
C. Guangwe/March To participate in the National Seminar on Conservation of the Eastern Ghats and visit PARDYP site - ALMORA, TIRUPATHI, DEhra DUN & ALMORA
T. S. Papola/March For the Board and other meetings of Giri Institute-LUCKNOW, Consultation with Uttarakhand Government - DEHRADUN, Collection of reference documents for Strategic Plan
R. Rajbhandari/March To attend Global International Waters Assessment: Bay of Bengal Sub-Regional Assessment Workshop, CHENNAI
R. Romans/March To purchase satellite imagery from the India Remote Sensing Centre and coordinate with & collaborate in meetings in SHIMLA & HYDERABAD

P. Tshering, A. Toda/April To attend IFAD workshop on Gender Impact Assessment, NEW DELHI
T. S. Papola/April To participate in the IFAD project workshop on Marketing and Consultation with Project staff, SHILLONG
J. G. Campbell/April Meeting with Chief Secretary and to attend ‘Mountain Populations in Asia’ GANGTOK & YUKSUM
K. Rijal/April To present a paper on Energy Use in Mountain Areas in a Regional Meeting on ‘Decision Making & Local Governance in the HKH, YUKSUM, SIKKIM’
E. Sharma/April Meeting with government & institutions and attend ‘Mountain Population in Asia’ in SIKKIM and discuss with partners in DARJEELING
C. Richard, A. Shaha, & To attend ‘Mountain Population in Asia’ YUKSUM, SIKKIM, DEHRADUN
C. Josse/April
C. P. Jayakrishna & A. Toda/April To attend IFAD workshop, SHILLONG
E. Sharma/April To attend IFAD workshop in SHILLONG and TERI Conference in DARJEELING
T. S. Papola & To attend the SP Uttarakhand consultation & Partner visit. DELHI, DEHRADUN & SRINAGAR
P. Marandhar/April
N. S. Jochu/April Participation in South Asia Expert Workshop in New Delhi on Climate Change and Agriculture, DELHI
C. P. Jayakrishna/June To attend the IMC in PALAMPUR
S. Rui/June Implementation of programme in MEGHALAYA & TRIPURA, SHILLONG & TRIPURA
T. S. Papola, & K. Rijal/June To help TERI to finalise sites for project implementation in Uttarakhand, DELHI, ALMORA & DEHRADUN
T. S. Papola/June Repatriation travel, NEW DELHI
K. Rijal/July To help TERI to finalise UNEP-CIMOD Project field sites, SOLAN & SHIMLA
E. Sharma/July To attend International workshop on ‘Forest Science and Forest Policy in the Asia-Pacific Region: Building Bridges to a Sustainable Future’, CHENNAI
IVANJCHAR
S. Pradhan, June
To attend and present a paper at the Second Conference on Environmental Education and Research for Sustainable Development, YANGON

NEPAL
Many staff travelled to various parts of Nepal to attend workshops/meetings, to organise/ implement training programmes, supervise research work, carry out studies, and in relation to field activities.

PAKISTAN
J. P. Bhukat/March
Final evaluation of PAR~YDP-Pakistan, LAHORE, ISLAMABAD, PESHAWAR & HI~KOT
S. Sair/March
Repatiation travel, JHANG
B. Shrestha/April
To conduct training for Pakistan Forest Institute and PARDYP Staff on multimedia, CD-ROM and field data linkages to GIS, PESHAWAR
A. Farooq/April
To have an overview of project activities and participate in consultation meeting, LAHORE, ISLAMABAD, PESHAWAR & MUZAFFARABAD

GLOBAL LINKAGES
A. Camino/May
To attend Global High Summit meeting, MENDOZA & LIMA, ARGENTINA & PERU
Li Tiani/June
To attend the Interim Steering Committee and the Extended Steering Committee Meeting of the ‘International Consortium on Landslides’ PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC
R. White/March
Discussion with potential collaborator and briefing SDC on review and preparation for PARDYP evaluation, SUSSEX & BERN, ENGLAND & SWITZERLAND
O. Jospe/May
To attend and present CMW preparatory meeting, CHAMBERY, FRANCE
G. Rani, M. Tuadha/HLD.June
To attend ICIMOD meeting and interview with APOs in the Hague, BERCHTESGARDEN & THE HAGUE
B. Bhargad/June
To attend the Alpine Conference and ICIMOD Board Meeting, BERCHTESGARDEN & SALZBURG, GERMANY & AUSTRIA
P. Tulia/Jan
To finalise report on ‘Local Livestock Resource Planning & Development’ project in consultation with FAO experts, ROME, ITALY
Li Tiani/Jan
To participate in the UNESCO-KU Symposium on Landslide Protection in Kyoto and to discuss a joint publication on landslide mapping with Dr. H. Yagi, KYOTO, JAPAN
S. R. Chalise/Feb
To participate in the International Symposium on Mountain Ecosystems at the invitation of the United Nations University, TOKYO, JAPAN
A. Romana/April
Presentation at a donor meeting upon official invitation, NAIROBI, KENYA
N. Tashi/May
To attend the ISAC Meeting organised by ISVAR, NAIROBI, KENYA
U. Sheshan &
To organise training on Internet and Information Technology for Development, BISHKEK, KYRGYZSTAN
D. Tandukar/June
E. Sharma/Jan
To attend seminar in Bergen and presentation at NORAGR, BERGEN & OSLO, NORWAY
M. Shrestha/March
To attend the FRIEND 2002 Conference, To become familiar with the South African HyCOs and to present ICIMOD’s Flood initiative, CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA
J. Merz/March
To visit different libraries in Switzerland and participate in a Flood Estimation Conference in Bern, ZURICH & BERN, SWITZERLAND
P. Dangol/March
Presentation on Flood Estimation in the Middle Mountains, BERN, SWITZERLAND
A. Camino/June
To attend IAB meeting in Switzerland and Mountain Ecosystem Workshop in Peru, SWITZERLAND & PERU
E. Sharma/July
To attend conference in Acelboden, meeting with donors in Vienna & Rome and attend ICIMOD board meeting, SWITZERLAND, AUSTRIA, GERMANY & ITALY
A. Farooq/July
To attend international conference on Sustainable Agriculture and meet donors, SWITZERLAND, GERMANY, AUSTRIA & ITALY
P. Tulia/Jan
To attend and present a paper at an International Conference in ADELBODEN, discuss collaborative programme in LONDON and ROME, SWITZERLAND, UNITED KINGDOM & ITALY
A. Bhatia/Jan
To attend Asia Level Consultation on Farmers’ Rights, BANGKOK, THAILAND
Nira Guurun/March
To set up an exhibition and participate in World Water Day Conference, BANGKOK, THAILAND
Li Tiani/April
To attend the workshop on policy for Disaster Management, BANGKOK, THAILAND
R. White/May
To attend Steering Committee Meeting of Management of Soil Erosion Conservatory and meeting at IWM on Regional Watershed Management Collaborator, BANGKOK, THAILAND
B. Banmai/May
To attend International Conference on Sustainable Agriculture and meet donors, SWITZERLAND, GERMANY, AUSTRIA & ITALY
Li Tiani/June
To attend Second Consultative Forum - Total Disaster Risk Management in Asia, BANGKOK, THAILAND
P. Mood/July
To attend funding of GLOF study launch by UNEP on the occasion of IFM 2002 in LONDON & GENOA. To discuss and formulate future GLOF activity, THAILAND, UK & SWITZERLAND
K. Iraj/Feb
To participate in the planning meeting of ENERGIA, THE NETHERLANDS
B. Shrestha, B. Bajracharya
To attend ESRI training and take part in ESRI Conference - WSSD - My Community, My Earth Programme, Participate in SCGIS
S. Panadey, G. Joshi/June
To attend training and Conference, SAN DIEGO, USA
J. G. Campbell/May
To attend International Advisory Board Meeting (Pre Bishkek) and meeting with donors, USA, THE NETHERLANDS, SWITZERLAND & FRANCE
A. Romance/S. Pradhan/July
To visit Melong Info to exchange technical achievements, HANOI, VIETNAM

New Staff Member
Ms Jane Dermer
Ms Jane Dermer joined ICIMOD in April 2002 as a Tourism Researcher. She is here as a volunteer under the Australian Youth Ambassador for Development (AYAD) programme and will be with us until early next year. The AYAD programme funds young Australians to work in developing countries to gain experience and to generate links between Australia and these countries. Jane has completed a Bachelor of Applied Science in Conservation Ecology at Deakin University in Melbourne, Australia. During her time here, Jane will be researching and reviewing the tourism training curricular undertaken in Nepal and assessing whether or not it does, or can, assist sustainable tourism development.
List as of September 2002

**ICIMOD Staff Members**

### Directorate
- Dr. J. Gabriel Campbell, Director General
- Dr. Binayak P. Bhadra, Director of Programmes
- Mr. Milan Raj Tuladhar, Head, Administration & Finance

**Support Staff:**
- Ms. Tika Laxmi Gurung, Ms. Anjeli Shrestha, Ms. Preema Thapa, Mr. Man Bahadur Katwal

### Institutional Strengthening Unit
- Dr. Jit Pradhan ‘Bhuktan’, Planning Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist
- Mr. Prem Krishna Manandhar, Programme Officer

**Rural Access Road Infrastructure Project**
- Mr. Alex A. Hooijer, Conference Coordinator
- Mr. Chandra Bahadur Shrestha, Rural Transport Specialist

### Mountain Farming Systems’ Division (MFS)
- Dr. Ekabaya Sharma, Senior Agricultural Specialist/Div. Head
- Dr. Pradeep Man Tulachan, Farm Economist
- Mr. Arjen Rotnans, Associate Prof. Officer (FAO seconded)
- Dr. Nyima Tashi, Researcher, Mountain Agricultural Systems

**Support Staff:**
- Ms. Sami Joshi, Ms. Neeta Ghale
- Mr. Sudeep Pradhan, Mr. Rajesh Thapa

**Beekeeping Project, MFS**
- Dr. Farooq Ahmad, Project Coordinator, Beekeeping Project
- Dr. (Mrs.) Uma Partap, Research Officer
- Dr. Surendra Raj Joshi, Action Research Officer
- Mr. Min Bahadur Gurung, Institutional Development Officer

**Support Staff:**
- Mr. Anituchha Nathi Shukla, Ms. Shova Bhandari, Santananda Upadhyaya

### Trial and Demonstration Site, Godavari
- Mr. Suraj Bahadur Thapa, Farm Manager/Horticulturist

### Mountain Natural Resources’ Division (MNR)
- Mr. Anupam Bhatta, Common Property Resource Mstg. Specialist
- Ms. Camillo Richard, Rangeland Management Specialist
- Ms. Mandira Shrestha, Water Resources Specialist
- Mr. Suman Rai, Coordinator, Equity and Poverty

**Support Staff:**
- Ms. Sarita Joshi
- Mr. Govinda Shrestha, Mr. Bijay R. Khadgi
- Ms Sapana Sharma, Consultant Librarian
- Ms. Kate Hoffmann, Research Assistant

### Landslide Hazard Mitigation Project
- Prof. Li Tanchi, Hazard Mitigation Specialist

### Mountain Resources Management Project (PARDYP)
- Mr. Roger John White, Regional Programme Coordinator
- Mr. Prakash Bicram Shah, Country Coordinator/Land Use Analyst
- Mr. Juerg Merz, Hydrometeorology Research Associate
- Mr. Gopal Nakarmi, Geomorphologist
- Mr. Bhunaneswor Shrestha, GIS Specialist

**Field (SSA) Staff in PARDYP:**
- Mr. Pradeep Man Dangol
- Mr. Madhav Prasad Dakal, Mr. Bhawani Shankar Dangol
- Ms. Bandana Prajapati, Mr. Bal Gopal Shrestha, Mr. Giri Bahadur Shrestha, Ms. Samma Shaky, Smita Kumari Shrestha

### Mountain Enterprises & Infrastructure Division (MEI)
- Dr. Kamal Hiji, Energy Specialist
- Ms. Phunistochok Choden Tshering, Gender Specialist
- Ms. Atsuco Toda, Assistant Coordinator, IFAD-ICIMOD Project
- Ms. Jane Demer, Australian Youth Ambassador (Tourism)

**Support Staff:**
- Mr. Rajendra Shah

### Mountain Development Policies & Programmes Project
- Dr. Narpat Singh Jodha, Policy Analyst

**Secretariat for Celebrating Mountain Women (YMW 2002):**
- Ms. Naini Armila C. Shaky, Coordinator
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