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International Year of Mountains 2002

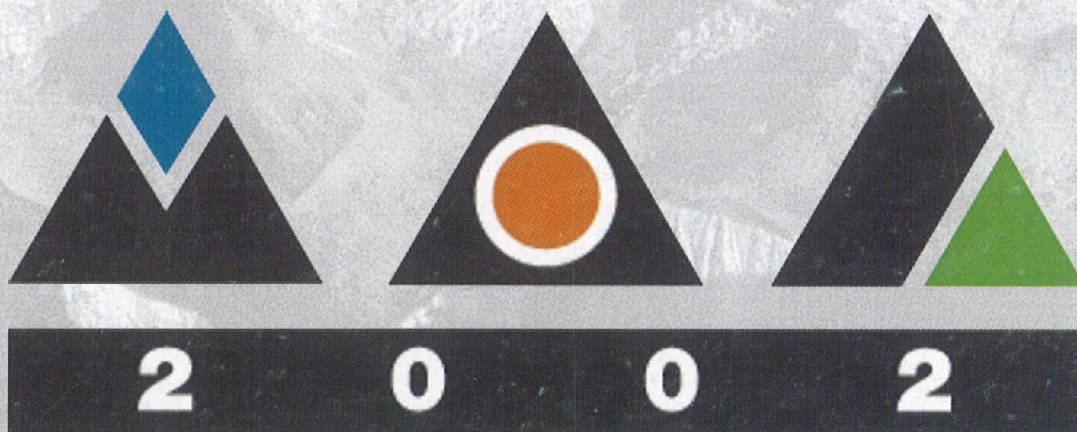
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International Year of MOUNTAINS

Putting Mountains on the Global Agenda: UN Declares 2002 as the Year of Mountains

The focus during the International Year of Mountains (IYM) will be the well being of mountain and lowland communities through promoting the conservation and sustainable development of mountain regions. FAO, the UN's lead agency for IYM, is working closely with other organisations to ensure that a wide range of expertise is focused on sustainable mountain development.

The United Nations General Assembly, at its 53rd session, adopted resolution 53/24 proclaiming 2002 the International Year of Mountains (IYM). The resolution encouraged all governments, the United Nations agencies and all other actors to take advantage of the IYM in order to increase awareness of the importance of sustainable mountain development. It also called upon governments, national and international organisations, non-government organisations and the private sector to make voluntary contributions in accordance with the guidelines of the Economic and Social Council for International Years and Anniversaries and to lend other forms of support to the IYM.

In 1992, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, known as the Rio Conference, adopted Agenda 21. Chapter 13 of this is the 'Mountain Agenda' (Managing Fragile Ecosystems: Sustainable Mountain Development) and centres on the issues of concern, including the need for an ecosystems' focus. In 2002 a decade of implementation of Agenda 21 will be evaluated in Johannesburg (September 11-19, 2002) and many IYM activities are closely linked to this global conference, often referred to as Rio plus 10.

FAO announced that by April 18th 2001, 17 countries had established IYM national committees: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bolivia,

the Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Guinea, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Morocco, Peru, Swaziland, Slovenia, and Tunisia. In 13 other countries, IYM national committees are being established. They include several of the HKH countries. ICIMOD is encouraging the establishment of national committees within the region and preparatory workshops have already taken place in Nepal, Myanmar, and Bhutan.

Twenty-one countries in Asia have confirmed to FAO that they will establish committees to celebrate IYM. The following HKH countries are establishing committees.

Bhutan: the focal point is the Ministry of Agriculture. Dasho Sangay Thinley is the Chairperson and Dr. Pema Gyamtsho, Member Secretary. The committee has 12 other representatives from other ministries and organisations.

China: the focal point is the Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China.

Myanmar: no focal point designated yet; the Forest Department, Ministry of Forestry, is the focal point for ICIMOD.

Pakistan: the focal point is the Ministry of Environment, Local Government and Rural Development, Islamabad. Mr. Ismail Hassan Niazi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Sports, is the designated head of the committee.

Nepal: a high-level national committee has been established under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation as the contact point.

National committees have not yet been established in Bangladesh, and India

Some reports are available on the internet: those from Bolivia, Liechtenstein (www.berge2002.li), Madagascar, Italy, and France are available on the IYM web pages at <http://www.mountains2002.org> set

up to assist other national committees with ideas for action in their own countries.

What are the issues ?

Today there is increasing recognition of the importance of mountain ecosystems. On a global level, they are the water towers of the earth. The world's largest repositories of biological diversity are found in the mountains. Mountain areas are popular destinations for recreation and tourism. The importance of the cultural diversity and heritage found in the mountains cannot be measured in terms of mere economics. Yet, mountains are home for a disproportionate number of the world's poorest peoples. Mountains occupy about one-fourth of the world's land surface and are the basis of livelihood for 10% of the world's population. Crucial goods and services are provided by mountain areas to more than half the world's population. According to a report by the Secretary General of the UN to the 55th General Assembly on the Status of Preparations for IYM, the ecological integrity and economic and social viability of mountain areas need to be ensured, both for the sake of mountain inhabitants and for those living in lowland areas.

An international year dedicated to mountains is a unique opportunity to consolidate and capitalise on the many efforts carried out to date to protect and develop mountain regions. It also provides us with an opportunity to renew and intensify our commitment to our work in mountain areas, to celebrate the mountains and the communities that ensure their sound stewardship. But the real challenge lies in being able to focus on action-oriented activities aimed at long-term and sustained



Left and right: - village child and woman with goitre, Humla, Nepal (M. T. Shah)

Centre: - Intensive gully erosion and landslides in the watershed of Palung Valley caused by a rainstorm (P. K. Mool)

efforts to improve the quality of life and environmental stability in the mountains. Concerted action is needed to build and strengthen the institutional and human capacity to continue with sustainable mountain development beyond 2002. Thus the IYM is meant to be much more than just a series of events and activities confined to a one-year period, rather it is a spring board from which to launch or reinforce long-term mountain development and conservation efforts. The IYM Coordination Unit in FAO allows the use of the IYM logo for all activities, as long as they are informed about them.

Some of the ideas for International Year of Mountains 2002 celebrations and beyond are as follow.

Local

At the local level, educational videos on local mountain culture, exhibitions, essay and painting competitions, mountain festivals, and food festivals can be organised.

National

Most national-level preparations are focused on conferences about issues of regional concern, policy-level forums, and celebrations. National Committees are also committed to taking stock of the past 10 years in terms of policy and implementation of programmes that have helped conserve mountain ecosystems. Several country-level preparations are also focused on creating greater

awareness in schools and educational institutions. Promoting eco-tourism and responsible management of the mountain environment are important issues being addressed.

Regional

To establish cooperative programmes on conservation and transboundary issues, several NGOs are planning regional events. Publishing thematic books, travelling exhibitions, stamp releases, regional conferences, transboundary co-operation programmes, are among the activities proposed.

Global

To review global events and activities, you can bookmark the IYM website <http://www.mountains2002.org>. Those of you who do not have access to internet can get information through email by writing to douglas.mcguire@fao.org and asking to receive updates by email.

There will be several electronic conferences too. So, you can link up while sitting right at your desk. Check out <http://www.mtnforum.org>.

You can follow up on all the events that have taken place and are taking place around the globe by logging in to these websites or receiving emails.

It is a year of celebration. ICIMOD and the Mountain Forum will take lead roles. One mega global event to be held will be the Mountain Women's Agenda meeting in May 2002. You can read

about it in this issue of the ICIMOD Newsletter.

The IYM has longer term implications for mountain countries such as Nepal. Nepal is a mountainous country with almost two-thirds of the land covered by mountains and hills, and the Nepal Himalayas contain the world's highest peak, Mt. Sagarmatha. These mountains are a great attraction for tourists from all over the world. Tourism is the backbone of the economy and one of the largest foreign currency earners. But with the growing numbers of climbers, garbage litters the base camps and the paths to the summits of the world's highest mountains. Although efforts are underway to clean these Himalayan peaks, it is difficult to keep ahead of the task.

Nepal's mountains are also the source of many of the great river systems of South Asia: among them the Kali Gandaki Koshi and Mahakali. But the Himalayan environment is sometimes badly affected by human activities with deforestation and land degradation among the obvious signs. If the Himalayan environment and eco-system are not conserved, not only Nepal but the whole of South Asia will suffer. We must remember this and make efforts to reconcile such issues during IYM.

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Some IYM Events in 2001

May 2001 Month of Mountains

In light of the International Year of Mountains 2002 and the International Year of Ecotourism 2002, the PAITHOM-Institute, in Gullibagh, NWFP, Pakistan, hosted a 'Month of Mountains' programme, which focused on the development perspectives and visions of people living in high mountainous regions. The problems, experiences, and perspectives of mountainous regions - on a national and international basis - were and will be considered in discussions between people living in these regions, experts, consultants, administration, students, and NGOs. A student programme related to this began in April 2001.

May 2001 International Symposium on Marginal Mountain Farms

21-24 May 2001, Kathmandu, Nepal

Organised by ICIMOD, this symposium sought to identify and promote technologies and practices to ensure ecologically stable and economically productive farming of marginal farms. For more information contact:

Dr. Tang Ya, Coordinator of Symposium, Mountain Farming Systems Division, ICIMOD, G.P.O. Box 3226, Kathmandu, Nepal; Tel: 977-1-525313; Fax: 977-1-524509, 536747

e-mail: tangya@ICIMOD.org.np or mfs@ICIMOD.org.np

The Mountain Forum events' calendar has more information about this symposium.

June 2001 IYM 2002 Synthesis Workshop

7-10 June 2001, Abisko Research Station, Northern Lapland, Sweden

To celebrate IYM 2002, The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences invited a selected group of contributors to previous Abisko seminars to sum up and elaborate on the major ideas, highlights, and 'gaps' identified and to identify, in more depth, issues that are particularly urgent to address. Contact: *The Information Unit*, The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, P.O.Box 50005, S-104 05 Stockholm, Sweden; Tel: +46 8 673 95 00;

Fax: +46 8 15 56 70 or Professor Mats Sonesson, Chairman of the Organising Committee;

IYM 2002 Synthesis Workshop, The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, e-mail: Mats.Sonesson@planteco.lu.se

The Mountain Forum events' calendar has more information on this workshop.

June 2001 Human Use Management in Mountain Areas. An international conference, June 10 to 14, 2001 was presented by The Banff Centre for Mountain Culture

Meeting of European National Committees

An important meeting was convened at the European Parliament in Brussels on 19th June by the President of the Italian Committee for the IYM, Luciano Caveri, who is also a Member of the European Parliament. This meeting brought together representatives of the IYM national committees from Austria, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Slovakia, and Slovenia, as well as representatives from Kyrgyzstan and several European and international organizations working on IYM preparations. The purpose was to enhance co-ordination and collaboration and to promote the exchange of information and ideas regarding national and regional initiatives for IYM in Europe. Several members of the recently constituted "Friends of the Mountains" Group within the European Parliament also participated in the meeting. This group intends to continue to pay close attention to mountain themes up to, throughout, and beyond the IYM. Similar regional gatherings of IYM national committee representatives are strongly encouraged.

Meeting of the IY Focus Group

On June 11th, the IYM Focus Group held an important meeting at the Swiss Mission in New York. Eight countries, FAO, UN/DESA, and TMI were represented. During the meeting, Mr. Tim Aldington, recently appointed by FAO as the IYM Launch Coordinator working out of the FAO Liaison Office to the UN in New York, was introduced to the group. The main discussion focused on the structure and organisational aspects of both the formal IYM launch event, scheduled for 11 December 2001, and the related informal activities that will take place throughout the week.

For more information visit the IYM website at www.mountains2002.org or contact the IYM Coordination Unit at FAO: info@mountains2002.org.

July 2001 Xth Workshop of Andean Crops

4-7 July 2001, Jujuy, Argentina

The workshop was organised with the support of the Provincial Government of Jujuy, The National University of Jujuy, and FUNDANDES Foundation and was sponsored by the International Potato Center (CIP), the Consortium for Sustainable Development of the Andean Ecoregion (CONDESAN), and FAO.

The Mountain Forum events calendar has more information on this workshop.

September 2001 International Symposium in Preparation for the International Year of Mountains (IYM2002))

30 September - 4 October 2001, Interlaken, Switzerland

Mountains of the World: Community Development between Subsidy, Subsidiarity and Sustainability

Organised by the Centre for Development and Environment (CDE)

IYM 2002: What Is Going On, What Is Coming Up ?

As the International Year of Mountains approaches, awareness grows about the potential of this global landmark and its possible impact on the evolving livelihood systems of mountain communities and their future. Despite the fact that they were once cradles of civilisation and are currently sites of rich and lively cultural heritage, and despite the key role they play in ecological processes, neglect for mountain regions has characterised the global community this past century.

A marginalised and protracted social and environmental reality is now given the opportunity to make the headlines and make itself known. Worldwide, governments with a stake in these regions, mountain communities, and institutions concerned with these varied environments and their wealth of cultural diversity, are organising themselves to celebrate IYM. The response of the global community to this UN call is already exceeding all expectations.

At present, nearly thirty countries have established IYM National Committees, most of them bringing together the public sector and the civil community. Committees have started organising a vast array of activities: from artistic performances and political gatherings, to platforms on which to offer mountain communities a more equitable access to world markets, and ceremonies to enhance the sacredness of ancient mountain deities. Rapid and regular review of the Mountain Forum's Calendar of Events reflects the dynamism of this process, a process that is currently going well beyond the initial expectations of those who promoted the concept. IYM is gaining momentum: from agreed compensations for mountain services to lowlands to a comprehensive global mountain charter that will give these areas a more equitable stand in the forum of modern nations.

At the UN, a multi-country focus group brings together a leading team of nations committed to the significant success of IYM. Preparations for the official launching of IYM during the UN General Assembly on December 11th include addresses from the UN

Secretary General, FAO's Director General, and several Heads of State. Side events will bring together mountain scholars, community leaders, policy-makers, artists, and other interested citizens from around the globe.

In preparation for IYM, many activities are currently taking place worldwide. During the last meeting of the UN Commission for Sustainable Development (April 2001), the Swiss Mission to the UN co-sponsored, along with eight other countries (Austria, Bhutan, Bolivia, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, and Lesotho), a 'Sustainable Mountain Development' (April 17) side event. Among others, the FAO Unit for IYM and the Mountain Forum Secretariat made presentations. Shortly afterwards, the Peruvian

Committee for IYM organised an 'International Workshop of Mountain Sustainable Development: A Vision for the Future'. This meeting brought together a hundred and fifty participants from over 20 countries. The 'Cusco Declaration on Mountain Sustainable Development' was one of its outcomes.

Since last April, the FAO Unit for IYM has published an informal newsletter to bring people up to date on global activities for the coming year. Equally, the Mountain Forum has a constantly updated 'Calendar of Events' that can be seen at its website (www.mtnforum.org).

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UNESCO's involvement in activities during the INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE MOUNTAINS

(as of 18 July 2001)

Thematic Cluster: Natural Resources and Resource Use

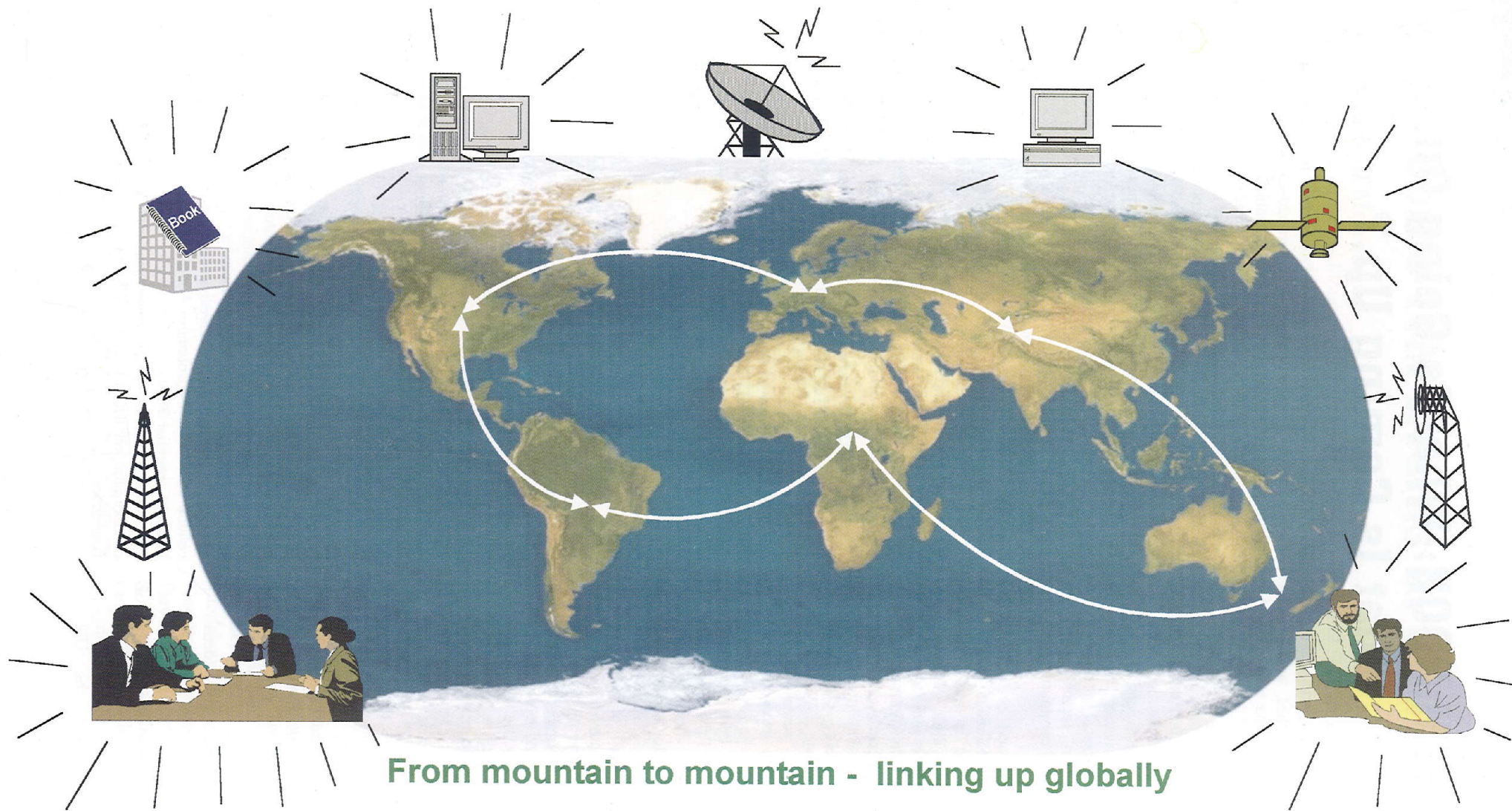
- 1) UNESCO Mountain CD-ROM Atlas and website
Contains information on biosphere reserves and world heritage sites in the mountains, as well as information on projects of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) and the International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP). Being constructed in collaboration with WCMC-UNEP. Available: December 2001
- 2) 'Mountain Research Initiative' of IGBP/IHDP/GTOS
Collaborative links are currently being explored between UNESCO-MAB and the Mountain Research Initiative. Duration: throughout IYM and beyond

Thematic Cluster: Integrated Themes

- 1) International Meeting on 'World Heritage Cities in Mountains and Natural Disasters' - in collaboration with the City of Chambéry (France). Chambéry, June 2002
- 2) International Conference 'World Meeting of Mountain People' in collaboration with ANEM -- Quito (Ecuador), September/October 2002
- 3) 'Bishkek Global Mountain Summit' in collaboration with Kyrgyzstan, UN partners and other institutions (e.g. SDC, Aga Khan Development Network). Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan), October 2002
- 4) Cultural Eco-tourism in the Mountains of Central Asia/Himalayas in collaboration with Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Pakistan, Tadjikistan, and possibly UNU--Duration: 2002 - 2003
- 5) International Mountain Expedition in collaboration with Pakistan, ANEM, Chambéry, Reinhold Messner--Dates, route to be determined.
- 6) Environmental Education on Mountains (Mountain Calendar) in collaboration with the Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation- available: December 2001

Thematic Cluster: Socioeconomic Themes

- 1) UNESCO Thematic Expert Meeting on Asia-Pacific Sacred Mountains--in collaboration with the Japanese Agency for Cultural Affairs--Wakayama City (Japan) September 2001
- 2) Culture-based Environmental Conservation Initiative on Natural Sacred Sites in collaboration with IUCN/WCPA, WWF-International, and Rigoberta Menchú Tum Foundation



ICIMOD Advocating for Marginal Regions and Marginalised Communities in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas

In October 1997, the International Facilitating Committee of the Mountain Forum, which consisted of The International Potato Centre (CIP), The Mountain Institute (TMI), and ICIMOD met at ICIMOD Headquarters in Kathmandu. Khyrgyz participants at the meeting tabled the idea of lobbying the UN for an international year for mountains. In 1998, the Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN)/ICIMOD attended a meeting in Bishkek and at this meeting the lobby was devised. The lobby received enthusiastic support from many quarters and hence led to the declaration of IYM by the UN Secretary General.

ICIMOD is suited to and should take a leadership role during IYM 2002. Recognising the unique opportunity the IYM 2002 offers, ICIMOD has already begun processes of consultation, dialogue, and reflection with various stakeholder institutions in its eight member countries. Key issues and plans have already been identified.

ICIMOD's objective is to undertake specific interventions in the mountain areas of the HKH region to advocate for marginal regions and marginalised communities and to make significant contributions to the lives of the men and women of these areas.

IYM has also been proclaimed the International Year of Ecotourism. These twin themes are significant since ecotourism is a major source of employment and income contributing to transforming mountain areas. The growth of tourism globally and its accompanying impact on mountain areas and cultures offer yet another opportunity to deal with the dilemmas of conservation and development.



Astrid Bjørnsen

The way is steep without a helping hand

Certain opportunities are offered by the convergence of the International Year of the Mountains and the International Year of Ecotourism.

1. A unique opportunity to make a difference to the lives of mountain women and men by pursuing a diversity of programmes and interventions, designed by them, with them, and for them
2. An endorsement of ICIMOD's commitment to marginal areas and marginalised communities through the adoption of a year-long programmatic commitment regionally and/or globally
3. A vital opportunity to address key strategic issues that can lead to systemic and structural changes, the gains from which will accrue way beyond the year itself. Such strategic issues include property rights for women, access and rights to common property resources, interventions in the emergence of new policies and legislation, conflicts and peace in mountain regions, and the rights of ethnic and disadvantaged groups
4. A window through which to pursue rapid formulation and

emergence of appropriate and new mountain policies and legislation since the IYM year will be used to gain access to policy makers through various fora and discussions

5. An opportunity for advocacy and media coverage that will take advantage of the growth of electronic media to improve its ability to advocate and its reach, while also using mainstream media to publicise, address, and challenge stereotypes about mountain people and mountain issues

ICIMOD's preparations for IYM 2002 have included internal dialogue as well as discussions with selected partner organisations in the HKH. The consensus has been that the overarching focus of activities should be on marginal areas and marginalised communities in mountain areas. Thus ICIMOD is prioritising 'Marginal Regions and Communities' as a theme for IYM 2002. Some of the specific activities to be undertaken are described in the following pages.

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Integrating Culture and Sustainable Natural Resource Management Challenges in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas

The United Nations declaration of the year 2002 as the International Year of the Mountains (IYM) offers ICIMOD a unique opportunity to advocate for the cause of mountain people and mountain resources on behalf of its constituency of 150 million women and men in the eight countries of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas. The goal of IYM 2002 is to 'promote the conservation and sustainable development of mountain regions, thereby ensuring the well-being of mountain and lowland communities.' Other objectives are increasing awareness of mountain ecosystems and their importance for both highland and lowland people, defending the cultural heritage of mountain communities, and promoting peace-making in mountain regions. These objectives are to be achieved through methods such as information generation and exchange, raising awareness, and education.

Recognising these opportunities, ICIMOD, the King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation (KMTNC), and The Mountain Institute (TMI) have agreed to create a tripartite consortium for a new regional initiative on mountain culture and natural resource management in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas. All three organisations are known for their commitment to mountain issues and mountain communities. Their collaborative initiative will build on the comparative strengths of each organisation to offer effective and durable outcomes.

- Evolving an operational definition of culture as a tool for identifying strategies to help integrate culture with natural resource management



Traditional log hive and a modern hive (left)

Beekeeping Project

- Undertaking research to produce a bibliography on culture and natural resource management in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas
- Designing and hosting policy level fora to identify interventions that could influence and imbue natural resource policy-making with more appreciation for cultural diversity in mountain regions
- Organising a series of national, sub-national and regional consultations with partner institutions to identify issues and activities for IYM 2002
- Hosting a focused electronic discussion to solicit inputs and ideas for a global audience in the planning phase for IYM 2002
- Establishing linkages and contacts with key mainstream media individuals and institutions and exploring a strategy to improve the media and advocacy impacts of IYM 2002 activities
- Enshrining a strong element of participatory planning for IYM 2002 by building ownership,

seeking relevance, and securing commitments from a diversity of organisations in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region

The following outputs are expected from the planning phase.

1. A detailed proposal for implementation with an action plan and budget covering the preparatory phase and implementation of IYM 2002 activities on Culture and Natural Resource Management
2. A concept paper outlining the framework and operational definition of culture and the relationship to natural resource management
3. Consultation and workshop reports to be disseminated to participants, partners, and other interested groups
4. A bibliography that includes success stories
5. A media advocacy strategy document that will identify media partners and guide the implementation phase

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Regional Programme on Farmers' Rights to Livelihoods in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas

The natural and social capital of the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region is facing new challenges from the complex market forces currently known as liberalisation and globalisation. While open economies and regions are likely to bring new opportunities to spur economic growth and development, these will not occur without accompanying negative aspects. The multilateral agreement on trade liberalisation tabled by the World Trade Organisation (WTO) will definitively impact on the HKH region.

Whatever limited resources mountain communities have at their disposal are being threatened by rich corporations from developed countries. There is already evidence of 'bio-piracy' and this is likely to increase due to the frightening provisions of the WTO's Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement. The patenting of life forms and the imperative to provide protection to plant varieties, either through patents or a home-grown (*sui generis*) system, further limit the rights of farming communities in developing countries, in general, and of small and marginalised mountain farmers in particular. In addition, other WTO agreements, such as the Agreement on Agriculture and Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary Measures and Technical Barriers to Trade, are also likely to pose a serious threat to mountain farmers.

In this context, the South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics, and Environment (SAWTEE), in cooperation with ICIMOD, will carry out a programme to protect the rights of farmers and marginalised communities of the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region. The programme will focus on raising the level of debate on issues of



Pradeep Tulachan

A women selling fresh vegetables in the autonomous region of Ladakh, India

protection and promotion of farmers' rights in the WTO at the level of civil society, national alliance institutions, and policy-makers. In addition, SAWTEE will carry out research on crucial issues and produce a series of clear and easily understandable documents on these issues that will be made available in regional languages as well as in English.

To protect the rights of farmers and marginalised communities the project will focus on the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region. Sri Lanka will also be included, however. Activities during the initial three-year phase will be concentrated in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, with possible replication in other HKH countries. The project's main target group are poor, marginalised, and vulnerable farmers.

The programme has three distinct components.

1. Increasing awareness of parliamentarians and policy-makers about the impact of the WTO agreements on farmers in the HKH region
2. Regularly updating negotiators in WTO negotiations about the issues at stake that could have some bearing on mountain farmers

and communities

3. Using the leverage of the United Nations' declaration of the International Year of Mountains 2002 (IYM) to advocate for policy at national, regional, and international levels that will protect the rights of farmers in mountain regions

The project will also carry out review and analysis of international policies, rules, and regulations pertaining to the protection of farmers' rights.

Each SAWTEE country will have its own programme implemented by member organisations in the country. These are the Bangladesh Environment Lawyers Association (BELA) in Bangladesh; the Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS) in India; the Forum for Protection of Public Interest (Pro Public) in Nepal; the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in Pakistan; and the Law and Society Trust (LST) in Sri Lanka. The overall project will be co-ordinated by the SAWTEE Secretariat in co-operation with ICIMOD.

On 12-13 July 2001, participating organisations gathered in Kathmandu for a workshop that formally launched the programme.

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Celebrating Mountain Women

Mountain women often appear more independent and have traditionally been afforded more freedom of movement, independent decision-making, and higher status than women in the lowlands. However, instead of celebrating this higher status, and its benefits to the community at large, the current social and economic integration of mountain areas into nation states is rapidly eroding their status. Unfortunately, women all over the world suffer from many common prejudices and mountain women are no exception.

Although mountain women are the main producers of food crops and managers of common property resources, there are many impediments to their equitable access to resources such as land and credit. Moreover, despite their predominant role in production systems in the mountains, there is little understanding and appreciation of their contributions to the community, and gender relations in the mountain regions remain unbalanced. In order to challenge this current trend, mountain women's voices need to be



Courtesy of Aoiva webpage

heard and incorporated into the various policies and programmes. New development approaches based on respecting the rights and needs of all peoples need to be initiated.

The United Nations, as a leading development agency, has declared 2002 as the International Year of Mountains (IYM) with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as the lead agency. This provides us with a unique opportunity to address

the various needs of mountain people and highlight their realities in the international forum. Most importantly, it will give mountain women a chance to voice their concerns on different issues, develop their ideas and promote their interests. In this context, a Steering Committee* was established to put mountain women on the agenda and to organise a global conference with the help of ICIMOD and the Mountain Forum. To do this, a Secretariat was established at ICIMOD, 'Celebrating Mountain Women' (CMW), to launch a long-term programme for mountain women starting with the international conference. This conference is a **chance to celebrate the drive, spirit and diversity of mountain women everywhere.** The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) funded the Planning Meeting, which was held in May 2001 in Kathmandu. Financial support for the conference has also been committed by IFAD, the Japanese Government Overseas Development Agency (ODA), and the United Nations Development Fund for Women, South Asia (UNIFEM, ROSA). However, although preparations are advanced, further support will be needed if the conference is indeed to become a reality.

Press Release, "Kathmandu, May 11 - 2001

Twenty women from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin and North America concluded a three-day meeting during which they finalised a plan of action for a mountain women's agenda.

The meeting proposed an international gathering in May 2002 to be held in Kathmandu, bringing together almost 300 participants, including mountain women, NGOs, mountain entrepreneurs, re-searchers, parliamentarians, senior government officials, funding agencies and media representatives.

Participants from about 70 countries representing the world's major mountain ranges, especially the marginalised communities, are expected to attend the meeting. The focus of the meeting will be to show the strength and commitment of mountain women in making a positive contribution to local and national economies. Towards this, discussions, activities, and events will highlight and showcase practical aspects of mountain life - their stories, songs, dances, foods, crafts, textiles, traditional knowledge, and efforts to make constructive change.

The meeting will also address the issues of concern such as legal and political rights, health and well-being, conservation of traditional wisdom and natural resources, women's labour, and opportunities for entrepreneurship.

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development and the Mountain Forum are organising the May 2002 event, planned as part of the UN declared International Year of Mountains. The decision to hold this event was made at a meeting of the Mountain Forum Council in Cusco, Peru, in 2000.

As a forerunner for the May meeting, a curtain raiser is being planned on March 8, International Women's Day.

*Steering Committee Members

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Pradeep Tulachan

Mountain women performing a traditional dance during a tourist festival, the autonomous region of Ladakh, India

The conference will try to facilitate much-needed face-to-face interactions by bringing together indigenous women, donor agencies, policy makers and planners, entrepreneurs, and researchers to share the problems and progress of mountain women. It will provide a new beginning through interaction, participation, and expression. It will give mountain women a forum through which to articulate their concerns and share experiences and ideas about the future of mountain livelihoods and cultures. Such a gathering will enable the mountain women's networks to not only grow and strengthen as agents of change, but also to make a significant contribution to policies and practices that empower mountain women and their communities.

The first-of-its-kind global celebration of mountain women will focus on empowerment through innovation and entrepreneurship. It is unique in that it will facilitate face-to-face interaction of various actors in the development sectors that do not normally come together. The activities planned will put mountain women centre stage, mainstream their reality into the IYM discussions and Rio+10, and enable a major paradigm shift.

During the planning meeting of CMW, which was held in Kathmandu from May 8-10, 2001 (see press release), the organising committee elected women representing various parts of the world to form the Steering Committee (SC). These members will have an instrumental role in planning and organising the upcoming events. They will advise, guide, support, assist, and inform the Secretariat staff throughout the year. In addition, the SC members will organise regional meetings in their respective regions.

During the planning meeting the committee also proposed five theme areas around which activities will be planned. These theme areas include Natural Resources; and Environment; Health and Well Being; Entrepreneurship; Legal, Political and Human Rights; and Culture and Indigenous Knowledge. These themes will be highlighted in the framework of research, policy, and practices through various presentations, songs, stories, theatre, videos, and so on.

A strategic media plan is being developed to increase and improve public awareness through coverage of mountain women's issues and of the events being planned; it will include electronic networking and e-

conferences. A series of specific preparatory activities will ensure appropriate dissemination and coverage of the event: viz. identifying mountain women's groups and networks; documenting mountain women's initiatives, organising regional meetings between mountain women and policy-makers, building interactive databases, and locating mountain women's cultural resources such as songs, crafts, films, videos, and stories. Throughout the conference, a bazaar of mountain women's products will be held. Stalls will be available for those wishing to participate.

It is envisioned that a gathering on an international scale like this one will help change the prevailing perceptions of mountain women. It will help create new coalitions, networks, and partnerships of women to influence policies and encourage mountain women and others to celebrate their champions, and give voice to their issues related to the future of mountain livelihoods and cultures. Finally, the role of women as agents of change and peacemakers in conflict in mountain areas will gain significance.

Ojaswi Josse, ICIMOD
ojaswi@icimod.org.np

The Mountain Institute

The Mountain Institute (TMI) is an international non-government organisation, based in the Appalachian mountains of the USA, devoted exclusively to addressing the unique needs of conservation and equitable development in mountain communities throughout the world. TMI measures itself by the impact it has in three areas:

- conserving high priority mountain ecosystems;
- improving environmentally and culturally sustainable livelihoods for mountain communities; and
- increasing understanding and support for mountain conservation, community, and culture through education, advocacy, and outreach.

TMI implements programmes in the oldest, longest, and highest of the world's mountain ranges - the Appalachians, Andes, and Himalayas - as well as through global initiatives such as the Mountain Forum, Sacred Mountains, and Sustainable Mountain Living Systems. Through its community-based conservation and development approach, TMI seeks to empower communities living in some of the world's most remote and rugged regions to protect their environment while improving their livelihoods.

In the Andes mountain range of South America, TMI is building bridges to link community assets,



Forming a porters' association in Makalu Barun, Nepal

Ang Rita Sherpa

the private sector, government entities and non-profit organizations, to achieve common conservation and sustainable development objectives. In the Appalachian mountains of North America, TMI seeks to increase capacity to appreciate and conserve ecosystems in one of the oldest mountain ranges in the world through school programmes, teacher training, conservation projects, and scientific research. In the Himalayan range of Asia, TMI is implementing conservation and development projects in and around protected areas, developing conservation-linked entrepreneurial skills of local people, and promoting conservation activities

across borders in the eastern Himalayas.

As a founding member of the Mountain Forum, and as a leading mountain advocacy organisation, TMI is also actively involved in the International Year of Mountains 2002. Some currently planned activities include:

- coordination of all the informal events and activities related to the launching of IYM at the UN in New York, December 11-12, 2001;
- maintaining the electronic calendar of events related to celebration of IYM throughout 2002;
- providing a steering committee member for 'Celebrating Mountain Women - A Global Meeting' in IYM; and
- contributing a chapter on mountain sustainability for the World Bank's World Development Report 2002 on Sustainability.

For more information about TMI contact:

The Mountain Institute
Asian Regional Office
P.O. Box 2785, Tangal
Kathmandu,

The Mountain Institute in the Himalayas

Starting in the mid-1980s, TMI now has an active presence in the Himalayas from Ladakh in north-western India through the Tibet Autonomous Region in China to Makalu-Barun in eastern Nepal and Sikkim in north-eastern India.

Recent Key Activities and Achievements

- Supporting, planning, and operation of Makalu-Barun National Park (Nepal) and Qomolangma Nature Preserve (TAR, China) to conserve 39,000 sq.km around Mount Everest
- Skills development of over 3,000 people in conservation-linked enterprise development in China, Nepal, and India and other countries in Asia
- Provided training and learning opportunities to 150 professionals, practitioners, and leaders in mountain conservation, economic development and education.

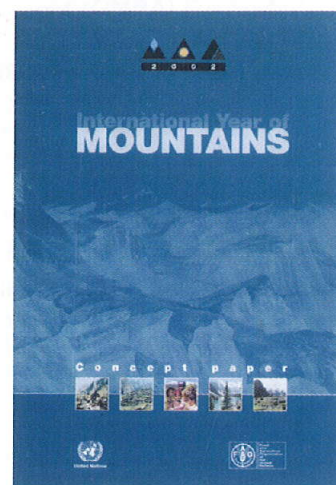
Resource Material for the International Year of Mountains (IYM)

Below and on the following pages you can find some useful information, addresses, and links to help anyone who wants to know more or who is thinking of developing their own IYM activities.

FAO Concept Paper on the 'International Year of Mountains' (FAO 2000, 28 pp)

This strategy paper serves as a guideline for IYM preparation and implementation. It provides general guidelines and a framework for all institutions and individuals involved in mountain-related issues and in IYM preparations. It includes an overview of mountains and the concept of sustainable development; an introduction to Chapter 13 and the call for the IYM; a summary of the IYM objectives, the means to achieve them, and the general guidelines for implementation of international years; an introduction to the key players and networks involved in mountain-related issues and IYM preparations; a description and lists of the thematic clusters and methods and means of implementation drawn up for the IYM, together with some suggestions on setting priorities; a chart of the characteristics and setting up process of the Italian Committee for the IYM, provided as an example for other countries; and a vision of projected IYM outputs. Funding issues, which will be essential for the success of IYM, are also considered.

The Concept Paper is available from the IYM Coordination Unit, FAO, Room D-485, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy; email: info@mountains2002.org



Websites Related to IYM

Official IYM website

<http://www.mountains2002.org>

IYM Informal Newsletters

<http://www.mtnforum.org/resources/library/iymna00a.htm>

A regular series of informal monthly newsletters on preparations for the International Year of Mountains 2002 (IYM), prepared by the IYM Coordination Unit at FAO, the UN lead agency responsible for coordinating the IYM.

ICIMOD Website's IYM section

http://www.icimod.org/iym2002/iym_menu.htm

IYM-related Events

<http://www.mtnforum.org/calendar/calendar.htm>

IYM related events worldwide, up to December 2002, are listed on the Mountain Forum's Calendar of events

The Centre for Development and Environment (CDE)

<http://www.cde.unibe.ch>

CDE, Institute of Geography, University of Berne, has an operational focus on Nepal and India, the Andean mountains of Columbia and Bolivia, and the

Central Asian mountain region. It publishes the international journal 'Mountain Research and Development' (MRD) as part of a global programme. The working group 'Mountain Agenda', which is co-ordinated by CDE, works with mountain institutions on all continents, including North America and Australia.

International Conference of Mountain Children 2001

<http://www.mymountains.org/icmc/>

It is time to give children a voice, to give them a role, to let them determine their own future and shape the world in which they grow up. The International Conference of Mountain Children will do just that. A curtain raiser for the International Year of Mountains (IYM) 2002, and hosted by Uttaranchal the world's

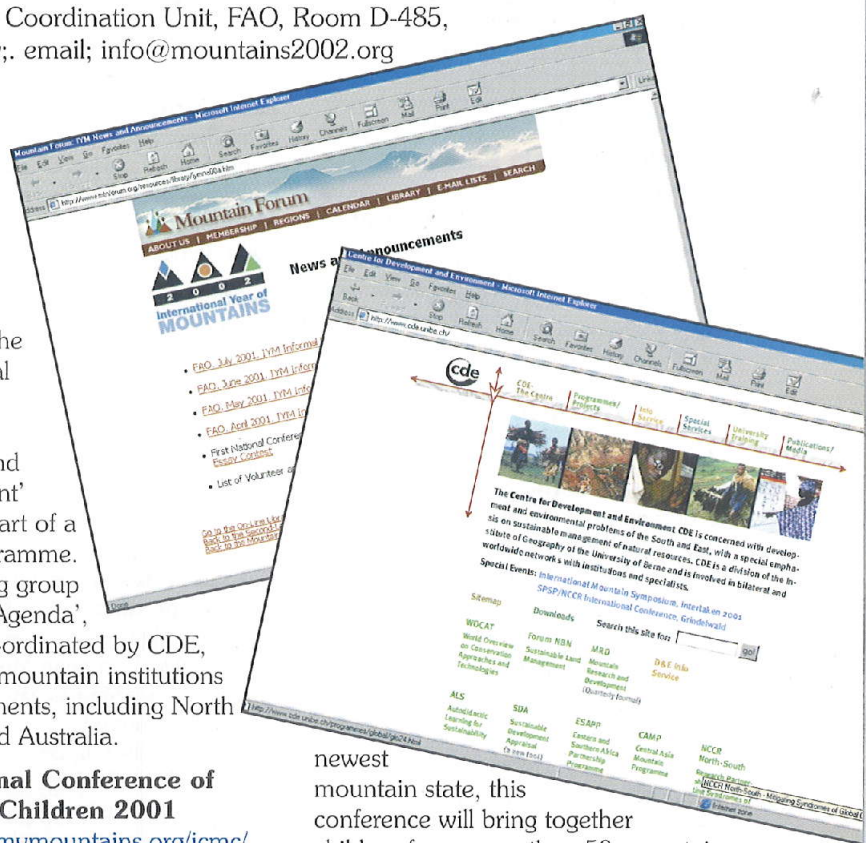
newest mountain state, this conference will bring together children from more than 50 mountain countries

2002 International Year of Ecotourism

<http://www.world-tourism.org/sustainable/IYE-Main-Menu.htm>

UNU Project on Sustainable Mountain Development

<http://www.unu.edu/env/mountains/index.htm>



Mountain Networks

Source: www.mtnforum.org

AFRICA

African Node of the Mountain Forum

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MF-AFRICA, Mountain Forum
Moderator, mfmmod@mtnforum.org

African Mountains Association

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Secretary General, African Mountains
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epa@padis.gn.apc.org

African Mountain Protected Areas Network

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Constantia, Cape Town 7800, South
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Fax: +27 21 930 23 08
blignaut@icon.co.za

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ASIA PACIFIC

Asia Pacific Mountain Forum and Asia Pacific Mountain Network

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<http://www.mtnforum.org/apmn>

Asian Indigenous Women's Network

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Association of District Development Committees of Nepal (ADDCN)

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Australian Institute of Alpine Studies

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<http://www.environment.gov.au/bg/alpine/aia/home.html>

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International Association for Ladakh Studies (IALS)

John Bray, Hon. Secretary, 55B
Central Hill, London SE19 1BS UK
miyoko@jblon.win-uk.net
<http://ibm.rhrz.uni-bonn.de:80/~upp701/IALShome.html>

NepalNet: Electronic networking for sustainable development in Nepal

NepalNet, Nepal Internet Users Group
GPO Box: 20754, Kathmandu, Nepal
info@niug.wlink.com.np
<http://www.panasia.org.sg/nepalnet>

EUROPE

European Mountain Forum and MF-Europe discussion list

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Alpenforum

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Alpnet

Prof. Georg Grabherr, Department of
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Biology, Institute of Plant Physiology,
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Caucasian Mountain Network and Caucasian Mountain Forum

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Central/Western Middle European Mountain Forum

(Massif Central, Vosges, Harz, Black
Forest, French Jura, Swiss Jura, Polish
Sudeten, Czech Sudeten)
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Central/Western Middle European Mountain Forum (French Jura)

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Central/Western Middle European Mountain Forum (Czech Sudeten)

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CIAPP

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LATIN AMERICA

InfoAndina, Information arm of the Consortium for the Sustainable Development of the Andean Ecoregion (CONDESAN) and the Latin American node of the Mountain Forum.

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<http://www.condesan.org/infoandina/infoandina2.htm>

MF-DISCUSS Mountain Forum
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Andean Mountains Association (AMA)

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fsarmien@arches.uga.edu
<http://www.uga.edu/clacs/Quito.html>

Comité Gestión Integral del Agua en Bolivia (CGIAB)

Juan Carlos Alurralde, AIDAA - Foro de Agua, Hans Greter 1570, Cochabamba, Bolivia
oso@cgiac.org
www.aguabolivia.org

Grupo Chorlavi (Chile)

Irene Visser
ivisser@ctcinternet.cl
<http://www.chorlavi.cl>

Red de los Andes Centrales-Peru

Jorge Recharte, Instituto de Montaña, Apartado 01, Huaraz, Peru
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Red Agroforestal Ecuatoriana (RAFE)

Contact: Juan Carlos Romero National Co-ordinator of RAFE
Tel/Fax +593-2-227977
rafe@dfpafao.org.ec

Red Ecorregional para America Latina. CIAT-REDECO (Cali, Colombia)

Liliana Rojas, CIAT
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<http://www.redeco.org>

NORTH AMERICA

MF-NAMERICA e-mail list (North American mountain issues)

Mountain Forum Moderator
mfmmod@mtnforum.org

North American Mountain Forum (in the formation process)

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friend@mnsu.edu, www.aag.org
<http://www.mnsu.edu/dept/geog/Friend.html>

Rocky Mountain Institute

RMI, 1739 Snowmass Creek Road, Snowmass, Colorado 81654-9199 USA
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rjacobs@rmi.org, <http://www.rmi.org>

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The Banff Centre for Mountain Culture

Banff CMC, Box 1020, Station 38, 107 Tunnel Mountain Drive, Banff, Alberta T0L 0C0, Canada
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Fax: +403 762 6277
CMC@BanffCentre.AB.CA
<http://www.banffcentre.ab.ca/CMC>

FAO Mountain Programme and FAO Inter-agency Task Force on Agenda 21, Chapter 13

FAO Mountain Programme, Forestry Resources Division, FAO Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00100 Rome Italy
Tel: +396 57055978
Fax: +396 57055978

mountains@fao.org
<http://www.fao.org/waicent/faoinfo/forestry/Mountain/MNTPAG3.HTM>

Global Mountain Biodiversity

Assessment (GMBA) Eva Spehn, GMBA Secretariat, Institute of Botany, University of Basel, Schönbeinstr. 6 4056 Basel, Switzerland
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Fax: +41 61 267 35 04
gmba@ubaclu.unibas.ch
<http://www.unibas.ch/gmba>

International Geographical Union, Study Group on Diversity in Mountain Systems

Prof. Dr. Jörg Stadelbauer, Institut für Kulturgeographie, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität, D-79085, Universität Freiburg i. Br., Germany
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stadel@uni-freiburg.de

International Mountain Society and Mountain Research and Development Journal

CDE - Centre for Development and Environment, Hallerstrasse 12, 3012 Berne, Switzerland
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Fax: +41 31 631 85 44
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www.cde.unibe.ch

International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO) Mountain Network

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Fax: +41 81 4170 110
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Mountain Protected Areas Network

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Centre News

ICIMOD Wins President's Award at ESRI'S 2001 User Conference



The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) was awarded the prestigious ESRI President's Award on July 9, 2001 amidst an audience of 10,500 of the world's geographers and GIS professionals in the 2001 Environmental Systems Research Institute Inc. (ESRI) Users' Conference. Jack Dangermond, President of ESRI, personally selected ICIMOD and its partners in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region to receive this award. He said "I've had the opportunity to visit the Himalayan mountains and am very impressed with the work ICIMOD has done with GIS capacity building for mountain communities."

Dr. J. Gabriel Campbell, Director General of ICIMOD,

Basanta Shrestha, Acting Division Head of MENRIS and their collaborating partners from Lhasa and Thimpu accepted the award dressed in their traditional national dress. Campbell said, "We are extremely grateful for the support we have received from the world's leaders in GIS. ESRI has generously enabled us to bring state-of-the-art technology to this remote and spectacular region of the world to improve planning." In his thank you speech Shrestha said "The

continuing support from ESRI has been invaluable and one of the key factors of our success in disseminating GIS technology throughout the mountain region".

ICIMOD's substantial work, research, and dedication to GIS training and education in the last decade is reflected in this award. ICIMOD focuses on building capacities and has succeeded in strengthening the capacity of more than 80 institutions and active



Receiving the award, left ICIMOD's Director General, Dr. J. Gabriel Campbell, centre Basanta Shrestha, right Jack Dangermond.



GIS in the Hindu-Kush Himalayan Region

(International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development)



Exhibition

partners in seven countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan) of the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region. As the GIS community has grown, ICIMOD's training of universities and research organisations has also increased. ICIMOD's introduction of GIS tools throughout the remote mountain region has been very successful and has been instrumental in training more than 800 GIS professionals. Many of them are now themselves responsible for training thousands of other GIS users and policy-makers in the region. All of these developments have contributed towards evolving useful GIS applications for solving real-life problems. One of the key factors in the success of the dissemination network has been the strategic alliance with ESRI, which was established at the inception of MENRIS more than a decade ago, and which has contributed invaluable and continuing support through the provision of software and technical know-how.

The President's Award is one which is passed from year-to-year to the next recipient. ICIMOD is now the third

international recipient of the President's Award. In 2000 it was awarded to a Hong Kong based company and the year before Qatar received the award.

By special invitation, ICIMOD also participated in the conference and exhibited under the banner 'GIS in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region'. Posters were displayed on various themes such as Mountain Disaster Management, Mountain Land Use and Land Cover, Mountain Natural Resources Management, Mountain Infrastructure Planning, Mountain Agriculture Planning, and Mountain Natural Resource Management. CDs and reports of GIS work carried out by ICIMOD as well as the other publications of the Centre were also displayed as were cultural and tourism-related items. The display succeeded in drawing the attention of large crowds and there was good interaction with GIS communities around the world. The forum has provided us with a good opportunity to make ICIMOD's GIS activities known to the outside world.

N. S. JODHA

In a communication dated February 20, 2001, from Walter Truett Anderson, the President of the World Academy of Art and Science, Dr. N. S. Jodha was recognised as a Fellow of the World Academy of Art and Science. The Academy's Fellows are chosen for eminence in arts, the natural and social sciences, and humanities and are mandated by the Academy's founders to explore 'the social consequences and policy implications of knowledge'.

Let us congratulate Dr. Jodha. This is an honour for ICIMOD, as the ideas and insights recognised by the Board of Trustees of the Academy sprouted and flourished during Dr. Jodha's time at ICIMOD.



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Dr. J. Gabriel Campbell

(Ex-officio Member)
Director General
ICIMOD

VISITORS

Visit from a Nobel Laureate



Dr. P. Crutzen, Nobel Laureate

An interaction on 'Atmospheric Pollution and Its Effects' was held on 23 March 2001 at the Hotel Yak and Yeti. The distinguished Nobel Laureate, Paul Crutzen gave a talk on 'The Impact of Biomass Burning in the Tropics and Subtropics on the Chemistry of the Atmosphere, Regionally and Globally.' This was followed by a presentation on 'Global Atmospheric Pollution and Effects, with particular focus on South Asia' by Professor V. Ramanathan.

The function was attended by participants from many government, non-government, donor, and other organisations. Following the lectures there was a lively discussion on the 'Asian Brown cloud' and its impacts on other parts of the globe.



Prof. V. Ramanathan

Jack Dangermond Visit

Mr. Jack Dangermond, Founder and President of Environmental Systems Research Institute Inc. (ESRI), visited Kathmandu from 16-21 April 2001. During his visit he visited the MENRIS division of ICIMOD. Mr Dangermond was impressed with the work output and committed his help to ICIMOD in the future. He also invited ICIMOD to exhibit at the ESRI Conference in July in San Diego.



Jack Dangermond and his wife meet the Director General

Visit of UNEP's Executive Director

The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Dr. Klaus Töpfer, visited Nepal from 24 to 27 March 2001. He was received at the airport by the Secretary of the Ministry of Population and Environment and Mr. Henning Karcher, Resident Representative

United Nations Development Programme During his visit, Dr. Töpfer met with the Heads of WWF, IUCN, UNDP, KMTNC and SAARC. He also called upon the Prime Minister, Forest Minister, Finance Minister, and the Foreign Minister. During his meetings he was accompanied by Mr. Surendra Shrestha, Regional Coordinator of UNEP, Bangkok, and Mr. Basanta Shrestha, Acting Division Head of MENRIS.

On 25 March he visited ICIMOD and was briefed on the MENRIS facility and taken for a tour of the ICIMOD Test and Demonstration Site in Godavari by the Director General and other colleagues.



Left to Right: Dr. Klaus Töpfer (ED), Mr. Surendra Shrestha, Mr. Tim Higham, UNEP

Launching of the Nepal SoE Report

On 26 March, the report 'Nepal: State of the Environment 2001' was launched by Dr. Klaus Töpfer, United Nations Under Secretary General and the Executive Director of UNEP - United Nations Environment Programme - in front of over 200 dignitaries, representing government, non-government and international agencies and universities, at the Soaltee Hotel.

The State of the Environment (SoE) report for Nepal, prepared under the SEAMCAP project - Strengthening Environmental Assessment and Monitoring Capabilities in South Asia and the Greater Mekong Subregion - was produced jointly by the Ministry of Population and Environment, the United Nations Environment Programme/ Environmental Assessment Programme for Asia and the Pacific, SACEP - South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme, and ICIMOD. This report, prepared in coordination with government, non-government, and private sectors working in different environmental fields, is one of nine national reports for the SEAMCAP regional countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka in South Asia and Laos and Vietnam in the Greater Mekong Subregion. The report will contribute to the 'Preparation of the Global State of the Environment Report 2002', which UNEP is mandated to produce.



Dr. Töpfer with 'Nepal: State of the Environment 2001'

Dr. Töpfer was very impressed by the work being conducted through the SEAMCAP and MALE project and announced that UNEP will be opening an office in Kathmandu in 2001 to coordinate air pollution research.

The Third Quinquennial Review

Despite the sad events that gripped Nepal on June 1st 2001 and in the aftermath, ICIMOD's Quinquennial Review went ahead. The centre has reason to be grateful to its reviewers for undertaking their task in difficult circumstances but with a commitment and thoroughness of which both they and the Centre can be proud.

The members of the review team were Dr. Mohan Man Sainju (Team Leader), Dr. Uwe Kievelitz (Report Coordinator), Professor Li Wenhua (Member), Mr. Ivar Jorgensen (Member) and Ms. Bharti Gupta Ramola (Member). Coming from different nations and different disciplines, the team concluded a comprehensive evaluation over the course of a month which included field visits in the HKH region.

In brief, the team found that ICIMOD had achieved significant impact in a number of areas. Most importantly it had "infused a mountain perspective into the work of many of its more than 200 partner organisations in the region and by capacity building of 6,000 participants in 280 training workshops and programmes". The team mentioned specific highlights of the different areas of work at ICIMOD as commendable achievements, at the same time pointing out the structural weaknesses that remain. The Centre was urged to pay direct attention to programme monitoring and evaluation to ensure an impact in its two key areas, poverty alleviation in mountain areas and conservation of natural resources. Increased integration of programmes was strongly recommended.

The review team acknowledged the role of ICIMOD in preparing and disseminating mountain-specific knowledge in a policy relevant manner, its advisory capacity, and promoting the use of knowledge gathered in its member countries.

Other recommendations include establishment of a Trust Fund, strategic focus of thematic and regional priorities, a sound PME system, strategic networking and partnerships, and an 'innovative, electronically-based, knowledge-sharing network that can push the region into the 21st century.' Finally, the QQR recommended aligning internal structures to priorities through an organisational development process.

To quote Charles Dickens, "It was the best of times and it was the worst of times." In times to come, the Centre will be able to look back on receiving a fair and insightful evaluation of its work and guidance for the future during the worst of times for its host nation.

Many thanks to the review team who lived through it with us and worked with sincere and industrious commitment. This Review will be presented to the Board of Governors and ICIMOD Support Group for their consideration at the forthcoming meetings in Thimpu, Bhutan in the first week of December.

Around and About ICIMOD

Flood Forecasting in the Hindu Kush - Himalayan Region

A major regional initiative

Organised by ICIMOD in conjunction with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and co-hosted by the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology of His Majesty's Government of Nepal, this meeting was sponsored by the US State Department's Environment Diplomacy Fund, US Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), and Danish International Development Assistance (DANIDA). There were 58 participants from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Nepal, and Pakistan, as well as international experts on floods and flood forecasting at the meeting. On May 15, all took part in a field excursion to Kodari (Nepal-China Border) to witness the impact of floods on the ground.

Suresh Raj Chalise, chalise@icimod.org.np
Mandira Shrestha, mshrestha@icimod.org.np



Open air briefing on flood forecasting

Flood Forecasting: Headline News

Press Report The Kathmandu Post (May 16, 2001)

With a vision that timely forecasting of floods can save lives and property, experts from the Hindu-Kush Himalayan region and various international organisations have converged here for a consultative meeting on developing a framework for flood forecasting in the region.

Minister for Science and Technology Surendra Prasad Chaudhary on Wednesday opened the four-day meeting attended by experts from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Nepal and Pakistan. The meeting is jointly organised by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), and the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), and supported by HMG's Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM).

"The 1993 flood disaster in Nepal claimed more than 1,300 lives and caused enormous damage to property and infrastructure," Chaudhary said. "It has taught us a painful lesson on why timely flood warning systems should also be in place on some of the major rivers in order to save lives and property and avoid disasters." Dr Adarsha Pokharel, Director General of the DHM, spoke of the urgent need to carry out extensive research for enhanced data acquisition and management, analysis, and plausible interpretations of hydro-meteorological data on the basis of which flood forecasting is done. ICIMOD Director General Dr J Gabriel Campbell, New Delhi-based UNESCO Director MS Alam, and other experts also emphasized the need for an effective flood forecasting mechanism in the region.

Flash floods and landslides routinely leave trails of destruction in the region every year. In Nepal, floods and landslides are considered as the second biggest killer after epidemics, with the average annual toll standing at 350. Between 1983 and 2000, at least 2,300 livestock and more than 6,700 houses and 4,760 hectares of arable lands have been damaged by landslides and avalanches, according to data made available by the Home Ministry.

Hindu Kush-Himalayan FRIEND

1. HKH-FRIEND/ICSI Workshop on Snow and Glacier Mass Balance Manual Development

A Workshop on Snow and Glacier Mass Balance Manual Development was organised by the Snow and Glacier Group of HKH-FRIEND in collaboration with the International Commission on Snow and Ice (ICSI) from 20-24 March 2001 at the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Kathmandu, Nepal. Financial support for this workshop was received from UNESCO/IHP, and ICIMOD. The major objectives of the workshop were to finalise the table of contents of the manual for training on Snow and Glacier Mass Balance Measurements/Studies in the HKH region and to assign responsibilities to the participants to prepare the manual. It was attended by 21 participants from Austria, Canada, China, India, Japan, Nepal, USA, UNESCO, and ICIMOD and included experts from ICSI and the HKH-FRIEND Snow and Glacier Group. The participants included Prof. H.G. Jones, President-Elect, and Dr. G. Kaser, Secretary of ICSI. Mr. A.P. Pokhrel, Director General, Department of Hydrology and Meteorology of HMG-Nepal is the Coordinator of the Snow and Glacier Group of HKH-FRIEND. The workshop programme included a field visit to the headwater regions of snowfed rivers of Nepal, and included one at Kodari, on the Border of Nepal and the Tibet Autonomous Region of China.

The Workshop provided a good opportunity to the participants from the region and outside to review modern and conventional methods of glacier mass balance measurement and decide on a future course of action for identifying glaciers for monitoring mass balance measurements in the HKH region, preparing a training manual, and organising training, all according to standards set at the meeting.

The Department of Science and Technology, Government of India (funding agency for the Indian Glaciology Programme), has assured the School of Environmental Sciences, Jawahar Lal Nehru University, New Delhi, of funds for the proposed ICSI training programme in October 2002.

2. HKH-FRIEND Surface/River Water Quality Training Workshop

A Training Workshop on HKH-FRIEND Surface/River Water Quality was held in Islamabad, Pakistan, from May 21 to 26, 2001. The training was organised by the Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR) on behalf of HKH-FRIEND/River Water Quality Group. Prof. Dr. M. F. Bari, BUET, Bangladesh, the group coordinator of the HKH-FRIEND/River Water Quality group is coordinating this. Financial support for the training was received from UNESCO/IHP, New Delhi, and the German IHP/OHP National Committee-Federal Institute of Hydrology, Koblenz, Germany. The participants were from Bangladesh, India, Germany, Nepal, and Pakistan.

Prof. Suresh Raj Chalise, chalise@icimod.org.np

National Workshop on Wind Energy

A two-day National Workshop on Wind Energy was organised by the Ministry of Science and Technology, ICIMOD, and ITDG Nepal on the 7th and 8th of March 2001 with the twin objectives of sharing the Sri Lankan experience of 200-watt, small windmills developed by ITDG and developing a national course of action for the development of wind energy in Nepal.

A 6-member task force (including the Renewable Energy Specialist, ICIMOD) was formed to set priorities and bring into effect the recommendations prepared by the participants. The task force made the following recommendations.

- Publish proceedings of the workshop
- Select sites and run pilot projects on small-scale wind energy plus wind pumping
- Conduct wind mapping in most potential areas
- Prepare guidelines for private sector participation in wind energy development
- Develop a methodology for data generation and analysis
- Document Nepalese experience and experiences of Bihar/Gujarat in India on wind pumping and of Mongolia on wind energy through field visits by a team
- Conduct a National Workshop on Wind Energy in 2002 to discuss the experiences from 2001 and plan further
- Form a Coordination Committee under the Ministry of Science and Technology to facilitate coordination and follow up on planned activities

Kamal Rijal, krijal@icimod.org.np

National Dissemination Seminar of the Asian Regional Research Programme on Energy, Environment and Climate

The National Dissemination Seminar of the Asian Regional Research Programme on Energy, Environment and Climate jointly organised by the Asian Institute of Technology, AIT, and the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, ICIMOD, was held on 9 February 2001 at the Himalayan Hotel. Representatives from AIT, Dr. Ram M. Shrestha, Dr. Rabin Shrestha, and Professor S. C. Bhattacharya, and from SIDA, held technical Sessions on 'Assessment of Energy Efficient Options for Mitigating Emission of Greenhouse Gases from the Electrical Sector' and 'Study of Biomass as an Energy Source and Technical Options for Greenhouse Gases' Emission Reduction'.

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ICIMOD Mission to the IFAD Project in North East India

Four ICIMOD staff, Dr. T. S. Papola, Dr. Kamal Rijal, Dr. Pradeep Tulachan, and Ms. Atsuko Toda visited Assam and Meghalaya from 9-23 February 2001 on a Fact Finding Mission to provide implementation support to IFAD's North East Region Community Resource Management Project (NERCRMP). The team travelled to villages in four districts in Assam and Meghalaya and detailed discussions and interaction with villagers and project officials in the field as well as at the project headquarters and at relevant institutions and agencies in the region led to identifying several activities for collaborative implementation. These activities include action-oriented diagnostic studies, exchange visits, action research, feasibility studies, documentation of best practices, training, consultation, and advisory services in the areas of farm production and productivity with a focus on improving shifting cultivation practices, enterprise development and marketing, renewable energy and rural technologies, GIS, risk engineering, and development communications. Follow-up on the mission's recommendations has already been initiated with a visit of the Project Management Team to ICIMOD and some project sites in Nepal during March 2001.

Atsuko Toda, atoda@icimod.org.np

Geomatic and Space Science Workshop

A Geomatic and Space Science Workshop was jointly organised by the Ministry of Science and Technology, National Remote Sensing Academy, India, and ICIMOD in Kathmandu on 19 April 2001. It was attended by around 200 participants from Nepal and India. An exhibition on GIS/RS related themes was also organised and there were 15 exhibitors. The Workshop was presided over by the Honourable Minister for Science and Technology, Mr. Surendra Prasad Chaudary. Mr. Jack Dangermond, Founder and President of ESRI, gave the keynote address.

Basanta Shrestha, basanta@icimod.org.np

NEW VIDEO Warning Signals from the Apple Valleys

A film by Uma Partap

This video, shot in apple valleys in Himachal Pradesh (India), the Northern Areas and Balochistan Province of Pakistan, and Maoxian county of China, highlights the pollination problems faced by apple farmers (and farmers of other crops) in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region. The importance of apples in the economy of mountain areas is shown, together with the problem of declining apple productivity due to inadequate pollination. Excellent shots illustrate the major causes: insufficient pollinisers (trees), lack of pollinating insects, and bad weather conditions (climate change). The film shows how some farmers manage apple pollination -- large-scale use of polliniser bouquets to increase the proportion of pollinisers and use of honeybees as pollinating insects in Himachal Pradesh, India, and hand pollination in Maoxian county China.

Playing time: 31 minutes 7 seconds; VHS

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ICIMOD's Beekeeping Programme in Jumla

The project continued with its efforts to raise awareness about the importance of conserving indigenous honeybees and biodiversity among beekeepers, farmers' organisations, GOs, and NGOs.

- Two farmer-led NGOs and 67 beekeepers' groups were formed through project facilitation and support - these groups and organisations are now involved in beekeeping research and development.
- A functional beeswax collection and processing centre in Jumla bazaar managed by 4S, an organisation linked to beekeepers' groups, was promoted.
- A number of women farmers have been trained in beekeeping and are participating in various training programmes, meetings, and community development activities.
- One hundred and forty-three local farmers-trainers were trained in beekeeping management and conservation and are playing a very important role in capacity building of local beekeepers.
- The Project facilitated provision of various types of appropriate technologies with full participation of real beneficiaries. One of the successful appropriate technologies considered was the Jumla Top Bar Hive. Farmers were trained in the skills needed for sustainable beekeeping management.
- Awareness was raised about the importance of pollination through beekeeping.
- Farmers are trained on honey harvesting and processing, and producing value-added products like creams and candles. Production of processed and good quality honey is increasing, as is the demand for pure organic honey.
- Farmers have access to information related to beekeeping and there are organisations working together for better linkages.
- There are three selection and multiplication apiaries; farmers are managing the selection and multiplication programme.



As demand for honey grows, the number of hives increases

Beekeeping Programme, apis@icimod.org.np

Mountain Orientation of Enterprise Development Policies - National Consultation in Nepal

ICIMOD collaborated with the Industrial Enterprise Development Institute (IEDI), Kathmandu, to organise a consultation meeting of policy-makers, industry representatives, and NGOs and INGOs involved in enterprise development to assess the adequacy and suitability of present policies for promotion of micro, small, and medium enterprises in mountain areas. The consultation meeting, held from 11-12 April 2001, was attended by about 30 persons. A paper describing and reviewing the existing policies and programmes, identifying gaps, and recommending policy changes, prepared by IEDI, provided the background for discussion. The meeting identified several product lines with a comparative advantage in mountain areas and the policy support required to promote enterprises in them. It was agreed that IEDI will pursue implementation of recommendations arrived at during the meeting with policy-making bodies.

Dr. Trilok S. Papola, papola@icimod.org.np

Himalaya Field Study Programme, Nepal 2001

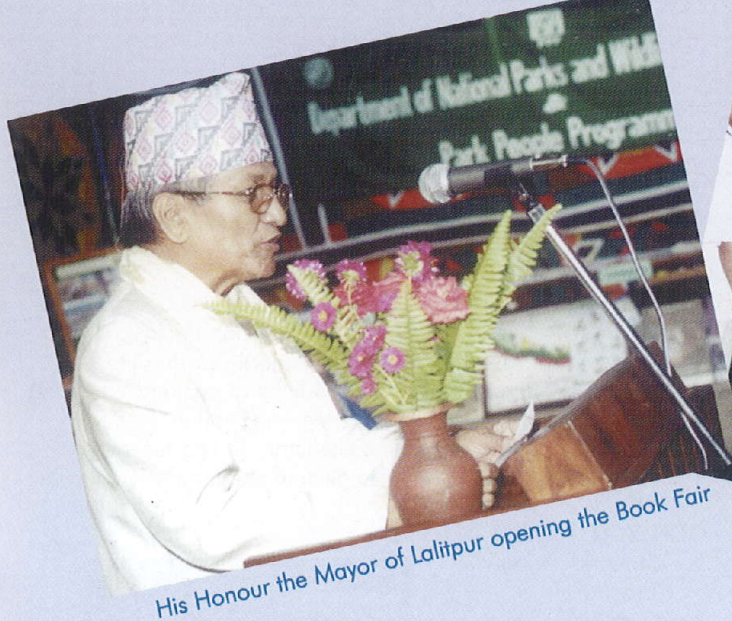
Extracts from a report by Mohan Prabhu QC, Executive Director Canada-Commonwealth Human Ecology Council

Fourteen Canadian university students and five professionals took part in a three-week Himalaya Field Study Programme (HFSP) in Nepal, from 1-22 May, 2001. The two leaders of the programme were Mohan Prabhu QC, Executive Director of Canada-CHEC, and Dr. Sharad Karmacharya. HFSP was carried out by Canada-CHEC in pursuance of its mandate to create awareness of environmental issues in developing countries among Canadians and at the same time promote education. It was the second programme of its kind conducted by Canada-CHEC - the first was held six years earlier in 1994 in Ladakh, India.

Topics were discussed in workshops and at round tables, with experts from ICIMOD, Nepal Government (Planning Commission, National Parks and Wildlife Management, Nepal Tourism Board), King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation, FAO, World Wildlife Fund, South Asia Partnership (SAP)-Nepal, and others. The chairperson of a regional women's organization gave a presentation on women's participation in decision-making, and the Head of the Canadian Cooperation Office made a presentation on CIDA'S programme in Nepal. Field visits included a three-day stay in the Royal Chitwan National Park. The final two days were devoted to a round table discussion by students on what they had learned about ecology issues in Nepal.

Book Fair at ICIMOD

The Annual ICIMOD Book Fair and Exhibition was held from August 16-18, 2001, at the Centre's premises. It was inaugurated by the Rt. Honourable Mayor of Lalitpur Sub-Metropolitan City, Mr. Buddhi Raj Bajracharya. ICIMOD invited six other organisations to take part in the fair: the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation/HMG Nepal with the Park-People Programme, the World Conservation Union-IUCN, World Wildlife Fund (WWF), The Mountain Institute (TMI), and the Himal Association. Many publications were on display and for sale at special discount prices. Visitors included students, lecturers, professors, researchers, academicians, planners, and government officials. Poster displays were also set up the main highlight being the MENRIS posters that were recently displayed at the ESRI Exhibition in the USA. As part of their membership drive, Mountain Forum/Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN) was able to get 155 people interested and signed up for membership. ICIMOD library donated some of its old and duplicated publications free to various individuals and institutions.



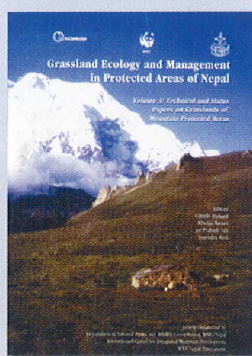
His Honour the Mayor of Lalitpur opening the Book Fair



ICIMOD's Stall

Recent ICIMOD Publications

The major documents published between September 2000 and April 2001 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. For institutions actively involved in sustainable development of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas, relevant publications can be provided free of charge.



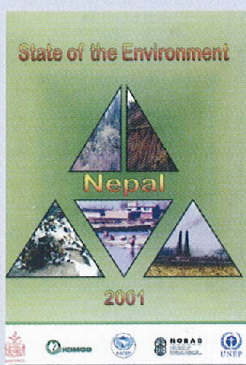
Richard, C.; Basnet, K.; Sah, J. P.; Raut, Y. eds. **Grassland Ecology and Management in Protected Areas of Nepal: Proceedings of a Workshop**, 15-19 Mar 1999, Bardia, Nepal - Vol. 3: technical and status papers on grasslands of mountain protected areas. 2000. 154p. ISBN 92-9115-166-1/92-9115-152-1, Price: US\$ 20.00, 15.00, 10.00

Natural grasslands cover approximately 14 per cent of Nepal

and are important areas in terms of biodiversity and sources of forage for wild ungulates and domestic livestock. In the plains (the Terai), natural grasslands occur along flood plains and terraces, but now only exist in their natural state within protected areas (PAs). At higher altitudes, trans-Himalayan and alpine rangelands are home to a diverse array of wildlife and are grazed by livestock.

A workshop on Grassland Ecology and Management in Protected Areas of Nepal was organised jointly by HMG/N's Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC), the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), and WWF Nepal Programme, from March 15-19, 1999, at Royal Bardia National Park, Nepal. The goal of the workshop was to summarise the major grassland ecological research work conducted to date and devise effective research and management strategies for grasslands in PAs in the mountain and Terai areas of Nepal.

The proceedings from the workshop are divided into three volumes. Volume I is the Workshop Action Summary and contains a brief summary of the papers presented in Volumes II and III, as well as a summary and synthesis of the workshop findings and recommendations; Volume II presents the status and research papers from the Terai protected areas of Nepal and India; and Volume III presents the status and research papers from protected areas in the mountains.



UNEP / ICIMOD **Nepal: State of the Environment 2001**. Bangkok: UNEP / Kathmandu: ICIMOD. 2001. 211p. ISBN: 92-807-2012-0 Price: US\$ 20.00, 15.00, 10.00

This document is the national State of the Environment report for Nepal. It is one of a number of country documents prepared under the auspices of UNEP and based on a UNEP format for reporting on the environment. Part I is an executive summary of the report and Part II

gives the national general overview of issues addressed. Part III of the document covers the key priority issues within a Pressure-State-Impact-Response (P-S-I-R) framework. The key issues addressed are forest depletion, soil degradation, solid waste management, water quality, and air pollution. Part IV is the conclusion giving the key findings, emerging environmental issues and information gaps.

This report has been prepared based on the best data available, but in many cases there were clear limitations and gaps. The authors have done their best to ensure that, within the constraints, an accurate enough idea of the state of the environment in Nepal has been obtained.

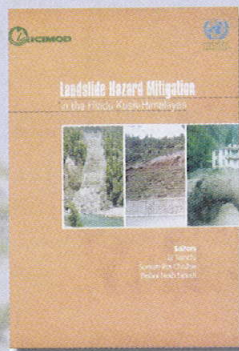


ICIMOD. **Widening Horizons: regional workshop on the role of local, elected institutions in community forestry management in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas** 16-21 March 1998. Kathmandu: ICIMOD. 2000. 164p. ISBN 92 91115 247 1, Nepali Price: US\$ 15.00, 10.00, 7.50

The text covers the issues of decentralisation and participatory and local self governance. The Workshop represents one of a series

of concerted efforts to bring together the voices of people from across the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region and give them a forum in which to address questions of governance and rights over the use of local natural resources in a climate in which the natural environment is undergoing serious degradation.

This workshop marks a new phase in ICIMOD's efforts in the area of governance, particularly decentralisation and participation in the management of natural resources in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas. The forum brought together women and men who had been elected to local institutions at village and district levels with members of village, district, or national community forestry groups and networks and non-government organisations.



Li Tianchi; Chalise, S. R.; Upreti, B. N. eds. **Landslide Hazard Mitigation in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas**. Kathmandu: ICIMOD. 2001. 312p. ISBN: 92-9115-328-1 Price: US\$ 20.00, 15.00, 10.00

The Hindu Kush-Himalaya (HKH) are geologically fragile with unstable slope-land systems. Every year, landslides and related hazards resulting from a combination of natural conditions and human activity cause thousands of deaths and several billion US\$ in economic losses. Disaster mitigation requires better understanding of the physical nature of the region and the impact of human activity, with integration of knowledge from such diverse fields as geology, geophysics, engineering, hydrology, and meteorology, to facilitate more effective planning and implementation of activities.

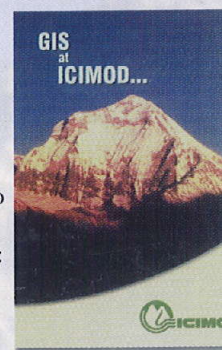
Written by professionals of repute with wide experience in the region, this book provides readers with information on the geology, physiography, seismicity, climate, and rainfall of

the HKH region and their bearing on landslide problems, as well as on techniques for investigating landslides and landslide prone slopes and methods for mitigation. Four case studies in Nepal and China illustrate the integrated approach needed for successful mitigation and management of landslides and debris flows.

The book provides useful reference material both for experts and for the medium level technical staff engaged in landslide hazard management and control in the HKH countries. It will also be useful for students of geology, civil engineering, geotechnical engineering, and other related subjects and as course material for academic and professional training courses on landslide management and control.

GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

1. Mountain Forum Brochure
2. Catalogue of Publications, January 1999 to December 2000
3. Annual Report 2000
4. MENRIS Folder and Fact sheets
5. *Mountain Forum Bulletin*, Volume 4, Issue 1, April 2001. ISSN 1029-3760 APMN Bulletin, Volume 6, No. 1, May 2001 ISSN 1027-0035 (combined)
6. *Issues in Mountain Development (IMD) 2001/1* Partap U. & Partap T. Declining Apple Production and Worried Himalayan Farmers: Promotion of Honeybees for Pollination.
7. *Mountain Development Profile*. Papola T. Mountain Tourism Programme
8. Celebrating Mountain Women Brochure



Staff on the Move

BANGLADESH

S. Zahir/Jan
N. S. Jodha/Jan
J. G. Campbell,
B. Shrestha/June

Fact finding mission to Chittagong Hill Tracts, DHAKA, RANGAMATI & BHUDARBAN
Meeting on Globalisation and Fragile Mountains, DHAKA
Meeting with new board member, to accompany the QQR member and
Visit to CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS & DHAKA

BHUTAN

P. Tshering & A. Toda/Apr
Tang Ya/Apr.
P. Tshering/June

Fact-finding mission and to attend a project Steering Committee meeting, THIMPU & 6 EASTERN DZONGHAGS
To organise training on Appropriate Technologies for Soil Conserving Farming Systems (ATSCFS), THIMPU & EAST BHUTAN
To coordinate Quinquennial Review (QQR) visit in Bhutan, THIMPU & WANGDUE PHODRANG

CHINA

N. S. Jodha/Feb.
A. Farooq/Feb
Tang Ya/Feb.

Organisation and participation in Globalisation and Fragile Mountain Meeting in KUNMING
To initiate collaborative arrangements with Eastern Bee Research Institute in the light of project document, KUNMING
To facilitate collaboration of Beekeeping project activities in China and ATSCFS project progress review, and MFS related activities, KUNMING, CHENGDU, NINGNAN, CHONGQING

R. White/Feb
Li Tianchi/March
J. G. Campbell/Apr.
C. Richard/April
Tang Ya/Apr.
B. Shrestha/Apr.
J. Merz/May

To visit PARDYP China field site, KUNMING, BAOSHAN
To collect data and identify scientist for documenting landslide and debris flow and flash floods in Tibet, CHENGDU, BEIJING, KUNMING
To meet with Board Member collaborators, BEIJING
Meetings in Australia BATHURST, KUNMING CHENGDU & LHASA
To discuss and plan for Rangeland Project in China, CHENGDU
Participate in the Himalayan - Andean Watershed Workshop in KUNMING
To present a paper at the conference on 'Soil Erosion Management' and Review of Hydrological Activities of PARDYP, BEIJING, TAIYUAN & KUNMING

N. Tashi & Tang Ya/June To accompany QQR team, LHASA, CHENGDU, NINGNAN & KUNMING
Tang Ya & A. Todo/July To attend IFAD Sub-Regional Portfolio Review Workshop, HEFEI

INDIA

T. S. Papola & K. Rijal/Jan To participate in Workshop on 'Sustainable Development in Hill Areas' DEHRADUN
A. Bhatia/Jan Programme development, International Year of Mountains (IYM) Planning and Advocacy proposal collaboration, DELHI, MUMBAI & PUNA
C. P. Jayalakshmi/Jan To attend a meeting on the digital divide, MF/APMN members and donor meeting & donor relation meeting, NEW DELHI
S. Thapa/Feb To review ATSCFS project progress, ITANAGAR
B. Shrestha & To attend and present a paper at the National Geo Information Data Infrastructure (NGDI) and MAP India Conference, NEW DELHI
B. Bajracharya/Feb
T. S. Papola, K. Rijal, Fact-finding mission of IFAD Project to NE India, MEGHALAYA, ASSAM & MANIPUR
P. Tulachan & A. Todo/ Feb
B. Bhadra/March To attend the meeting on 'South Asia Regional Integration Meeting' HYDERABAD
S. Pandey/March To participate in the launch event of the Learning Channel, NEW DELHI
S. Bhandari/April To participate in a training programme on Advanced Beekeeping at YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, KULLU
S. Joshi/May To attend and assess a training session being conducted by YS Parmar University at BAJAUR, KULLU, and to visit Palampur Agricultural University at PALAMPUR
N. S. Jodha/May To participate in the meeting of the SANDEE executive committee and review grant proposals, NEW DELHI
A. Bhatia/June To accompany Dr. Uwe Kievlitz for QQR, DELHI & DEHRADUN
T. S. Papola/June QQR Consultation, DELHI, DEHRADUN, NAINITAL & ALMORA
R. White/June ICIMOD/PARDYP follow-up activities/planning, NEW DELHI & ALMORA

MYANMAR

J. G. Campbell, Review country activities and prospects for activity under ICIMOD/IFAD Programme Development YEZIN, YANGON, YWANGAN,
A. Bhatia & A. Todo/Apr. PINDAYA, TOUNGGYINYUANG SHWE TOWNSHIP

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

Tany Ya/Feb To review progress and facilitate implementation of ATSCFS Project, ISLAMABAD
R. White/March Monitoring visit to PARDYP Pakistan & PFI, ISLAMABAD & PESHAWAR
A. Farooq/Apr. To visit the project partners in HBRI, Cell and Molecular Biology Lab, and conduct interviews for QQR and participate in the meetings, ISLAMABAD, LAHORE, RAWLAKOT & NORTHERN AREAS
B. Bhadra/May To participate in the seminar 'Sustainability of Natural Resources and Agriculture in Mountain Areas of Pakistan, ISLAMABAD
A. Shukla/Apr. Training in HBRI and visit to Beekeeping institute in Pakistan', ISLAMABAD
K. Rijal/June To accompany QQR team, ISLAMABAD, MANSHERA & PESHAWAR
A. Farooq/June To assist in QQR in Pakistan and participate in workshop on building bridges for biodiversity, ISLAMABAD, PESHAWAR, HILKOT
J. Merz/June Review of hydrological activities of PARDYP Pakistan and provide support to HYMOS, PESHAWAR

GLOBAL LINKAGES

B. Bhadra/Jan To attend IFAD Meeting, MALAYSIA
Li Tianchi/Jan To attend UNESCO/IUCP Symposium on Landslide Risk Mitigation and Protection of Cultural and Natural Heritage, TOKYO
A. Camino/Feb To attend meeting with IFAD, FAO and National Commission for IYM, ROME & BERGAMO
B. Shrestha/Feb To present a paper to the Geospatial Technology Conference, MALAYSIA & THAILAND
R. White/Feb Visit to PARDYP China Field Site, BANGKOK, THAILAND
A. Rothmans & To participate in the International Hands-on Course on Operational, Regional Land Use Analysis and to visit the Ecoregional Fund
N. Tashi, March Project DEM-Sur, WAGENINGEN, THE NETHERLANDS
C. Richard/Apr. Meetings with AusAID and PhD Committee, AUSTRALIA
D. Tandukar/March To organise Third Phase Training Workshop on Web Publishing & Internet Technologies in Central Asia, KYRGYZSTAN, UZBEKISTAN & TAZIKISTAN
A. Camino/April Attend UN ECOSEC-CSD Meetings in New York, fund raising and attend IYM preparation conference in Cusco, Peru, THE NETHERLANDS, USA & PERU.
C. P. Jayalakshmi To attend International Association of Women in Radio & Television (IAWRT) Conference donor meetings in Berlin, Meeting with Panos & SDC, DFID, CAF (London), BERLIN & LONDON
N. S. Jodha/May Participate in International Workshop on Vulnerability and Environmental Change, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN
B. Bajracharya/June To attend the Centre for the Study of Institutions, Population, and Environmental Change (CIPEC) Summer Institute, BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA
S. Pandey/June To participate in the workshop on Sustainable Development Communication Workshop, VANCOUVER, CANADA
R. White/June Represent SDC Nepal at Asia II workshop for planning the Regional & Bilateral Programme at SDC, ZURICH, SWITZERLAND
A. Farooq/June Participate in workshop on building bridges for biodiversity, NEW YORK & MARYLAND
B. Banpali & GEO- 3 meeting, MALE & SOE Meeting, COLOMBO, SRI LANKA
B. Pradhan/ June
J. G. Campbell, To attend ESRI International User Conference and to organise the Exhibition, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA and follow up meetings /
B. Shrestha, P. K. Mool, training programmes in USA
S. Pradhan, B. Shrestha,
N. Tashi/July

New Staff Members



Dr. Eklabya Sharma - Senior Agricultural Specialist / Division Head MFS

Dr. Sharma will join ICIMOD from 1st of September 2001 as Senior Agricultural Specialist /Division Head. He has a doctorate in Botany from Benaras Hindu University, and a professional career of 17 years focusing on ecological problems and their solutions for the Himalayas. As an agro-ecologist, for the past 13 years he has carried out applied research and demonstration activities, mainly in mountain farming systems. A Senior Scientist and Head of the Sikkim Unit of the G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development since 1989, Dr. Sharma formulated, developed, and implemented various programmes and projects in the region. He has 77 scientific publications - including research papers, reviews, books, and articles to his credit. Dr. Sharma is an Indian national.

Dr. Jit Pradhan 'Bhuktan' Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist

Dr. Jit Pradhan 'Bhuktan' joined ICIMOD on August 1, 2001, as a Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist. He is a Nepalese national. He holds a Ph.D. degree in Community Development (with Environmental Science as cognate), an MS in Rural Sociology and Rural Development Management from the University of the Philippines at Los Banos, and a B. Sc. (Ag) from Udaipur University, Rajasthan, India. He has over 70 published /unpublished contributions to rural development, sociological and anthropological research, and development planning, monitoring and evaluation.

Before joining ICIMOD, Dr. Bhuktan served as an international advisor for community development in the UNDCP-Wa Alternative Development Project (1999-2001), and an international expert for monitoring, evaluation and research in the Human Development Initiative project of UNDP (1997-1999), both in Myanmar.

Prior to his UN assignment, Dr. Pradhan was the Regional Director (1996-1997) of the South Asia Regional Office of the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) and a Senior Research Specialist and Director of Research (1992-1996) in the IIRR, Philippines.



Ms. Mandira Shrestha, Water Resources Specialist

Ms. Mandira Shrestha joined ICIMOD on 16 August as the Water Resources' Specialist. She has a masters' degree in Civil Engineering specialising in Water Resources from the University of Washington, Seattle, USA. She has 12 years of experience in the field of hydrology, watershed management, flood plain, and dam break studies. She has worked in Nepal and the US. Prior to joining ICIMOD she was working in the Project 'Institutional Development of the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology' funded by the World Bank. Ms. Shrestha is a Nepalese national.

Ms. Maria Armila C. Shakya, Coordinator, International Year of the Mountains 2002

Ms. Maria Armila C. Shakya joined ICIMOD on 16th August 2001 as coordinator, International Year of the Mountains 2002. Prior to this, she worked for two years with the Italian INGO DEVET Association as the National Bureau Director of the Technology and Trade Information Promotion System (TIPS), a global business information network with offices in 36 countries, and as the National Coordinator of a UNIFEM- funded and TIPS-executed global project 'Women into the New Network for Entrepreneurial Reinforcement (WINNER)', operational in Albania, Bangladesh, China, Ecuador, Nepal, The Philippines, Romania, and Zimbabwe. Ms Shakya has over 15 years of experience in programme management and coordination with the United Nations system in Nepal, the private sector in Nepal, the Philippines - German investment promotion project, and the Philippines Board of Investments. Originally from the Philippines, Ms Shakya is a Nepalese national.



Mr. Ujol Sherchan, Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN) Manager, ICOD

Mr. Sherchan first joined ICIMOD on March 28, 2000, as Information Analyst/Network Administrator in the Swiss-funded APMN Phase II project. He now manages the APMN, a regional network for generating, sharing, and disseminating information on or about sustainable development in upland and mountainous areas of Asia-Pacific. He comes from the mid-northern part of Nepal, and belongs to a small ethnic mountain tribe called the Thakalis. He has a B. Econ. from the USA, and is currently pursuing an M. Sc. in Natural Resource Management (NRM). He worked as a freelance writer and consultant for various INGOs/NGOs before joining ICIMOD, and is particularly interested in NRM and IT in the development/private sector.

Mr. Andrew David Inglis, GIS Officer

Mr. Andrew Inglis joined ICIMOD on 14 August 2001 as GIS Officer, under the Australian Youth Ambassadors for Development (AYAD) programme and ICIMOD. He is an M.Sc. Student of Geography, University of Western Australia. The AYAD programme funds young Australians to work in developing countries to gain experience and to generate links between Australia and these countries. He hopes to work on various GIS projects during his time at ICIMOD to gain a greater understanding of the work that ICIMOD does in the Hindu-Kush Himalayan region. Andrew is looking forward to the challenge of working at ICIMOD and learning about the Hindu-Kush Himalayan region.



Ms. Ojaswi Josse, Assistant Coordinator, Celebrating Mountain Women (CMW)

Ms. Ojaswi Josse joined the Secretariat for Celebrating Mountain Women (IYM 2002) at ICIMOD on the 16th of July 2001. Ojaswi, a graduate in International Relations from San Francisco State University, California, has a keen interest in development and women's issues. After completing graduate studies (MA), she decided to return to Nepal, her native country, and work in the field of women's development. In the past, she has worked for WWF Nepal Programme as a research consultant and for International Development Exchange (IDEX), a San Francisco based NGO working towards fighting global inequalities, as an assistant to the Asia Director. She plans to pursue a doctorate degree in development studies after a few years of hands-on experience.

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. Anjali Shrestha,
Ms. Purna Thapa, Mr. Man Bahadur Katwal

Institutional Strengthening Unit

Dr. Jit Pradhan 'Bhuktan', Planning Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist
Mr. Prem Krishna Manandhar, Programme Officer

Mountain Farming Systems' Division (MFS)

Dr. Eklabya Sharma, Senior Agricultural Specialist/Div. Head
Dr. Tang Ya, Agroforestry/Soil Conservation Specialist
Dr. Pradeep Man Tulachan, Farm Economist
Mr. Arjen Rotmans, Associate Prof. Officer (FAO seconded)
Dr. Nyima Tashi, Researcher, Mountain Agricultural Systems

Support Staff: Ms. Sami Joshi, Ms. Neetu Ghale,
Ms. Beryl Rajbhandari, Mr. Sudeep Pradhan, Mr. Chakra Budathoki

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. Anirudha Nath Shukla, Ms. Shova Bhandari

Trial and Demonstration Site, Godavari

Mr. Suraj Bahadur Thapa, Farm Manager/Horticulturist

Mountain Natural Resources' Division (MNR)

Prof. Chen Guang Wei, Division Head/Natural Resources' Specialist
Mr. Anupam Bhatia, Common Property Resource Mngt. Specialist
Prof. Suresh Raj Chalise, Senior Advisor

Ms. Camille Richard, Rangeland Management Specialist

Ms. Mandira Shrestha, Water Resources Specialist

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Landslide Hazard Mitigation Project

Prof. Li Tianchi, Hazard Mitigation Specialist

Mr. Rajesh Thapa, Research Assistant

Sustainable Water Harvesting in the HKH Project

Mr. Saleem Akhtar Sial, Assistant Coordinator

Mr. Rupak Rajbhandari, HKH Friend Data Analyst

Mountain Resources Management Project (PARDYP)

Mr. Roger John White, Regional Programme Coordinator

Mr. Pravakar Bickram Shah, Country Coordinator/Land Use Analyst

Mr. Juerg Merz, Hydrometeorology Research Associate

Mr. Gopal Nakarmi, Geomorphologist

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Ms. Atsuko Toda, Assistant Coordinator, IFAD-ICIMOD Project

Ms. Maria Armila C. Shakya, Coordinator, Int. Year of the Mountains

Ms. Ojaswi Josse, Asst. Coordinator, Secretariat for Celebrating
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Mountain Development Policies & Programmes Project

Dr. Narpal Singh Jodha, Policy Analyst

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Mr. Pradeep P. Mool, Remote Sensing Analyst

Mr. Sushil Man Pradhan, GIS Analyst

Mr. Sushil Panday, Systems' Officer

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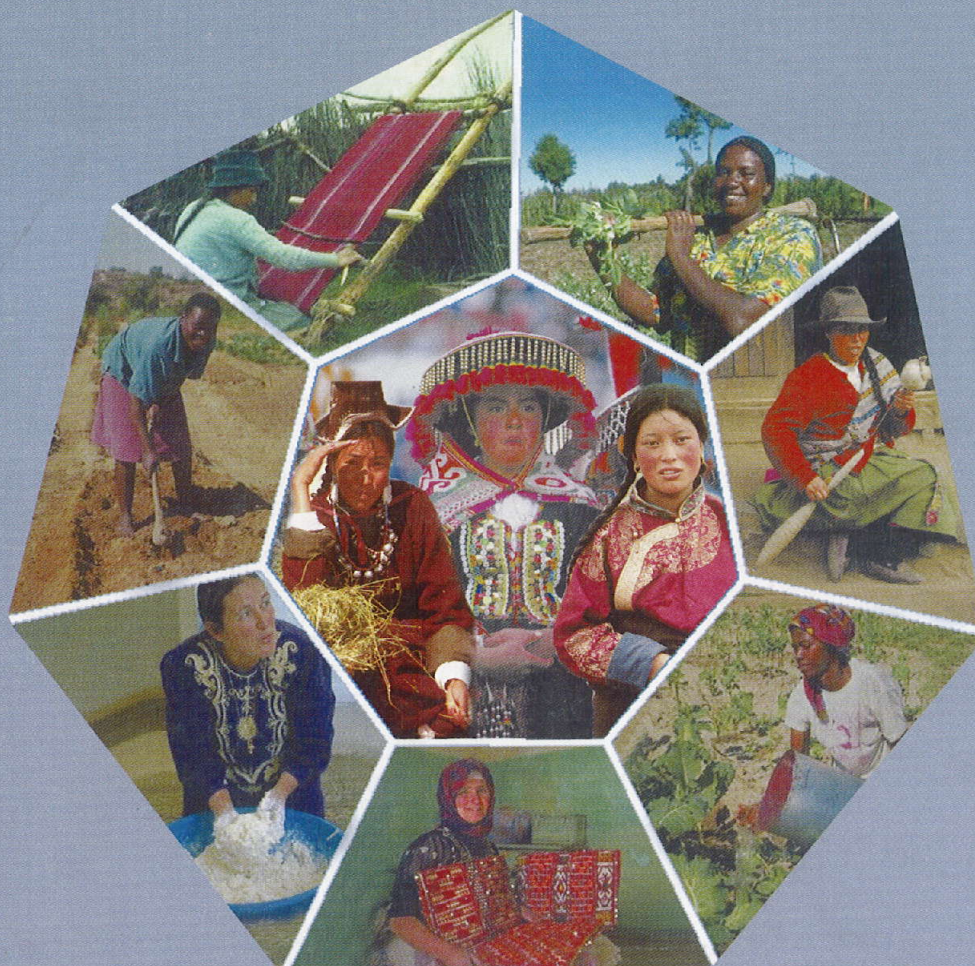
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