

Centre News

The Annual Meeting of the ICIMOD Board of Governors, 2010

The 41st Annual Meeting of the ICIMOD Board of Governors, with associated committee meetings and the meeting of the ICIMOD Support Group, was held from 21 to 25 November 2010 in Mussoorie, India, hosted and supported by the Government of India.

The meeting commenced with an official opening on the evening of 21 November in the presence of Mr Subash Kumar, Chief Secretary, Government of Uttarakhand. This was followed by Partners' Day on the 22nd of November which showcased the collaborative work of ICIMOD's Indian Partners. The GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development (GBPIHED), Himalayan Action Research Centre (HARC), Aajeevika, and Aaranayak all participated in Partners'



Day, presenting their work on the Kailash regional programme, value chain development, and local adaptation to climate change.

The Board's meetings concluded on the 24th November with the full ICIMOD Board of Governors (BOG) Meeting, chaired by Mr Vijai Sharma, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India. The Board approved ICIMOD's plan and budget for 2011 and approved the recommendations of the Mid-Term Review and ICIMOD's management response.

The Board reviewed the framework papers on economic analysis, funding strategy, and foundation guidelines, as well as ICIMOD's regional member countries (RMCs) outreach paper.

The ICIMOD Support Group meeting was chaired by Dr Christoph Graf. Interest was expressed by the donors present in collaborating with ICIMOD, and future commitments for support were received. Mr Pal Prestrud was nominated as a new Board member. ISG members and Board members visited a partner site, the Dhanolti Eco-Park, an innovative model of community-based natural resource management.

At the end of the meeting on the 25th November, members of the Board of Governors and ICIMOD Support Group visited some key Indian national institutions based in Dehradun: Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology (WIHG), Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS), Wildlife Institute of India (WII), and Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education. It was thought that there is huge scope for building and strengthening close collaboration and partnerships with these key institutions.

Anju Rana, arana@icimod.org

ICIMOD Board of Governors 2011

Regional Board Members

Eng Raz Mohammad Raz

Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Infrastructure
Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation & Livestock, Afghanistan

Mr Masud Ahmad

Secretary-in-Charge, Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tract Affairs
Bangladesh Secretariat, Bangladesh

Mr Sherub Gyaltsen

Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Bhutan

Prof Dr DING Zhongli

Chairman of CN-ICIMOD
Vice President, Chinese Academy of Sciences, PR China

Mr Tishya Chatterjee*, IAS

Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, India

Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw

Deputy Director General, Forest Department
Ministry of Forestry, Myanmar

Dr Jagadish C Pokharel (to March 2011)

Vice Chairman, National Planning Commission, Nepal

Mr Junaid Iqbal Chaudhary

Secretary, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Pakistan

Independent Board Members

Dr Jacqueline A Ashby

Chair, ICIMOD Programme Advisory Committee (PAC)
Vice Chair, ICIMOD Board of Governors (BoG)
Research and Policy Coordinator, Andean Change Program
International Potato Center (CIP), Peru

Dr Elke Förster

Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity (4701)
Priority Area Manager
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Germany

Dr Amir Muhammed

Rector, National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences, Pakistan

Dr Linxiu Zhang

Professor and Deputy Director, Centre for Chinese Agricultural Policy
Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), PR China

Professor Matthias Winiger

Vice Chancellor, University of Bonn, Germany

Dr Lars-Erik Liljelund, Director General, Prime Minister's Office, Sweden

Mr Pal Prestrud, Director, CEO, CICERO, Norway

Dr Christoph Graf, Chair, ICIMOD Support Group

Head, South Asia Department, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Switzerland

Dr Andreas Schild, (Ex-officio) Director General, ICIMOD

New Regional Board Members



H E Mr Raz Mohammad Raz,
Deputy Minister, Ministry of
Agriculture, Irrigation and
Livestock (MAIL), Afghanistan

H E Mr Raz Mohammad Raz,
Deputy Minister, Irrigation
and Infrastructure, Ministry
of Agriculture, Irrigation and

Livestock(MAIL), was nominated to the ICIMOD Board in June 2010 by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. Mr Raz started his professional career in 1979 as a procurement officer with the Ministry of Water and Power and continued to work in different positions. In early 1989, he moved to Pakistan where he was the Logistics Manager for Afghan Aid for five years, and then for the next eight years he occupied various positions in the UNOCHA headquarters (Islamabad), the UNOCHA Regional Office (Kabul), and the UNCO Central Regional Office (Kabul). In 2002, after a short stint with UNAMA, he was a team member at the University of York (UK), and Pisa University (Italy) involved in organising an orientation workshop for senior government officials on 'Preparation of a Development Budget for Afghanistan National Programmes'.

Mr Raz joined the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development as Humanitarian Affairs' Advisor in 2003 and then as National Planning Coordinator until 2005. From March 2005 to February 2010, Mr. Raz worked as the Deputy Minister for Administration and Finance, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, where he looked after the departments of Finance, Administration, Procurement, Human Resources, and Provincial Affairs as well as the 34 provincial departments of the Ministry. In April 2010, he assumed his current position. Mr Raz has participated in numerous national and international conferences, workshops, and training courses in the fields of leadership, administration, management, programming, emergency responses, human rights, and gender-related issues. He has a BSc in Mechanical Engineering from the Faculty of Engineering, Kabul University (1978) and an MA in Post-War Recovery Studies from the University of York, UK (2002).



Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw, Deputy
Director General, Forest
Department, Ministry of Forestry,
Myanmar

Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw, Deputy Director
General, Forest Department,
Ministry of Forestry was nominated

*Profile will be provided in the next periodical

as the Regional Board Member for Myanmar on the ICIMOD Board in August 2010. Born in 1962, Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw started his career as an Assistant Plantation Officer in the Forest Department, West Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Division. He held this post from 1987 to 1989 and then served a year as a junior officer in the Township Forest Office in Hlegu. From 1990 to 1997, he worked as a Range Officer in the Central Forestry Development Training Centre, Hmawbi, and the Planning and Statistics' Division, Yangon. He joined the Forest Research Institute in Yezin as a Junior Assistant Research Officer in 1997 and later worked as Assistant Research Officer at the same institute until 2000.

Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw received a Bachelor's degree in Forestry from the Institute of Agriculture, Yezin in 1986; a Master's degree in Tropical Forestry from the University of Goettingen, Germany, in 1995; and a PhD in Forestry Science from the same university in 2003. From 2003 to 2006, Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw worked as the Assistant Director in the Natural Resources' Division, Forest Research Institute, Yezin, and also served as a part-time Lecturer at the University of Forestry. Later he became Deputy Director of the Forestry Development Division in the Forest Institute and the National Project Manager for the ITTO (Teak) Project from 2006-2009. He became Director of the Forest Research Institute, Yezin, and Director of the Training and Research Department Division, Headquarters, Forest Department, in 2008. During his professional career, Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw has authored many research papers and journals and presented papers on REDD, Forests and Climate Change, as well as supervising Master's and PhD theses.

Dr Jagadish C Pokharel, Vice Chair, National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal (to March 2011)

Dr Jagadish Chandra Pokharel, the Vice Chair of the National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal was nominated to the ICIMOD Board in March 2010 by the Government of Nepal. He previously served on the Board from November 2006 to 2007. Born in western Nepal in 1953, Dr Pokharel has had a rich professional career spanning approximately three decades, and brings with him broad mountain development experiences. Dr Pokharel first started as a lecturer in Tribhuvan University Engineering Institute in 1978; and since then has held various positions in the teaching, development, and government sectors. He has served as a consultant and resource person in international organisations such as UNDP, World Bank, ADB, WFP, UNFPA, and USAID; and he has served actively as a member, chairman, team leader, or coordinator on several national committees,

commissions, and task forces of the Government of Nepal. Dr Pokharel has extensive experience in development and planning techniques related to resettlement, environmental impact assessment studies, community mediation, implementation of national conservation strategy, participatory development, and environmental management, to name a few.

Dr Pokharel was a member of the National Planning Commission from 1998 – 2002 and Vice Chair from 2006-2008. At present, he is leading his team in preparing the progress report 2010 for Nepal's Millennium Development Goals (MDG) for a National Planning Commission/ UNDP project. Widely travelled, Dr Pokharel has authored and co-authored several papers, books, and articles. Dr Pokharel received a Bachelor's degree in architecture from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece, in 1978, a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Hawaii, USA, in 1985, and a PhD in Regional Planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA, in 1991.

Mr Junaid Iqbal Chaudhry, Secretary, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad

Mr Junaid Iqbal Chaudhry, Secretary, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Government of Pakistan, assumed the position of ICIMOD Board Member in June 2010. Mr Chaudhry has held many different positions during a career spanning more than 40 years. He has served in the corporate and public sector in various capacities. He began his career in 1969 with the Pakistan Air Force as pilot and was the recipient of the Sword of Honour, an honorary sword awarded for overall best performance during the training period at the Air Force Academy. He was decorated in the 1971 war for his outstanding contributions.

He was inducted into the Civil Service in 1980. He possesses a rich experience in development sector and public administration. He has served as Assistant Commissioner in three sub-divisions; Additional Deputy Commissioner in one district, Deputy Commissioner in three districts and Chief Commissioner in Islamabad. He headed the Food and Agriculture Department of Punjab, Punjab Seeds Industries Corporation, Local Government and Rural Development, and served at several provincial secretarial positions. At the Federal level, he has served as Personal Staff Officer, Prime Minister's Secretariat, Additional Secretary, Economic Affairs Division and as Ombudsman. He has been serving as Federal Secretary, Ministry of Food and Agriculture since June 2010. He holds a Bachelor's degree in science from Peshawar University, Pakistan.

ICIMOD at the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP-10), 18-29 October, Nagoya, Japan

The CBD's COP-10 was one of the most important international conferences on biodiversity, as the meeting adopted a ten-year strategic plan, a resource mobilisation strategy to support implementation of CBD objectives, and a new international protocol on access to and sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources.

ICIMOD, with its focus on biodiversity in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan (HKH) region, participated in COP-10 and hosted a series of activities. As an observer, ICIMOD lobbied for the mountain agenda during Plenary Sessions of the Programme of Work on Mountain Biodiversity (PoW-MB) and Protected Areas. The Centre brought to international notice its collective efforts with regional member countries to implement the PoW-MB and celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB). The CBD Secretariat appreciated the participation of ICIMOD and recognised the centre as an important partner in implementation of the PoW-MB.

ICIMOD's exhibition booth presented its mission, approaches, and initiatives taken for management of biodiversity in the region through scientific as well as general publications, DVDs, and posters. Scientific posters were also displayed at the poster session



Three side events were held on transboundary landscapes, challenges of mountain biodiversity conservation in the context of climate change, and IYB celebrations. In the side event on transboundary landscapes, scientists called for a global network for long-term ecological research in mountain areas to reduce scientific uncertainty. In the second side event, HKH countries called on the global community to pay attention to the vulnerability of the region as a hotspot for biodiversity and climate change, emphasising the importance of regional cooperation.

and CEPA Fair. ICIMOD chaired a high-level session attended by ministers from Bhutan, Austria, Switzerland, the European Commission who appreciated its work.

In addition, ICIMOD's article, 'Mountain biodiversity conservation and management: a paradigm shift in policies and practices in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas' in the Journal of Ecological Research, was released by the CBD in collaboration with the Ecological Society of Japan. An article on 'the need for linking the CBD and UNFCCC to achieve post-2010 biodiversity targets' was also published in the Square Brackets: CBD Newsletter for Civil Society. ICIMOD's contribution was also reflected in CBD Technical Series No. 53.

For more information, please visit www.icimod.org/iyb2010

Sunita Chaudhary, schaudhary@icimod.org and Nakul Chettri, nchettri@icimod.org

ICIMOD Foundation – now in action!

As the Centre passed its 25th birthday and continued to progress on its path to make change happen 'for mountains and people,' the sustainability of funding was discussed. The institution remains largely funded by partners, and it was felt that it was time to consider alternative funding models for the Centre's long-term goals. The ICIMOD Foundation was established in 2003 to address fundraising demands and diversify sources and efforts.

The Foundation is a non-profit organisation that supports the efforts of ICIMOD. The Foundation's vision is to make a significant contribution to the stability of the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region through ICIMOD. The support of the Foundation will give ICIMOD the latitude to implement its programmes using a consistent long-term approach. The Foundation is registered in Berne, Switzerland, and has a Board of Governors composed of selected members of the Board of Governors of ICIMOD and distinguished individuals working in the field of mountain development.

With climate change and adaptation as a global agenda, and ICIMOD's involvement in this area for



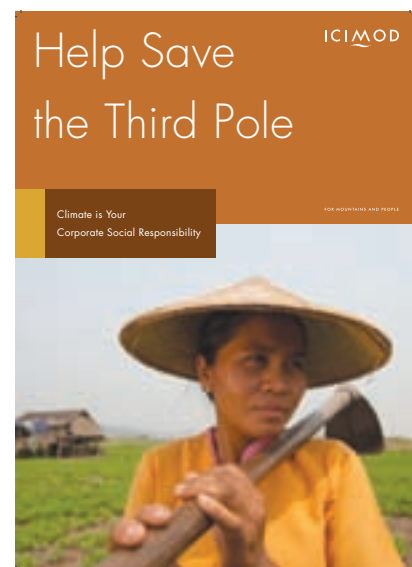
Everest, Solukhumbu, Nepal

a quarter of a century, the Foundation Board is keen for ICIMOD to take advantage of its position. The Foundation was re-launched in 2009 to help ICIMOD validate the present status and orientation of its agenda and to ensure optimum benefit from the framework of climate change as a unique proposition. A staff member was hired for fundraising in early 2010 to take on the responsibility of mobilising funds from non-traditional sources.

The overall strategy of the Foundation is to institutionalise fundraising and target, among others, the corporate sector for funds through their 'corporate social responsibility' activities. Corporate social responsibility, or CSR, is an initiative that enables the corporate sector to engage in more meaningful, sustainable business. There are an increasing number of successful partnerships between organisations like ICIMOD and the corporate sector through CSR initiatives. While CSR initiatives enable corporations to build a stronger brand that resonates with key external stakeholders, institutions like ICIMOD can provide them with new opportunities to contribute their resources to significant programmes benefiting the environment and communities in general. One potential area for increasing the interest of the corporate sector is climate change, and the Foundation will explore this opportunity to build new win-win partnerships and synergies. It is also in ICIMOD's favour that a fundamental shift has taken place globally from the old brown economy of the 20th century towards a new low carbon, resource efficient green economy.

There are challenges ahead given the current global financial crisis and the immediate need for ICIMOD to make itself better known to the business and corporate world. ICIMOD is confident, however, that the driving force attracting the interest of the corporate world is its vision. Despite the inevitable challenges, ICIMOD is optimistic and as a successful fundraiser rightly said, "Donors don't give to institutions. They invest in ideas and the people in whom they believe." Thus, equipped with the desire to respond to the challenges of global change to enhance resilience and support adaptation of mountain communities, the ICIMOD Foundation is now in action.

Naina Shakya, nshakya@icimod.org



ICIMOD Inaugurated as a Knowledge Hub Partner in the Asia-Pacific Water Forum

Opportunities and challenges facing the Asia-Pacific region in terms of dealing with water problems in the years ahead were discussed during an expert meeting organised at the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Kathmandu, on 6 June 2010. The meeting was convened to celebrate ICIMOD's membership in the Asia-Pacific regional network of water research centres in the Asia-Pacific Water Forum; the purpose of the Forum is to increase knowledge networking for water security in the 21st century. ICIMOD's entry to the network of highly-reputed water research centres was seen as an important milestone in closing the knowledge gap on mountain issues. It was stated that Asia has enough knowledge and solutions to solve the water problems it is facing but, to put this reservoir of solutions and knowledge to work, collaboration among the water hubs is essential

to ensure effective use of limited water resources. The current 17 partner hubs in the APWF all have their own specific water issues and sharing solutions and undertaking joint research activities will contribute to improved water management throughout the region.

Useful links

Integrated Water and Hazard Management
www.icimod.org/?page=20

Conservation portal
www.icimod.org/hkhconservationportal/

Disaster preparedness platform
disasterpreparedness.icimod.org/

Geoportal, geoportal.icimod.org/#

Knowledge hub, www.apwfknowledgehubs.net/index.php

Daan Boom, dboom@icimod.org

Lessons Learned from the International Expert Consultation Workshop on the Indus Basin

The Indus Basin, shared mainly by Afghanistan, China, India, and Pakistan is considered to be one of the most sensitive basins for climate change impacts. An international expert consultation workshop on 'Climate and environmental change impacts on the cryosphere of the Indus basin and its implications for the future water scenario' was held in Kathmandu, from 2-4 July 2010. The main objective was to share knowledge about state-of-the-art research and analysis and future work planned for the Indus river basin covering the fields of climate and environmental change and water resource management. The 71 participants included international and regional researchers and experts, representatives of countries sharing the basin, and representatives of several donor and international development agencies.

The deliberations emphasised that alteration in water supplies due to climate change and changes in the cryosphere could have profound impacts on water use downstream and could alter the livelihoods of a sizeable population relying on the water. The need to understand the impacts and prepare for adaptation was highlighted, however, lack of adequate data and failure to share existing and limited knowledge of critical natural processes were emphasised as major impediments. The discussions presented some key scientific questions related to the basin and suggested priority actions. The consultation workshop recommended a long-term Indus Basin Programme with strong coordination and cooperation between various projects and regional and international stakeholders.

Based on the deliberations of the workshop, ICIMOD will prepare a synthesis report and share it with the participants. An Advisory Committee will be formed with the involvement of international and regional experts and officials to oversee the whole process. Later, a concept note will be prepared to flesh out the programme. The workshop also recommended that a regular meeting of a similar kind be held, and to establish an Indus Basin Knowledge Hub. It was agreed that an efficient way of sharing progress and updates is to establish a web-based platform. ICIMOD was advised to do this.

Arun Bhakta Shrestha, abshrestha@icimod.org



ICIMOD's Participation at the ADB and Partners Conference on Water: Crisis and Choices

ICIMOD was invited by the Asian Development Bank to a conference for ADB and Partners on 'Water: Crisis and Choices', held from 11-15 October 2010, at its headquarters in Manila. ICIMOD presented the lead-in paper on development of water storage capacity for discussion at a thematic session on 'Accessing Available Freshwater: Expanded Capture and Storage'. The thematic session on water storage was one of three sessions organised under the theme of management at river basin level. (The others were clean water, water in food, and cities and water.) ICIMOD was also invited to make a presentation at a side event on Pakistan Floods of ICIMOD's study on 'Glacial melt and downstream impacts on Indus basin-dependent water resources and energy' and to participate in panels held on partnerships for integrated water resource management (IWRM), and adapting to climate change.

At the conference, more than 600 water professionals from 53 countries – from governments, think tanks, the private sector, and civil society – discussed issues and solutions to the water crisis that threatens the region's

with stakeholders – provides a design for ADB's future work in the water sector. A preview of the forthcoming Asian Water Development Outlook 2011 was also presented. The Outlook will, for the first time, provide a comprehensive quantitative and analytical perspective of the current state of water security in the region. It



is targeted at ministers of finance and planning with recommendations about how to guide investments with better governance for increasing water security in the years to come. ICIMOD is one of the partners involved in preparation of the Outlook.

The ICIMOD delegation to the conference was led by the Director General, Andreas Schild; other members were Inayatullah Chaudhry, Arun Shrestha, and Ramesh Vaidya.

Ramesh Vaidya, rvaidya@icimod.org

economic growth and environmental sustainability. At the closing, ADB called for more credible partnerships to consolidate the water sector's fragmented knowledge and for coordinated solutions.

The ADB and Partners' Conference was probably the second major water event at ADB following the one in 1996 that led to the development of its Water Policy. ADB's Draft Operational Framework for 2011-2020 was discussed at the conference. The framework – which is a result of extensive consultation



Seabuckthorn Leh Initiative and National Mission on Seabuckthorn Launched

The 'Seabuckthorn Leh Initiative' was launched at a one-day high-level 'Workshop on the national mission on seabuckthorn' organised by the Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR) in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Forests at Leh in the Jammu and Kashmir state of India on 14 July 2010.

The conference was attended by the Honourable Minister of State for Environment and Forests, Mr Jairam Ramesh, and the Honourable Minister of State for Defence, MM Pallam Raju, both of the Government of India, together with other senior government officials and senior researchers. It highlighted the importance of seabuckthorn, a plant species used for health care, improving livelihoods, and upgrading marginal mountain lands in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region.

The Honourable Ministers emphasised the need for international collaboration among countries for seabuckthorn cultivation and processing, and also asked professionals to maintain synergy by consulting with each other and avoiding duplication of work to achieve the best results in the shortest period of time.

The Conference concluded with the declaration of a 'National Mission on Seabuckthorn' and formation of a 'Seabuckthorn Consortium' of scientists, managers, and organisations working in research and management. The Consortium was asked to prepare a long-term mission plan for up to 2020 and a short-term three year



Seabuckthorn (*Hippophae L.*)

Seabuckthorn is a general term given to the shrub tree genus *Hippophae L.* of the family Elaeagnaceae, which consists of several species and sub species, the most important being *Hippophae rhamnoides*. The plant is distributed widely throughout Europe and Asia and grows naturally in high altitude and cold desert areas. It is a deciduous, usually spinescent shrub, with male and female flowers on different plants. Locally known as 'chaarma' in India, it grows at altitudes from 2,500-4300 masl. The fruit and leaves are very rich in anti-oxidants like vitamin C, E carotenoids, vitamins A and K and organic acids. The tree has multiple uses from treating coughs to cancer; cosmetics to ornamentation, food to forage, and sports to spaceships, it is also a soil binder and soil enricher and contributes to moisture conservation. Given its versatility, it can be described in one word, 'kalpavriksh' (a multi wish tree) or 'kalpanavriksh' (an imaginary tree species).

Although China, India, Nepal, and Pakistan are known to have many species of seabuckthorn, China has surpassed all other countries in terms of production of raw materials and different products. China has raised more than 300,000 ha of seabuckthorn plantations and markets more than 200 products.

plan for increasing the resource base. A decision was taken for DIHAR to compile the research and action results in one place.

ICIMOD was represented by Dr Giridhar Kinhal, who presented the work carried out by ICIMOD during the 1990s and spoke about the importance of increasing the production potential both from the wild and through plantations in an organised and scientific manner. He emphasised the need to produce knowledge products on seabuckthorn based on the traditional and Ayurvedic knowledge available in India. ICIMOD has been included in the Consortium as a knowledge developing and sharing member. Its work during the 1990s was appreciated by conference participants.

Researchers and practitioners from India will visit China, Mongolia and Russia to study their strategies, and Germany and other EU countries to study the market potential and requirements. ICIMOD will have a role in organising and providing a platform for exposure visits and knowledge transfer and exchange.

Giridhar Kinhal, gkinhal@icimod.org

International Expert Consultation Meeting: Mountain Initiative on Climate Change

Preparing a Roadmap for the Ministerial Conference of Mountain Countries and UNFCCC process

In response to the urgent need for mountainous countries and countries with mountain ecosystems to reinforce the mountain agenda in a period of global change, in particular through multilateral environmental negotiations in upcoming UNFCCC meetings and the Rio+20 conference, a meeting was convened to develop a common vision, strategy, knowledge base, and approaches. The 'International Expert Consultation Meeting on the Mountain Initiative on Climate Change' was organised jointly by the Ministry of Environment, Government of Nepal, and ICIMOD in Kathmandu on 23-24 September 2010.

The main purpose was to promote global and regional consultations among relevant climate change experts in order to chart a future road map for the Mountain Initiative (MI). The road map was envisaged with a long-term strategy which would reiterate the global mountain agenda in the UNFCCC and the Rio+20 processes and beyond. The Mountain Initiative was launched by the Government of Nepal in response to the call made by the Right Honourable Prime Minister of Nepal during the COP 15 summit asking all mountain countries and stakeholders to come together and form a common platform to improve advocacy on mountain issues in climate change negotiations and ensure that mountain concerns receive due attention in climate change agreements and related decisions.

The meeting was attended by high-level policy and decision makers, national experts involved in the UNFCCC process, and representatives from academia, international organisations, and development institutions. Experts came from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Canada, China, Columbia, India, Italy, Kazakhstan, Lao PDR, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, Tajikistan, and Switzerland. Experts from

ICIMOD, the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (FAO), World Bank, UNEP, UNDP, DFID, ADB, DANIDA, FINNIDA, and others also participated, together with observers from academia, research centres, networks, and individuals.

The Hon Minister of Environment of the Government of Nepal, Mr Thakur Prasad Sharma, inaugurated the workshop. The Hon Dr Dinesh Devkota, Member of the National Planning Commission, participated in the opening and closing sessions. Dr. Andreas Schild, DG of ICIMOD; Dr RS Tolia, Uttarakhand, India; and Mr Klas Sanders, WB HQ, gave keynote speeches. Two analytical papers served as background documents: 'Mountains of the world – Ecosystem services in a time of global and climate change: Seizing opportunities – Meeting challenges', and 'Funding mechanisms, instruments, and facilities for mountain systems'; a synthesis paper on 'Key issues for the Mountain Initiative' was also prepared.

The expert meeting expressed its wholehearted satisfaction and pledged support for the Mountain Initiative launched by the Government of Nepal. They also appreciated the excellent technical inputs and support provided by ICIMOD. The meeting was held in a consultative, open, and participatory manner with two working group exercises and plenary discussions. After two days of intensive discussion, and having listened to the latest information on the impacts of climate change on mountain areas, the experts gave recommendations for the proposed International Ministerial Meeting of Mountain Countries on Climate Change and suggested that their conclusions be shared with mountain country delegations participating in future UNFCCC negotiations and Rio+20 meetings.

The meeting established a Technical Working Group comprising of Dr. Dinesh Devkota (Nepal), Mr. Douglas McGuire (Mountain Partnership), Ms. Laura Madalengoitia Ugarte (Peru), Ms. Gulmira Sergazina (Kazakhstan), Ms. Lorena Santamaría Rojas (Columbia). Dr. R.S. Tolia, Mr. John Drexhage, and Mr. Gianluca Lentini (EvK2CNR) will be independent members and the Ministry of Environment, Nepal, and ICIMOD will be represented by Dr. Ganesh Raj Joshi, Secretary, and Dr. Madhav Karki respectively.

Madhav B Karki, mkarki@icimod.org and
Bhaskar Singh Karky, bkarky@icimod.org



International Symposium on Earth Observation

"We look forward to a future where Earth Observation information products and services are used extensively in decisions and actions for the benefit of mountain communities in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region."

This was the key message from participants at the International Symposium on 'Benefiting from Earth Observation: Bridging the Data Gap for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region' organised by ICIMOD from 4-6 October in Kathmandu. The presence of national and international dignitaries brought focus to a series of events that took place from 1 to 7 October amidst a gathering of more than 250 high-level delegates and participants from 24 countries. The symposium was inaugurated by Mr Subash Chandra Nemwang, Chairman of the Constituent Assembly of Nepal, and chaired by Mr Thakur Prasad Sharma, Minister of Environment, Government of Nepal. Shri Jairam Ramesh, Minister of State for Environment and Forests, Government of India, was the guest of honour. Besides the inaugural and keynote sessions, 68 papers were presented on seven thematic areas and more than 60 posters were exhibited.



The keynote session was addressed by Mr Charles F. Bolden Jr., NASA Administrator, Mr Michael Yates, Senior deputy Assistant Administrator of USAID, and Professor José Achache, Director, Group on Earth Observation (GEO) Secretariat, Switzerland. The SERVIR-Himalaya initiative was formally launched during the session. SERVIR is an earth observation, monitoring, and visualisation system that integrates satellite and other geospatial data for improved scientific knowledge and decision-making. USAID, NASA, and ICIMOD worked

together to establish SERVIR-Himalaya as the third regional SERVIR operational facility in order to promote applications of Earth Observation for societal benefits.

Three other special events were also organised. A Youth Forum 'Empowering Youth with Earth Observation Information for Climate Actions' was organised from 1 to 6 October, bringing together 40 young people



from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan, selected from over 750 applicants based on individual essays, fields of study, and social involvement. The forum exposed the participants to various aspects of earth observation information, geographic information systems (GIS), and remote-sensing tools to for analysing the impacts of climate change on land, water, air, and glaciers; and for identifying climate change issues in their respective communities. Then forty stakeholders from ICIMOD's member countries came together at a pre-symposium workshop on the theme of 'Space-based information for disaster preparedness and risk management', during which ICIMOD celebrated the installation of a new JAXA receiving station that will facilitate access to real-time satellite images in the case of major disasters in the region. Finally, an inception workshop who held for SERVIR-Himalaya at which fifty stakeholders from ICIMOD's member countries discussed priorities and needs where SERVIR Himalaya can contribute through dissemination of earth observation information and decision support applications. Overall, the events provided a regional platform for strengthening cooperation and networking as well as mutual sharing and learning among delegates from the region and beyond.

Birendra Bajracharya, bbajracharya@icimod.org

Workshops, meetings and training events (May – December 2010)

Event	Date	Place
Training on Low Cost Soil and Water Conservation and Watershed Management Activities	2 – 13 May	Dailekh, Nepal
E-discussion on Biodiversity Management in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas: A Gender Perspective	3 – 21 May	Kathmandu, Nepal
Nursery Follow up and Training	9 May – 9 June	Tsongong County, Tibet
Convention on Biological Diversity – SBSTTA	May 10	Nairobi, Kenya
International Biological Diversity Day	15 – 22 May	Kathmandu, Nepal
Knowledge Sharing Workshop on Application of Satellite Rainfall Estimates in the HKH region – Phase II	19 – 21 May	Thimphu, Bhutan
National Workshop on Remote Sensing Methodology for Forest Carbon Measurement and Verification Workshop on Use of Geo-informatics for Mapping and Modelling Carbon Stocks in Nepal	24 May – 06 June	Kathmandu, Nepal
World Environment Day and Promoting Herbal Garden in Schools: Herbal Poster with Recipe competition	7 June	Kathmandu, Nepal
Regional training on open access to, and publishing of mountain biodiversity data from the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region in collaboration with GBIF/GMBA	14 – 18 June	Kathmandu, Nepal
E-Discussion on Improving Local Governance in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region: Challenges and Good Practices	14 June – 30 June	Kathmandu, Nepal
Participatory Curriculum Development Workshop on Beekeeping for Farmers' Level Training	20 – 22 June	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Inception Meeting on Establishment of a Regional Flood Information System in the HKH-Region (HKH-HYCOS)	23 – 25 June	Kathmandu, Nepal
The mid-term review workshop of the project 'Land use change and human health in eastern Himalayas – an adaptive ecosystem approach'	28 June – 1 July	Kathmandu, Nepal
International Expert Consultation/Workshop on 'Climate and environment change impact on the cryosphere of the Indus basin and its implications on future water scenarios'	2 – 4 July	Kathmandu, Nepal
Launch of ICIMOD as a Knowledge Hub member of the Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF) for Water Management in the Mountain Areas 2010	4 July	Kathmandu, Nepal
Asia Oceania Geosciences Society Conference	5 – 9 July	Hyderabad, India
Programme Advisory Committee (PAC) and Board Executive Committee (BEC) Meeting	4 – 8 July	Kathmandu, Nepal
IFAD TAG 773, Sharing and consultation meeting	3 August	Nepalgunj, Nepal
Writershop on Documenting Local Adaptation Strategies to Climate Induced Water Stress and Hazards in the Greater Himalayas	9 – 13 August	Kathmandu, Nepal
Feminization of Agriculture Sharing Workshop	10 – 11 August	Kathmandu, Nepal
Rock Glacier Monitoring – Technology Transfer between Eastern Alps and Eastern Himalayas	12 – 28 August	Graz, Austria
Development of Sustainable Energy for Rangelands in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas II (DESER II) Regional Training of Trainers (ToT)	13 – 21 August	Kathmandu, Nepal
National Policy Workshop	17-18 August	Kathmandu, Nepal
Dissemination workshop on Decision Support Toolbox for Environment and Natural Resource Management and SERVIR-Himalaya Needs Assessment	20 August	Thimphu, Bhutan
Koshi River Basin Preparatory Phase Dissemination Workshop	23 – 26 August	Sichuan, China
Participatory Curriculum Development Workshop cum Beekeeping Training for Farmers	23 August – 6 September	Bhur, Bhutan
Dissemination workshop on Decision Support Toolbox for Ecosystem Management and SERVIR-Himalaya Needs Assessment	25 August	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Workshop on ICIMOD's New Initiative on Rangelands' Programme	30 – 31 August	Kathmandu, Nepal
Payment for Environmental services (PES) in the HKH Region: Policy Options	30 August – 1 September	Kathmandu, Nepal
Second Regional Workshop on Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation Initiative	4 – 6 September	Sichuan, China
World Water Week in Stockholm	5 – 11 September	Stockholm, Sweden
Certificate of Advanced Studies in Disaster Risk Reduction	6 – 17 September	Lausanne, Switzerland
The Tenth International Symposium on High Mountain Remote Sensing Cartography (HMRSC X)	8 – 18 September	Kathmandu, Nepal
Training workshop on Snow and Glacier Melt Runoff Modelling in the Indus Basin	18 – 23 September	Islamabad, Pakistan
Training workshop on stream flow measurement using fluorescent tracer	25 – 27 September	Islamabad, Pakistan

Event	Date	Place
Regional Workshop on Creating a Sustainable Network of Climate Change Champions	19 – 24 September	Kathmandu, Nepal
National Conservation Day and Promoting Herbal Garden in Schools: Herbal Profiles Competition	23 September	Kathmandu, Nepal
International Expert Consultation Meeting on Mountain Initiative and Climate Change	23 – 24 September	Kathmandu, Nepal
Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation Initiative (KSLCI) Strengthening Project	23 – 24 September	Kathmandu, Nepal
Tourism and Climate Change Stakeholder Workshop	23 – 24 September	Kathmandu, Nepal
Participatory Curriculum Development Workshop on Beekeeping for Farmers' Level Training	28 – 30 September	Himachal Pradesh, India
Youth Forum on Empowering Youth with Earth Observation Information for Climate Actions	1 – 6 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
Space-Based Information for Disaster Preparedness and Risk Management workshop and Launch of Japanese satellite receiving station for disaster response	2 – 3 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
International Symposium – Benefiting from Earth Observation: Bridging the Data Gap for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region	4 – 6 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
Launch of SERVIR Himalaya in partnership with USAID, NASA and ICIMOD	5 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
Regional Workshop on Knowledge Sharing in Asia and the Pacific	6 – 7 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
SERVIR Himalaya Regional Inception Workshop	7 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
Tenth Meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP-10) to the Convention on Biological Diversity	18 – 29 October	Nagoya, Japan
Regional Workshop: Pastoralism and Rangeland Management on the Tibetan Plateau in the context of Climate and Global Change	21– 25 October	Lhasa, Tibet Autonomous Region
NEPCAT training on Documentation and Dissemination of Sustainable Land Management (SLM) technologies and approaches using WOCAT tools for NEPCAT Fact Sheet 2 Publications	25 – 29 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
Regional Training for Trainers: Workshop on Integrated Approach to Flashflood and Flood Risk Management	25 October – 2 November	Kathmandu, Nepal
The 2 nd Third Pole Environment (TPE) Workshop	26 – 28 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
Workshop on Glacial Lakes Mapping, GLOF Risk Assessment and Mitigation Measures in the HKH Region	29 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
DESER II Regional Training of Trainers (TOT) Workshop	3 – 5 November	Kathmandu, Nepal
Regional Sharing Workshop on Community Perceptions on Climate Change	11 – 13 November	Shillong, India
International Graduate Conference	15 – 19 November	Kathmandu, Nepal
Experience Sharing on Making Value Chains Inclusive	19 November	Kathmandu, Nepal
41 st Board of Governors' Meeting	21 – 25 November	Dehradun, India
Regional Study Course on Climate Change, Hydrological Drought and Flood	27 November – 4 December	Thimpu, Bhutan
UNFCCC COP 16	29 November – 10 December	Mexico
Regional Orientation-cum-Training Workshop on a Developing a Research Framework for Pro Poor Honey Value Chains	1 – 3 December	Kathmandu, Nepal
Knowledge Forum with Nobel Laureate Prof. Dr. Elinor Ostrom	6 December	Kathmandu, Nepal
Knowledge Sharing and Consultation Workshop on Improving Local Governance in the HKH	6 – 13 December	Chittagong and Dhaka, Bangladesh
Regional Steering Committee Meeting on Establishment of a Regional Flood Information System in the HKH Region (HKH-HYCOS)	7 – 9 December	Kathmandu, Nepal
SERVIR-Himalaya: Needs Assessment cum inception workshop for Pakistan	8 December	Islamabad, Pakistan
Writeshop to Develop Koshi River Basin Proposal	9 – 10 December	Kathmandu, Nepal
International Mountain Day and Promoting Herbal Gardens in School: Best Herbal Garden Competition	10 December	Kathmandu, Nepal
Training Course on "Basics of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing (RS)	13 – 24 December	Kathmandu, Nepal
Meeting with BNF/DEBTEC/Araanayak	14 – 15 December	Chittagong, Bangladesh
The Third Regional Workshop Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation Initiative (KSLCI)	16 – 18 December	Kathmandu, Nepal
Medicinal Plants Quality Standards: Developing Tools to Strengthen Market Linkages between Suppliers and Buyers	20 – 21 December	Kathmandu, Nepal

Hosted institution

SANDEE celebrated a decade of capacity building in research in and teaching of environmental economics

Some 150 leading economists from all over the world gathered in Godavari in Kathmandu on 6-7 December 2010, for a conference on 'Environment and Development in South Asia' organised by the South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE). Academicians and policy-makers from the South Asia region debated and discussed research findings with their counterparts from East Asia, Europe, Africa, and the Americas.

Dr Mahesh Banskota, Dean of the School of Arts, Kathmandu University, inaugurated the conference. Dr Banskota emphasised the need for a better understanding of climate changes and adaptation to them. The Inauguration was followed by a Founder's Address by the former Director and Professor Emeritus of the Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics, Karl Goran Maler. Professor Maler emphasised the need to value nature correctly in order to plan sustainably: he also discussed and provided examples of the many different complexities in the linkages between nature and human activities.



Noble Laureate Elinor Ostrom delivered a key note address on the 7th of December. In her address, Dr Ostrom discussed reforms in resource governance and underscored the importance of not looking for one single 'panacea'. While in some cases state management of resources may work, in others the private sector or communities may be more appropriate managers. She said that it is possible for communities to address the issue of conservation and livelihood support if they are given autonomy and ownership over resources.

SANDEE



ECONOMICS & THE ENVIRONMENT



Dr Ostrom, who was visiting Nepal at the invitation of the Government of Nepal, the Asia Foundation, and SANDEE, has been working in the area of resource governance for the last three decades and was awarded the Nobel Prize for her contribution to the field in 2009.

Other senior economists attending the meeting included Prof Yoginder Alagh, Chairperson of SANDEE and former minister of the Government of India. Senior officials from the ministries and planning commissions of South Asia also attended: Mr M Shamshul Alam and Dr Nasim Uddin from Bangladesh; Dr Kirit Parikh from India; and Mr Tsering, Mr Wangchuk Namgey, and Mr Sonam Wangdi from Bhutan.

This conference celebrated a decade of research and training spearheaded by SANDEE. The scholars and policy makers presented their work and discussed future research, policy, and training needs in the region. About 70 papers were presented on topics ranging across health, pollution, water management, poverty and common property resources, and climate change.

The Asia Foundation, ICIMOD, IDRC, NORAD, SIDA, UNDP, UNEP, and the World Bank co-sponsored the conference with SANDEE.

Anuradha Kafle, anuradhak@sandeeonline.org

Partnership development (April - December 2010)

ICIMOD is continuing to build on its strategic partnerships, bringing together institutions to address the emerging issues of the mountain region more effectively and to achieve the objective of improving the social and environmental well being of mountain people.

These agreements between ICIMOD and regional and non-regional institutions are expected to assist ICIMOD in achieving its strategic objectives and outcomes as well as enhancing the capacities of partners in regional member countries for research and knowledge generation.

Some of the institutions with which ICIMOD has entered into partnership in the last nine months are listed below.

Strengthening strategic collaboration in the region and beyond

To promote exchange on mountain-specific adaptations to climate change and other related topics, including framing enabling policies and programmes and capacity building, ICIMOD signed an MoU with the Ministry of Environment (MoE), Government of Nepal (GoN). Through this partnership arrangement, the institutions plan to work together to address the impacts of climate change on mountains and mountain people; which will include enhancement of participation and contributions to international discussions and negotiations. ICIMOD will provide technical support and backstopping to help GoN/MoE promote the Mountain Alliance Initiative (MAI).

A strategic partnership was established with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) for their support to the programme on 'Hindu Kush-Himalayan Cryosphere Studies and Capacity Building in Nepal 2010 to 2015'. The purpose of this technical collaboration is to help Nepal and other regional member countries acquire the capacity to adapt to climate change.

A strategic partnership was established with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Development Association, The World Bank under the South Asia Initiative (SAWI) Multi-Donor Trust Fund, Abu Dhabi Dialogue Small Grants' Programme. The aim is to provide small grants to encourage and support collaborative research among regional partners as well as to support regional platforms for discussion and exchange of research findings.

ICIMOD entered into a long-term strategic cooperation with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), USA, to establish SERVIR-Himalaya, which will facilitate acquisition and use of products derived from satellite-based information systems and from digital knowledge for social advancement at community and policy levels in the region.

Adaptation to climate change

NORAD REDD: A contract was signed with the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) under which NORAD will provide financial assistance to the reduced emission from deforestation and degradation (REDD) programme. It will also help design and set up a pilot governance and payment system for stakeholders involved in the REDD+ project that builds on Nepal's community forestry programme. This will benefit local communities in particular and the nation in general. The partnership will facilitate technical activities and will institutionalise a carbon accounting system and operations of the Project Management Unit (PMU) as the REDD office. Letters of Agreement (LoAs) were signed with the Asian Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB)-Kathmandu, Nepal; and the Federation of Community Forest Users Nepal (FECOFUN).

ICIMOD signed LoAs with the following institutions to assess pilot communities' perceptions of climate change in order to operationalise participatory action research (PAR) oriented to climate-change adaptation (CCA) for high mountain agribusiness and livelihood improvement (HIMALI): Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD), Pokhara, Nepal; and District Development Committee-Local Development Fund (DDC-LDF), Jumla, Nepal

ICIMOD signed LoAs with the following institutions to implement the second phase of the project 'Development of Sustainable Energy for Rangelands (DESER-II)', which focuses on establishing and enabling support mechanisms to deal with availability and affordability issues in sustainable dissemination of tested technologies at project sites: Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP)-Chitral, Pakistan; and Wildlife Institute of India (WII), India.

ICIMOD signed an LoA with Green Hill – CHT, Bangladesh, to implement the 'Regional project

on shifting cultivation (RPSC): Promoting innovative policy and development options for improving shifting cultivation in the Eastern Himalayas in Bandarban and Rangamati districts of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) of Bangladesh’.

Water and disaster risk reduction: snow and ice

ICIMOD signed an LoA with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to provide technical and scientific support to the establishment of a regional flood information system in the HKH region (HKH-HYCOS).

ICIMOD signed an MoU with the Cold and Arid Regions’ Environmental and Engineering Research Institute (CAREERI), CAS, Lanzhou, China, to establish long-term cooperation on development of a regional database on the cryosphere (snow cover, permafrost, and glaciers), hydrology, and water resources. LoAs were signed with the following institutions in Pakistan to facilitate capacity building for improved monitoring of snow, ice, and water resources in the Indus basin: Pakistan Meteorological Department, Islamabad; and Water and Power Development Authority, Lahore,



Knowledge sharing and capacity building

Under a collaborative project with the British Council, ICIMOD is to organise a knowledge workshop for British Council’s international climate champions.

ICIMOD has also renewed its partnership with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in order to implement the ‘Afghan Mapping Initiative for Geospatial Technologies, Capacity Building, and Training.’

Ayushma Basnyat, ayrana@icimod.org

Farid Ahmad, faahmad@icimod.org

Outreach News and Activities (April - December 2010)

Participated in an exhibition organised by the British Council, 10 April, Kathmandu, Nepal

Participated in an exhibition organised by the Department of Plant Resources, Golden Jubilee celebrations, 11 April, Kathmandu, Nepal

International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) 22 May, Kathmandu, Nepal

- Street Drama ‘Water and Biodiversity’ (www.icimod.org/index.php?page=1061)
- ICIMOD photo contest on ‘Mountain Biodiversity’ (www.icimod.org/index.php?page=854)
- IBD message on ‘Celebrating the International Day for Biological Diversity’ (www.icimod.org/?page=1070)

World Environment Day (WED) 2010; WED message on ‘Celebrating the World Environment Day’ (www.icimod.org/?page=1127);

Award Ceremony for ‘Herbal Poster with Recipe’ contest 7 June (www.icimod.org/?page=1144)

Information Booth , 23rd session of Asia Pacific Forestry Commission, 8-11 June, Bhutan

National Conservation Day and Award Ceremony for the ‘Herbal Profiles’ contest 23 September, Kathmandu, Nepal (www.icimod.org/?page=1464)

Poster show and information stall, International Symposium - Benefiting from Earth Observation: 4 - 6 October, Kathmandu, Nepal

Participated in exhibition, International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction (UNISDR Day), 12-13 October, Kathmandu, Nepal

Scientific round tables and Himalaya–*Changing Landscapes* photo exhibition at Planet Nepal, Festival of Arts and Environment (29 - 31 October) organised by Alliance Française, Kathmandu, Nepal (www.planetnepal.org.np/round-table-discussion/)

Knowledge Hub Booth, ADB Partners Conference ‘Water Crisis and Choices’, 11-15 October 2010

Convention on Biological Diversity, COP 10, 18 -29 October, Nagoya, Japan: Interactive Biodiversity Fair, 18-29 October;

Communication, Education, and Public Awareness (CEPA) Fair, 23-26 October; CEPA side event: Celebrating International Year of Biodiversity 2010 in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan (HKH) Region, 27 October; Poster Session, 18-22 October (www.icimod.org/?page=1129)

Information Booth UNFCCC COP 16/CMP 6 at Cancun, Mexico 29 November-10 December

International Mountain Day (IMD) 2010; IMD message on Celebrating International Mountain Day (www.icimod.org/?page=1678);

Award Ceremony for the ‘Herbal Garden’, 10 December, Kathmandu, Nepal (www.icimod.org/?page=1693)

ICIMOD Knowledge Forum Series www.icimod.org/?page=865

- Prof Jack D Ives on ‘Lessons Unlearned and Problems of Scholarly Research within a Political Arena’ – 17 March.
- IDRC President David Malone on ‘The Changing Context and Content of Aid Policy, Other Emerging Issues, and Alternative Paradigms, 23 April
- Nobel Laureate Prof Elinor Ostrom, on Governing and Managing Forests and Other Common Property Resources in a Period of Climate Change’ 6 December

Outreach activities

Promoting Herbal Gardens in Schools

The competition 'Promoting Herbal Gardens in Schools' was launched on World Environment Day, 5 June 2010. The aim was to familiarise school children with the usefulness of common and frequently used herbal plants and to conserve knowledge about them for future generations. The competition was organised jointly by ICIMOD and the National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) in collaboration with the Private and Boarding Schools' Organisation in Nepal (PABSON).

Fifteen schools from the Kathmandu valley took part. The competition had three components (i) Herbal Poster with Recipe, (ii) Herbal Garden Profile, and (iii) Herbal Garden. The 'Herbal Poster with Recipe' contest was held at ICIMOD's Headquarters on 7 June 2010 to mark World Environment Day 2010 (www.icimod.org/?page=1144); the 'Herbal Profiles' contest was completed in September and awards were presented on National Conservation Day. (www.icimod.org/?page=1464). The final component, the Herbal Garden, in which schools were encouraged to



set up herbal gardens within their school complexes. was evaluated during three monitoring visits the last held on 23- 25 November. Awards were presented on International Mountain Day 2010 (10 December) (www.icimod.org/?page=1693).

The 'Promoting Herbal Gardens in Schools' programme started as a pilot initiative and has been well received. A great deal of interest was generated among school children; the school managements fully supported the initiative and committed to carry it forward to government schools in 2011. The experience of three schools (Mount Glory English Boarding High School,



Results of the Competition: 'Promoting Herbal Gardens in Schools'

Herbal Poster with Recipe

Winners

- Rato Bangla School – First
- Ullens School – 1st Runner up
- Annal Jyoti Boarding School – 2nd Runner up

Special Mentions

- Loyalty Academy
- Vajra Academy

Herbal Profiles

Winners

- Namuna English School – First
- Annal Jyoti Boarding School – 1st Runner up
- Rato Bangala School – 2nd Runner up

Special Mentions

- Suryodaya Jyoti Secondary School
- Vajra Academy

Best Herbal Gardens

Winners

- Vajra Academy – First
- Suryodaya Jyoti School and Ullens School – 1st Runner Up
- Loyalty Academy and Annal Jyoti Boarding School – 2nd Runner Up

Special Mentions

- Rato Bangala
- Aims Academy



Vajra Academy, and Rato Bangala) can be read at www.icimod.org/index.php?page=1687.

To give continuity and sustainability to the initiative, the seven winning schools will replicate the concept with three public schools in 2011, at least one from outside the Kathmandu valley. The schools will be judged and awarded on their efforts in spreading the concept of herbal gardens and raising awareness about the importance of medicinal and herbal plants and their significance in our daily lives. The other eight participating schools will continue maintaining their gardens and again compete for 'Best Herbal Garden' in 2011 to coincide with World Environment Day 2011.

Posters displaying the initiatives of the schools in preparing their herbal gardens were highlighted at the 10th meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention of Biological Diversity (COP 10) in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010.

Read the full report at: www.icimod.org/index.php?page=1128

Nira Gurung ngurung@icimod.org

ICIMOD participates in World Water Week, 5-10 September 2010, Stockholm, Sweden

ICIMOD participated in World Water Week from 5-10 September 2010 in Stockholm, Sweden. The conference had more than 2,000 participants: decision makers and water experts as well top leaders and government ministers.

The rationale for ICIMOD's presence at World Water Week was strategic, and focused on continuing to build on ICIMOD's achievements during the previous two years to put ICIMOD on the map as a main actor in the field of climate, water, and adaptation, in the HKH region, primarily, and in the global arena in general.

ICIMOD organised a side event on 'Living with Too Much and Too Little Water in the Himalayan Region' together with the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) on 9 September with presenters Dipak Gyawali (ISET), Ramesh Vaidya (ICIMOD), Mats Eriksson (ICIMOD), and Tighe Geoghegan (IIED). The event was well visited and had a very good response, with particular appreciation of the fact that it brought 'real life' studies to the otherwise mainly general dialogues on adaptation during the week. An exhibition booth showcased ICIMOD's work on water, climate change, and adaption. ICIMOD staff also took the opportunity to have informal side meetings and network with different collaborators and potential partners.

Shiva Hari Khatri, skhatri@icimod.org

'Himalaya-Changing Landscapes' photo exhibition

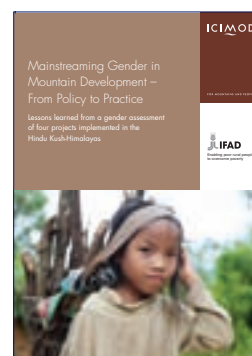
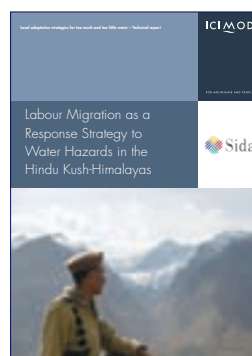
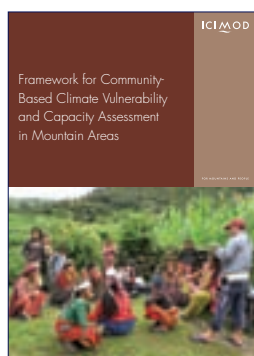
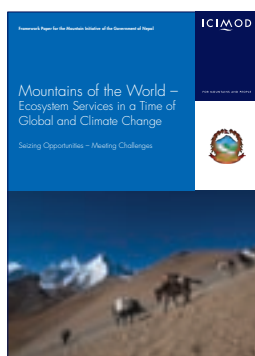
ICIMOD's photo exhibition Himalaya – *Changing Landscapes* continued its journey to raise the awareness of the impact of climate change in the Himalayan region. The exhibition was organised by CulturesFrances, the Alliance Francaise in Kathmandu and the French Embassy in Nepal named Planet Nepal, Festival of Arts and Environment from 29-31 October 2010 in Patan Museum. The repeat photographs of mountain panoramas, glaciers, landscapes, people, culture and socioeconomic changes from the mid hills of the region. They have also organised round table discussions on wetlands, floods and disaster in the context of climate change, carbon trading, and Himalayan glaciers melting. The exhibition drew interest among the panel discussion participants, students, researchers, local people and tourists from different countries. It was also covered by the Kantipur TV following with other side events. There is a set of ready-made mobile exhibition boards with 20"X30". We have displayed and distributed several books and flyers to the visitors focussed on the climate change along with the photo exhibition.

Asha Kaji Thaku, athaku@icimod.org



ICIMOD publications

The major documents published by ICIMOD between May - December 2010 are shown below. All publications can be downloaded free-of-charge from www.icimod.org/publications. Hard copy publications can be ordered from the Distribution Unit, distri@icimod.org. They can be provided free-of-charge to institutions actively involved in sustainable development of the greater Himalayan region.



Books and booklets

Printed

Framework for Community-Based Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment in Mountain Areas*

Macchi, M 27p ISBN 978 92 9115 182 0

Labour Migration as a Response Strategy to Water Hazards in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas* Banerjee, S;

Gerlitz, JY; Hoermann, B 27p ISBN 978 92 9115 185 1

Mainstreaming Gender in Mountain Development: From Policy to Practice. Lessons Learned from a Gender Assessment of four Projects Implemented in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas* Leduc, B 16pp,

ISBN 978 92 9115 179 0

Labour Migration and Remittances in Uttarakhand

Jain, A 31p ISBN 978 92 9115 177 6

The Glaciers of the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region: A summary of the science regarding glacier melt/retreat in the Himalayan, Hindu Kush, Karakoram, Pamir, and Tien Shan mountain ranges Armstrong, R 16p

ISBN 978 92 9115 173 8

International Expert Consultation Meeting: Mountain Initiative on Climate Change GoN and ICIMOD 28p

Mountain Initiative Status Paper GoN and ICIMOD. 17p ISBN 978 92 9115 170 7

Mountain Biodiversity of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas: International Year of Biodiversity 2010 ICIMOD 63p ISBN 978 92 9115 168 4

Mountains of the World - Ecosystem Services in a Time of Global and Climate Change: Seizing Opportunities - Meeting Challenges ICIMOD 18p ISBN 978 92 9115 165 3

Integrated Value Chain Development as a Tool for Poverty Alleviation: An analytical and strategic framework Hoermann, B; Choudhury, D; Choudhary, D; Kollmair, M 41p ISBN 978 92 9115 145 5

Labour Migration for Development in the Western Hindu Kush-Himalayas: Understanding a livelihood strategy in the context of socioeconomic and environmental change Hoermann, B; Banerjee, S; Kollmair, M 26p ISBN 978 92 9115 139 4

Climate Change Vulnerability of Mountain Ecosystems in the Eastern Himalayas; Climate Change impact on vulnerability in the Eastern Himalayas – Synthesis report Tsering, K; Sharma, E; Chettri, N; Shrestha, A (eds) 103p ISBN 978 92 9115 141 7

Climate Change in the Eastern Himalayas: Observed Trends and Model Projections – Technical Report 1 Shrestha, AB; Devkota, LP 13p ISBN 978 92 9115 153 0

Biodiversity in the Eastern Himalayas: Status, Trends and Vulnerability to Climate Change – Technical Report 2 Chettri, N; Sharma, E; Shakya, B; Thapa, R; Bajracharya, B; Uddin, K; Oli, K P; Choudhury, D 23p ISBN 978 92 9115 147 9

Functions and Services of Wetlands in the Eastern Himalayas – Technical Report 3 Gopal, B; Shilpakar, R; Sharma, E 21p ISBN 978 92 9115 159 2

Modelling Climate Change Impact on the Hydrology of the Eastern Himalayas – Technical Report 4 Gosain, AK; Shrestha, A B; Rao, S 11p ISBN 978 92 9115 150 9

Electronic only (online, CD-ROM, DVD)

Global Climate Financing Mechanisms and Mountain Systems – Working paper prepared for the Mountain Initiative of the Government of Nepal Schwank, O; Bruederle, A; North, N 68p

Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation Initiative: Target Area Delineation Report ICIMOD 10p

Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation Initiative: First Regional Workshop ICIMOD 55p

Climate Change Impacts on Hazards in the Eastern Himalayas: Climate Change Impact and Vulnerability in the Eastern Himalayas – Technical Report 5

Pathak, D; Mool, PK 17p ISBN 978 92 9115 164 6

Potential Threats from Climate Change to Human Wellbeing in the Eastern Himalayan Region – Technical Report 6. Fang Jing; Leduc, Brigitte 17p ISBN 978 92 9115 156 1

Biodiversity conservation and management in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region: Selected publications, films, and others from 1985 to 2010

General Publications

Newsletters

Gender Perspectives in Mountain Development: New challenges and innovative approaches, Sustainable Mountain Development, No. 57 Summer 2010

Asia-Pacific Mountain Courier – Special issue on Youth and Climate Change: Newsletter of the Asia Pacific Mountain Network, Volume 11, No. 2, November 2010

Asia-Pacific Mountain Courier: Newsletter of the Asia Pacific Mountain Network, Volume 11, No. 1, October 2010

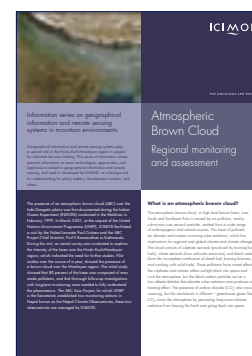
CNICIMOD Newsletter: Newsletter of the Chinese Committee on International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, (published by CNICIMOD) Volume 4, No. 2, October 2010

Information sheets

Gender Mainstreaming in Biodiversity Conservation and Management in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region, IS 4/10

Rural Livelihoods and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Himalayas, IS 5/10

Biodiversity in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ 2)



GIS/RS Information sheets

Glacier Mapping and Monitoring Tools and Techniques

Atmospheric Brown Cloud Regional Monitoring and Assessment

Implementation the Malé Declaration on Air Pollution in South Asia

Remote Sensing of Snow Cover

Land Cover Mapping Case Studies in Three Protected Areas

Regional Geo-data Sharing Initiative in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region

Geospatial and Remote Sensing Resources

Decision Support Toolbox for Mountain Protected Area Management

SERVIR-Himalaya: From Space to Village, Bringing People and Their Environment into Harmony

Space-based Information for Disaster Preparedness and Risk Management

Mountain GeoPortal: A Regional Gateway for Geo-information and Earth Observation Resources

Project and other flyers

Satellite Rainfall Estimation and Rainfall-Runoff Modelling in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region

Strengthening Participation of Marginal Mountain Communities in High Value Product Value Chains : *Cinnamomum tamala* (Indian bay leaf) in Uttarakhand, India

ICIMOD: partner in the Asia-Pacific Water Forum

Eco-Tourism for Sustainable Development in the Kailash Sacred Landscape (electronic only)

Other publications by ICIMOD authors

Aryal, KP; Kerkhoff, E; Maskey, N; Sherchan, R (2010) *Shifting cultivation in the sacred Himalayan landscape: A case study in the Kangchenjunga Conservation Area*. Kathmandu: WWF Nepal.

Bajracharya, B; Uddin, K (2010) 'Mapping land cover and understanding its dynamics in Sagarmatha National Park and buffer zone.' In Jha, PK; Khanal, IP (eds) *Contemporary research in Sagarmatha (Mt. Everest) region, Nepal: An anthology*, pp 37-44. Kathmandu: NAST

Bajracharya, SR (2010) 'Melting of Himalayan glaciers.' *Hamro Sampada: National Monthly* 9(10): 76-84

Bajracharya, SR (2010) 'Monitoring of Imja Tsho of Mt. Everest region: A brief introduction.' In Jha, PK; Khanal, IP (eds) *Contemporary research in Sagarmatha (Mt. Everest) region, Nepal: An anthology*, pp 155-162. Kathmandu: NAST

Chaudhary, S; Bushley, B; Pokhrel, B (2010) 'Payment for environmental services as an approach for biodiversity conservation and economic development in the context of climate change: An overview of issues from Nepal.' In *Biodiversity and climate change: Achieving the 2020 targets*, pp 114-115. Montreal: SCBD

Chaudhary, S; Chettri, N (2010) 'The need for linking the CBD and UNFCCC to achieve post-2010 biodiversity target.' *Square Brackets: CBD Newsletter for Civil Society* (4): 8-9

Chettri, N (2010) 'Cross-taxon congruence in a trekking corridor of Sikkim Himalayas: Surrogate analysis for conservation planning.' *Journal for Nature Conservation* 18: 75-88

Chettri, N; Shakya, B (2010) 'Conservation connectivity in transboundary landscapes: An approach for climate change adaptation in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region.' In *Biodiversity and climate change: Achieving the 2020 targets*, pp 42-44. Montreal: SCBD

Desai, BH; **Oli, KP** (2010) 'Analysis of implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan (HKH) countries.' In *Biodiversity and climate change: Achieving the 2020 targets*, pp 80-81. Montreal: SCBD

Giriraj, A; Babar, S; Jentsch, A; Sudhakar, S; Murthy, MSR (2010) 'Tracking fires in India using advanced along track scanning radiometer (A)ATSR data.' *Remote Sensing* 2(2): 591-610

Karky, BS; Skutsch, M (2010) 'The cost of carbon abatement through community forest management in Nepal Himalaya.' *Ecological Economics* 69: 666-672

Kinhal, G; Choudhary, D; Kollmair, M (2010) 'Strengthening and mainstreaming value chains for medicinal and aromatic plants: A strategy for adaptation to climate change.' In *Biodiversity and climate change: Achieving the 2020 targets*, pp 147-149. Montreal: SCBD

Leduc, B; Dhakal, TD (2010) 'Women's knowledge and practices on biodiversity management in the Himalayas: Contributions to climate change adaptation.' In *Biodiversity and climate change: Achieving the 2020 targets*, pp 19-21. Montreal: SCBD

Oli, KP (2010) 'General legal process for access and benefit sharing from genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge in the context of climate change.' In *Biodiversity and climate change: Achieving the 2020 targets*, pp 135-137. Montreal: SCBD

Oli, KP; Sharma, G (2010) 'Issues and challenges of access and benefit sharing mechanisms in the Hindu-Kush Himalayan countries.' In Werth, A; Reyes-Knoche, S (eds) *Triggering the synergies between intellectual property rights and biodiversity*, pp 219-233. Eschborn: GTZ

Rasul, G (2010) 'Policy root in environmental degradation: The case of Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh'. In McNeill, JR; Padua, JA; Rangarajan, M (eds) *Environmental history: As if nature existed*, pp 220-239. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Rasul, G; Chowdhury, AKMJU (2010) *Equity and social justice in water resource management in Bangladesh*, Gatekeeper series No 164. London: IIED

Sharma, E; Chettri, N; Oli, KP (2010) 'Mountain biodiversity conservation and management: A paradigm shift in policies and practices in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas.' *Ecological Research* 25: 909-923

Sharma, E; Zomer, R; Schild, A (2010) 'Trans-Himalayan transects: An approach for long-term ecological research and environmental monitoring to enhance climate change adaptation in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas.' In *Biodiversity and climate change: Achieving the 2020 targets*, pp 26-28. Montreal: SCBD

Shrestha, AB; Eriksson, M; Mool, P; Ghimire, P; Mishra, B; Khanal, NR (2010) 'Glacial lake outburst flood risk assessment of Sun Koshi basin, Nepal.' *Geomatics, Natural Hazards and Risk* 1(2): 157-169

Zomer, R; Sharma, E; Oli, KP; Chettri, N (2010) 'Linking biodiversity conservation and climate change perspectives in bio-culturally rich transboundary areas in the Kailash sacred landscape region of China, India, and Nepal.' In *Biodiversity and climate change: Achieving the 2020 targets*, pp 142-144. Montreal: SCBD

New appointments at ICIMOD

The list and profiles of ICIMOD staff are posted on the website at www.icimod.org/?q=44



Mr Kamal Aryal
Agriculture Specialist
ECES, January 2010



Mr Suman Jaiswal
Database and Web Content
Manager, Kailash Sacred
Landscape Conservation
Initiative, ECES, January 2010



Ms Sunita Chaudhary
Research Associate
ECES, January 2010



Mr Hari Krishna Nibanupudi
Action Area Team Leader
Disaster Risk Reduction
Specialist IWHM, June 2010



Mr Udayan Mishra
Knowledge Management
and Web Associate
IKM, June 2010



Ms Dipshika Gurung (Thapa)
Communication Assistant
Administration
July 2010



Ms Neera Shrestha (Pradhan)
Hazard and Community
Adaptation Specialist
IWHM, July 2010



Mr Abdul Azim Doosti
Country Representative
Afghanistan, ICIMOD Country
Office, September 2010



Mr Shekhar Ghimire
Director of Administration
and Finance
Administration and Finance
October 2010



Dr Ritu Verma
Division Head
Gender and Governance
SLPR, November 2010



Dr Eklabya Sharma
Director of Programme
Operations, Directorate
December 2010



Dr Abdul Wahid Jasra
Team Leader
Rangeland Resources
Management, ECES
January 2011



Ms Himaa Rai
Programme Assistant
HYCOS, IWHM
January 2011



Mr Vijay Khadgi
Assistant Project
Coordinator, HYCOS
IWHM, January 2011



Ms Miriam Lindwer
Senior Human Resources Officer
Recruitment and Capacity
Development, Administration
February 2011

- ECES** – Environment Change and Ecosystem Services
IWHM – Integrated Water and Hazard Management
IKM – Integrated Knowledge Management
SLPR – Sustainable Livelihoods and Poverty Reduction
HYCOS – Hydrological Cycle Observation System



Ukrul, Manipur, India