

International Conference on Green Economy and Sustainable Mountain Development

Opportunities and Challenges in View of Rio+20

Kathmandu, 5 to 7 September 2012

Outcomes and Way Forward

Objective

To develop compelling arguments for putting forward a mountain agenda at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in 2012, and to generate global action for the conservation of mountain ecosystems



Dr RK Pachauri, Chair, IPCC, delivers the keynote speech

150 participants representing science, policy, government, private sector, from different mountain regions of the world



Questions addressed

- How can green economy be made more relevant to mountains?
- How to link the environment, economy, and equitable development in mountains?
- Can a green economy be pro-poor? How to grow green?
- What are the costs of promoting a green economy in the mountain context?
- How can mountain communities be compensated for their services?



Key messages

- Economic growth and sustainability, not only in the mountains but also in the lowlands, depend highly on mountain resources and ecosystem services (water, carbon, biodiversity, recreational and cultural services)
- Mountains can contribute to solutions for the current challenges facing the global community, including climate change, environmental degradation, and providing new business and economic opportunities.
- The green economy, if properly managed, can contribute in fighting poverty, achieving the Millennium Development Goals, conserving resources, and promoting sustainable development
- Concerted actions are needed to establish policy and institutional frameworks conducive to creating a green economy



ICIMOD

FOR MOUNTAINS AND PEOPLE



Dr Ram Baran Yadav, President of the Republic of Nepal, inaugurates the conference

Main Outcomes

- Kathmandu Declaration on Green Economy and Sustainable Mountain Development
- Green Economy for Sustainable Mountain Development – A concept paper for Rio+20 and beyond



Key recommendations of the Kathmandu Declaration

- The Rio+20 conference should recognise the contribution of mountain systems to the green economy and set principles and policies for global, regional, and national action for sustainable mountain development.
- Global, regional, and national mechanisms and policy frameworks to compensate mountain services must be established
- Markets for ecosystem services need to be improved
- The green economy must be based on social equity
- International and regional cooperation must be promoted for knowledge sharing, capacity building, and technology transfer
- Approaches must be mountain specific

Way Forward

In the aftermath of the conference, ICIMOD will:

- provide support and assistance to its Regional Member Countries to raise the mountain agenda in regional and global fora, including Rio+20
- identify good examples and best practices for promoting green growth

ICIMOD GPO Box 3226, Kathmandu, Nepal

Tel +977-1-5003222 Email info@icimod.org Web www.icimod.org