



ICIMOD

International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development

NEWSLETTER No 6

June 1986

ICIMOD's First Senior Research Fellowship Awarded

The Director of ICIMOD, Dr. Colin Rosser, is pleased to announce the award of the Centre's first Senior Research Fellowship to Dr. Tirtha Bahadur Shrestha of the Royal Nepal Academy. Dr. Shrestha, a Himalayan botanist and ecologist of international distinction, will take up his Fellowship at ICIMOD on 15 July for a period of nine months. Part of this time will be spent continuing his field research on the mountain eco-systems of the Eastern Nepal Himalaya. This first Senior Research Fellowship is expected to result in a major ICIMOD publication next year on "The Development Ecology of the Arun River Basin".

The Senior Fellowship Programme, approved by the ICIMOD Board of Governors at its Sixth Board Meeting in February, will enable the Director to make awards over the next three years to between eight and ten outstanding scientists of the Hindu Kush-Himalaya Region. The aim of these Research Fellowships, funded by a generous grant to the Centre specifically for this purpose from the Ford Foundation, is to enable invitees to undertake "sabbatical" research and publication (on leave from their own institutions or agencies) at ICIMOD on subjects of direct relevance to the effective development of mountain communities and the sound environmental management of their vulnerable mountain habitats.

These Senior Fellowships will be awarded by invitation of the Director, strictly on merit. The basic objective of this unique Fellowship Programme is to provide major support to creative and talented scientists, with a high level of professional achievement, capable of making continued contributions to the sustained well-being of the mountain peoples.

Each Senior Fellowship will involve an award of US \$ 25,000 over a nine-month period, including both Fellowship stipends and major support for travel, field research, and publication.

The intention is not to restrict these Fellowships to academics. On the contrary, the scope of invitation will include senior individuals of exceptional



Dr. T. B. Shrestha at a col near Makalu Base Camp during field research

practical field experience in mountain development and resource management. ICIMOD hopes to welcome talented and imaginative project professionals and government administrators as Senior Research Fellows, and to provide them with an opportunity to assess the lessons of their own practical experience in mountain development.

With the first award to Dr. T.B. Shrestha, one of Nepal's most distinguished scientists, this Programme is off to an excellent start. ICIMOD looks forward to having in residence a series of Senior Fellows from as many of the countries of the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region as possible, for varying periods over the next three years or so. ICIMOD anticipates great contributions from its Fellows to continued development as a unique International Centre in the field of integrated mountain development.

The Board of Governors has agreed that implementation of this Senior Research Fellowship Programme will be reviewed periodically by the Centre's Programme Advisory Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. T. N. Seshan, Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment. As the only senior-level, internationally-organised and funded Research Fellowship Programme focused on mountain development, its achievements over the next few years will clearly attract much interest in the professional and scientific community concerned with research and development in mountain regions.

ICIMOD IN THE FIELD : A Note from Anis Dani (ICIMOD staff member from Pakistan)



A Village Organisation Meeting in Gilgit

One of the important lessons emerging from ICIMOD's state-of-the-art reviews is the need for direct links between desk and field. ICIMOD's information services must not only rely on the most current data from project implementors, but also on participatory action research and feedback from project beneficiaries. ICIMOD's first direct involvement in the field -- collaboration with the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) -- has been fruitful for both development facilitators and villagers.

Understanding the Programme

AKRSP is a multi-donor funded NGO implementing an integrated rural development programme in the Northern Areas of Pakistan since 1983. The programme uses an innovative approach by including local knowledge for project identification, and on multi-purpose Village Organisations and local expertise, enhanced through skill development training courses, for project implementation.

Two earlier visits indicated the willingness of AKRSP to share its data base and practical field experiences and also prompted their request for further collaboration with ICIMOD. As a result I was assigned to Gilgit for three months in January 1986 to initiate activities. As this was the first collaborative action in the field by ICIMOD, part of my assignment as a social scientist was to explore the action itself.

Collaboration on Social Forestry

The major work of AKRSP is the expansion of small - scale, farmer - managed irrigation systems. One - third of the barren land being developed has been earmarked for afforestation. During my assignment, AKRSP requested my assistance in the development of a social forestry programme to be implemented by the Programme. My input was to design appropriate institutional arrangements in line with the technical feasibility, village demands, and resource jurisdiction. Subsequently villages were selected on a regional basis, discussions held with Village Organisations, nursery trainees identified, a formal training course

organised in Gilgit on nursery development and social forestry, and field training provided to village women, who are expected to be employed extensively in nurseries.

Initially there was some scepticism among the project staff, however, the keen interest in the establishment of nurseries displayed by the Village Organisations surprised them. Seven nurseries were established this season, with another twenty expected by 1987. The programme is now being implemented by AKRSP's regular staff.

Institutional Innovations Research

During my field assignment, I conducted research on the role of local institutions in management of renewable resources. In order to understand the innovations being introduced by AKRSP and other development programmes, I made extensive tours of Nagar and Hunza to assemble data to supplement that obtained from secondary sources and project records. The focus was on Common Property Regimes governing local management of resources such as pastures, forests, or irrigation channels for private lands.

ICIMOD/EWC/AKRSP Workshop on Institutional Development for Local Management of Rural Resources, Gilgit, 19-24 April 1986

The chosen dates of the Workshop were auspicious. Thanks to the cooperation of the weather, participants were treated to breathtaking scenes during the flight from Islamabad to Gilgit which took them around Nanga Parbat (8,100 m). The same afternoon they witnessed an increasingly rare traditional game of polo (no holds barred) in the land of origin. The signs were good for a successful week.

My field assignment laid the groundwork for this collaborative workshop, which focused on the functions and constitutions of Common Property Regimes and on the performance criteria by which they can be evaluated. These include regimes where management of resources is clearly under common property tenure but



Dr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, General Manager AKRSP, addresses the Workshop

also cover resources where the legal tenure may be individual or state ownership but where de facto management is subject to shared institutional arrangements.

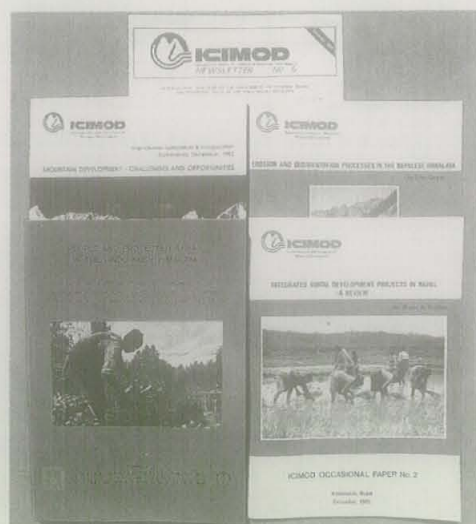
The Workshop attempted to develop a better understanding of institutional rules which define rights, obligations, and access to resources, and the local organisations used to implement resource management. The participants reviewed experiences of Common Property Regimes in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Pakistan, and then concentrated on the AKRSP field area.

This Workshop had two distinguishing features :

1. focus on a rural development project as a case study for analysis during the Workshop, and
2. integration of the field study into the substantive concerns of the Workshop

The field study was clearly the high point of the Workshop. Besides the spectacular scenery encountered during the harrowing jeep ride from Gilgit (1,400 m) to the upper Nagar and Hunza valleys (3,000 m), the joys of jaunting along narrow paths halfway up the slopes, and the challenge of crossing a teetering suspension bridge designed to prevent grazing livestock from crossing into valuable fruit orchards -- all essentials to understand the normal life of mountain dwellers -- the group managed to get a lot done.

Five villages had been selected for the field visit. Each of these represented a different Common Property Regime. Participants were provided with background data of each village, and parameters for investigation developed during the first two days of the Workshop. The field visits clearly would not have been possible without the presence of an ongoing development project which enabled such detailed preparation in a relatively short period.



ICIMOD PUBLICATIONS

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Discussions of the last two days focused on the reports of the working groups. Considerable feedback was provided to AKRSP, the conceptual framework was developed further, and a list of critical research

issues was identified. These issues were concerned with two major themes : the nature of Common Property Regimes, and the impact of development, conventional credit policies, and other external pressures on these regimes.

Collaboration in Projects : ICIMOD's Role

ICIMOD's Gilgit involvement has illustrated the wide scope that exists for collaboration between researchers, local people, and development facilitators at all levels. Not only is such collaboration feasible; it is increasingly evident that without cooperation, development efforts are futile.

The Workshop Report from Gilgit is currently under preparation. The follow-up to the Workshop includes a concept paper to develop a methodology and organisation of project-related research. A regional meeting with the focus of Local Institutions for Resource Management is being planned for 1987.

DEVELOPMENT OF ICIMOD's DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

Expansion and fine tuning of ICIMOD's Documentation Centre are receiving priority emphasis over the coming months. By the end of this year the Documentation Centre is expected to contain over 5,000 titles, in addition to the grey material collection on Himalayan Development and Management, organised on a computer data base. A systematic process of documentation, abstract preparation, and dissemination via micro-fiche, is being developed.

The Centre is intended for use by the professional staff of ICIMOD and is also open to project personnel from the Region, individual research scholars, aid agency staff, and of course, Senior Research Fellows of the Centre.

The successful establishment and effectiveness of the Centre depends heavily on the contribution of :

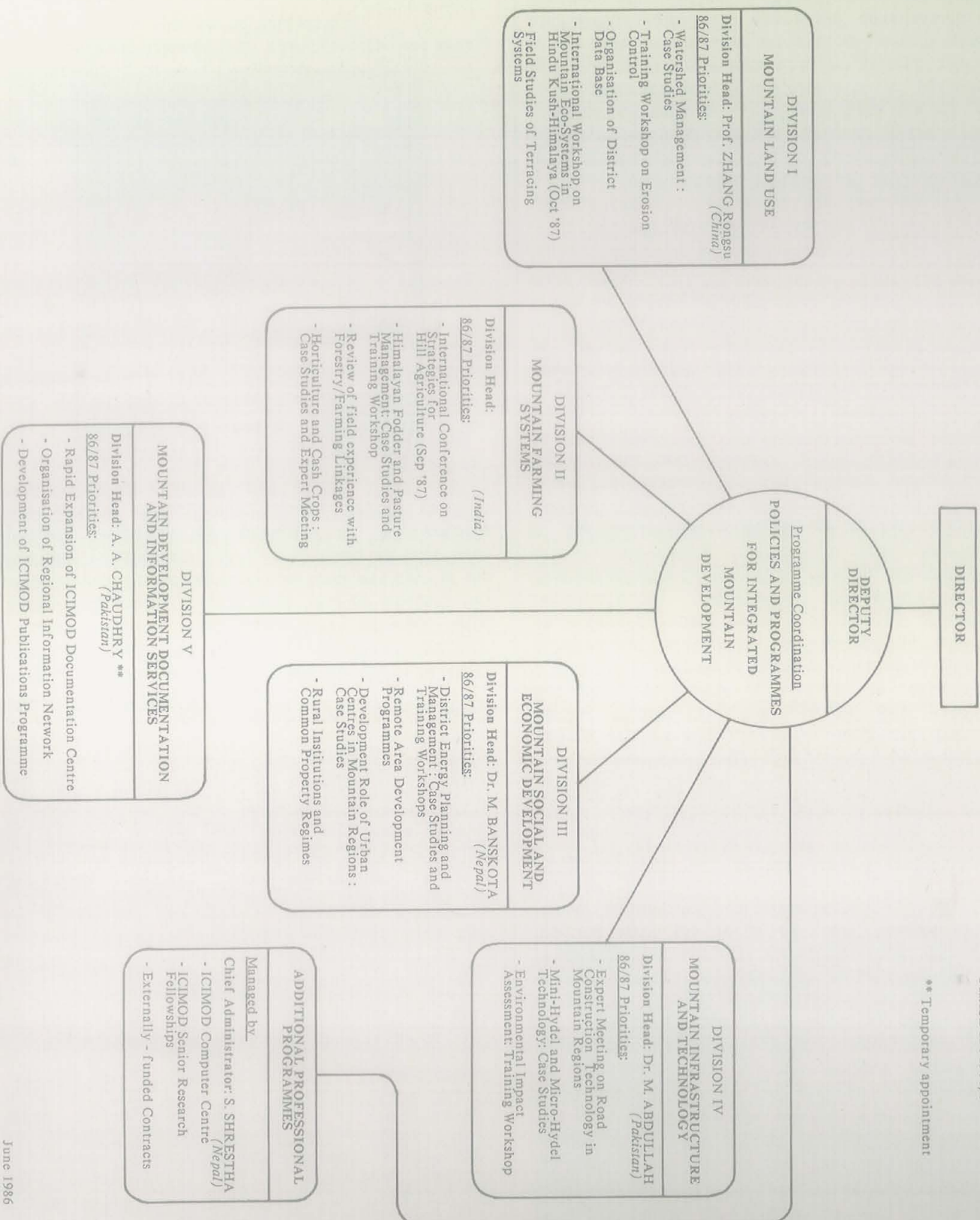
- research reports
- project documents
- maps
- National Development Plans
- project appraisal reports
- theses
- technical reports
- journal articles
- project proposals
- annual reports
- progress reports
- feasibility studies

ICIMOD would also appreciate donations to the Documentation Centre of slide films, videos, training material and other records, in order to make this collection of grey material in the Hindu Kush- Himalaya Region of maximum benefit to all.

ICIMOD PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

PHASE II : 1986/87

** Temporary appointment



THE WAY AHEAD FOR ICIMOD

- A Note by the Director

With the publication of this Newsletter, ICIMOD completes the first two years of its development as Nepal's first International Centre. Starting from scratch just two years ago (when I arrived as the Centre's first professional staff member) we have moved rapidly to build ICIMOD into an effective instrument of regional cooperation, on a systematic professional and scientific basis, here in these splendid mountains of the Hindu Kush-Himalaya. In just twenty months, we have:

- assembled a skilled and highly experienced professional staff of 25 drawn from Nepal, India, China, Pakistan and Bhutan, which covers a wide range of the professions and disciplines relevant to the social and economic development of mountain communities and to the management of mountain environments
- completed the initial organisation and equipping of the modest but attractive 'campus' of seven buildings in Kathmandu, with a rapidly growing computerised documentation centre concentrating on the assembly of 'grey materials' of project documents, field surveys, and research reports on selected priority aspects of integrated mountain development
- organised, as the basis for face-to-face exchange of professional expertise in the Hindu Kush-Himalaya, a series of five major International Workshops (on Watershed Management, Rural Energy, Rural-Urban Linkages, Off-Farm Employment and Management of National Parks) attended by over 200 professionals from the countries of the Region
- made substantial progress with the implementation of a major publications series focusing on practical programme and project experience in mountain development and environmental management
- begun systematic professional collaboration with agencies and institutions concerned with mountain development - whether multilateral (such as FAO, ESCAP or UNEP) or national (such as the Tata Energy Research Institute in India, the National Energy Commission in China, the Pakistan Agricultural Research Council in Islamabad, or the Bangladesh Institute of Development Economics).
- initiated, with Ford Foundation funding, a major Senior Research Fellowship Programme (reported earlier in this Newsletter)

After two very busy and exciting years of professional institution - building, we have the

satisfaction of knowing that this new International Centre is placed firmly on the "institutional map" of this vast mountain region, extending over 3000 kilometres from Afghanistan at the western extremity, through the Karakoram and Great Himalaya to China in the north and east (seen from our central location here in Kathmandu). We have made good progress in professional collaboration and consultation with institutions and agencies - and with specific field projects - throughout the Region, covering all or part of eight sovereign states.

From the consultation in each country and, above all, from the face-to-face professional exchanges at our series of International Workshops on the Hindu Kush-Himalaya, we have now laid the foundations for an effective international contribution by ICIMOD during Phase II (to end 1988) of its development.

At the Sixth Board Meeting in February this year, the international Board of Governors of ICIMOD, under the chairmanship of Dr. Ratna S. J. B. Rana, the Vice-Chancellor of the Royal Nepal Academy of Science and Technology, approved a "Phase II Workplan Framework" for the Centre covering the three-year period from 1986 to 1988. For those interested, copies of this document may be obtained upon request.

From the beginning of July this year, the Centre began vigorous and full-scale implementation of this approved Workplan in selected priority subjects of practical development research, relevant training (particularly in the form of regional "Training Workshops" for trainers and relatively senior professionals), and the systematic exchange of knowledge and expertise - all in the key priority issues of policy, programme and project formulation and implementation in integrated mountain development.

The Phase II organisation of the Centre, and its immediate programme priorities, are shown in summary form in the diagram on the opposite page. The professional staffing of ICIMOD strongly reflects the fundamental objectives of the Centre in the promotion of regional cooperation - in mountain development and environmental management - among the eight countries of the Hindu Kush-Himalaya Region.

The task of building ICIMOD into the strong and unique International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development that its founding fathers envisaged is essentially a joint effort of the Board of Governors and the whole staff of the Centre, professional and administrative. Thanks to their joint efforts, and particularly to the sustained and enthusiastic support of HMG Nepal, the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of Switzerland - our triumvirate of financial sponsors - ICIMOD is well on the way to making a useful and effective professional contribution in the Hindu Kush-Himalaya.

ICIMOD'S INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS FOR INTEGRATED MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development began professional activities in September 1984 with the first objective of reviewing development and environmental management experience in the Region. An International Workshop was planned for each of four major fields to review the state of knowledge and practical experience, and also to provide an opportunity for the exchange of professional expertise with regard to integrated mountain development.

The Workshops were attended by over two hundred experts from the countries of the Region as well as other international participants. A large number of professional papers and research studies were presented and discussed. The Workshops below conclude the first series of professional exchanges on the Hindu Kush-Himalaya.

PEOPLE AND JOBS IN THE MOUNTAINS

The Workshop **Off-Farm Employment Generation** was organised in collaboration with the Department of Environment, Forests and Wildlife, Government of India, and held on the campus of the historic Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, 17 - 19 May.

Workshop discussions centred around on-and-off-farm links; the role of the informal sector; infrastructural, industrial and human resource development; and review of policy and programme experiences for employment promotion in mountain economies. One of the outcomes of the Workshop was to identify a set of priority research issues in the field of off-farm employment generation. These issues include : trade and marketing strategies, rural-urban linkages, technical manpower development, women and off-farm activities, and environmental rehabilitation programmes and their employment potential. ICIMOD's contribution will be through carefully planned collaboration to highlight the various experiences of different institutions and regions, and also to promote the efforts for regional cooperation necessary for integrated mountain development.

ENERGY FOR MOUNTAIN DISTRICTS

At the heart of the rural energy concern lies a paradox. In the last ten years, the importance of energy's role in rural development and environmental management has been amply emphasised. Yet action programmes to enhance the rural quality of life have been marginal at best. Not only have financial resources been severely limited for rural energy development but local people have been hesitant to accept suggested solutions and approaches.

These concerns brought together energy planners, policy makers, and researchers from the countries of the Hindu Kush-Himalaya Region at the **International Workshop on District Energy Planning and Management for Integrated Mountain Development**, held at ICIMOD in Kathmandu from 3 - 5 May 1986. Participants from Bangladesh, China, India, Nepal, Pakistan and various international agencies attended this first part of the

TOWNS IN THE MOUNTAINS

Out-migration and rapid environmental degradation are disturbing indicators of pressures on hill farming systems and economies. Identifying appropriate socio-economic development strategies to meet these challenges is a primary concern of ICIMOD.

The Workshop **Planned Urbanisation and Rural-Urban Linkages in the Hindu Kush-Himalaya**, held at ICIMOD from 26 - 30 March 1986, was jointly organised by the Man and Biosphere Committee (MAB) Nepal, and ICIMOD, in collaboration with UNESCO MAB, Paris, and the Department of Housing, Building and Physical Planning, Ministry of Works and Transport, His Majesty's Government of Nepal. The major focus of the workshop was to review a methodology for collaboration in a comparative planning and action programme in six valleys of the Region namely Thimphu, Lhasa, Dun , Srinagar, Kathmandu, and Peshawar. In preparation for the Workshop, background studies of the Kathmandu Valley Region were carried out planners of His Majesty's Government of Nepal and staff members of ICIMOD.

Workshop. The second part, is expected to be held later this year in Thimphu, Bhutan.

The Workshop was divided into five sessions :

1. District Energy Planning Framework : Problems and Issues
2. Fuelwood Crisis and Solutions
3. Non-Wood Energy Options
4. Energy Intersectoral Relationships
5. Planning and Policy Issues

The Workshop concluded that decentralised energy planning at the district level is an appropriate mechanism for supplementing ongoing development efforts while addressing location-specific problems. It was emphasised that rural energy planning should be consistent with mountain development objectives in particular and national development objectives in general. A holistic outlook and multi-sectoral integration in plan formulation as well as implementation were advocated.

PUBLICATIONS FROM ICIMOD

WORKSHOP REPORT SERIES

PEOPLE AND PROTECTED AREAS

International Workshop on the Management of National Parks and Protected Areas in the Hindu Kush-Himalaya, Kathmandu, Nepal. May 1985

MANAGING MOUNTAIN WATERSHEDS

International Workshop on Watershed Management in the Hindu Kush-Himalaya, Chengdu, Sichuan, China. Oct. 1985

TOWNS IN THE MOUNTAINS

International Workshop on Planned Urbanisation and Rural-Urban Linkages in the Hindu Kush-Himalaya, Kathmandu, Nepal. March 1986

ENERGY FOR MOUNTAIN DISTRICTS

International Workshop on District Energy Planning and Management for Integrated Mountain Development, Kathmandu, Nepal. May 1986

PEOPLE AND JOBS IN THE MOUNTAINS

International Workshop on Off-Farm Employment Generation, Dehra Dun, India. May 1986

COMMON PROPERTY REGIMES

International Workshop on Institutional Development for Local Management of Rural Resources, Gilgit. April 1986

BOOKS

(completion expected during 1986)

RURAL ENERGY PLANNING IN THE INDIAN HIMALAYA

Editors : T. M. VinodKumar and Dilip Ahuja
This collection of papers, contributed by twenty leading professionals from India, form the first critical appraisal of energy issues with regard to the Indian Himalaya

LOCAL INSTITUTIONS FOR RURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Editors : J. G. Campbell and Anis A. Dani
An anthology of field - based analyses from the Hindu Kush-Himalaya Region, which examines indigenous institutions for managing renewable resources with particular emphasis on common property management.

INTEGRATED MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT :

Selected Papers from ICIMOD's International Workshops

MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC STRATEGIES IN SOUTHERN CHINA

Lin Qing Fa

COLLECTED PAPERS ON WATERSHED MANAGEMENT IN CHINA



Workshop participants visit a land development area during the field visit

Refer to page 3

EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION PROCESSES IN THE NEPALESE HIMALAYA

Brian Carson

An analysis of the relations between human activities and erosion and sedimentation processes

No. 2

INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN NEPAL : A REVIEW

Bharat B. Pradhan

A synthesis of integrated rural development project experience forms the basis for conclusions regarding performance and areas for improvement

No. 3

SUSTAINING UPLAND RESOURCES : PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION IN WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Anis Ahmad Dani and J. G. Campbell

A review of watershed management and related projects in the Hindu Kush - Himalaya Region examining strategies for increasing local people's motivations for sustaining upland resources

No. 4 (expected September 1986)

DECENTRALISED ENERGY PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT FOR THE HINDU KUSH-HIMALAYA

Deepak Bajracharya

A discussion on the potential and constraints of planning and implementing energy activities in coordination with decentralised development schemes

No. 5 (expected September 1986)

FORESTRY / FARMING ECONOMIC LINKAGES IN THE HINDU KUSH-HIMALAYA

T. B. S. Mahat, J. P. Jeanrenaud and R. L. J. Shrestha

A study of the interlinkages between forestry and farming systems with particular emphasis on the contributions to upland farming economies

VISITORS TO ICIMOD

Among recent visitors were :

His Excellency the Ambassador of
Austria to Nepal, India and Bhutan
Dr. Erich Maximilian Schmid

Dr. K. Watanabe
Director, JICA, Japan

Dr. Mischa, Deputy Head,
Intl. Cooperation, Ministry of Finance
Federal Republic of Germany

Prof. Wang Hai, Director, Advisory
Group, Tibetan Autonomous Region of
China, and Mr. Sun Shanzhi, Economic
Geographer, CISNAR, Beijing

Dr. R. Pauchari, Director, TERI
New Delhi

Dr. Albert Behar, Institute of Soil
Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria

Dr. Mohan Man Sainju,
Vice-Chairman, National Planning
Commission, HMG/N

Ms. Jane Carter, President,
International Association of Energy
Economists, Washington D.C.

Mr. Colin Rees, Environment
Specialist, Infrastructure Dept.
ADB, Manila

Dr. Richard Gold, Chief Programme
Officer, India/Nepal, CIDA, Ottawa

Dr. D. J. Feris, Regional Coordinator
and Mr. Ankar Singh, ICRISAT, India

Prof. Hommes, Chairman, Energy
Department, University of
Technology, Twente, Holland

Dr. A. Vesprey, Director, Library/
Documentation Centre, AIT, Bangkok

ICIMOD's Friday Discussion Meetings :

The meetings, normally held on
Friday afternoons, discuss various
mountain issues and are intended for
professional participants interested
in mountain development.

Note : Outside participants are
always welcome to attend.

Recent meetings held include :

Dr. Kirk R. Smith
(East-West Center)
" Pollution Inside the House Caused by
Fuelwood and its Implications "

**Dr. Bob Yoder, and
Dr. Ed Martin**
(IMMI, Sri Lanka)
" Local Organisation for Resource
Mobilisation in Hill Irrigation
Systems "

Dr. M. Nurul Islam
(Institute of Appropriate
Technology, Bangladesh)
" Perspectives on Rural Energy
Planning in Bangladesh "

Dr. M. Abdullah
(Faculty of Engineering, Pakistan)
" Experiences with Small Hydro
Schemes in Pakistan "

**Sir Charles Pereira, and
Dr. K.G. Tejwani**
" FAO/WRI Initiatives in Tropical
Forestry : the Intended Action Plan "

Mr. P.N. Gupta
Chief Conservator of
Forests U.P. (retired)
" Forest and Watershed Management
Using Remote Sensing Techniques "

**Mr. Heinrich Wyes, (UNEP), and
Dr. Albert Behar**
" Soil Erosion and Mountain Land-Use "

Dr. J. Bandopadhyaya
Indian Institute of Management,
Bangalore
" The Chipko Movement "

Dr. Bupinder Singh
Adviser (State Plans) Planning
Commission, New Delhi
" Hill Area/Mountain
Development Policy "

Dr. Derek Byrley
(CIMMYT, Mexico)
" Farming System Perspectives in
Increasing Productivity in
Agriculture "

Dr. Nek Buzdar (Pakistan)
Resource Economist
Presented the results of his ICIMOD
sponsored field research on Livestock
Systems in Northern Pakistan

PROFESSIONAL STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Dinesh Chandra Das
(India)
Soil and Water Conservation Engineer
Mountain Land Use Division

Mr. Purna Lal Maharjan
(Nepal)
Soil Scientist
Mountain Land Use Division

Dr. S. S. Teotia
(India)
Horticulture Specialist
Mountain Farming Systems Division

Mr. Pramod S. S. Pradhan
(Nepal)
Systems Analyst
Head, Computer Section

Mr. Pradyumna Kumar Kotta
(India)
Systems Analyst
Computer Section

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