

About the authors

Golam Rasul is a Policy Development Specialist at ICIMOD. He is from Bangladesh and holds a Ph.D. in Regional and Rural Development Planning from the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand, with a specialisation in watershed management. Dr. Rasul has worked for many years in the Bangladesh civil service in different ministries and in field administration in various capacities. Along with development work, he is actively involved in research in areas that include agriculture, natural resource management, poverty alleviation, and sustainable development in Bangladesh and the South Asian region. His research findings have been published in many international journals including *World Development*, *Agricultural Systems*, *Land Degradation and Development*, *Environmental Management*, *Environmental Conservation* and *Journal of Environmental Management*. He is currently involved in a research to understand the growth, poverty, and environmental dynamics of South and Southeast Asia.

Madhav Karki, a Nepalese national, is the Deputy Director General-Programmes of ICIMOD. He holds a Ph.D. in Forestry from Michigan State University, and a Master's degree in Rangeland Management from Colorado State University, USA. Dr. Karki has three decades of development experience in the fields of natural resources management and network development in non-timber forest products including medicinal and aromatic plants, as well as in policy and partnership development. He has authored and edited over 80 professional papers, articles, and books, including an ICIMOD publication on Community Forestry, and has worked in the areas of programme development and management and regional networking. He has held various positions in national and international organisations including universities and donor agencies. Before joining ICIMOD he was Regional Programme Coordinator of the Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Programme in Asia, a multi-donor network based at the International Development Research Centre, Canada and New Delhi.