



Board Meeting Highlights

36th Meeting of the ICIMOD Board of Governors Special Board Meeting, July 2006

A decision was made at the 35th meeting of the ICIMOD Board of Governors in Shillong in November 2005 to hold a special Board meeting in July 2006, in Kathmandu. This meeting, resulted in the selection of the Director General designate. In addition, preliminary feedback was received on the Fourth Quinquennial Review of ICIMOD.

A Search Committee consisting of the Board Chairperson, Mr. Muhammad Ismail Qureshi; Vice Chairperson, Dr. Anne Whyte, who chaired the Committee; Independent Board member, Dr. Rob Visser; and the Board member for Nepal, Dr. Ram Prashad Choudhary established, and with the assistance of Mr. Gerald Bourier, Consultant to the Committee, three candidates had been short-listed according to the criteria established by the Board: credibility among RMCs, donors and staff; leadership and effective communications skills; ability to establish good relations; ability to raise funds; and excellence in management. After extensive interviews with the Board, and presentations before ICIMOD staff, the Board of Governors selected Dr. Andreas Schild as the next Director General (see box, next page). Dr. Schild will join ICIMOD in the second half of the March 2007.



The 36th Board of Governors meeting, July 2006, ICIMOD Headquarters, Kathmandu

The Fourth Quinquennial Review was carried out by a panel of four experts: Dr. Andreas Schild, Dr. Gunter Schmidt, Dr. Linxiu Zhang, and Dr. R.S. Tolia. The panel visited partners and stakeholders in regional member countries, met with staff, and studied the various documents before preparing the evaluation report. A preliminary report was shared with the staff prior to the special Board meeting. At the time of the special Board meeting, the Board members were provided with a copy of the draft report, and staff and Management provided their response to the Board and the QQR team.

Tika Gurung, tgurung@icimod.org

Future Director General of ICIMOD selected

Farid Ahmad



ICIMOD Director General designate, Dr. Andreas Schild, being interviewed by Pakistan National Television (PTV)

Dr. Andreas Schild (Switzerland) is a development specialist with over 30 years of experience in designing, planning, executing, and monitoring cooperation programmes, mainly in sustainable natural resource management. His management experience includes being Country Director of Swiss Development Cooperation in Nepal and Rwanda/Burundi; Executive Director of Intercooperation, a major Swiss NGO; and Chief Technical Advisor in North Korea for the UNDP aid coordination programme. Currently he is the team leader of the Oversight Consultant of the National Solidarity Programme (NSP) in Afghanistan. He has experience in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region (Nepal, Bhutan, India, and Pakistan). Dr. Schild has a Ph.D. in History and Sociology from the University of Berne in Switzerland.

2006 ICIMOD Board of Governors

Regional Board Members

Mr. Muhammad Ismail Qureshi
CHAIRPERSON BOARD
Secretary
Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Pakistan

Eng. Ghulam Mostafa Jawad
Deputy Minister of Agriculture
Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
Afghanistan

Mr. SK. A.K. Motahar Hossain
Secretary
Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts' Affairs, Bangladesh

Dasho Sangay Thinley
Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture, Bhutan

Prof. Li Jiayang
Vice President
The Chinese
Academy of Sciences, China

Dr. Prodipto Ghosh
Secretary
Ministry of Environment and Forests, India

U Khin Maung Zaw
Pro-rector
University of Forest
Forest Department
Myanmar

Dr. Jagadish Chandra Pokharel
Vice Chairperson
National Planning Commission
Nepal

Independent Board Members

Dr. Tone Bleie
Chief, Gender and Development
UN ESCAP, Thailand

Prof. Bruno Messerli
Professor
Institute of Geography
University of Berne, Switzerland

Dr. Elke Förster
Head of Section
Promotion of Agriculture and Food
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH, Germany

Prof. Zhao Shidong
Research Professor of
Forest Ecology
Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

Prof. Jamuna Sharan Singh
Emeritus Professor
Department of Botany
Banaras Hindu University
India

Dr. Rob Visser
Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DSI)
The Netherlands

Dr. Anne Whyte
VICE-CHAIR BOARD
Programme Advisory Committee Chair
and Member ICIMOD Foundation
Mestor Associates
Canada

Dr. J. Gabriel Campbell
(Ex-officio) Director General, ICIMOD

37th Meeting of the ICIMOD Board of Governors

Meetings of the ICIMOD Board of Governors (BoG), ICIMOD Support Group (ISG), BoG Finance Committee, and BoG Programme Advisory Committee were held in Swat, Pakistan, from Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th November 2006. The meetings were preceded by a ceremonial opening on 2nd November of ICIMOD's new country office in Islamabad (see Box), and followed by a meeting of the ICIMOD Foundation in Islamabad on 6 November, and exposure field trip visits.

Intense preparation, planning, logistics, and other support, especially from the outgoing Chair of the Board Mr. Muhammad Ismail Qureshi, Dr. Farooq Ahmad, Coordinator of ICIMOD's beekeeping programme, Dr. Farid Ahmad, ICIMOD's M&E specialist, Mr. Muhammad Ismail, ICIMOD rangeland specialist, and many others helped to provide a relaxed and supportive atmosphere and ensure the success of the meetings. The location in the beautiful Swat Serena Hotel in the town of Saidu Sharif provided all that was needed to facilitate the intense and productive discussions that provide the framework for ICIMOD's activities in the coming and future years.

Participants were introduced to the impressive landscape of North-West Frontier Province (NWFP) during the drive from Islamabad to Saidu Sharif in Swat. A warm reception to NWFP en route by the NWFP Ministry of Agriculture at Mingora, Swat District, provided the perfect start to the meeting. The hosts not only generously provided excellent and much needed refreshment, they had also prepared a wonderfully detailed natural model on the banks of the River Swat showing various aspects of the integrated water management programme, and a special exhibition with produce from the government research station and information on the livestock development programme. The exhibition was formally opened by Dr. Anne Whyte, Vice-Chair of ICIMOD's Board of Governors and Chair of the Programme Advisory Committee.



Xu Jianchu

The 37th Board and ICIMOD Support Group participants meeting, November 2006, Swat, Pakistan

A poster session held after arrival in Saidu Sharif provided a platform for in-depth discussions between Programme Managers and members of the Board and Support Group. ICIMOD's incoming Director General, Dr. Andreas Schild, presented an overview of the main findings of the Quinquennial Review Report prior to the meeting, and summarised the results of a consultation on the key messages of the report and the implications for future planning held with ICIMOD staff in October. Dr. Schild took part in the subsequent Board meeting as an observer, ensuring that he will be well briefed when he takes up his new appointment in March. Presentations from two of ICIMOD's partners in Pakistan Dr. Rakshan Roohi, Water Resources

Research Institute, and Mr. Khalid Hussein, Innovative Poverty Reduction Programme, helped provide more familiarity with the types of programmes that ICIMOD undertakes and their long term impact both nationally and locally.

Meetings of the Finance Committee, Programme Advisory Committee, and ICIMOD Support Group prepared the ground for the Board meeting itself. Mr. Muhammad Ismail Qureshi from Pakistan, Outgoing Chair, welcomed the participants to the meeting. Eng. Ghulam Mostafa Jawad from Afghanistan was then elected the new Chairperson. The new Chair welcomed the newly nominated Board Members Mr.

ICIMOD inaugurates country office in Pakistan

ICIMOD's new country office in Islamabad was inaugurated on November 2nd by the Pakistan Federal Minister of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Sikandar Hayat Khan Bosan, and Board Chairperson Mr. Muhammad Ismail Qureshi, Secretary MinFAL. Participants in ICIMOD's Annual Board and Support Group meetings attended the ceremony together with guests from the Pakistan Agricultural Research Council and National Agricultural Research Centre (NARC) and other ICIMOD partners in Pakistan. The office is located in the Water Resource Research Institute building at NARC, Chak Shahzad, Islamabad. Dr. Inayatullah Chaudhry has been selected as the Regional Programme Coordinator at the Pakistan Office and will take up his new assignment in December.



J. Gabriel Campbell

ICIMOD Board Chair Muhammad Ismail Qureshi and Pakistan MinFal Minister Sikandar Hayat Bosan lead the inauguration ceremony

ICIMOD is confident that the Pakistan national office will further strengthen ICIMOD's regional programme by forging strong links with institutions in Pakistan, facilitating information exchange, and providing a base for furthering cooperation between Pakistan and ICIMOD's other regional member countries. On this occasion, ICIMOD also gave more than 900 publications for the country office.

SK A. K. Motahar Hossain, Secretary, Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs, Bangladesh, U Khin Maung Zaw, Pro-rector, University of Forestry, Myanmar, and Dr. Jagadish C. Pokharel, Vice-Chair of the National Planning Commission, Nepal. This was also a meeting of farewells: the 10th and last Board meeting for ICIMOD's Director General, Dr. J. Gabriel Campbell, and the last meeting for the long-serving Board Member and Vice-Chair, Dr. Anne Whyte.

The main focus of the meeting was on the development in 2007 of a new strategic plan for ICIMOD's next phase from 2008 to 2012 – in addition to regular items such as the discussion and approval of ICIMOD's progress report for 2006 and plans for 2007. The Quinquennial Review Report, whose recommendations were discussed and accepted by the Board, provides a guide for the future plans. The process of developing a new strategic plan will continue in stages through much of 2007, and will include extensive consultations with governments and institutions in ICIMOD's regional member countries, as well as with potential funding partners. The Board will support ICIMOD through an ad hoc sub-committee of the Programme Advisory Committee that will be established expressly for this purpose.

During the meeting, Board members from ICIMOD's regional member countries expressed their overall satisfaction with ICIMOD's activities, while expressing a desire for increased activities and collaboration as well as an increased alignment of

ICIMOD's programmes with national priorities. A number of members emphasised the importance of understanding ICIMOD's role and keeping expectations appropriate. Members were reminded that ICIMOD is not a funding organisation, rather it is focused on knowledge development and dissemination. ICIMOD should demonstrate success at the pilot scale – countries had the responsibility for scaling up. There was appreciation for the broadening of the base of ICIMOD through the establishment of national committees or offices. The countries were also committed to increase support, both budgetary and beyond. Further, there was an increased need and role for ICIMOD to play as a platform for countries working together, bilaterally and multilaterally.

Three new Independent board members were appointed for the coming year. Dr. Jacqueline Ashby from UK/USA, Dr. Amir Muhammed from Pakistan, and Dr. Linxin Zhang from China. A fourth – Dr. AKM Chaudhury from Bangladesh – will take up his appointment after one year. Dr. Bruno Messerli was appointed as Vice-Chair of the Board and Chair of the Programme Advisory Committee. Participants were treated to some light relief in between meetings – a spectacular display of the traditional Khatak dance before a dinner hosted by the outgoing Board Chair, Mr. Qureshi, and a bonfire on November 5th as part of a dinner hosted by ICIMOD's Director General.

The post meeting field trip from Swat in NWFP over the mountains to Muzzafarabad in Azad Jammu



Xu Jianchu

The Board of Governors meeting in Swat, Pakistan

and Kashmir (AJK) was a timely reminder to all of the challenges faced by the mountain people of the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region, as well as a demonstration of their resilience and strength. The steep slopes of NWFP show clear signs of successful afforestation activities, the lush valley bottoms are a monument to successful indigenous and modern irrigation practices, and the group passed major construction areas focused on expansion of hydropower capacity. But the roads remain challenging, and agricultural activities are evident on dizzying slopes and in poorly accessible nooks and crannies. As the group approached Muzaffarabad, the traces of last year's major earthquake became increasingly evident. But in amongst the destruction, there is much hope and determination to rebuild livelihoods. Along the way, the group were welcomed by staff of the Swiss Development Cooperation/InterCooperation funded Innovative Poverty Reduction Programme (IPRP) in Shangla District, which is focusing on rebuilding livelihoods through activities like supporting goat keeping and providing seed with fertiliser. Dr. Thomas Hofer from the Food and Agriculture Organization and

member of ICIMOD's ISG, spoke to farmers gathered for the seed distribution about the importance of their activities. The ICIMOD group was welcomed in Muzaffarabad by the Secretary of the AJK Ministry of Agriculture. A presentation by the State Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority (SERRA) provided an overview of rehabilitation activities and plans before a walk through the worst hit areas of the old town. Many people must still live in tents or temporary shelters, children attend tent schools, and whole areas have been cleared of rubble and await new construction, while many houses stand damaged and empty, mute witness to the past destruction. But evidence of activity is everywhere, showing the incredible resilience and will of these mountain people.

This thoughtful end to a successful meeting highlighted again the ideas that led to ICIMOD's foundation, and the need for and potential of an institution devoted to acquisition, dissemination, and exchange of knowledge to support mountain development. *(More pictures on the back cover).*

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Inauguration of the ICIMOD-China National Committee Secretariat

The Secretariat of the ICIMOD-China National Committee was inaugurated at a grand function on the 40th Anniversary (October 20, 2006) of the Chengdu Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment (IMHE). This marks a new milestone in cooperation between China and ICIMOD. The Secretariat was inaugurated jointly by Dr. Fu Bojie, Director General of the Bureau of Science and Technology for Research and Environment, and Dr. J. Gabriel Campbell, Director General of ICIMOD.

Also present were Mr. Wang Zhengyu, Head of the Division of International Organisation, CAS; Professor Deng Wei, Director, and Professor Cheng Gengwei, Deputy Director, IMHE; and Prof. Xu Jianchu, Programme Manager, Water, Hazards and Environmental Management (WHEM), ICIMOD; together with 25 representatives of sister institutions, CAS Headquarters, and distinguished guests from the Sichuan Provincial Government.

Hosted by the Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment, an active collaborating partner of ICIMOD, the establishment of the National Committee will contribute to strengthening collaboration between ICIMOD and Chinese partners, as well as between China and other regional member countries. It will aim to foster integration of Chinese institutions engaged in studying mountain issues with ICIMOD as well as build linkages with other regional and international organisations. Dr. Campbell also gave a thought-provoking talk entitled, 'Mountain environmental management: Do we have new models for research and action?'



Inaugurating a milestone in cooperation between China and ICIMOD. On the occasion, ICIMOD donated more than 800 publications to the Secretariat through the Director of the Chengdu Institute of Mountain Hazards, Mr. Deng Wei.

Yan Zhaoli

Planning the future of ICIMOD

ICIMOD began the process of identifying contemporary issues in mountain development, emerging opportunities, and partner expectations of ICIMOD Programmes that will shape the future and thus, the future direction of ICIMOD.

During a three-day planning exercise in mid-October, ICIMOD Management including the Director General, the Director General-designate, the Deputy Director General-Programmes, the Director of Administration and Finance, as well as the programme managers, action initiative coordinators, and other staff members, worked in small group and plenary sessions to collectively ponder the future challenges and ICIMOD's continuing development relevance.

The exercise – the start of an ongoing process to begin formulating ICIMOD's strategy for the next Medium Term Action Plan (MTAP) 2008/2012 – was also an opportunity to interact with the incoming Director General, Dr. Andreas Schild. Dr. Schild presented the key findings of the Quinquennial Review (QQR), of which he coincidentally was a key member. He considered the QQR recommendations as one of the building blocks, among others, to consider in shaping the new strategy in the next medium term planning.

Reflecting on the implications of the QQR findings, RMC and partners' feedback, and ICIMOD's own learning, and what the staff participating in the exercise saw as trends and challenges facing mountain development in the next five years, and considering ICIMOD's strengths and core competencies, working groups brainstormed on strategies that should feed into drawing the blueprint for the next MTAP. Some of the trends noted that will influence the future include a) globalisation, b) continuing poverty and marginalisation of mountain people, c) lack of livelihood opportunities in mountain areas, d) migration to urban areas, e) rapid urbanisation with implications on environment and policy with a mountain development perspective, f) climate change and heightened risks of natural disasters where mountain people are the most vulnerable, g) changing land use patterns with impacts on food security, energy, and water supply, h) governance issues and rapidly changing institutions, amongst many others. A collective realisation is that in order to continue to leverage its limited resources and its comparative

advantage as a regional and global institution, ICIMOD must continue to work with partners, but partnerships will have to be reviewed for their strategic position and relevance. The groups see ICIMOD working closer with the regional member countries in the next phase, while continuing to keep its independence and comparative advantage as a regional and global centre providing technical and scientific information on mountain



Narendra Bajracharya

Dr. J. Gabriel Campbell presents some future scenarios in mountain development at the start of the workshop



Narendra Bajracharya

The output of small group sessions presented in a plenary.

development concerns. New ideas being considered include mountain development in curricula and syllabi, and strengthened partnerships with academic and research institutions for greater synergy and impact, greater focus on livelihoods, and greater inclusion of social dimensions in technical research to provide ICIMOD a 'human face'.

Through the modalities of participatory consultation planned with our stakeholders within RMCs and beyond, and a discussion and development process within the Centre, ICIMOD hopes to continue this iterative process that should guide the drafting of a new strategy and Medium Term Plan.

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Policy priorities for sustainable mountain development

A three-day regional workshop on Policy Priorities for Sustainable Mountain Development was held in Kathmandu from 18-20 September. The objectives were to share the lessons, experiences, and good practices gained through work carried out by ICIMOD and its partners in developing common understanding and vision vis à vis mountain policy issues, options, and priorities.

Forty-five participants from seven regional member countries of ICIMOD representing governments, NGOs, civil society, research and development organisations, and universities participated in the workshop. Representatives from international research and development organisations, including FAO and UNDP, also participated. Dr. Jagdish Chandra Pokharel, Vice Chair, National Planning Commission, Nepal, inaugurated the workshop.

Seven plenary sessions were devoted to seven thematic aspects of sustainable mountain development: mainstreaming mountain policies, management of vulnerable mountain natural resources, promoting regional and local conservation of mountain biological and cultural heritage, increasing the incomes of rural mountain people, reducing physical vulnerability within watersheds and regional river basins, promoting greater voice and social equity, and improving policy-making processes. Four working groups were formed to develop recommendations for improving policy formulation and implementation processes; strengthening regional cooperation; reducing poverty,

inequality, and vulnerability; and suggesting ways and means to improve ICIMOD's policy work.

The key recommendations made at the workshop by each group are summarised as follows.

- Recognise policy as a process and the many actors and factors involved in the processes at different stages. ICIMOD can play an important facilitating role through generation and dissemination of data, information, knowledge, understanding, technology, and good practices to raise awareness about policy issues that are critical for mountain people to facilitate informed decision-making.
- Make efforts to mainstream mountain issues at national, regional, and international fora.
- Form a Policy Analysis Group at ICIMOD and a National Policy Working Group in the eight regional member countries with strategic partners to foster demand-driven policy research and analysis, to feed into policy processes.
- Carry out inter-country studies and exchange visits to facilitate cross-country learning.
- Develop linkages and build partnerships with national organisations involved in policy research as well as with global research and development partners to promote mountain agenda.
- Document and disseminate good practices and approaches and disseminate them in the regional member countries to facilitate their adoption.
- Identify areas for regional cooperation.
- Strengthen regional cooperation and support institutional development for sub-regional/river basin approaches; e.g., basin organisation.
- Strengthen communication through e-networks, seminars, symposiums, and other media and fora.
- Involve civil society and other key stakeholders and support them through knowledge and information to promote multi-stakeholder policy-making processes.
- Institutionalise monitoring and evaluation of policies to provide feedback to policy-makers and other key stakeholders.

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Narendra Bajracharya

A plenary session of the policy workshop

New Board Members

ICIMOD is pleased to have on its Board of Governors, the following new Board members.

Elke Förster, Independent Board Member,
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH, Eschborn, Germany

Dr. Elke M. Förster from Germany joined as an Independent Board Member from July 2006. Dr. Förster's appointment was approved during the Special 36th Meeting of the ICIMOD Board of Governors' held in Kathmandu, Nepal in July. An agricultural economist by profession, Dr. Förster is currently the Head of Section on Promotion of Agriculture and Food of the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) based in Eschborn, Germany.

Dr. Förster's professional work has focused on Asia including China, India, Indonesia, Korea, Laos, and Vietnam. She did her Masters in Agriculture at TU Berlin in 1988, and obtained her Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Hohenheim, Germany in 1994. She will serve for a term of three years and join the Finance Committee.



SK. A.K. Motahar Hossain, Regional Board Member, Bangladesh,
Secretary, Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs

Mr. SK. A. K. Motahar Hossain is from Gazipur, in central Bangladesh, and has a B.A. (Hons) and M.A. in Political Science from Dhaka University. He commenced his career as a political science teacher in April 1975, and joined Bangladesh Bank a year later, where he served as Assistant Director of the Foreign Exchange Department until February 1979.

He joined the Civil Service of Bangladesh in March 1979, and since then has served in various official capacities including, Director of the Directorate of Commercial Audit from 1986-89; Director of the General Education Project from 1993-96; Deputy Secretary in 1998, working in the policy process of the Government of Bangladesh overseeing project financing. He served as Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Finance (Finance Division) from 1998/2000 and in the Ministry of Education as both Deputy

Secretary and Joint Secretary from 2001/2003 and was involved in Food Planning and Monitoring as Director General of the Food Planning and Monitoring Unit in the Ministry of Food and Disaster Management. Mr. Hossain also served as Additional Secretary in the Economic Relations Division of the Ministry of Finance, responsible for aid negotiations with the World Bank and Japan as well as for overall foreign debt management. He assumed his current post of Secretary, Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts' Affairs on 10 July 2006. Mr. Hossain has undertaken additional training courses inside and outside Bangladesh – in the UK, USA, and India. His work has taken him to countries in Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and Africa.



Jagadish Chandra Pokharel, Regional Board Member, Nepal
Vice Chairperson, National Planning Commission, Nepal

Dr. Jagadish Chandra Pokharel, Honourable Vice Chairperson of the National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal, is the most recent addition to ICIMOD's Board. Dr. Pokharel was confirmed as Board member representing the host country, Nepal, during the 37th ICIMOD Board of Governors meeting in Swat, Pakistan in early November 2006.

Dr. Pokharel joins the Board with his broad mountain development experience. He has done consulting work for international organisations such as

UNDP, World Bank, ADB, and USAID, and is a former member of the National Planning Commission, where he initiated policy initiatives in decentralised governance and sustainable development. He has traveled extensively in 65 of Nepal's 75 districts in the course of work, and abroad including in the US, UK, Japan, Cambodia, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Philippines, and other European countries. He also actively served as a member, chairman, or coordinator



in several national committees, commissions, and task forces of the Government of Nepal.

Apart from his professional development pursuits, Dr. Pokharel teaches Regional Development Planning at the Institute of Engineering in Pulchowk, Lalitpur, and is an active member of several professional planning and development associations in Nepal and abroad. He is also involved in several local level conservation activities in Nepal and has written a book on conflict and negotiations on natural resources entitled, *Environmental Resources Negotiations*

Between Unequal Powers published by Bikas Publications, Delhi. He has also published in international journals and writes for several Nepal national dailies and weekly magazines on a variety of development subjects and issues.

Dr. Pokharel has a Ph.D. in Regional Development Planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1991), a Master's degree in the same field from the University of Hawaii, Manoa (1985); and a Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Thessaloniki, Greece.

U Khin Maung Zaw, Regional Board Member, Myanmar
Pro-rector of the University of Forestry

U Khin Maung Zaw, currently Pro-rector of the University of Forestry, Forest Department, Yezin, Myanmar, is the new Board Member from Myanmar. His appointment was confirmed, along with that of Dr. Pokharel of Nepal, during the 37th ICIMOD Board of Governors' meeting in Swat, Pakistan.

U Khin Maung Zaw has more than three decades of work experience in conservation and management of the ecosystem in Myanmar. His interests are varied and lie in the conservation of biological diversity, management of wildlife and protected area systems, wetland conservation and management, environmental education, and research on biodiversity conservation. He has worked in various capacities with both national

and international organisations based in Myanmar and in Austria, Japan, and USA. He was also one of the leading persons in seeing to the implementation of Myanmar's obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and was the recipient of the Abraham Conservation Award, presented by the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Myanmar Programme in 2005.

U Khin Maung Zaw received his Master's degree in Science in Resource Management from the Edinburgh University, UK in 1984, and his B.Sc. (Forestry) from the Art and Science University of Yangon, Myanmar in 1974.



New Memoranda of Understanding and Agreements Signed with Partners
May-October 2006

June 2006	Tibet Autonomous Region Erosion Department, Lhasa and Integration Energy and Environment GmbH, Graefenberg, Germany for Improving GIS and RS capacity
June 2006	Ministry of Environment, Science, and Technology (MoEST) for Phase III – Malé Declaration
July 2006	Ministry of Environment, Science, and Technology (MoEST) and UNEP Regional Resource Centre for Asia-Pacific for Phase III implementation of the Malé Declaration
July 2006	Afghanistan Information Management Systems (AIMS), UNDP for GIS
July 2006	Intercooperation-Pakistan for natural resource management and rural income diversification
July 2006	Beekeepers' Association of Bhutan (BEKAB) for promoting partnerships with rural development organisations and networks in the HKH
August 2006	Council for RNR Research of Bhutan – Ministry of Agriculture (CoRRB-MoA) for promoting partnerships with rural development organisations and networks in the HKH
August 2006	United Nations Environment Programme, Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP, RRC.AP) for the preparation and organisation of sub-regional and national workshops in Kathmandu, Nepal
September 2006	Socioeconomic, Agro Forestry, and Environmental Concern for 'Livelihood Enhancement through Commercialisation of Valuable Medicinal Plants and other Non-timber Forest Products'
September 2006	The Asia Regional Office of The World Conservation Union (ARO-IUCN) for 'Institutional Consolidation for Coordinated and Integrated Monitoring of NR towards Sustainable Development and Environmental Conservation in the HKH Karakoram-Himalaya Mountain Complex'
September 2006	National Centre of Excellence in Geology (NCEG), University of Peshawar for a national training course in Pakistan

Research updates and project news

Networking for development: MAPPA launched in China

The Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Programme in Asia (MAPPA) has, in a span of eight years, evolved as a flagship programme for strategic research, multiple donor collaboration, and national, regional, and global networking in medicinal and aromatic plants. The programme has a holistic approach to research and supports activities that integrate biodiversity conservation, primary health care, sustainable livelihoods, and gender equity. MAPPA strives to ensure that its action-oriented research informs both national and regional policies and that there are tangible livelihood and conservation-related impacts for local-level stakeholders.

After devolution of MAPPA to ICIMOD by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada, one of the main goals was to launch and introduce the MAPPA network in the regional member countries, including Afghanistan, China, and Myanmar. The China MAPPA was launched in August 2006. ICIMOD collaborated with the Kunming Institute of Botany and the Chinese Academy of Sciences to organise a two-day workshop from 31st July to 1st August 2006, preceded by a three-day field visit to Chu Xiaiong, Dali, and Lijiang prefectures in Yunnan Province, South-west China from 28-30 July.

High-level participants from ICIMOD RMCs included Dasho Dawa, Director General, Department of Forests, Ministry of Agriculture and Mr. Raling Nawang Drukdra, Director, Royal Botanical Park, Department of Forests, from Bhutan; Mr. B. S. Sajwan, Chief Executive Officer, National Medicinal Plants' Board, Government of India; and Mr. H.K. Saiju, Director General, Department of Plant Resources, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, Government of Nepal, and Prof. R.P. Chaudhary, ex-ICIMOD Board member, from the Central Department of Botany, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal. There were three participants from ICIMOD-MAPPA and 25 participants from China.

Objectives of the workshop

The workshop introduced MAPPA and launched the China MAPs-Net, and aimed to generate a better understanding of issues emerging in the medicinal and aromatic plants sector related to traditional knowledge, ongoing initiatives, and different actors and institutions involved in defining the China MAPs-Net project. The workshop established a China MAPPA Network

Coordination Committee to generate partnership projects between ICIMOD - MAPPA, national institutions, and regional member countries and facilitate linkages between research and national policy and development through flexible, responsive, and locally adaptive implementation frameworks.

Opportunities for regional collaboration

Keeping in mind the strengths of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) and availability of ample resources in the form of wise practices, technologies, institutional innovations, regional member countries can enter into mutually acceptable partnerships for sector development in the region.

The following are among the issues discussed at the workshop.

Cross border conservation and trade: to enable a legal flow of quality products across the borders of Bhutan, India, and Nepal to China. Many species are common to these countries and MAP-based companies in China can have an assured supply of raw materials.

Joint research: covering different aspects of MAP conservation, commercialisation, technology development, and traditional medicines.

Marketing of traditional medicines: to explore the possibilities of marketing herbal products from different countries.

Transfer of technology: covering GAP, processing, and value addition, as well as quality control and standardisation.

Study and exposure tours: to visit different institutions, sites, and companies and learn from China's experience.

MAPPA could take the lead in developing such linkages through its research projects or through facilitating institutional linkages among country networks.

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An array of medicinal and aromatic plants

Dyutiman Choudhary

Workshops, meetings and training courses

3rd and 4th Quarter 2006

Satellite rainfall estimation for flood forecasting and drought monitoring

Floods and droughts are common natural hazards in the HKH region. Accurate estimates of rainfall are needed to minimise the impact of floods and droughts. Until recently, the main method used to estimate the amount of rain falling in an area was interpolation of measurements from a network of hydrometeorological stations: the closer the spacing between stations, the

rainfall estimate model specifically for the Himalayan region by refining a system developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Prediction Centre and to test a streamflow model (GeoSFM) developed by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for flood-hazard monitoring. This project has been designed to support country implementation plans developed during a regional workshop on satellite rainfall estimation organised by ICIMOD in 2005. The project is funded by the United States Agency for International Development, Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA).



The workshop participants, July 2006

more accurate the total rainfall estimates. In mountainous areas, however, measuring stations are often sparse, and rainfall information is too unreliable for predicting floods with any certainty. In the Himalayan region, which contains the headwaters of eight major Asian rivers, this is a major obstacle to accurate flood forecasting.

To enable accurate estimates of rainfall using satellite-enhanced rainfall estimation and its applications to flood forecasting and drought monitoring ICIMOD introduced a one-year project on 'Application of Satellite Rainfall Estimates in the HKH Region'. The objectives are to develop a satellite

As part of the project a five-day inception/ training workshop was held at ICIMOD from 3-7 July 2006, with resource persons from NOAA and USGS. Twenty participants from regional member countries participated in the workshop and received hands-on training on the installation, theory, and processing of rainfall estimation (RFE) software, GeoFUSE, for climate monitoring and streamflow modelling (GeoSFM), software installation, and calibration. The roles and responsibilities of partners were discussed and clarified. An action plan was prepared and agreed upon for RFE validation and GeoSFM modelling for smooth implementation of the project.

The project is expected to strengthen the capabilities of regional institutions to provide timely and accurate estimates of rainfall, hence contributing to the development of effective early warning systems and reducing the risk of water-induced disasters.

Mandira Shrestha, mshrestha@icimod.org
Pradeep Mool, pmool@icimod.org

Assessing the 'UN Decade of Indigenous Peoples (1995-2004)' in Nepal

ICIMOD, in collaboration with the Tebtebba Foundation in the Philippines and supported by IFAD, has been carrying out an assessment of the first UN Decade of Indigenous Peoples, covering ten countries in Asia. National/local consultations have been held as part of the research process. On July 20th, over 40 participants from different 'Janajati' groups, donor agencies, and government representatives

participated in a one-day consultation workshop which was organised in collaboration with the Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN). The discussion and proceedings of the workshop will contribute to the Nepal country report on the assessment.

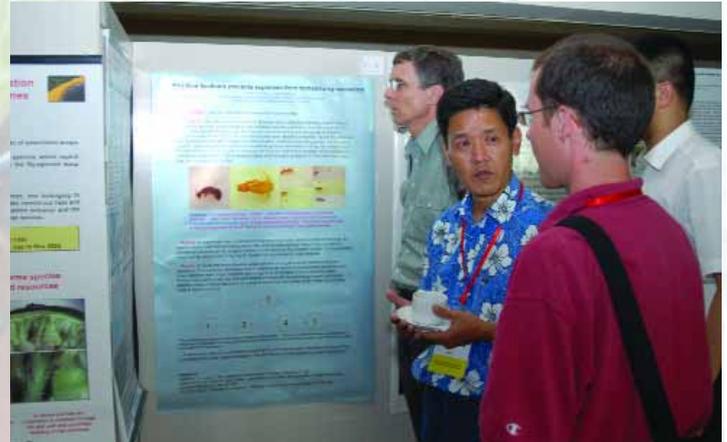
Radhika Gupta, rgupta@icimod.org

Annual meeting of the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation, Kunming, China

The annual meeting of the Association of Tropical Biology and Conservation (ATBC) was held in Kunming from 18-21 July 2006. The meeting was organised by Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences (<<http://www.xtbg.ac.cn>>) in association with Kunming Institute of Botany. On the eve of the annual meeting more than 14 symposia covering various thematic areas were organised. ICIMOD, in collaboration with Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences, organised a panel session on 'Land-Use, Landscape Management and Environmental Services in Mountain Mainland Asia: Trade-offs and the Design of Sustainable Land Use and Conservation Strategies'. Eleven presentations on prevailing mountain thematic areas were presented by ICIMOD participants and partners working in the region. The panel covered issues related to hydro-ecological linkages, land-use transition, environmental services, enterprise-based conservation, and the landscape approach to conservation. The panel contributed to the Kunming Declaration in which special emphasis was given to regional cooperation and integrated approaches to

ICIMOD trains South Asian tourism organisations on project management in sustainable tourism development

As part of the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) technical assistance on human resource development and capacity building in the tourism sector, ICIMOD carried out six days of training on 'Project Facilitation and Management in Sustainable Tourism Development', in partnership with SNV (The Netherlands Development Organisation) and the Nepal Tourism Board (NTB). The training workshop was designed to improve understanding of participatory sustainable tourism planning and development and to increase a variety of skills in and informed active support to the development, implementation, management, and monitoring of sustainable tourism development projects in ICIMOD member countries. In total 24 participants from national and state tourism organisations from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Tibet Autonomous Region/China, India, Myanmar, and Nepal attended. In an evaluation of the training programme participants evaluated the training very positively, with 74% of participants rating it 'excellent' and 26% rating it 'outstanding', and the majority indicating that the training was helpful in their respective areas of work. At the end of the course, a CD-ROM of all the training materials was distributed to the participants. At the



A poster session supported by ICIMOD during the workshop

conservation. The Declaration "strongly suggests that reserves be linked wherever possible to regional networks and cross-national corridors, that their size and effectiveness be increased for area-sensitive wildlife, and that their vulnerability to many external threats be reduced."

for more information, visit
http://atbc.xtbg.ac.cn/DBS/ATBC2006_Kunming_declaration_en.doc

Nakul Chettri, nchettri@icimod.org



Participants from tourist organisations in the region pose in front of the ICIMOD Headquarters building

request of the participants. and with support from the ADB, a comprehensive training manual including all the presentations, exercises, and instructions, complemented by case studies from across the region, will be published by the end of the year. In January and February 2007, ICIMOD will carry out further training in collaboration with SNV and the NTB on Sustainable Tourism Market Linkages. This will be carried out under the umbrella of the World Leisure International Centre of Excellence (WICE), Wageningen University, Netherlands.

Ester van der Blonk, evanderblonk@icimod.org

Workshop urges citizens to use 'right to information' to seek environmental justice

ICIMOD has been conducting legal literacy training workshops through its programme on 'Advancing Minority Rights to Environmental Justice', supported by the Ford Foundation. A training course focusing on the

'Right to Information Act' (RTI) in India and the Environmental Impact Assessment regulations was organised in Dehradun, Uttaranchal, from 10–22 August 2006 in collaboration with the Himalayan Environmental Studies and Conservation Organisation (HESCO) and the Lawyers' Initiative for Forests and Environment (LIFE). The programme was inaugurated by Shri Sunderlal Bahuguna who stressed the importance of mountain regions joining hands to assert the particular needs and predicaments of developmental change in mountain areas. Dr. R.S Tolia, the Chief Information Commissioner of Uttaranchal, closed the workshop, responding to the queries of participants on the practical issues of implementation of the RTI and urging citizens to use it as a tool to seek environmental democracy and justice.



Sunderlal Bahuguna, a leading figure in the conservation movement in India, encourages the 'Right to Information' movement

Radhika Gupta, rgupta@icimod.org

UNEP mission to ICIMOD

ICIMOD and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Resource Centre Asia Pacific (RRC.AP) have several memoranda of understanding on collaborative projects. To implement the agreed programmes, several national and sub-regional events were organised in Kathmandu from 21 August to 1 September 2006. These were: the consultations on draft preparation of the Kathmandu Valley City IEA/State of Environment (SoE) report, and training on environmental management tools.

UNEP, in partnership with other collaborating centres also organised subregional activities and consultations on the sub-regional sustainable development strategy (SSDS), an inception cum training workshop on preparation of the South Asian Environment Outlook (SAEO); and a technical workshop for the development of an environmental knowledge hub (e-KH) for the Asia-Pacific region. Mr. Surendra Shrestha, Regional Director and Representative, UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP ROAP); Dr. Subrato Sinha, Environmental Affairs' Officer, UNEP ROAP; Mr. Purna Chandra Lal Rajbandari, Senior Programme Officer, Regional Resource Centre-Asia Pacific, UNEP RRC.AP; and Dr. Aida N. Karazhanova, Programme Officer, Capacity Building, UNEP RRC.AP were at ICIMOD from 20 August to 1 September 2006 for these meetings.

Bidya Banmali Pradhan, bbanmali@icimod.org



The UNEP mission at ICIMOD, August 2006

Two-week training course on erosion assessment and control

A letter of agreement between ICIMOD and the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) Erosion Department, Lhasa was signed on July 2006 to carry out a two-week training course on 'Application of Geoinformatics for Erosion Assessment and Control' for the TAR Erosion Department in Lhasa. Three interns from the department were at ICIMOD from 24 August to 9 September 2006 to prepare datasets, GIS training

materials, and case studies on TAR/China for this course. Mr. Sushil Pradhan, coordinator of the course, and Mr. Lokap Rajbandari were in Lhasa from 12 to 22 September to conduct the training. The funds for this course were provided by the Integration Energy and Environment GmbH, Graefenberg, Germany.

Sushil Pradhan, suspradhan@icimod.org

A network for diversifying knowledge sharing to rural and remote communities in South Asia

A workshop was sponsored by ICIMOD and organised jointly by ICIMOD and Madan Bhandari Memorial Academy in Urlabari, Morang, Nepal from 15-18 August 2006 as a first step in building a network of institutions at community levels to produce and share multimedia/multilingual training and awareness-raising materials relevant to local issues and needs. Ten participants from five organisations took part in the workshop – four from North-east India and six from Eastern Nepal.

The overall goal was to establish a network of institutions interested in producing and sharing multimedia/multilingual training materials. It is a challenge to transfer information and knowledge to people in such a way that they can use it to solve their problems. The use of multimedia (text, voice, photo, video) to present properly structured information was the method used in this workshop to facilitate knowledge transfer.

The workshop focused on how knowledge delivery and sharing can be carried out using multimedia. Introduction to multimedia concepts and familiarisation with multimedia hardware and software through presentations, discussions, hands-on practice, and group work with real case examples took place. For the group work, the topics were chosen in consultation with participants. Sample presentations were developed in the following.

- Rural agriculture-marketing
- Beekeeping – queen rearing
- Community-based biodiversity conservation
- Integrated livestock management
- Livestock temperature measurement

Workshop participants found the workshop useful as it was based on the novel idea of using education

RMC partner exchanges

Mr. Lakpa Tashi, Mr. Gong Kui Fang, and Ms. Tseyang Lhamo from the Erosion Department, Lhasa, Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), PRC were at MENRIS from 24 August to 2 September 2006 to assist in preparing datasets, GIS training materials, and case studies on TAR/China for the training course on



Field application sessions

and entertainment to deliver knowledge to communities. Visual and audio materials helped in understanding the subjects. The materials were discussed and prepared in people's own languages. Even a person who cannot read can gain from this method. Participants expressed the opinion that this method of delivering messages makes them more efficient. Further more, the involvement of domain experts (someone having expertise in, for example, biodiversity, beekeeping, livestock, among others) and participation and cooperation from community stakeholders and computer specialists ensure that knowledge delivery will meet the needs of the intended users and allow for corrective actions at each stage of development of a presentation.

It was agreed that a network for collaboration among like-minded institutions and people was needed for diversification of knowledge-sharing methods in the region. With this experience and examples and needs expressed by the participants and communities, a new proposal for scaling up this work, will be developed at ICIMOD.

Zbigniew Mikolajuk, zmikolajuk@icimod.org

'Application of Geoinformatics for Erosion Assessment and Control', which took place in Lhasa from 11 to 22 September 2006.

Mr. Muhammad Ali from the Centre of Excellence Geology, University of Peshawar, Pakistan was at

Share Knowledge on Disaster Preparedness!

Visit ICIMOD's recently launched web-based Knowledge Sharing Platform:

www.disasterpreparedness.icimod.org

Initiative funded by the Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission (DG ECHO)



MENRIS from 5 October to 5 November 2006 to prepare and organise a national training course on 'Earthquake Vulnerability Multi-Hazard Risk Assessment' under the EC-DGECHO project

scheduled to take place in Pakistan from 13-24 November 2006.

Monica Moktan, menris@icimod.org

Phase III Malé Air Pollution Project holds 8th Session

The Regional Stakeholders cum Regional Coordination meeting and Eighth Session of the 'Intergovernmental Meeting on the Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and Its Likely Transboundary Effects for South Asia', carried out under Phase III of the Malé Declaration took place in Thimphu, Bhutan, from 12 - 13 September 2006. The objective of the meeting was to increase awareness of transboundary air pollution, share and receive stakeholders' views and ideas about the implementation of the Malé Declaration, and improve information exchange between information generators

and users. It also intended to review air pollution initiatives in South Asia by the intergovernmental meeting of the Malé Declaration, and improve coordination and sharing of information among the ongoing initiatives on air in the region and in other regions. The intergovernmental meeting included review of regional level and national implementation plans, the technical manual, the data report 2006, and improvement of information exchange among countries participating in the follow-up actions to the Malé Declaration.

Bidya Banmali Pradhan, bbanmali@icimod.org

ICIMOD mourns the loss of partners and friends in the helicopter crash in Nepal

The ICIMOD and Mountain Forum family mourns the loss of esteemed and valued partners and friends, giants in the conservation movement, in a helicopter crash in the mountains of Taplejung district, eastern Nepal, on Saturday, 23 September 2006. The accident resulted in irreplaceable loss to the nation and the world. Twenty eminent sons and daughters, scholars and development workers of Nepal, along with foreign dignitaries and development practitioners and four crew members were lost on this day.

We are deeply saddened by this tragedy. Almost all of the people on board were close friends, work colleagues, and partners of many of us at ICIMOD. Some of them had served as members of our Board of Governors, project managers, and key partners in a number of joint efforts to help improve the livelihoods and ecosystems of the Himalaya. We share our profound grief and sorrow with their families, colleagues, and friends throughout Nepal and the world.

A memorial service was held at ICIMOD to pay our last respects to their departed souls.

The list of those lost on this day includes the following.

Acharya, Bigyan, Program Development Specialist, USAID
Alexander, Margaret, Deputy Director, USAID
Bhandari, Hem Raj, Nepal Television
Bowling, Jill, Conservation Director, WWF UK
Gurung, Chandra, Country Representative, WWF-Nepal
Gurung, Harka, Advisor, New Era, Ex-Board of Governors, ICIMOD
Headley, Jennifer, Coordinator, WWF UK
Lama, Yeshe, Senior Programme Officer, WWF Nepal
Maskey, Tirtha Man, Co-chair, AsRSG
Mustonen, Pauli, Chargé d' Affairs, Embassy of Finland
Parajuli, Damodar Prasad, Acting Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation
Poudel, Narayan, Director General, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation
Preece, Mathew, Program Officer, WWF US
Rai, Gopal, Minister of State for Forests and Soil Conservation,
Rai, Meena (wife of Minister Mr. Gopal Rai)
Rai, Sharad, Director General, Department of Forests
Singh, Sunil Kumar, Nepal Television
Sherpa, Dawa Tsering, Chairperson, KCAMC
Sherpa, Mingma Norbu, Managing Director, EHEC, WWF US
Shrestha, Vijaya, Central Committee Member, FNCCI

J. Gabriel Campbell, gcampbell@icimod.org

Global Mountain Forum Secretariat

European Mountain Forum legally registered in Savoie, France

Thanks to the leadership and initiative of Dr. Martin Price, Chair of the European Mountain Forum (EMF) Board, the EMF legal registration process in Savoie (France) has been completed. The Mountain Forum Secretariat appreciates the support provided by Dr. Price and the authorities of Savoie in this process, which will ensure the continuation of regional operations of the Mountain Forum in Europe in collaboration with the Mountain Forum Secretariat and its regional nodes in Africa, Asia, North America, and Latin America.

Mountain Forum invited to the Adelboden Group Bureau meeting in Rome, Italy

In response to the kind invitation of the Adelboden Group Chairman, Min. Miguel Palomino, Mountain Forum's Executive Secretary, Dr. Ana Maria Ponce, represented Mountain Forum at the Adelboden Bureau meeting in Rome from 13-14 November 2006. Dr. Ponce discussed the potential for collaboration between Mountain Forum and the Adelboden Group, which is a global initiative promoting Sustainable Agricultural Research and Development (SARD) in mountain regions, sponsored by the Swiss Ministry of Agriculture, France, and Japan.

Mountain Forum and ICIMOD attend regional mountain associations meeting in Himachal Pradesh, India

Following the invitation of Mr. Nicolas Krausz, Director General of the World Mountain People's Association (WMPA), Ms. Celine Curi from MFS and Ms. Tara Dhakal from CEGG represented Mountain Forum and ICIMOD, respectively, at the WMPA regional meeting in Sairopa, Himachal Pradesh, from 10-15 October 2006. The mandate of WMPA is to support indigenous mountain communities around the world and to help give them a voice. WMPA is organising regional stakeholder meetings in the Andes, Africa, Europe, and the Himalayas. The outcomes from these meetings will be presented to global policy-makers at an Inter-ministerial meeting to be held in France in December 2006.



The Mountain Forum Secretariat staff, 2006

Mountain Forum collaboration with MRD

Mountain Forum provided support to the *Mountain Research and Development Journal* by launching a survey among MRD readers, reviewers, and subscribers on the occasion of MRD's 26th year of publication.

Online library's new feature

A new tool has been added to the MF Online Library through which users can have full text documents sent to them or others via email rather than downloading copies.

Mountain Forum Calendar revamped

The Mountain Calendar, maintained jointly by the Mountain Forum Secretariat and the Mountain Partnership Secretariat-FAO, has undergone many improvements over the last few months. To publish events on the Mountain Calendar or browse past and upcoming mountain events, please visit:

<http://www.mountainpartnership.org/events/default.asp>
or contact: calendar@mtforum.org

New member of the Mountain Forum Secretariat team

Mountain Forum is pleased to announce that Ms. Elizabeth Fox has joined the Mountain Forum Secretariat team as a Programme Assistant, Information Services. Her primary responsibility will be to maintain and develop the Mountain Forum Online Library.

Mountain Forum Secretariat, c/o ICIMOD, Khumaltar, GPO Box 3226, Kathmandu, Nepal

Outreach activities

Celebrating the 'International Day of Indigenous Peoples 2006' with a new book on shifting cultivation

ICIMOD celebrated the 'International Day of Indigenous Peoples 2006' by promoting its new book, **Debating Shifting Cultivation in the Eastern Himalayas: Farmers' Innovations as Lessons for Policy** on 10 August 2006, in a collaborative effort between three ICIMOD programmes: Natural Resource Management (NRM), Culture, Equity, Gender, and Governance (CEGG), and Information Management, Communications, and Outreach (IMCO) of the Information and Knowledge Management (IKM) programme. Over forty guests from the Government of Nepal, civil society, the development community, the media, and ICIMOD attended the gathering.



Narendra Bajracharya

Dr. Om Gurung (2nd from the right), NEFIN General Secretary listens to a presentation about the book on shifting cultivation

The practice of shifting cultivation, better described by the term 'rotational agroforestry' is inextricably linked to the culture and livelihoods of many indigenous peoples in the region, including the Chepangs in Nepal. ICIMOD's assessment is that the main achievement of the First UN Decade of Indigenous Peoples (1995-2004) has been to open the way for the issue of indigenous peoples to be more widely and openly discussed.

Guest speakers discussed how shifting cultivation practised by indigenous people in the Eastern Himalayas can be improved and adapted to present-day needs rather than replacing it with alternatives. Policies that discourage the practice, including those on land tenure and forests, have resulted in resource degradation and alienation of the poor from their resources, means of livelihood, and social security. Changing these policies will benefit the farmers and be helpful for improving food security and biodiversity conservation.

Dr. Om Gurung, General Secretary of the Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN), was the Chief Guest. He welcomed ICIMOD's initiatives in addressing the issues of indigenous peoples.

Nira Gurung, ngurung@icimod.org

Elisabeth Kerkhoff, ekerkhoff@icimod.org

Radhika Gupta, rgupta@icimod.org

Contribution/donor news update

Pakistan contributes its second installment for the ICIMOD Headquarters

In July 2006, the Government of Pakistan handed over US\$3,492 to ICIMOD as a final installment of its contribution to the completion of the ICIMOD Headquarters building. The first installment of US\$96,841 was received last year, making Pakistan's overall contribution to the ICIMOD building US \$100,332. ICIMOD expresses its gratitude to the Government of Pakistan for this valuable contribution.

An updated list of contributors to the Headquarters' building is given in chronological order of receipt.

China	US\$ 100,000
Bangladesh	US\$ 28,300
Bhutan (estimated value of in-kind contribution)	US\$ 28,300
India	US\$ 98,718
Pakistan	US\$ 100,332

Total	US\$ 355,650
Nepal contributed 1.5 ha of land on which the ICIMOD HQ building stands (estimated value)	US\$ 1,000,000

Milan Raj Tuladhar, mtuladhar@icimod.org

ICIMOD represented at the exhibition on 'Management of Water, Wastewater and Environment: Challenges for the Developing Countries'

The Information and Knowledge Management (IKM) Programme represented by MENRIS and Information Management, Communications, and Outreach (IMCO) participated in a three-day exhibition organised jointly by Nepal Engineers' Association (NEA); Society of Public Health Engineers, Nepal (SOPHEN); Ministry of Environment, Science, and Technology (MoEST); and Ministry of Physical Planning and Works (MoPPW) as part of an international conference on 'Management of Water, Wastewater, and Environment: Challenges for the Developing Countries'. The exhibition was held at the Birendra International Convention Centre (BICC) from

13-15 September 2006 and was inaugurated by the Honourable Mr. Gopal Man Shrestha, Minister of Physical Planning and Works. He along with Honourable Mr. Gyanendra Bahadur Karki Minister of State for Water Resources visited the ICIMOD stall and showed keen interest in the information displayed at our booth. Various other participants also showed an interest in our materials, the main attraction being the high-resolution satellite imagery of Kathmandu and Lalitpur cities using the latest technology. ICIMOD publications also sold well.

Govinda Joshi, gjoshi@icimod.org

Nira Gurung, ngurung@icimod.org

New project support to ICIMOD 2006

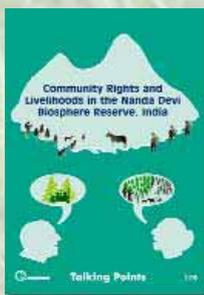
as of October 2006

ICIMOD is pleased to announce the following project grants support to the Centre.

	Donor	Project	Duration	Total Amount
1	FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization	Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development in Mountain Regions (SARD -M, Phase II)	30 June 2006 to December 2006	US\$ 19,075
2.	SDC: Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation	Associate Professional Officers Programme (APO)	16 February 2006 15 February 2008	US\$ 206,696
3	CFC/FAO :Com mon Fund for Commodities/ Food and Agriculture Organization	Medicinal Plants and Herbs: Developing Sustainable Supply Chains and Enhancing Rural Livelihood in Eastern Himalayas	10 May 2006 to 10 August 2010	US\$1,681,515
4	DRSP: District Road Support Programme	Training on Technical Knowledge to District Road Support Programme Participants	March 2006	US\$ 4,796
5	NTB: Nepal Tourism Board	Project Management Training for National and Local Tourism Organisations	July 2006	US\$ 29,080
6	USAID: United States Agency for International Development	Capacity Building for Flash Floods Management and Sustainable Development in the Himalayas	June 2006 to December 2007	US\$ 144,110
7	OFDA: Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance	Follow-up activities to the Satellite Rainfall Estimation Workshop	January 2006	US\$ 100,000
8	IFAD: International Fund for Agricultural Development	Enhancing Innovative and Pro-Poor Upland Policies Programme	May 2006 to October 2007	US\$ 200,000
9	UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme	Preparation and organisation of sub -regional and national workshops in Kathmandu	August 2006 to October 2006	US\$ 50,800
10	UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme	Implementation of Malé Declaration -Phase III	12 July 2006 to October 2006	US\$ 50,800
11	CEC: Commission of the European Communities	Twinning European and South Asian River Basin to Enhance Capacity and Implement Adaptive Integrated Water Resources Management Approaches	June 2006 to May 2009	Euro 260,420
12	EC: European Commission	Living with Risk – Sharing Knowledge on Disaster Preparedness in the Himalayan Region	1 April 2006 to 30 June 2007	Euro 251,302
13	ICCO: Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation	Capacity Building of Community -Based Organisations in Advocacy Strategies : ICIMOD 2005 -2008 Indigenous Mountain Peoples Project	January 2006 to December 2008	Euro 352,500
14	IDRC: International Development Research Centre	Land-use Transition and Human Health in the Eastern Himalayas	4 February 2006 to 3 February 2007	CAD 168,900

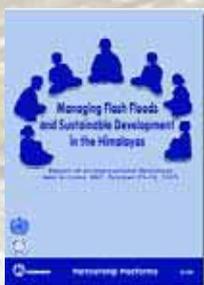
Recent ICIMOD publications

The following are the major documents published between June and November 2006. The three prices quoted are applicable to developed countries, developing countries, and ICIMOD's regional member countries respectively, and include post and packing. Publications are available at a reduced rate at the Centre itself. Publications can be provided free-of-charge to institutions actively involved in sustainable development of the greater Himalayan region. Order on-line (see below) or from the Distribution Unit <distri@icimod.org>



Kainthola, S. D.; Rana, D. S.; Singh, N.; Naithani, P.; Negi, B. S.
Community Rights and Livelihoods in the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve. Talking Points 1/06 34p ISBN-13 978-92-9115-012-0 Price: \$ 10/\$7 \$5

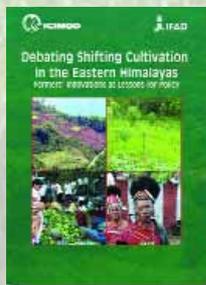
This book revisits the communities surrounding Nanda Devi where the Chipko movement began in the 1970s. Here, where conservation activism laid down its roots, people lost their access rights to traditional commons a decade later in the name of conservation. The book documents in concrete terms the realities and impact of conservation on local people's lives and livelihoods. The picture presented echoes what is happening in many conservation areas around the world: well-meaning conservation measures have failed the very communities that have preserved the landscape through centuries. In Nanda Devi the plight of local communities is gradually being recognised and attempts have been made to redress the balance. Much remains to be done, however, and the book contributes to discussions on the special needs and moral rights of communities in conservation areas. We hope it will help governments and policy-makers realise better the need to integrate communities and local needs into conservation plans.



Xu Jianchu; Eriksson, M.; Ferdinand, J.; Merz, J. (eds)
Managing Flash Floods and Sustainable Development in the Himalayas, Partnership Platforms 3/06 81p ISBN-13 978-92-9115-010-6 Price: \$ 10/\$7 \$5

This publication presents the findings and results of the 'International Workshop on Flash Floods and

Sustainable Development in the Himalayas' organised by ICIMOD, the China Meteorological Administration, and WMO in Lhasa, PRC, in October 2005, with support from the Government of Norway and the USAID Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance. It presents up-to-date knowledge about flash floods and their management in each of ICIMOD's eight regional member countries, possibilities for forecasting and early warning, and discussions about the importance of community-based disaster reduction management. The book concludes with the 'Lhasa Declaration for Flash Flood Management', which provides important guidance not only for the Himalayan region, but also for the world as a whole. The detailed country reports are provided on a CD-ROM included with the book.



Kerkhoff, E.; Sharma, E. (comp.)
Debating Shifting Cultivation in the Eastern Himalayas: Farmers' Innovations as Lessons for Policy. 82p ISBN-13 978-92-9115-009-0 Price: \$ 15/\$10/\$7.50

Most people see shifting cultivation as outdated and destructive, but farmers in the eastern Himalayas still prefer to farm in this way. This study takes a fresh and unbiased look at the practice to find out why. It shows that indigenous farmers have much to teach the world about the efficient use of their landscape for combined agriculture and forestry. Shifting cultivators conserve more forests on their land than any other farmers – while maintaining crop productivity, avoiding soil degradation, and conserving biodiversity. The findings contain important lessons for policy-makers and others: farmers' innovations can be used to improve shifting cultivation and adapt it to modern needs, rather than trying to replace it with alternatives.

ICIMOD publications on-line – order direct at

<http://www.icimod.org/publications/pubmenu.htm>

<http://www.panaseanemall.org/shop/icimod.htm>

<http://www.earthprint.com/icimod>

General Publications

- Newsletter No. 50: A Safer and Just Mountain Habitat for All (Summer 2006)
- ICIMOD Calendar 2007
- ICIMOD Year Planner 2007

Leaflets

- Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Programme in Asia
- Capacity Building of Community-Based Organisations in Advocacy in the Himalayas
- Regional Programme on Access and Benefit Sharing from Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge in the Eastern Himalayas
- The Shillong Declaration
- The Lhasa Declaration
- Satellite Rainfall Estimates in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region

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<http://www.icimod.org/enews/>

- Development of an ASSESSment System to Evaluate the Ecological Status of Rivers in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region
- Living with Risk - Sharing Knowledge on Disaster Preparedness in the Himalayan Region
- ICIMOD flyers in Bhutanese, Chinese, Hindi, and Nepali

Other publications by ICIMOD staff

Chettri, N.; Sharma, E. (2006) Assessment of Natural Resources Use Patterns: A Case Study Along a Trekking Corridor of Sikkim Himalaya, India. In *Resources, Energy, and Development*, 3(1): 21-34

Kollmair, M.; Gurung, G. S.; Hurni, K.; Maselli, D. (2005) 'Mountains: Special Places to be Protected? An Analysis of Worldwide Nature Conservation Efforts in Mountains.' In *International Journal of Biodiversity Science and Management*, 1: 181-189

Yan Zhaoli; Wu Ning; Yeshe Dorji; Ru Jia (2006) 'A Review of Rangeland Privatisation and its Implications in the Tibetan Plateau, China.' In *Nomadic Peoples*, 9(1/2): 31-51

New appointments

Sagar Ratna Bajracharya, Satellite Hydrology Officer, WHEM

Mr. Sagar Ratna Bajracharya, a Nepali national, joined ICIMOD as a Satellite Hydrology Officer in the Water, Hazard, and Environmental Management, WHEM Programme in June 2006. He will be working in the project on Application of Satellite Rainfall Estimates (SREs) in the HKH region, focusing on validating SREs provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to improve rainfall forecast products.

Mr Bajracharya has worked in different capacities on several ICIMOD projects, from workshop resource person to field officer in RS/GIS analysis in the Italian

project on Sagarmatha National Park and earthquake damage assessment in Hilkot, Pakistan.

He holds two Master's degrees: in Geo-informatics from the International Institute for Geo-information Science and Earth Observation (ITC), Holland, with specialisation in GIS, and in Geo-science from Tribhuvan University with specialisation in Geomorphology.

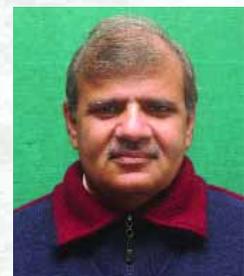


Inayatullah Chaudhry, Regional Programme Coordinator-Pakistan

Dr. Inayatullah Chaudhry, a Pakistani national from Faisalabad, will join ICIMOD from December 1, 2006 as Regional Programme Coordinator for Pakistan with the Policy and Partnership Development (PPD) Unit of the Centre. He will be based in Pakistan and will report directly to the Director General.

Dr. Inayatullah has a Ph.D. in Agriculture with specialisation in Entomology/Systems Ecology, and

Statistics and Computer Sciences from Oklahoma State University, USA. He has a broad depth of experience leading and managing complex, multi-location national and international programmes, and setting up new institutions. Prior



to joining ICIMOD, he was with the United Nations Development Programme since 1997, where he was Assistant Resident Representative providing technical guidance and supervision to UNDP-funded community-based projects. He managed UNDP's Sustainable Livelihood Unit in Pakistan from 2001 to 2006. He has also served in various capacities with the U.S.

Department of Agriculture, the Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology based in Nairobi, Kenya, and the Sustainable Development Policy Institute in Islamabad.

Dr. Inayatullah has received many awards throughout his career and has an extensive publications record as a distinguished scientist.

Julie Dekens, Institutional Specialist/Researcher, WHEM



Ms. Julie Dekens is a graduate in Human Geography, University of Geneva, Switzerland. She has a Masters degree in community-based natural resource management from the Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba, Canada. Her research documented

and analysed the capacity of a village in the Darjeeling district to adapt its livelihoods to multiple stresses over

a 50-year period. Julie has an interest in community resilience-building for change.

After completion of her Masters, Ms. Dekens worked as a consultant and as an intern for Inter-cooperation, the Swiss Foundation for Cooperation and Development in Bern on community adaptation to climate change. Since July 2006, She has been part of the WHEM Programme of ICIMOD as an institutional specialist. She is documenting local knowledge on disaster preparedness in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Pakistan.

Shikui Dong, Visiting Scientist, NRM



Dr. Shikui Dong is an associate professor in the Environmental School of Beijing Normal University. He received his B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. in Grassland Science at Gansu Agricultural University in 1995, 1998, and 2001, respectively, and has worked as a post-

doctoral researcher in Beijing Normal University from 2001 to 2003. Dr. Dong has coordinated research projects focusing on grassland management in the alpine regions of the Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau of China and has published more than 60 scientific papers on

alpine rangeland resource management. He is also a reviewer for the *International Journal of Livestock Science* and a member of the editorial board of the *African Journal of Agricultural Research*.

Currently, Dr. Shikui Dong is working at ICIMOD as a visiting scientist for the project on 'Sustainable Rangeland Resources and Ecosystem Management in Nepal' which is funded by the Asian Scholarship Foundation (ASF). Through this project, he will search for effective managerial measures at regional, community, and household levels to resolve issues in sustainable rangeland resource and ecosystem management in Nepal.

Fang Jin, EcoHealth Specialist, WHEM



Dr. Fang Jing, a Chinese national, joined ICIMOD as EcoHealth Specialist in the WHEM Programme from 16 August 2006. Dr. Fang Jing has a Ph.D. in Development Studies in Public Health from the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Sussex

University, UK, and has a Masters degree in Medical Sciences from Harbin Medical University, China.

Dr. Fang has extensive field and international experience in gender and public health in Southwest

China and Southeast Asia. She brings a rich and valuable knowledge and experience in medical and related social sciences, particularly in gender and health areas.

Among her many positions and responsibilities, Dr. Fang Jing is a member of the Gender and Health Equity Network (GHEN), a cross-continental group consisting of researchers, government officials, and practitioners in India, UK, US, China, Sweden, Mozambique, and WHO. She will be coordinating the IDRC/ICIMOD EcoHealth Project that deals with ecosystems and human health issues related to land-use transition.

Elizabeth Fox, Programme Assistant, Information Services, Mountain Forum Secretariat

Ms. Elizabeth Fox recently joined the Mountain Forum Secretariat (MFS) as the Programme Assistant, for Information Services. She completed her B.A. in Human Environmental Sciences from the University of Alabama (USA) and has a Masters degree in Political Science from the University of Rome, 'La Sapienza', Italy.

A communications advocate specialising in rural conservation of biocultural diversity and mountain protection issues, Ms. Fox, just before joining the MFS, was working for the Cinque Terre National Park and Marine Protected Area, a UNESCO World Heritage

site in Liguria, Italy. She was concerned with international affairs and cooperation, as well as with communication, translation, and editing of Park materials. Ms. Fox prepared the media plan for the Mountain Connectivity Conservation Management international workshop held in Ecuador in November 2006 by WCPA/IUCN Mountains Biome Theme.

An American citizen from rural Alabama, she has permanent residence in Monterosso al Mare, Italy.



Ramonette Jean Marie Pacia, Training Officer, PPD

Ms. Monette Pacia, a national of the Philippines, joined ICIMOD as a Training Officer in the Policy and Partnership Development Pro-gramme in June 2006.

Ms. Pacia brings with her eight years of development experience in capacity building, research, project management, and resource generation in the fields of rural development, women and children's welfare, and participatory approaches. She has worked for the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) based in the Philippines where she was involved in managing, designing, and facilitating training programmes for development practitioners from

international NGOs, government, academe, and multi-lateral and bilateral organisations, especially from Asia and Africa. Training programme ranged from participatory action research for CBNRM to gender mainstreaming. Ms. Pacia also has rich social welfare and research experience. She has post-graduate credits in Social Psychology and a Bachelor's degree in Social Work from the University of the Philippines.



Arun Bhakta Shrestha, Climate Change Specialist, WHEM

Dr. Arun B. Shrestha, a Nepali national, joined the Water, Hazards, and Environmental Management (WHEM) Programme in July 2006 as a Climate Change Specialist. He has a Ph.D. in Earth Sciences from the University of New Hampshire, USA, and a Master's degree in Hydraulic Engineering from Minsk, the former USSR.

Before joining ICIMOD, Dr. Shrestha worked for the Department of Hydrology (DHM) and Meteorology, Government of Nepal, for 16 years. His main areas of expertise include climate change, glaciers and glacial hazards, glacial lake outburst mitigation, atmospheric environment, remote sensing, and hydrological

modelling. Dr. Shrestha has had several publications in peer reviewed international journals as well as in national journals and magazines. He was actively involved in the Tsho Rolpa GLOF Risk Reduction Project and was in the scientific team for the preparation of the First National Communication of Nepal to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).



Attention readers!

The final findings of the **ICIMOD Readership Survey 2006** will be posted on our website www.icimod.org Do look out for it. We thank you for your most valuable comments and contributions.

New associates, consultants, and interns

(as of November 2006)

Consultants

Nirmal K. Bhattarai, Consultant, ARID
Pradeep Man Dangol, MENRIS-IKM
Deoraj Gurung, MENRIS-IKM
Li Qiao Hong, WHEM
Udayan Mishra, APMN-IKM
Tian Yu Qiang, Assistant Coordinator for Mobile Workshops (WHEM)
Prajna Regmi, MENRIS-IKM
Ram Prasad Sah, Policy Consultant, PPD
Karma Toeb, MENRIS-IKM
Kabir Uddin, MENRIS-IKM
Li Zhuoqing, Consultant, WHEM

Interns

Liang Chungfang, MENRIS
Tara Dhakal, CEGG
Susmita Dhakal, Kyoto-ARID
Nagma Hamal, MAPPA-ARID
Shirish Gautam, ARID
Shobhana Ghimire, PPD
Tashi Gyalmo, MENRIS-IKM
Sapana Maharjan, ARID
Robet Maharjan, Directorate
Paribesh Pradhan, Mountain Forum Secretariat
Gyan Kumar Chippi Shrestha, WHEM

Staff separation

Madhav P. Dhakal, Research Associate-PARDYP (1 May 1997 - 30 June 2006)
Bhawani Shanker Dongol, Research Associate-PARDYP (1 Jan. 2000 - 30 June 2006)
Pradeep M. Dongol, Research Associate-PARDYP (1 May 1997 - 30 June 2006)
Shirish Gautam, Intern-ARID (July 3, 2006 to Sept. 2, 2006)
Pema Gyamtsho, Agriculture Resources Policy Specialist. (1 Nov. 2002 - 31 Aug. 2006)
Tashi Gyalmo, Intern - MENRIS-IKM (July 1, 2006 to Sept. 30, 2006)
Abdul Qadeer Jawad, Intern-ADMIN (July 1, 2006 to Aug. 31, 2006)
Surendra Rai Joshi, Action Research Officer-Beekeeping (23 Nov. 1999 - 30 Sept. 2006)
Niraj Kakati, Intern-NRM (Sept. 28, 2005 to Oct. 15, 2006)
Robet Maharjan, Intern-Directorate (July 25, 2006 to Sept. 25, 2006)
Sapana Maharjan, Intern-ARID (July 3, 2006 to September 2, 2006)
Tek Jung Mahat, Intern - MFS (Sept. 16, 2005 to Sept. 25, 2006)
Udayan Mishra, Intern - APMN-IKM (May 1, 2006 to 31 July 2006)
Zbigniew Mikolajuk, Programme Manager, Information Knowledge Management (1 Nov.2003 - 31 Oct. 2006)
Sugam Nepal, MF-APMN Node Manager (1 Aug. 2005 - 31 July 2006)
Srabani Roy, Programme and Project Development Specialist (6 Nov. 2003 - 16 June 2006)
Gaurav Man Shrestha, Volunteer Intern, Personnel Section (March 15, 2006 to May 15, 2006)
Giri Bahadur Shrestha, Driver-Office Assistant, PARDYP (1 Sept. 1998 - 30 June 2006)
Maqsood Shah, Intern- Beekeeping-ARID (April 1, 2006 to May 21, 2006)
Nibriti Shakya, Volunteer Intern, Personnel Section (15 March , 2006 to 15 May , 2006)
Samma Shakya, Admin Assistant-PARDYP (22 Feb. 2000 - 30 June 2006)
Cung Chin Thang, Associate Expert-GIS/NR, MENRIS-IKM (1 Dec. 2004 - 30 April 2006)
Dipti Thapa, Intern-NRM (June 1, 2005 to May 31, 2006)
Roger John White, Regional Project Coordinator-PARDYP (26 Nov. 2000- 31 Aug. 2006)
Patanjani Yonzon, Intern - CEGG (Jan. 12, 2006 to May 26, 2006)

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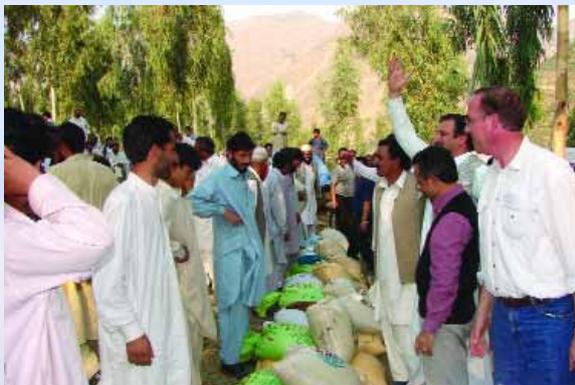
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37th ICIMOD Board of Governors Meeting

November 2006



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