

Centre News

The Annual Meeting of the ICIMOD Board of Governors, 2009

The 40th Annual Meeting of the ICIMOD Board of Governors, and meetings of associated committees (Programme Advisory Committee [PAC], ICIMOD Support Group [ISG], Finance Committee, ICIMOD Foundation) were held from 17 to 20 November 2009 in Chengdu, China. The Chinese Committee on ICIMOD also met (see p 49). A field visit was organised from 13 - 16 November to the Hong Yuan grasslands, and a short visit to the Sichuan earthquake site and the historic Dujiangyan water management and irrigation site on the 16th November for participants who arrived later.

The meetings commenced with a symposium on 'Concerning Mountains and Supporting the Future' jointly organised by the Bureau of International

Cooperation, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), Chinese Committee on ICIMOD (CNICIMOD), and ICIMOD. Five presentations were made introducing current research work on mountains and ICIMOD's development strategy. Dr Schild, Director General of ICIMOD, expressed his thanks for the projects designed by CAS which are to be carried out in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region.

The Symposium was followed by an ICIMOD Centre's Day programme. ICIMOD's partners in China presented a variety of cooperation projects and discussed their implementation in a two-part programme focusing first on topics in which ICIMOD and Chinese partners had already worked together for some time, and second on topics planned or recently initiated.

The Hong Yuan Grasslands

The Hong Yuan Grasslands was an ideal site for a field visit. ICIMOD has been collaborating with the Sichuan Grassland Science Academy (SGSA) and Chengdu Institute of Biology (CIB-CAS) in rangeland development in the area for more than a decade. The Hongyuan landscape is characterised by vast rangelands across rolling hills that are dotted with patches of sub-alpine forests and shrubs, and is one of the world's major alpine wetland areas, with tributaries of both the Yellow and Yangtze rivers meandering through the county. Major collaborative activities implemented over the years include, among others, building the capacity of local partners, improving yak breeds, developing fodder and hay-making plantations, monitoring and restoring rangeland ecology, promoting collaborative rangeland management practices, piloting alternative energy products, and experimenting with rotational grazing schemes. These efforts have led to visible positive impacts on both the livelihoods of the local people and the health of the rangeland resources of the project area.





The Board Meeting itself was chaired by Dr Yao Tandong, Vice President of CNICIMOD, on behalf of Prof Ding Zhongli, President of CNICIMOD. Mr Xiang Zhiyong, Deputy Secretary General of the Chengdu Government, gave a presentation at the opening ceremony and an opening address. Prof Ding, Vice President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, hosted the the farewell dinner, where he also held broad discussions with the meeting participants.

Among others, the Programme Advisory Committee formed working groups for in depth discussion of three

thematic papers on: 'The HKH transect initiative'; 'Climate change adaptation'; and 'Enhancing understanding of the impacts of climate and socioeconomic changes in the Koshi basin.' Valuable feedback was given that is being used to further refine and develop the papers.

The ICIMOD Support Group (ISG) commended the 2009 Report and 2010 Plan, while encouraging ICIMOD to ensure that activities were spread across all the regional member countries. Dr Christopher Graf was elected as new Chair of the group, following the retirement of Mr Kenneweg after many years of support, which was much appreciated.

The Board approved the 2009 Report, 2010 Plan, and planned budget, and a revised version of the ICIMOD Human Resource Manual, and approved the appointment of Mr Berend de Groot as Director of Programme Operations. The Board encouraged ICIMOD to pursue the possibility of hosting an event at COP-15 to provide a platform to the RMCs to highlight the problems of climate change and climate change adaptation in the Himalayas (which then took place).

Heartfelt Condolences

Monica Moktan



We express deep sorrow and heartfelt condolences on the untimely demise of our dearest colleague, the late **Monica Moktan**. She was a long-standing staff member who served ICIMOD for more than 15 years (1 May 1996-18 January 2010) in the MENRIS Division of Integrated Knowledge Management. Her demise is a great loss for our organisation and her contribution will always be remembered with great respect. We pray to almighty God for the departed soul to rest in eternal peace.

The ICIMOD Family

New Regional Board Member



Masud Ahmed, Secretary
Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs
Bangladesh

Mr Masud Ahmed, Secretary - in-Charge, Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs, was nominated ICIMOD Board Member in September 2009, by the Government of Bangladesh. Mr Ahmed is a career civil servant who joined the Bangladesh Civil Service in 1981. In his long professional career, he has worked in different ministries and capacities and has been involved in the formulation and implementation of national planning and programming. Mr Ahmed has held many senior positions in the government including Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Shipping, Ministry of Finance; Member (joint-secretary) of the Bangladesh Economic Processing Zone Authority; and Additional Secretary, Ministry of Liberation War Affairs. In September 2009, he joined as Secretary in the Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs (CHTAM), which is responsible for overall planning, coordination, supervision, and formulation of policies relating to the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

Mr Ahmed completed a BA (Hons) and MA in English literature from Dhaka University, and a Postgraduate Diploma from the UK. He has also received several trainings on finance and management at home and abroad. Mr Ahmed is a vocalist, novelist, and short story writer. He is a member of several professional organisations and is actively involved in cultural and social work. He has travelled extensively.

ICIMOD Board of Governors 2010

Regional Board Members

Eng Raz Mohammad Raz

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

Mr Masud Ahmad

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

Mr Sherub Gyaltsen

Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Bhutan

Prof Dr DING Zhongli

Chair, ICIMOD Board of Governors
Vice President, Chinese Academy of Sciences, PR China

Mr Vijai Sharma, IAS

Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, India

U Kyaw Htun

Deputy Director General, Planning and Statistics Department
Ministry of Forestry, Myanmar

Dr Jagadish C Pokharel

Vice Chairman, National Planning Commission, Nepal

Mr M Zia-ur-Rehman

Secretary, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Pakistan

Independent Board Members

Dr Jacqueline A. Ashby

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

Dr Elke Förster

GFA Consulting Group GmbH, Representative Office Hanoi/
Senior Consultant, Vietnam

Dr Amir Muhammed

Rector, National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences, Pakistan

Dr Linxiu Zhang

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

Dr A K M Jahir Uddin Chowdhury

Professor, Institute of Water and Flood Management
Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Bangladesh

Professor Matthias Winiger

Vice Chancellor, University of Bonn, Germany

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

Dr Christoph Graf, Chair, ICIMOD Support Group

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

Dr Andreas Schild

(Ex-officio) Director General, ICIMOD

ICIMOD at COP 15, Copenhagen

ICIMOD participated in the COP 15 at Copenhagen through various activities. The objective of ICIMOD's participation was to highlight the mountain agenda in the UN Climate Conference. The mountain agenda has been understated in the climate debate and ICIMOD's engagement was important for addressing this gap.

ICIMOD is an intergovernmental organisation permitted as an observer to the UNFCCC. To show case and disseminate ICIMOD's research work on climate change in the HKH region, it operated an exhibition booth in the Bella Centre, the conference venue, for the entire two weeks. ICIMOD's IKM unit provided support to compile materials for display, which ranged from posters, CDs, and flyers to books and research papers.

The Himalaya – *Changing Landscapes* photo exhibition was displayed at the Parliament Square as part of the Summiters' Summit to Save the Himalayas, a rally organised by the Government of Nepal. Andreas Schild addressed the gathering, highlighting the need to do more homework in terms of understanding the changes in the mountains.



The main focus of activities was the joint side event held by ICIMOD and the Center for International Climate and Environmental Research (CICERO) on 'Facing the Challenges: Climate Change in the Greater Himalayas.' The event brought together high-level dignitaries from the Hindu Kush-Himalayan countries to discuss and elaborate on the formidable challenges facing this unique and vulnerable, but vitally important, region. Guests of honour included the Prime Minister of Nepal,

Mr Madhav Kumar Nepal; the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry of Bhutan, Dr Pema Gyamtsho; the Minister of Forest and Soil Conservation of Nepal, Mr Deepak Bohara; the Minister of Environment of Afghanistan and Director General National Environmental Protection Agency, Pakistan, Mr Mustafha Zaher; the Executive Director of the Global Change Impact Studies Centre, Pakistan, Dr Arshad Muhammad Khan; and the Minister of Environment and Development of Norway, Mr Erik Solheim. Several other important dignitaries from the region also participated, including a number of Members of Parliament from India and Nepal.

The Prime Minister of Nepal chaired the event, which was moderated by the Director General of ICIMOD, Dr Andreas Schild. He and the Director General of CICERO, Dr. Pål Prestrud, presented the case of the Himalayas, highlighting the importance of adaptation within the region and the dire consequences of not addressing climate change. Dr Schild and Dr Prestrud reiterated the need to generate more scientific data and information from the region to understand better the impacts and adaptation needs. The event ended with a call by the Prime Minister of Nepal for an alliance of mountain countries to enhance cooperation and ensure better representation of mountains in the UNFCCC process. This was the first time that these small economies of the HKH officially made adaptation in the HKH region a common agenda point at a COP level meeting.

ICIMOD speakers were also asked to present in several other programmes. Dr Bhaskar Karky gave a presentation on the Norad REDD project at a side event on REDD. This event presented a global initiative on social and environmental standards for REDD+ that aims to enhance the contribution of national REDD programmes to rights, poverty reduction, and biodiversity conservation while avoiding social or environmental harm. ICIMOD also shared its participatory carbon assessment methodology as a research outcome at the Kyoto Project meeting.

During the Climate and Development Days, Dr Mats Eriksson and Ms Julie Dekens reported on studies that focused on adaptation in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region, and presented the film *Living with Floods*, which shows that some communities are compelled to change their cultural norms in order to adapt to climate change. Following the film, Dr Schild convened a panel focused on mountain, water, and adaptation policy, particularly

for bottom-up approaches. Robert Zomer made a presentation at the Forest Day on the potential for carbon financing in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region under different REDD options.

To summarise the COP 15 outcomes, two areas were of particular importance for ICIMOD.

First, the ICIMOD-CICERO event provided clear evidence that there was polarisation in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan countries when it came to the UNFCCC. China and India were keen to be the main players in the climate conference as representatives to safeguard the developing countries through the G77 + China Group. Their focus was on getting the Annex 1 countries to make a commitment to new emission levels in line with the Kyoto Protocol. Other small economies in the region – Afghanistan, Bhutan, Nepal, and Pakistan – were keen to use the ICIMOD-CICERO event to highlight their common agenda for adaptation focusing on the Himalayas, an area that is marginalised at the

international level. For such small economies, the side event provided a valuable platform in addition to their three minutes in the plenary to put forward a common message that focused on climate change impacts and adaptation needs in the Himalaya.

Secondly, the greatest progress made at COP 15 negotiations was on forestry (REDD-plus) and agriculture. The Copenhagen Accord has recognised the REDD+ mechanism, an area ICIMOD has been lobbying for with the SBSTA since 2007. For the first time at COP 15, the agricultural sector in developing countries was discussed and now awaits a formal decision in the upcoming COP/MOP meetings. This provides new impetus for ICIMOD to undertake research work at the landscape level by combining the forestry and agriculture sectors under the Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFOLU) framework. There is a dearth of data from the region under this framework.

Bhaskar S Karky, bkarky@icimod.org

CNICIMOD Committee and ICIMOD Planning Meeting, Chengdu, China

The CNICIMOD Committee and ICIMOD Headquarters jointly organised a Planning Meeting with Chinese partner institutions on 24 and 25 August in Chengdu, China. Several bilateral discussions between Chinese partners and ICIMOD staff preceded the main workshop. There were in-depth discussions with each partner on present and future activities, joint projects, and promoting regional cooperation in the different thematic areas of ICIMOD's strategic programmes. The objectives of the Planning Meeting were to

- share and discuss ICIMOD's five year medium-term action plan (2008–2012);
- plan a detailed annual programme for 2010 in China's mountainous provinces;
- make all of ICIMOD's partners in China aware of the role and responsibilities of the CNICIMOD Committee;
- discuss how to strengthen the CNICIMOD Committee;
- expand and enhance China-ICIMOD co-operation by developing joint research and action programmes; and
- mobilise research funds from Chinese institutions.

The main workshop started on 25 August chaired by Prof Hu Pinghua. Prof Dan Wei, Director Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment (IMHE), welcomed

the participants and gave his expectations. He regarded this as a good opportunity to obtain feedback from different partners to strengthen the CNICIMOD Committee, and to build partnerships between Chinese institutions and other Hindu Kush-Himalayan countries. He also highlighted the role of the CNICIMOD Committee and asked ICIMOD and the Chinese partners for cooperation and support in coordinating ICIMOD related collaborative programmes.

Dr Madhav Karki, ICIMOD's Deputy Director General Programmes, explained the objectives, presented ICIMOD's strategic framework, and highlighted the role of ICIMOD in regional cooperation for sustainable mountain development, specifically in the Chinese context. Representatives of ICIMOD's strategic programmes presented their programmatic frameworks and highlighted present and future activities with Chinese partners.

After the overview, participants divided into three groups to define further the activities for 2010. The Chinese partners presented their group work and further shared with CNICIMOD Committee members. Later, the panel discussion focused on how to strengthen the CNICIMOD Committee and its coordinating role with Chinese partners and ICIMOD.

Farid Ahmad, faahmad@icimod.org

ICIMOD-Nepal Day: Nepal Partners Highlight the Success of their Partnership Programmes with ICIMOD

An ICIMOD-Nepal Day workshop was organised on 5 March, the first day of a two-day event, to share the results of ICIMOD's work in Nepal with partners and the development community. Participants were mainly from government ministries and departments, universities, and development and non-government organisations.



ICIMOD's Nepali partners highlighted the activities and achievements of six ongoing joint programmes. The first presentation focused on the increased income achieved by communities in remote hill districts of Nepal from high value niche products, such as medicinal plants and beekeeping, using the value chain approach. The second described a key pilot study undertaken in Nepal by ICIMOD, FECOFUN and ANSAB on reducing carbon emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD).

The subject of the third talk was glacial melting and glacial lakes, and ICIMOD's work with the concerned government department and Tribhuvan University. The inventory of potentially dangerous lakes in Nepal has been refined, and identified six lakes as high priority for investigation. This enables a more reliable communication of risk to the vulnerable communities.

The Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation discussed their ICIMOD-supported work on participatory and cross-boundary landscape conservation, including regional protected area conservation corridors as in the Sacred Himalayan Landscape (SHL), and the setting up of the regional High Altitude Wetlands Initiative. The Department of Livestock Services (DLS) of the Ministry of Agriculture described how range and pasture lands are of critical importance, and ICIMOD's contribution to the development of Nepal's Rangeland Policy, which will soon be implemented.

Finally, a representative of IFAD's Western Upland Poverty Alleviation Project (WUPAP) highlighted a major partnership success with IFAD by describing the contributions of ICIMOD to this 11-year project. WUPAP focuses on technology transfer and market-based livelihood improvement in Nepal's 16 western districts and has achieved significant income enhancement with environmental conservation.

Read more in the press release <http://www.icimod.org/?page=797>.

Madhav Karki, mkarki@icimod.org

ICIMOD Celebrates the International Year of Biodiversity 2010

This year, 2010, ICIMOD joins the world in celebrating the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB). It is an opportunity to highlight the unique biodiversity richness of the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region (HKH); a richness that is influenced by extreme diversity in climate and complex topography. The rich biodiversity has been nurtured by the traditions and cultures of the more than 200 million people who live in the region, cherished by people living downstream, and acknowledged by people across the globe for the goods and services provided to almost one-third of humanity.

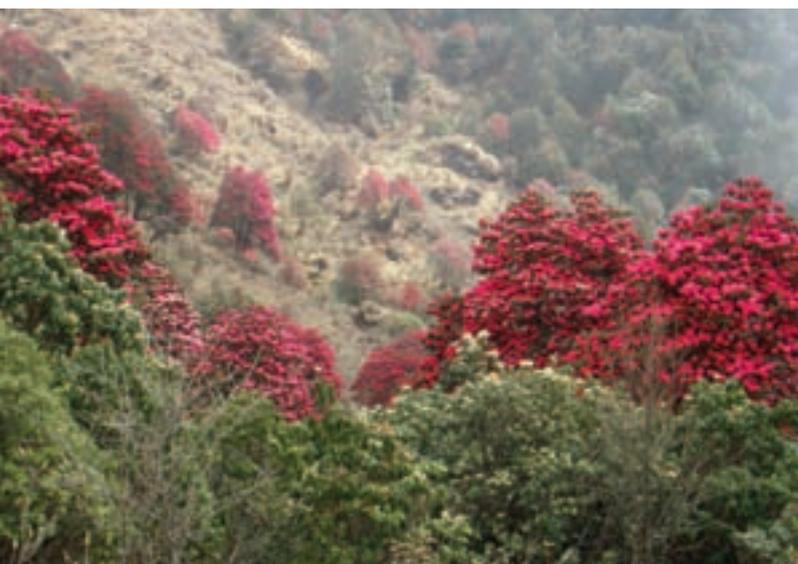
Conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity is a national priority for all the HKH countries, all of whom are signatories to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The eight countries have together committed 39% of the HKH regions' terrestrial area for the establishment of about 488 protected areas (PAs).

ICIMOD is committed to facilitate and support the conservation and management of biodiversity in the region. Its framework for biodiversity management has been designed around the three objectives of the

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). ICIMOD has been promoting an ecosystem approach to biodiversity conservation in seven transboundary conservation landscapes across the HKH, based on the elements of the CBD Programme of Work on Mountain Biodiversity. It focuses on transboundary conservation landscapes promoting habitat connectivity or corridors, and advocates the development of a regional cooperation framework for implementation of the CBD at the regional scale.

ICIMOD promotes cooperation of strategic partners within a commonly agreed regional approach, considering concrete development activities aimed at improving the lives and livelihoods of mountain communities and strengthening their resilience capacity. It also supports its regional member countries in designing and implementing practical strategies, legislation, and guidelines on access and benefit sharing (ABS), which is one of the three goals of CBD.

ICIMOD is promoting IYB 2010 by highlighting the HKH in global events, facilitating regional events, and supporting partners' biodiversity initiatives at the national level. Among the global events, the SBSTTA-14 Meeting in Nairobi and the CoP10 Meeting in Nagoya are of particular importance. ICIMOD considers such events



as a platform to voice the collective efforts of ICIMOD's regional member countries for biodiversity management.

The SBSTTA-14 meeting will particularly highlight the status of CBD implementation and development of an ABS Regional Framework in the HKH at a side event organised in partnership with the HKH member countries. The objective is to raise awareness within the regional and international community about the implementation status of CBD in the HKH, keeping in view the Programme of Work on Mountain Biodiversity.

At Cop 10, ICIMOD's two side events will focus on mainstreaming the Programme of Work on Mountain Biodiversity into regional and national priorities, especially by enhancing regional cooperation for improving the regional knowledge base on biodiversity and climate. It aims to highlight the region's vulnerability towards climate and other environmental changes.

Other ICIMOD activities supporting the IYB objectives include an e-discussion on biodiversity and gender, training on biodiversity data management (in



collaboration with the Global Biodiversity Information Facility and Global Mountain Biodiversity Assessment), training on biodiversity management and climate change, and a photographic contest on mountain biodiversity. At the national level, ICIMOD organised a biodiversity show for partners and the general public in Nepal to convey the motto of IYB – Biodiversity is life, Biodiversity is our life.

Please visit ICIMOD's dedicated IYB web page at www.icimod.org/iyb for news, stories, and events related to the 2010.

Bandana Shakya, bshakya@icimod.org and Sunita Choudhary, schoudhary@icimod.org



International Year of Biodiversity

Workshops, meetings and training events (October 2009 – April 2010)

Event	Date	Place
2009		
First International Training on 'Participatory Integrated Watershed Management'	5 – 15 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
Brown Bag Seminar: International Conservation Law – Some Reflections, Professor Bharat Desai, Chairman of the Centre for International Legal Studies, School of International Studies of Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India	6 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
Governance Inception Workshop	6 – 8 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
International Fund for Agricultural Development New Project Inception Workshop	9 – 11 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
Brown Bag Seminar: Mountain Perspective Framework. Dr NS Jodha, Senior Associate Scientist, ICIMOD	13 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) project closing workshop	14 – 16 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
Photo exhibition: Himalaya – Changing Landscapes	25 – 31 October	Berne, Switzerland
Regional Training on Harmonised and Standardised Rangeland Mapping of HKH Region	26 – 30 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
Training on Hydrological and Carbon Stock Appraisal Tools in the Context of Payment for Environmental Services (PES)	26 – 30 October	Kathmandu, Nepal
Participatory Flood Hazard Mapping and Socioeconomic Vulnerability Analysis	26 Oct. – 2 Nov.	Guwahati, India
BRAHMATWINN International Symposium supporting integrated water resource management in the upper Brahmaputra River Basin	8 – 9 November	Kathmandu, Nepal
National Planning Workshop on Development of Sustainable Energy for Rangelands-DESER II	7 – 8 November	Pokhara, Nepal
Ford Foundation Capacity Building Meeting	8 – 9 November	Kathmandu, Nepal
Brown Bag Seminar: Dynamos'olidaire – Briefing on Local Sustainable Projects. Tanguy de Belmont, Engineer, Dynamos'olidaire	9 November	Kathmandu, Nepal
Regional Value Chain Experience Sharing Workshop	10 – 11 November	Kathmandu, Nepal
Ford Foundation Project Review meeting	12 November	Kathmandu, Nepal
ICIMOD Board of Governors' Meeting	16 – 20 November	Chengdu, China
Development and Harmonisation of Land Cover Classification of Bhutan within the HKH Region	16 – 20 November	Thimphu, Bhutan
Start-up Meeting for the Project Development and Application of Ecological Approaches in Pest Management to Enhance Sustainable Potato Production of Resource-poor Farmers in the HKH Region of Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan and India (Sikkim)	24 – 26 November	Kathmandu, Nepal
Overseas Development Institute (ODI) Country Workshop	25 November	Kathmandu, Nepal
Brown Bag Seminar: Knowledge Management. Mr. Jan Schwaab, Head of GTZ Knowledge Management and Ms. Sonja Windheuser, Knowledge Management Expert, GTZ	27 November	Kathmandu, Nepal
Research Workshop on Tenure and Institutions in Shifting Cultivation	29 Nov. – 2 Dec.	Paro, Bhutan
Overseas Development Institute (ODI) Country Workshop	30 November	Dehradun, India
Consultative Technical Workshop on High Altitude Wetlands in the HKH	3 – 4 December	Kathmandu, Nepal
Workshop on GLOF Risk Assessment and Mitigation Study of Potential GLOFs in Nepal	10 December	Kathmandu, Nepal
Photo exhibition: Himalaya – Changing Landscapes, Kathmandu International Mountain Film Festival (KIMFF)	10 – 14 December	Kathmandu, Nepal
National Workshop cum Training on Development and Harmonisation of Land Cover Classification of Myanmar within the HKH Region	14 – 18 December	Nay Pi Taw, Myanmar
National Workshop cum Training on Development and Harmonisation of Land Cover Classification of Bangladesh within the HKH Region	21 – 24 December	Bangladesh
National Planning Workshop on Development of Sustainable Energy for Rangelands (DESER), Phase II	29 – 31 December	Islamabad, Pakistan
2010		
Inception meeting of HIMALA with NASA and USGS	6 – 8 January	Kathmandu, Nepal
Half-day Interaction Programme on Koshi Basin Project	15 January	Kathmandu, Nepal
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Annual Review and Planning Workshop cum sharing of Methodology for Vulnerability and Poverty Assessment	25 – 27 January	Kathmandu, Nepal
Workshop – 'The Greater Himalayan Wetlands Information System'	1 February	Kathmandu, Nepal

2nd Phase Project Workshop on Documenting Land Adaptation to Climate Induced Water Stress and Hazards in the Greater Himalayas	2 – 5 February	Kathmandu, Nepal
Workshop on GLOF Risk Assessment and Mitigation Study of Potential GLOFs in Nepal	3 February	Kathmandu, Nepal
National Planning Workshop on Development of Sustainable Energy for Rangelands DESER II	5 February	Bhutan
Training Workshop on Gender and Climate Change for Gender Advocates in Nepal	10 – 11 February	Kathmandu, Nepal
Brown Bag Seminar: Adaptive management of China's grassland ecosystems to global change. Professor Dong Shiku, Visiting Scientist, ICIMOD	10 February	Kathmandu, Nepal
Satellite Remote Sensing for Air Quality Analysis in the Himalayan Region	15 – 19 February	Kathmandu, Nepal
Flash Floods in the Himalayas – State of the art in flash flood risk management: knowledge sharing workshop	15 – 16 February	Kathmandu, Nepal
Regional Workshop on HKH Regional Statistical Database	18 – 19 February	Kathmandu, Nepal
Training on documentation and dissemination of SLM technologies and approaches using WOCAT tools	15 – 20 February	Min Tai Bin, Myanmar
National Workshop on Development and Harmonisation of Land Cover Classification of Nepal within the HKH Region	22 – 26 February	Kathmandu, Nepal
Local Level Workshop for Dissemination of Findings on the Field Investigations and Discussion for Thulagi glacial lake	22 February	Besisahar, Lamjung
Workshop on Research Land Use Options and Extension Approaches in Shifting Cultivation	24 – 27 February	Bandarban, BGL
Local Level Workshop for Dissemination of Findings on the Field Investigations and Discussion for Tsho Rolpa glacial lake	26 February	Charikot, Dolakha
Regional Workshop on Statistical Data Sharing	28 Feb. – 1 Mar.	Kathmandu, Nepal
Himalayan Trails Regional Workshop	1 – 2 March	Kathmandu, Nepal
Rangeland Consultation Workshop	2 – 3 March	Islamabad, Pakistan
Brown Bag Seminar: Tourism Trail Development and Approaches. Mr Guy Scheider, Geographer and Senior Researcher, Via Storia and Mr Werner Meyer, Rural Infrastructure Engineer, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH)	3 March	Kathmandu, Nepal
ICIMOD Nepal Day	5 – 6 March	Kathmandu, Nepal
Snow and Glacier Melt Runoff Modelling in the Indus Basin	8 – 12 March	Islamabad, Pakistan
Inception Workshop Designing of Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) Participatory Action Research (PAR) in High Mountain Agribusiness and Livelihood Improvement (HIMALI)	11 March	Kathmandu, Nepal
Brown Bag Seminar: Grazing and management of vegetation dynamics in nature reserves in North-West Europe: Lessons for the Himalayas. Dr Jan Bokdam, Lecturer, Conservation and Plant Ecology Group, Centre for Ecosystem Studies, Wageningen University and Research, The Netherlands	11 March	Kathmandu, Nepal
Local Level Workshop for Dissemination of Findings on the Field Investigations and Discussion for Imja Glacial Lake	12 March	Solkhumbu, Nepal
Meeting with National Gender Focal Points	15 – 17 March	Kathmandu, Nepal
ICIMOD's Fourth International Training on Low Cost Soil and Water Conservation Techniques and Watershed Management Activities	15 March – 6 April	Kathmandu, Nepal
Knowledge Forum: Three Unlearned Lessons – Problems of Scholarly Research within a Political Arena. Jack D Ives	17 March	Kathmandu, Nepal
Steering Committee Meeting of Beekeeping	17 – 18 March	Kathmandu, Nepal
Mobile Photo Exhibition: Himalaya – Changing Landscapes	22 – 27 March	Canberra, Australia
Mobile Photo Exhibition: Himalaya – Changing Landscapes	5 - 25 March	Sydney, Australia
Regional Training on Biodiversity Management and Climate Change	22 – 31 March	Kathmandu, Nepal
Participatory Curriculum Development Workshop on Beekeeping in Nepal	7 – 9 April	Kathmandu, Nepal
Training on Flood Hazard Mapping and Socioeconomic Vulnerability Analysis – 2	7 April – 1 May	Dhaka, Bangladesh
First Regional Workshop: Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation Initiative (KSLCI)	11 -13 April	Almora, India
Hands on Training on Fruit Tree Planting, Pruning and Organic Vegetable Farming Techniques	15 – 16 April	Kathmandu, Nepal
Himalayan University Consortium (HUC) Annual Meeting	22 – 23 April	Kathmandu, Nepal
Inception workshop on Koshi River Basin Transboundary Programme	22 – 23 April	Kathmandu, Nepal
Knowledge Forum. Mr David Malone, President of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC)	23 April	Kathmandu, Nepal
Joint Sino-Nepalese field visit to Koshi Basin	25 April-30 May	Koshi Basin, Nepal
ICIMOD – SANDEE Consultation Meeting	27 April	Kathmandu, Nepal

Hosted institutions

Mountain Forum/ Mountain Partnership Development

Formation of The Mountain Partnership Consortium and Regional Arrangements

In 2009, the Board and Advisory Committee meetings of Mountain Forum (MF) and Mountain Partnership (MP) started discussions on a future joint strategy to enable the functions and tasks of the two mountain development related networks to be integrated and consolidated, taking into account their different mandates and objectives.

A working group was formed to draft a concept proposal; it proposed that a consolidated structure would be both feasible and more viable, and could attract other stakeholders to join, including donors engaged in supporting and promoting the vision of sustainable mountain development (SMD). As a first step in creating a new mountain partnership, the governance structures of Mountain Forum and Mountain Partnership – the MF Board and Mountain Partnership Advisory Committee – were dissolved as of 1 April 2010.

A joint meeting of various stakeholders including the donors was held on 1 April at FAO in Rome to discuss the options and future steps for setting up a new Mountain Partnership Consortium (MPC). The Italian Co-operation organised a launching event for the new Consortium on 31st March, at the premises of the Italian Foreign Ministry. Invitees included the participants of the meeting and diplomats and representatives of key mountain countries including France, Austria, Pakistan, and Argentina. Two working groups were formed by the stakeholders meeting to draft a strategy for the MPC outlining the vision, mission, and key outcomes; incorporate the views expressed in the meeting; focus

on how the SMD agenda should be pursued; and propose a new governance structure for the consortium. The intention is to finalise the document during the Peth Summit in September 2011.

It is expected that the new structure and action plan for the MPC will become effective on January, 2011. The foreseen changes should lead to better coordination of the work programmes of existing and new partners of the Mountain Partnership Consortium.

Asia-Pacific Mountain Network

Established in 1994, Asia-Pacific Mountain Network (APMN) is a knowledge-sharing platform connecting mountain regions and members through dialogue and networking on mountain development issues in and for the Asia-Pacific region. The network is managed by ICIMOD and has acted as the Asia-Pacific node of Mountain Forum since 1996, supported generously by a small grant from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). As of 31 March 2010, APMN had more than 265 organisational users from 25 countries and 1,900 individual users from 40 countries, an increase of 25% from 2009.

The present functions of Asia-Pacific Mountain Network and Mountain Partnership at ICIMOD as knowledge exchange facilitators is expected to remain largely unchanged, although in future the work will be governed by the new strategy of the MPC and some functions strengthened and/or improved.

APMN moderates two discussion lists (mf-asiapacific and mf-centralasia), has its own programme and webpage [www.icimod.org/apmn], and produces the biannual Asia Pacific Mountain Courier. Since January 2010, APMN has been overseeing four additional lists (mf-geography, mf-global, mf-summary, and mf-women) and has taken charge of the Mountain Forum Online Library (MFOl). As part of ICIMOD's Integrated Knowledge Management (IKM) team, APMN helps to organise knowledge forums, document knowledge, repackage it, and share ICIMOD knowledge with a wider audience.

In the previous six months, APMN published a second thematic issue of the Asia Pacific Mountain Courier on 'mountain biodiversity', as the APMN community's

MF Node Managers' Meetings 2009, Lima, Peru



response to CBD's call for knowledge input to its Conference of Parties (CoP) 10 to be held in Nagoya, Japan later this year, and issued 20 thematic e-digests on 'climate change', 'biodiversity and forest', 'water and hazards', 'mountain livelihood and technology', and 'gender and climate change'. It supported youth groups to conduct activities on conservation and climate change; co-organised a media competition for journalists; and explored new areas for information sharing and advocacy of the mountain agenda, including extensive use of the social networking site, Facebook. APMN also participated in the Knowledge Management for Sustainable Development (KMSD) conference held in Kathmandu in December 2009, with a presentation on APMN activities, and contributed to ICIMOD programmes to celebrate International Mountain Day 2009 and World Wetlands Day 2010.

Tek Jung Mahat, tmahat@icimod.org

South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE)

SANDEE has now settled into its new Secretariat office on the ICIMOD site. SANDEE's core activity is research support. In winter 2009 (Cycle 19), SANDEE received 40 pre-proposals and invited 7 research proposals for grants. Five grants and one study grant were awarded following the research and training workshop held in December 2009. The grant topics range from organic agriculture to household response to natural disasters.

We also conducted the following training programmes:

Introduction to Quantitative Environmental Economics, 23-27 January 2010, Pokhara, Nepal

This was a practical course for Nepali participants designed for teachers and researchers who want to understand and apply economic tools in valuing environmental goods and services. The course tried to provide a general introduction to environmental economics and to inform students about specific methods and strategies for undertaking valuation exercises.

TERI – SANDEE Policy Workshop on Climate Change, 5-11 February 2010, New Delhi, India

The Climate Summit in Copenhagen in December 2009 was not as successful as desired in setting implementable targets for reducing climate change. This workshop was organised in conjunction with TERI's Delhi Sustainable Development Summit 2010 in recognition of the need for researchers and professionals in South Asia to understand the implications of the Copenhagen meetings for climate policies in our countries. It aimed at understanding immediate research and training requirements in South Asia in general, and India in particular.

Policy Research and Proposal Writing Workshop, 30 March-2 April, 2010, Kalutara, Sri Lanka

SANDEE organised a four-day proposal writing workshop in Colombo together with the Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS), for Sri Lankan researchers. The workshop enhanced skills in writing proposals; participants worked on improving literature reviews, and focusing on research questions and methods.

SANDEE Research Support (Cycle 19)

Name	Country	Research Topic
Ziaul Haider	Bangladesh	Economics of rice residue burning in the South-West Region of Bangladesh
Iftikar Husnain	Pakistan	Is organic agriculture economically viable?
Paramita Prajna Mishra	India	Recreation vs. pollution? A study of Hussain Sagar lake and its surroundings in Hyderabad
Ghosh Santadas	India	Dynamics of household responses to natural disasters – Observations from Sundarban after cyclone Aila
Saravana Kumar	India	Economic impact of climate change on yield variability of major food crops in Tamil Nadu
Moshahida Sultana (Study Grant)	Bangladesh	Factors that influence two conflicting groups – farmers and fishermen – to participate in integrated water resource management: the case of coastal areas of Bangladesh

Partnership development (October 2009 - March 2010)

ICIMOD is continuing its unique regional role of enhancing the social and environmental security of mountain people and ecosystems by establishing strategic partnerships with both government and non-government institutions and resource centres in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region and outside. ICIMOD has entered into agreements with different partners and institutions during the past half year, some of which are highlighted below.

Biodiversity and climate change adaptation

ICIMOD has been promoting trans-Himalayan transects for biodiversity conservation, management and long term environmental monitoring of ecosystem services. In 2009, ICIMOD entered into a partnership agreement with UNEP to promote regional cooperation in transboundary biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. In order to develop a regional cooperation framework, ICIMOD signed agreements with the following institutions in the region during the second half of 2009 and early 2010.

- Institute of Geographical Sciences and Natural Resources Research (IGSNRR) and Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China
- Kunming Institute of Botany (KIB) and Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China
- GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development (GBPIHED), India
- Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment Eastern Himalayan Programme (ATREE-EHP), India
- Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation (MoFSC), Nepal
- Central Botany of Tribhuvan University, Nepal

Water and disaster risk reduction

ICIMOD, through its Integrated Water and Hazard management programme, plans to investigate water related issues through periodic monitoring and proper management of water resources that have an impact on the livelihoods and ecosystems of the region. ICIMOD entered into agreements with the following institutions in order to contribute concrete measures for optimal use of water and land resources and sustainable management of water services and water induced disaster risk reduction.

- Kunming Institute of Botany (KIB) and Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China
- Aga Khan Rural Support Program (AKRSP), Pakistan
- The Mountain Institute (TMI), Nepal
- Aaranyak, India
- Stockholm Environment Institute, Thailand
- United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction Secretariat (UNISDR) – Thailand
- Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), Pakistan
- Asian Development Bank, Philippines
- The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, (for establishment of a Regional Flood Information System)

Knowledge sharing and capacity development

A demonstration project for Reduced Emission from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) is being implemented by ICIMOD in collaboration with Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB) and the Federation of Community Forest Users Nepal (FECOFUN). ICIMOD signed a Letter of Agreement with ANSAB-Nepal to establish a Project Management Unit (PMU) to create an easy and efficient environment for implementing the project; and a second LOA with the Faculty of Geo-information Science and Earth Observation (ITC) of the University of Twente to assist ICIMOD in developing a remote sensing based monitoring, reporting and verification protocol for the project.

A strategic collaboration was established between ICIMOD and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) to recognise and pursue collaboration in priority areas of mutual interest and benefit.



Local governance in the HKH region

ICIMOD has commenced a programme to strengthen the capacity of selected local government institutions and civil society organisations by enhancing their knowledge, skills, and practices for demonstrating good governance in poverty alleviation and natural resource management. Letters of Agreement (LOAs) have been signed with the following institutions:

- The Mountain Institute, India
- Namsaling Community Development Centre (NCDC), Nepal
- Nepal Chepang Association (NCA), Nepal
- Green Hills, Bangladesh
- Aga Khan Rural Support Program (AKRSP), Pakistan
- National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC), Nepal
- Nepal Participatory Action Network (NEPAN), Nepal

Promoting value chains for sustainable livelihoods

To improve livelihoods through knowledge partnerships and value chains of bee products and services in the Himalayas, ICIMOD signed agreements with various regional institutions including the Eastern Bee Research Institute (EBRI), Yunnan Agricultural University, Kunming, China, and the All Pakistan Beekeepers and Exporters Association, Peshawar, Pakistan.



Strengthening strategic collaboration

Lyonpo Pema Gyamtsho, Minister of Agriculture and Forest, Royal Government of Bhutan, visited ICIMOD on behalf of the Ugyen Wanchuk Institute for Conservation and Environment (UWICE) in late March 2010 to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MOU will help further promote strategic collaboration in areas of mutual interest.

Jon Miceler, Director Mainland Asia and Managing Director Eastern Himalaya Program, WWF-US, visited ICIMOD in March for the signing of an MoU with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF)-US.

These MoUs between ICIMOD and different regional partners are expected to assist ICIMOD in fulfilling its strategic plans and outcomes, as well as contribute to enhancing research and knowledge generation capacity in ICIMOD's regional member countries.

Ayushma Rana Basnyat, ayrana@icimod and
Farid Ahmad, faahmad@icimod.org

Financing of New Projects

ICIMOD has obtained financing for the following new projects:

- Establishment of a Regional Flood Information System in the HKH Region Project, 3 years 2 million Euros, supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Finland
- Highland Mountain Agri-Business and Livelihood Improvement, 2-year project of US\$695,000 supported by Asian Development Bank
- Innovative Libraries in Developing Countries – 2-year project of US\$40,000 supported by Elsevier Foundation.
- Climate Change Impact in Pakistan, 8-month project of US\$200,000 supported by the Asian Development Bank
- Flash Flood Risk Reduction- 2-year project of US\$285,000 supported by USAID



Outreach News and Activities

Media briefing and ICIMOD media reports competition award ceremony

'Why should Nepal be concerned about climate change?' was the title of the media briefing organised by ICIMOD on 6 March 2010 as part of the two-day 'ICIMOD in Nepal' event. Dr Andreas Schild, Director General of ICIMOD, welcomed 33 media representatives, who also heard from Dr Madhav Karki, Deputy Director General about the focus of ICIMOD activities in Nepal and the Nepal Day workshop held on 5 March.

The panel for the discussion included Dr Arun B. Shrestha, Climate Change Specialist; Dr Bhaskar Singh Karky, Resource Economist; Ms Basundhara Bhattarai, Gender Specialist; Dr Krishna Prasad Oli, Regional Coordinator, Kailash Landscape Initiative; and Mr Pradeep Mool, Remote Sensing Specialist; and was moderated by Ms Noorin Nazari, Governance Specialist. The panellists gave a brief introduction to various topics, which was followed by a lively discussion in which the journalists challenged ICIMOD professionals with questions on glaciers, climate change, REDD, and other hot topics.

The briefing was followed by an award ceremony for the ICIMOD competition for journalists 'Media Reports on Climate Change in the Himalayas' held in 2009. Dr Schild presented awards to the three winners present, Mr Dhruba Basnet for Ms Laurie Anne MacGregor,

Mr Ramesh Prasad Bhushal, and Ms Smriti Felicitas Mallapaty. After the ceremony, participants joined in the Open House events. Television channels and journalists interviewed various ICIMOD senior management members and staff.

Nira Gurung, ngurung@icimod.org

ICIMOD knowledge forum

An occasional Knowledge Forum series was recently introduced to foster scientific discussion on issues of mountain concern and to share global, regional, and member country knowledge and perspectives with stakeholders and interested persons. In the first session on 17 March, we were privileged to hear the views of Professor Jack D Ives, distinguished scientist and scholar on mountains, on Three Unlearned Lessons: Problems of Scholarly Research within a Political Arena. Read more at <http://www.icimod.org/?page=866> and see the video clip at <http://www.youtube.com/icimod#p/u/0/pOeLWuLDxe4>. Our second distinguished speaker (23 April) was David Malone, President of Canada's IDRC, who shared some insights and reflections on development in general, and Nepal in particular, in a thought-provoking session on The Changing Context and Content of Aid Policy. Read more at <http://www.icimod.org/?page=1017> and see the video clip at <http://www.youtube.com/icimod#p/u/5/oS52K7K8kHl>

Winners of the ICIMOD Competition 'Media Reports On Climate Change In The Himalayas'

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) organised a competition for journalists, with a thematic focus on climate change in the Himalayas from 24 September to 15 December 2009. The aim was to capture published media reports and to encourage journalists to write on mountain, and especially Himalayan, issues in the run up to COP 15 in Denmark. Read more <http://www.icimod.org/?page=770>

International Category

Winner: Anjali Derryn Nayar, Canada, for 'When the ice melts'
Runner Up: Laurie Anne MacGregor, UK, for 'Moderelvenes død - Death of a mother river' (translated)

Regional Category

Winner: Farrukh Ahmed Chishtie, Pakistan for 'Glacier flooding: A renewed threat'.
Runner Up: Ramesh Prasad Bhushal, Nepal, for 'Cash on forest to fight climate change and earn foreign exchange'

Outstanding Regional Young Journalist Award: Smriti Felicitas Mallapaty, Nepal, for 'Glaciers take the heat'

Special Mentions: Mahfujur Rahman, Bangladesh, for 'Climate change impact on extended Hindu Kush-Himalayan region', and Joydeep Gupta, India for 'From a receding glacier, an SOS to the world'

Congratulations to all the winners!



ICIMOD's Open House: Learning and knowledge exchange

"It was a delightful Saturday morning and as soon as I opened my eyes I was in a good mood. It was not because I could sleep till late and I need not worry about hurrying for school but because I was going for an open house fair." Prizma Ghimire, school girl
Himalayan Times, 25th March 2010

The day was 6th March 2010 and the fair was the ICIMOD Open House. ICIMOD has been operating from its headquarters in Kathmandu for 26 years, and it is natural for the Nepali people to have high expectations. The 3,000 plus visitors to the Centre were not disappointed. The day started with a lively press briefing where national and international press representatives questioned much debated reports on the speed of glacial melting and other topics.

The Open House followed. Inside, visitors joined groups and learned from ICIMOD staff about studies on glacial lake outburst floods, flood forecasting, climate change impacts, transboundary biodiversity, rangelands and highland yaks, aromatic and medicinal herbs, Asian honey bees, geographical information systems, ICIMOD's online books, and many other topics.

Outside, there were 26 stalls, mostly organised by the Centre's partners. The themes ranged from biodiversity and its importance for people and the environment with displays of plant and animal species, to alternative (mainly solar) energy products, honeybees and rural income, medicinal herbs and value chains, models for rural development, community forestry, and other sustainable mountain development issues.

Visitors were treated to a street drama depicting the issue of scarce water resources and the importance of environmental conservation. Film shows were offered on a variety of topics. Quizzes, entertainment, and tempting food stalls supported the good mood. The beautiful flowers and lawns of the ICIMOD garden were also much appreciated and formed a backdrop for many personal photographs.

Read more in the press release
<http://www.icimod.org/?page=798>

Milan Raj Tualdhar, mtuladhar@icimod.org



NEPAL TOURISM BOARD



ICIMOD's message and mission shared with the Australian Nepal community

The Nepal Embassy in Australia requested ICIMOD to display the photo exhibition 'Himalaya - *Changing Landscapes*' at their Showcase Nepal programme in Canberra mark the 50th year of diplomatic relations between Nepal and Australia. To reinforce the key message of the exhibition, the Embassy collaborated with ICIMOD to organise a technical seminar on the theme 'Climate change impacts on the Himalayan environment and people'. Invitations were given to the Australia-Nepal Parliamentary Friendship Group, Department of Climate Change, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), AusAID, the Australian media, and NGOs, as well as teachers and students from the Australian National University (ANU) and University of Canberra.

The exhibition attracted many visitors, including the Australian Foreign Minister Mr Stephen Smith, Deputy Speaker of the Australian Parliament, other MPs, foreign ministry officials, ambassadors based in Canberra, and professors, students, the general public, and schoolchildren. Dr Madhav Karki and Dr Don Gilmour, former Project Manager of the Nepal-Australia Community Forestry Project, gave a joint keynote presentation 'Climate and socioeconomic changes in the HKH region and need to build community resilience'; Prof Martin Thomas gave a presentation on wetlands; and Dr Raju Adhikari from CSIRO, Australia presented on collaboration through biotechnology knowhow. The interest generated led to a series of meetings with AusAID, DFAT, and ANU officials and professors on collaboration between ICIMOD and Australia.

The photo exhibition was later shown in Sydney (5-25 March 2010), where it drew a large number of visitors.

Madhav Karki, mkarki@icimod.org

Dr Madhav B Karki with the Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Hon. Stephen Smith and the Nepalese Ambassador HE Mr Yogendra Dhakal and Mrs Dhakal



Himalaya – *Changing Landscapes* photo exhibition in Berne, Switzerland

The Himalaya – *Changing Landscapes* photo exhibition was shown from 25 to 31 October 2009 at the Weisenhausplatz in the heart of the old city of Berne, Switzerland, sponsored by Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC). This was an excellent location for attracting the general public. Four university students volunteered and provided excellent and essential support. Visitors included many people who had visited or worked in Nepal, including some ICIMOD alumni, and several school groups who had specific questions and assignments. They found the exhibition informative, interesting, and visually beautiful. Climate change specialists from the University of Berne highly appreciated ICIMOD's efforts to raise awareness about the impact of climate change among the Swiss public.

A media event was held at the exhibition ground on 26 October. Dr Madhav Karki from ICIMOD and Mr Jean-Bernard Dubois from SDC welcomed the guests; Mr Peter Gueller, the first regent of ICIMOD, spoke about the history of ICIMOD; and Prof Bruno Messerli spoke about the impacts of climate change in the Himalayas. The event and a related press release received excellent press coverage; ICIMOD and the exhibition were featured on the cover of the main Bernese newspaper, 'Der Bund', and in many other publications, which attracted many people to visit. Read more at www.changing-landscapes.com.

Nonna Lamponen, nlamponen@icimod.org

Travelling photo exhibition, 'Himalaya: The Changing Scenario', in India

As a collaborative effort with ICIMOD, a mobile photo exhibition on 'Himalaya: the Changing Scenario' was organised in different states in India by GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development (GBPIHED), Almora, Uttarakhand, India. The aim of the exhibition was to draw the attention of people to the enormous impact of climate change on the world's highest mountain range, including effects on water resources, agriculture, biodiversity, livelihoods, and many other sectors. The photographs by Fritz Berger, Alex Treadway, Toni Hagen, Alton Byers, Fritz Muller, and Erwin Schneider represented the changing scenario in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region.

The exhibition was held first at the GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development (GBPIHED) itself from 10 to 12 September 2009. It was inaugurated by Prof VPS Arora, Vice Chancellor, Kumaun

University, Nainital, Uttarakhand, India, on the occasion of the Annual Day celebration on 10 September. Other important delegates included Prof VK Gaur, FNA, distinguished Professor, Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore; Dr RS Tolia, IAS, Chief Information Commissioner, Government of Uttarakhand; and Ms Radha Bahan, Chairperson, Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi. Around 500 people visited the exhibition including journalists, celebrated photographers, the general public, and students from different institutions.



Prof VPS Arora, VC Kumaun University and Dr LMS Palni, Director, GBPIHED with other visitors at the photo exhibition

The exhibition then travelled to Shimla, Mohal-Kullu, and Srinagar from 29 October–7 November 2009. In Shimla, the exhibition was held at the Peter Hof, HP State Guest house, during the Himalayan Chief Ministers' Conclave on 29 and 30 October. In Mohal-Kullu, the exhibition took place at the Himachal Pradesh Unit of GBPIHED on 2 and 3 November, inaugurated by Mr AK Malik, CO of Seema Suraksha Bal (SSB), Shamshi. In Srinagar, the exhibition was held at the Garhwal unit of GBPIHED on 6 and 7 November, inaugurated by Mr R.S. Negi, Inspector General and Director of the SSB Academy, Srinagar.

There were many important visitors to the exhibition including the Honourable Chief Ministers of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, the Union Minister of State for Environment and Forests, and the Minister for Environment and Forests, Jammu and Kashmir. Other high-level government officials from various ministries and departments of Himachal Pradesh and other Himalayan states, vice chancellors of different universities, directors of central and state government departments, scientists from different organisations, members of civil society, and

forest officials also attended. Visitors expressed the need to organise more exhibitions like this to create awareness of the impact of climate change on the environment.

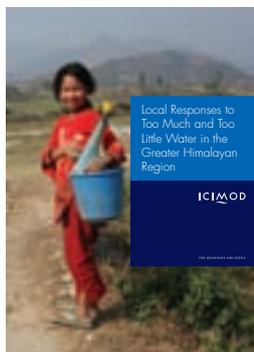
GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development; Kosi-Katarmal, Almora-263 643, Uttarakhand, India, psdir@gbpihed.nic.in

Other outreach events

- **World Water Day, 22 March 2010:** read the ICIMOD message on 'Clean water for a healthy world' at www.icimod.org/?page=855; the national-level World Water Day Celebration – 2010 coordinated by the Nepal National Water Week was also supported.
- **World Wetlands Day, 2 February 2010:** read the ICIMOD message on 'Caring for wetlands: an answer to climate change'; 'Himalayan Wetlands' website launched (www.icimod.org/wetlands); flyer prepared on Consultative Regional Workshop on High Altitude Wetlands in the HKH Region; interaction programme held on the Greater Himalayan Wetlands Information System (GHWIS); partnership programme held on with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation; and support provided to local level organisations, Langtang National Park, and Youth Network for Social and Environmental Development (YONSED)
- **International Mountain Day 2009, 11 December 2009:** read the ICIMOD message on 'Disaster risk management in mountains' at www.icimod.org/?page=665; supported Government of Nepal's Summiters' Summit to Save the Himalayas at COP 15, Copenhagen, Denmark, and staged mobile photo exhibition, 'Himalaya – *Changing Landscapes*'; local level youth groups Eco-Friends Nepal, and the Climate Change in Coalition (3c) helped to launch a programme on 'Youth in Climate Action 2009' observing both International Mountain Day and the Global Day of Action for Climate Change 2009 on 12 December
- **7th Kathmandu International Mountain Film Festival (KIMFF), 10 to 14 December 2009:** staged mobile photo exhibition, 'Himalaya – *Changing Landscapes*' at the City Hall, Kathmandu

ICIMOD Publications

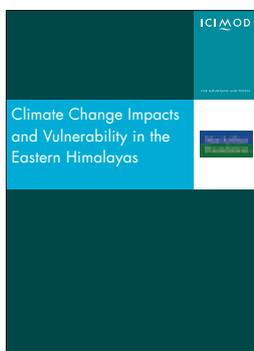
The major documents published by ICIMOD between November 2009 and April 2010 are shown below. All publications can be downloaded free-of-charge from www.books.icimod.org. Hard copy publications can be ordered from the Distribution Unit, distri@icimod.org. They can be provided free-of-charge to institutions actively involved in sustainable development of the greater Himalayan region.



ICIMOD (2009) *Local Responses to Too Much and Too Little Water in the Greater Himalayan Region*. Synthesis report, Full case study reports on CD-ROM inside. 70p. ISBN: 978-92-9115-128-8

The main aim of the research project 'Documenting and Assessing Adaptation

Strategies to Too Much, Too Little Water' was to document adaptation strategies at local or community level to constraints and hazards related to water and induced by climate change in the Himalayan region. This includes how people are affected by water stress and hazards, their local short and long-term responses, and the extent to which these strategies reduce vulnerability to water stress and hazards. Case studies were carried out in Chitral District, Pakistan; the Koshi basin, Nepal; Bihar, India; Assam, India; and Yunnan province, China between June 2008 and September 2009. A single synthesis document was prepared, and the results of each case study summarised in separate documents provided on a CD-ROM that accompanies the main document.



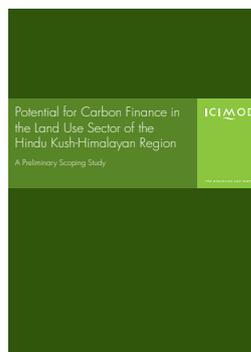
Sharma, E; Chettri, N; Tsering K; Shrestha, AB; Jing F; Mool, P; Eriksson M (2009) *Climate Change Impacts and Vulnerability in the Eastern Himalayas* 32p. ISBN: 978-92-9115-134-9

Little is known in detail about the vulnerability of mountain ecosystems in general, and the Hindu Kush-Himalayas in

particular, to climate change. However, in these areas of extreme slopes and rapid changes in climatic zones, it is likely that there will be marked impacts on biodiversity, water availability, agriculture, and hazards, and thus on general human wellbeing. Countries face the challenge of developing the detailed scientific knowledge needed to assess the current situation, make projections of likely

impacts, and plan for adaptation, but little detailed or long-term research has been carried out in these poorly accessible areas.

This publication presents a short summary of the findings of a rapid assessment carried out by ICIMOD, together with partners, in the Eastern Himalayas, with support from the MacArthur Foundation, to support planning for more detailed studies. The results of surveys, workshops, stakeholder consultations, and technical papers by individual experts were synthesised and used in climate models to develop preliminary climate projections for the region and assess climate change vulnerability. These results are intended to help inform conservation policy at national and regional levels, and stimulate the coordinated research that is urgently needed.



ICIMOD (2009) *Potential for Carbon Finance in the Land Use Sector of the HKH Region: A Preliminary Scoping Study*, 42P ISBN 978 92 9115 132 5

Improved management of natural resources is a potentially valuable approach for climate change mitigation and carbon sequestration

and can be encouraged through the use of financial instruments. This publication summarises the results of a preliminary scoping study to provide an initial assessment of carbon finance opportunities in the HKH region. The study notes that, within the region, adaptation and mitigation must be considered as complementary approaches. It concludes that the REDD mechanism alone (reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation) will provide relatively less benefits within the region, whereas the more comprehensive agriculture, forestry, and other land uses approach (AFOLU) is more promising. The biophysical mitigation potential in the region is substantial but highly dispersed so that a holistic landscape approach is likely to be most appropriate. There is an urgent need to reduce scientific uncertainty and for regional institutional capacity building in carbon finance, and appropriate policy and implementation mechanisms.



Ives, JD; Shrestha, RB; Mool, PK (2010) *Formation of glacial lakes in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas and GLOF risk assessment*. 56p
ISBN 978 929115 137 0

Widespread thinning and retreat of glaciers is leading to the formation of numerous meltwater lakes in their lower sections. The lakes frequently

accumulate behind end moraines that are inherently unstable. As the lakes increase in size, hydrostatic pressure and associated factors can lead to catastrophic drainage (glacial lake outburst floods, or GLOFs); over the last thirty years more than twenty have occurred in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region with loss of life and extensive property damage downstream. This report outlines a methodology for mapping glacial lakes and identifying those that may be dangerous. Preliminary findings on selected glacial lakes are presented. While the danger has sometimes been much exaggerated, it is nevertheless essential that a rational basis for risk assessment be developed. Given the extremely mountainous, inaccessible nature, and high altitude of the immense area involved, application of a wide variety of remote sensing techniques is promoted as a necessary first step. This must be followed by detailed glaciological and geophysical field investigation of those lakes that warrant more thorough investigation. In this manner, a more secure understanding can be obtained of what responses are needed in order to protect populated areas farther downstream. More extensive scientific information about glacial lakes, enhanced by monitoring and early warning systems together with mitigation measures, is needed. The report details the information that has already been acquired from selected possibly unstable lakes. It is intended to provide information for planners, policy makers, and development scientists, and a basis for regional collaboration aimed at reducing the glacial lake hazard.

DVDs

In the Grip of Drought. ICIMOD, (2009) DVD (11.35 mins)

Living with Floods. ICIMOD, (2009) DVD (11.55 mins)

Climate change in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region: selected publications on impacts, adaptation, and others from 1986 to 2009

Electronic (Online) Only

Local Responses to Too Much and Too Little Water – Case studies

- Yufang Su; Qiaohong Li; Yao Fu (2009) *Diversified Livelihoods in Changing Socio-ecological Systems of Yunnan Province, China*

- Das, P; Chutiya, D, Hazarika, N (2009) *Adjusting to Floods on the Brahmaputra Plains, Assam, India*

- Singh, P; Ghose, N; Chaudhary, N; Hansda, R (2009) *Life in the Shadow of Embankments – Turning Lost Lands into Assets in the Koshi Basin of Bihar, India*

- Dixit, A; Upadhya, M; Dixit, K; Pokhrel, A; Rai DR (2009) *Living with Water Stress in the Hills of the Koshi Basin, Nepal*.

- Nadeem, S; Elahi, I; Hadi, A; Uddin, I (2009) *Traditional Knowledge and Local Institutions Support Adaptation to Water-Induced Hazards in Chitral, Pakistan*

ICIMOD (2009) *Inception workshop report: Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation Initiative*

ICIMOD (2009) *Consultation Workshop Report: Towards Developing the Brahmaputra-Salween Landscape*



Annual Report 2009

Newsletters

Water Storage: A strategy for climate change adaptation in the Himalayas: Sustainable Mountain Development, No. 56, Winter (2009)

Asia Pacific Mountain Courier: Newsletter of the Asia Pacific Mountain Network, Volume 10, No. 2, January 2010

*CNICIMOD Newsletter: Newsletter of the Chinese Committee on International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, (published by CNICIMOD) Volume 3, No.2, October 2009
Volume 4, No.1, April 2010*



Information sheets

Predicting Floods in the Himalayan Region: Using satellite rainfall estimates and models, IS 5/09

Gender Mainstreaming in Rangeland Resources Management, IS 6/09

Co-Management of Rangelands in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas: Using collective wisdom and collaborative action to cope with challenges, IS 7/09

Climate Change and the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Rangelands, IS 8/09

Sustainable Energy for the Himalayan Rangelands, IS 9/09

Managing Flash Flood Risk in the Himalayas, IS 1/10

Glacial Lakes and Associated Floods in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas, IS 2/10

Understanding Mountain Poverty: Exploring the specificities of poverty in the mountain areas of the greater Himalayan region, IS 3/10

Hindu Kush-Himalayan Glaciers: Frequently asked questions (FAQ 1)

Regional Geo-data Sharing Initiative in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region (GIS/RS 1)

Project and other flyers

2009

Facing the Challenges: Climate change adaptation in the greater Himalayas

Potential for Carbon Finance in the Landuse Sector within the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region of Asia

2010

Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation Initiative: Developing a transboundary cooperation framework for conservation and sustainable development in the Mt Kailash region of China, India, and Nepal

Climate change impacts on the water resources of the Indus Basin: Capacity building, monitoring and assessment for adaptation

The International Year of Biodiversity: Biodiversity is life. Biodiversity is our life

GLOF Flyer on HKH Glacial Lakes (in Nepali)

GLOF Flyer on Nepal Glacial Lakes (in Nepali)

GLOF Flyer on Thulagi Glacial Lake (in Nepali)

GLOF Flyer on Tsho Rolpa Glacial Lake (in Nepali)

GLOF Flyer on Imja Glacial Lake (in Nepali)

The Hindu Kush-Himalayan Conservation Portal

Consultative Technical Workshop on High Altitude Wetlands in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region

E-discussion summary

The Young Can Do! Let's Protect Forests with Our Hands, April-May 2009

Gender and Climate Change, October 2009

Other publications by ICIMOD authors

Chettri, N (2010) 'Cross-taxon congruence in a trekking corridor of Sikkim Himalayas: Surrogate analysis for conservation planning.' *Journal for Nature Conservation* 18: 75-88. <http://tinyurl.com/29scdvl>

Giriraj, A; Babar, S; Jentsch, A; Sudhakar, S; Murthy, MSR (2010) 'Tracking fires in India using advanced along track scanning radiometer (A)ATSR data.' *Remote Sensing* 2(2): 591-610. www.mdpi.com/2072-4292/2/2/591

Karky, BS; Skutsch, M (2010) 'The cost of carbon abatement through community forest management in Nepal Himalaya.' *Ecological Economics* 69: 666-672 <http://tinyurl.com/2uabp9t>

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

New appointments at ICIMOD (to April 2009)



Mr Berend de Groot, Director of Programme Operations, Directorate

Mr Berend de Groot assumed office as the Director of Programme Operations on 15 January 2010. He has over two decades of experience in working

for the European Commission and Swiss Development Cooperation in Asia and Africa as a senior official at different political and institutional levels. Prior to joining ICIMOD, he was Head of Operations in the EU Delegation to Afghanistan, in charge of the EU cooperation programme. His key areas of involvement have been policy and institutional reform processes, human resource development, rural development, environment, humanitarian aid, and validation of knowledge systems in a broad range of programmes. His assignments in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Madagascar have provided him with a good insight on mountain specific issues. Mr de Groot is a national of The Netherlands, and is also fluent in German, French, and Portuguese. He has an MSc in Agricultural Sciences with specialisations in tropical livestock production and natural resource management from Wageningen Agricultural University.



Ms Aneeta Gauchan, Research Assistant, Human and Institutional Development

Ms Gauchan completed her Masters degree in forestry from the Institute of Forestry, Pokhara in December 2009, and has joined ICIMOD as a research assistant

in the Human and Institutional Development (HID) Unit. Previously, she worked for two years as a programme coordinator for a livelihoods project at the Centre for Biodiversity and Environment Conservation (CBEC), and as a freelance consultant for NGOs such as ACAP, NTNC, LEED, and ComForM, on data analysis and database management in social projects. Born to an indigenous mountain community, Aneeta has an interest in subjects like natural resource management, biodiversity conservation, livelihoods, and climate change in the HKH. She wishes to excel and explore her interest through networking and research at ICIMOD.



Ms Kiran Hunzai, Poverty Analyst, Sustainable Livelihoods and Poverty Reduction Programme

Ms Hunzai is from the Hunza Valley in Northern Pakistan and joined ICIMOD as a Poverty Analyst in September 2009.

She has a Masters degree in rural development with a focus on community based research techniques from the University of Sussex, England. In Nepal, she has worked with Mercy Corps as a livelihood consultant and with the World Food Programme, Vulnerability Analysis Mapping (VAM) Unit where she provided assistance for management of food security data and information required for the accurate analysis of household food security in Nepal. Prior to coming to Nepal, she studied and worked in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, and England.



Dr Bhaskar Singh Karky, Resource Economist, Economic Analysis Division, Sustainable Livelihoods and Poverty Reduction Programme

Dr Karky was appointed as a Resource Economist working in the Economic Analysis Division in

2010. He first joined ICIMOD in November 2007 as a researcher and then as a coordinator for the REDD project implemented in India and Nepal. Dr Karky is a Nepali national and holds a PhD in the economics of climate change policy from the University of Twente, the Netherlands. He has an MSc in Agricultural Development Economics from Reading University, UK, and a BSc in Agriculture from the University of Western Sydney, Australia. Prior to joining ICIMOD, he worked for the National Trust for Nature Conservation, the Centre for Micro-Finance, and Danida in Nepal. Dr Karky has published numerous papers focusing on climate policy, REDD, payment for environmental services, micro-finance, and renewable energy. He is also an avid trekker and mountain biker.



Ms Malvika Joshi, Finance Assistant, SANDEE/ICIMOD

Ms Malvika Joshi is working as a Finance Assistant with SANDEE and ICIMOD. She holds a Bachelors degree in Business Studies from Tribhuwan University Nepal and is undergoing ACCA

Certification. She has worked as a financial consultant in Naviworld Nepal, done financial consultation for ERP implementation assignments, and worked as an accounts manager and procurement manager in Naviworld sister concerns for the past two years. She has also worked as a senior sales executive in international call centres in Kathmandu.



Dr Rajan Kotru, Watershed Management Specialist, Environmental Change and Ecosystem Services Programme

Dr Rajan Kotru is a development specialist with over 25 years of experience in conceptualising, planning, implementing,

monitoring, and evaluating research and development cooperation projects, mainly in forest ecosystem dynamics and sustainable natural resource and watershed management. He holds a PhD in Forest Management and Silviculture from Ludwig-Maximilians University, Munich, Germany, and Master and Bachelor degrees in forestry sciences from the same university. Born in Kashmir, India, and having worked in the German Alps and in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas, Rajan has a rich knowledge of mountain development issues and innovative solutions. He has worked in Bhutan, China, Germany, India, Nepal and Pakistan for WB, DFID, GTZ, and KfW. He brings a seasoned policy and management practice outlook to watershed management, forestry and livelihoods, local governance, decentralised water governance, forest ecosystem services, monitoring and impact evaluation, and institutional building.



Mr Eak Bahadur Rana Magar, Project Coordinator, REDD Pilot Project, Environmental Change and Ecosystem Services Programme

Mr Rana, a Nepali national, joined ICIMOD in November 2009 as Project Coordinator for

the REDD Pilot project in Nepal. He will coordinate with partners, manage the project, and liaise with local ministries and stakeholders, to institutionalise forest carbon accounting, monitoring, and registration; and help develop a national forest carbon fund, and REDD payment distribution in Nepal. Mr Rana gained extensive experience in forest resources management and livelihood improvement during many years of work with CARE Nepal in various capacities. His most recent experience included working in a REDD initiative in Nepal where he was involved in various activities implemented by the Forest Ministry's REDD Forestry Cell under the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility scheme. He has rich experience working with government, civil society, and NGOs. Mr Rana has a Master of Science in sustainable resource management from the Technical University of Munich, Germany, specialising in forest ecosystem management.



Ms Liza Manandhar, Programme Assistant, MENRIS, Integrated Knowledge Management Programme

Ms Liza Manandhar joined ICIMOD as Programme Assistant in the MENRIS Division in May 2010. Previously she worked as

Marketing and Public Relations Assistant Manager at the Hotel Soaltee Crowne Plaza, with responsibilities including event management, coordination and promotion of events, and ensuring brand standards. Prior to this she worked at the Radisson Hotel Kathmandu as Executive Secretary for the Managing Director, Joint Managing Director, and Chairman; and for Soaltee Hotel Limited, as the Executive Assistant to Executive Chairman and Chairman Emeritus. She brings extensive experience in corporate business in Nepal, especially in office administration and management, and has a background in business administration and management.



Dr Krishna Prasad Oli, Regional Coordinator, Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation Initiative, Environmental Change and Ecosystem Services Programme

Dr Krishna Prasad Oli was appointed Regional Coordinator for the Kailash Landscape Initiative in November 2009. His main responsibility is to manage the project, support collaboration among the partners, and implement the project to develop a regional cooperation framework to manage the Sacred Kailash landscape. Dr Oli started his career as an agriculturist and livestock specialist in Nepal in 1976. He has worked with Winrock International to design agricultural research in farms and stations and with The World Conservation Union (IUCN) Nepal as Senior Environmental Planner and Programme Coordinator for 12 years. He has supported the preparation of a transboundary biodiversity corridor plan for the Eastern Himalayas, environmental and veterinary laws for Nepal, environmental impact assessments, and research on natural resources governance. He holds a Masters degree in Animal Science from the University of Edinburgh, and a law degree and PhD in geography from Tribhuvan University (TU).



Dr Laxman Joshi, Payment for Ecosystem Services Specialist, Economic Analysis Division

Dr Laxman Joshi from Nepal joined ICIMOD in April as Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) Specialist. He comes with a rich knowledge and experience in PES programmes and smallholder agroforestry systems in Southeast Asia, and also brings a wealth of knowledge about local knowledge, adaptations, innovations, and farmer decisions related to agroforestry and natural resource management. Before joining ICIMOD, Dr Joshi worked as a scientist for more than a decade at the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) based in Indonesia. At ICIMOD, he will oversee the PES programme and support the Centre in developing PES schemes to enhance ecosystem services and the wellbeing of mountain communities in the HKH region. Dr Joshi has a PhD from the University of Wales, Bangor, UK.



Ms Naina Shakya, Fundraising and External Relations Officer, Directorate

Ms Naina Shakya joined ICIMOD as Fundraising and External Relations Officer in Directorate in April 2010. Prior to joining ICIMOD, Ms Shakya worked with the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Bangkok for 7 years in various capacities, most recently as Coordinator of Partner Relations and Development in the External Relations and Communications Office. She brings with her relevant experience in fundraising activities by establishing and managing strong collaborative relationships and networks with government agencies, international development agencies, academic and research institutions, INGOs, NGOs, and the private sector. She was also involved in the fundraising events for the 50th anniversary of AIT and preparation of promotional and communication strategies. In earlier years, Ms Shakya worked for various projects with USAID/Nepal, Save the Children/UK, ADB/Philippines, and Focus on the Global South/Philippines. She has a Master's degree in business administration with a specialisation in marketing from Kathmandu University and a second Master's degree in sociology from the University of the Philippines, Diliman, Manila.



Dr Garrett Kilroy, Coordinator Koshi Basin Programme, Integrated Water and Hazard Management Programme

Dr Garrett Kilroy is from Ireland and has been living in Nepal since April 2008. He holds a BSc in environmental sciences and a PhD in environmental hydrogeology from Trinity College Dublin. Professionally he has worked mainly in the areas of strategic environmental assessment, groundwater protection, and river basin management. Before coming to Nepal, Dr Kilroy worked on the implementation of river basin management for the Irish Government and the European Commission. For the last two years, he has worked as a consultant for the Irish Environmental Protection Agency and for Concern Worldwide Nepal. At ICIMOD, he will be developing the transboundary programme on the Koshi river basin.

