

# Message from the Director General

Dear Readers, Friends, and Supporters of ICIMOD,

I am pleased to present the ICIMOD Annual Report for 2011. As the title indicates, ICIMOD is working at several levels. First and foremost, our efforts are for the local people of the Hindu Kush Himalayan region. Second, ICIMOD has found a niche as a regional organization, addressing issues of regional significance. Third, ICIMOD is taking the message of the mountains to the global community, promoting recognition of the goods and services that mountains provide.

The challenges in the region are growing with climate change and numerous other drivers of change. It is critical to bring knowledge and evidence to bear on these issues in order to develop solutions. This can only be done by working with the women, men, and communities who face these challenges, by working in partnership with scientists, policy makers, and implementing organizations, and by working in ways that build capacity. ICIMOD is addressing many of the challenges, such as how to adapt to improve livelihoods, how to reduce vulnerabilities to floods, and how to put ecosystem management concepts into practice in transboundary landscapes.

This was a year of considerable progress for the organization in many ways. ICIMOD expanded the number of activities in a variety of areas, intensifying its engagement with numerous stakeholders. Importantly, ICIMOD has made a difference where it works. I was pleased to read the many comments by ICIMOD stakeholders who have positively commented on ICIMOD's work.

ICIMOD is indeed on the right trajectory, addressing relevant issues through partnership and making efforts to ensure that its work has impact. I am very excited to have started my term as Director General in 2011, and will strive to keep ICIMOD on this path. I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor Dr Andreas Schild who played a key role in ICIMOD's success of 2011. I would also like to thank ICIMOD staff, partners, and supporters for all you do for ICIMOD.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "David Molden". The signature is fluid and cursive.

David Molden