



Kalasha Valley, Chitral, Pakistan

Pakistan Office

The Pakistan Office was instrumental in the implementation of the project 'Improved Monitoring of Snow, Ice, and Water Resources in the Indus Basin'. Key activities included support to study missions of the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) and Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) to the Passu Glacier, and recording hydrometeorological data.

The office organized a one-week training workshop, 'Strengthening North-South Cooperation in Climate Change Research: An Initiative for the Upper Indus River Basin' at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich for Pakistani scientists from PMD, WAPDA, the University of the Punjab, the Global Change Impact Study Centre (GCISC), and the National University of Science and Technology. The training resulted in enhanced understanding of hydrological modelling concepts and the development of relationships among European partner institutions and Pakistani experts. It represents a step towards the development of a project on hydrological modelling in the upper Indus basin.

The country office organized a national workshop on 'Hydrometeorological Monitoring of Upper Indus Basin' to consider of the capacity of various institutions to undertake hydrometeorological and modelling research, identify capacity gaps, and develop mechanisms for sharing scientific information and developing joint programmes. The country office played a key role in the establishment of a remote sensing/GIS lab and transfer of tracer technology for monitoring water flows in turbulent mountain streams to WAPDA. It also facilitated the signing of Letters of Agreement with WAPDA and PMD for the HKH Hydrological Cycle Observation System (HKH-HYCOS) project.

In April, the country office organized Pakistan-ICIMOD day in Islamabad. Its objective was to assess the on-going collaboration with national

partners and identify strategic areas of cooperation for ICIMOD's planning. The event was organized in collaboration with the nodal agency, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MINFA). The participants included 137 individuals representing 40 institutions – government, NGOs, and media. The emerging priority areas for future collaboration with the national partners included cryosphere monitoring; research on climate change, and its impacts on hydrometeorology, biodiversity, and livelihoods of mountain communities; and adaptation measures.



Weather station, Indus basin, Pakistan

The country office interacted with multilateral and bilateral donors and gave briefings about the ICIMOD programme at various forums in Pakistan and in the region. A project on REDD preparedness in Pakistan was formulated with financing from the One UN Programme. During 2012, the focus of the country office will continue to be on the formulation, resource mobilization, and implementation of the larger Indus basin programme, and implementation of the REDD and HYCOS projects.