

International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development

A regional intergovernmental learning and knowledge sharing centre

ICIMOD
30

THREE DECADES
FOR MOUNTAINS AND PEOPLE

Serving the countries of the Hindu Kush Himalayas

The livelihoods of mountain people and the stability of fragile ecosystems are being challenged by globalization and climate change. ICIMOD supports the development of an economically and environmentally sound mountain ecosystem to improve the living standards of mountain men, women, and children and to sustain vital ecosystem services for the billions of people living downstream – now and for the future.

What we do

- Support positive change through need-driven, transdisciplinary, and transboundary Regional Programmes:
 - **Adaptation to Change**
 - **Transboundary Landscapes**
 - **River Basins**
 - **Cryosphere and Atmosphere**
 - **Mountain Environment Regional Information System**
 - **Himalayan University Consortium** (Emerging Regional Programme)in partnership with regional, national, and local institutions
- Serve as a regional knowledge hub to facilitate the exchange of experience and support informed policy making
- Build human and institutional capacity to help mountain people adapt to change

ICIMOD's Vision

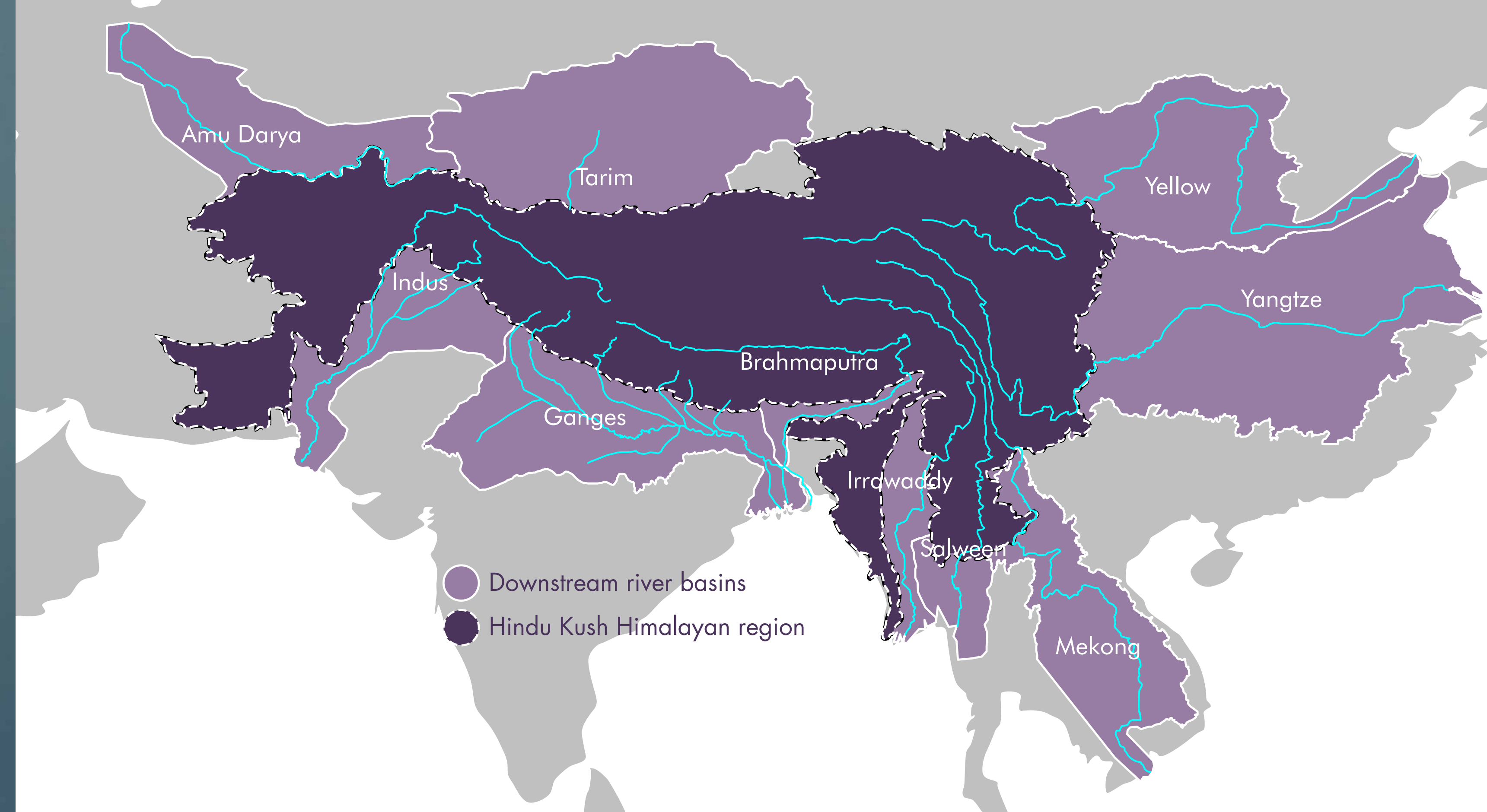
Men, women, and children of the Hindu Kush Himalayas enjoy improved wellbeing in a healthy mountain environment

ICIMOD's Mission

To enable sustainable and resilient mountain development for improved and equitable livelihoods through knowledge and regional cooperation



Our region – the Hindu Kush Himalayas



- The eight countries of the Hindu Kush Himalayan region – ICIMOD's regional member countries – are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Pakistan. The Hindu Kush Himalayan region spans 4.3 million square kilometres.
- The region is the 'Water Tower of Asia'. The Hindu Kush Himalayas contain an estimated 6,000 km³ of snow and ice, constituting a 'third pole' of the earth and a formidable global ecological buffer.
- The region is bioculturally rich. It has around 1,000 living languages and contains all or part of four global biodiversity hotspots, 60 ecoregions, 30 Ramsar wetland sites, 488 protected areas, and 13 UNESCO heritage sites.
- This ecosystem provides services and directly forms the basis for livelihoods for a population of around 210 million people; indirectly, the river basins supply water and other ecosystem services to more than 1.3 billion people, a fifth of the world's population.

Working together for impact

Partners play a fundamental role in realizing ICIMOD's vision and mission, including strategic partners at the national and regional level, operational partners at the field level, global and regional mountain institutions, and the private sector.