

## Second Circular and Extension of Deadline

**(Deadline has been extended to 6 October to those applicants who can secure their own funding to participate)**

# International Graduate Conference on Climate change and People

(With a Focus on Greater South Asia from Kyrgyzstan to Bangladesh)

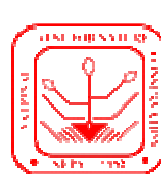
**Kathmandu, NEPAL, 15-19 November, 2010**

## BACKGROUND

The Asia Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) has provided base funding to The Small Earth Nepal (SEN) and the Consortium for Capacity Building (CCB) to convene an “International Graduate Student Conference on Climate change and People” to be held in Kathmandu, Nepal, during November 15-19, 2010. The conference, primarily for graduate students from Greater South Asia (from Kyrgyzstan to Bangladesh), is also supported by the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (Government of Nepal); the Center of Research for Environment Energy and Water (Nepal); the Asian Institute of Technology (Thailand); the International Research Center for River Basin Environments, the University of Yamanashi (Japan); UNESCO (India); Stockholm Environment Institute - Asia; International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD); Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN); Himalayan University Consortium (HUC); National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC, Nepal); International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS) and Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST).

Climate change and its impacts on ecosystems have far reaching consequences on societies regardless of their wealth or capacity. Reports of severe and prolonged droughts, untimely flash floods, receding glaciers, extended heat waves, and other climate-related impacts are becoming more common around the globe; unfortunately, these reports typically also coincide with varying degrees of death, morbidity, and destruction of property in the affected areas. As such, issues related to climate change have increasingly captured the attention of governments worldwide; governments have just begun to respond to the threats of changing climates and are remain hindered in their responses by much wrangling. The onus to act decisively to this greatest of threats, therefore, will most likely fall on the up-and-coming generation of decision makers including, many of whom are today’s graduate and undergraduate students; these students are the core of the “eco-generation”.

To further the advancement of the eco-generation, this Conference seeks to encourage, empower and foster the development of regional networks that will better enable its student participants from the eco-generation, who are expected to come from a range of climate-, water- and weather-sensitive fields, including agriculture, water, energy, disaster preparedness and response, human and ecosystem health, social resilience, policy and economic applied sciences, to more effectively cultivate actionable research and practical results to meet the challenges as these challenges will likely to increase in the future.



## The intention of this conference, therefore, is:

- **To build** the awareness and scientific capacity of graduate students from multiple disciplines, while also fostering and enhancing networks for sustainable development in the region.
- **To equip** graduate students with usable knowledge on the importance of multidisciplinary activities in addressing climate change, regardless of their base academic disciplines.
- **To enable** participants to formulate a multi-national networking group to develop baseline skills needed to understand climate change mitigation, adaptation, and prevention measures.
- **To create** awareness among community and social leaders for identifying their roles in effectively combating the effects of a changing climate.

## CONFERENCE FOCUS

Presentations and discussions will focus on multidisciplinary capacity building for graduate student participants through the knowledge and experiences of experts in Climate Affairs, a concept that encompasses climate science, impacts, policy and law, economics, and ethics and equity issues. Participants will also be provided with numerous opportunities to interact, among themselves as well as with presenters in formal sessions and informal settings.

### Topics include but are not limited to the following:

- Energy issues for Greater South Asia: mitigation, adaptation, and prevention
- ‘Water is life’: Modeling the Hydrologic Cycle, an Example of Usable Science
- Revisit The Millennium Assessment’s “Theme”- ‘Goods and Services for Social Well-Being’
- The Himalayas: The Roof of the Earth? Snow cover, Glaciers, Rivers, and Hazards
- Greater South Asia’s Regional Impacts of Climate Variability, Change and Extremes; Changing Regional Hazards Disaster Management and Early Warning Systems
- Introduction to “Teachable Moments”
- Social Dimensions of Climate Change or Climate Dimensions of Social Change? Ethics, Equity and Coping with a Changing Climate
- Regional Issues such as The Role of Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- COP 16: What Would You Like for a COP 16 Outcome and Input to Rio +20
- Is There Value in a “Happiness Index?”

## Keynote Addresses:

- Climate and Water Affairs: Multidisciplinary Research Application in the Service of Society
- The Challenges of Global Water Management in 2020; with focus on the Himalayan Region

## Open Discussion:

- Intergenerational Roundtable: “Who has been Robbing Nature’s Bank?”
- Innovative Ways to Engage the Public: New Technologies, Societal networking, and Spare Time University

## TARGET PARTICIPANTS

The conference is intended mainly for *graduate students* (Master or PhD) from Greater South Asia studying in fields of agriculture, water, energy, disaster preparedness and response, human and ecosystem health, social adaptation and resilience, policy and economics, etc.

**How to Apply?** Apply by email with letter of interest and CV. Interested undergraduates may send inquiries by email.

**Selection of Participants:** Letter of Interest and Commitment Level.

**Registration Fees:** US\$ 100 for SAARC Country citizens and participants from other developing countries from Greater South Asia (e.g., Central and Southwest Asia to Bangladesh). For participants from developed countries in Asia-Pacific and beyond, the fee is US\$ 150.

**Venue and Accommodation:** The conference venue is at National Trust of Nature Conservation (NTNC), Satdobato, Lalitpur. Prices for food and lodging are available upon request. These costs are not included in the registration fee.

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### Further Details, Please Contact:

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Kelli Ann Lopez at [kelli.lopez@colorado.edu](mailto:kelli.lopez@colorado.edu)

### Or Visit:

[smallearth.org.np](http://smallearth.org.np)  
[ccb.colorado.edu](http://ccb.colorado.edu)  
[gradconference.wordpress.com](http://gradconference.wordpress.com)

**Note:** Tentative agenda of the conference is also available to download (PDF format) from these websites.

## CONFERENCE COMMITTEES:

### Advisory Committee

**Dr. Mickey Glantz**, Director, Consortium for Capacity Building, University of Colorado

**Prof. Gordon Young**, President, International Association of Hydrological Sciences

**Prof. Suresh Raj Chalise**, Former Dean, Institute of Science and Technology, Tribhuvan University

**Dr. Madan Lall Shrestha**, Academician, Nepal Academy of Science and Technology

**Mr. Niramal Hari Rajbhandari**, Director General, Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, Government of Nepal (GoN)

**Prof. Futaba Kazama**, Professor, International Research Center for River Basin Environment, University of Yamanashi

**Prof. Sudip K. Rakshit**, Vice President for Research, Asian Institute of Technology

**Prof. Tetsuzo Yasunari**, Hydrospheric Atmospheric Research Center, Nagoya University

**Dr. Bhanu R. Neupane**, Regional Programme Specialist for South Asia, UNESCO

### Organizing Committee

#### Chairperson

**Mr. Dhiraj Pradhananga**, President, The Small Earth Nepal

#### Members\*

**Mr. Jagadishwor Karmacharya**, Senior Meteorologist, Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, GoN

**Prof. Rupak Rajbhandari**, Professor, Tribhuvan University

**Ms. Salina Shrestha**, Researcher, The Small Earth Nepal

**Dr. Sangam Shrestha**, Assist. Professor, School of Engineering and Technology, Asian Institute of Technology

**Mr. Sanjeev Dhungana**, Executive Director, Centre of Research for Environment Energy and Water (CREEW)

**Mr. Saraju K. Baidya**, Senior Meteorologist, Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, GoN

**Mr. Sundar Layalu**, Researcher, The Small Earth Nepal

### Capacity Building Committee:

#### Chairperson

**Dr. Mickey Glantz**, Director, Consortium for Capacity Building, University of Colorado

#### Members\*

**Dr. Anil K. Anal**, Food Engineering and Bioprocess Technology, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)

**Dr. Ashutosh Mohanty**, Regional Capacity Development Officer, Human and Institutional Development, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)

**Mr. Batu Krishna Upreti**, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment, GoN

**Dr. Dinesh Raj Bhujju**, Chief, Faculty of Science, Nepal Academy of Science and Technology

**Mr. Juddha Bahadur Gurung**, Member Secretary, National Trust for Nature Conservation, Nepal

**Prof. Khairulmaini Osman Salleh**, Head & Professor, Department of Geography, University of Malaya, Malaysia

**Prof. Lochan P Devkota**, Head, Central Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, Tribhuvan University, Nepal

**Mr. Mahendra Bahadur Gurung**, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation, GoN

**Ms. Moon Shrestha**, Climate Change Officer, WWF Nepal

**Dr. Mukand S. Babel**, Water Engineering and Management, AIT

**Mr. Purushottam Ghimire**, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment, GoN

**Dr. Rabin Malla**, Executive Member, CREEW

**Dr. Rajendra P. Shrestha**, Natural Resources Management, AIT

**Dr. Roberto S. Clemente**, Water Engineering and Management, AIT

**Dr. Sabita Thapa**, Research Fellow, Stockholm Environment Institute – Asia

**Dr. Saroj Chapagain**, Executive Member, CREEW

**Mr. Tek Jung Mahat**, Node Manager, Asia Pacific Mountain Network, ICIMOD

\*In an alphabetical order

**Please feel free to exhibit this Circular and/or make it available to those who might be interested!**

*Conference organizers welcome additional support in funds or in kind (e.g. supporting the attendance of students from the region). Professors and other lectures are welcome to participate in the conference; please note, however, that available funding is geared fore most to graduate student participation.*