



NEPAL CLIMATE UPDATE

Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST)

Nepal Climate Change Knowledge Management Center (NCKMC)

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Editorial

Dear Readers,

In this issue, we witnessed many facets of climate change. Temperature is rising making unsuitable conditions for key crops and damaging Himalayan ecology. But, climate change campaigns and carbon studies in community forests of Nepal are assets to Nepal's beauty. However, political instability degraded to the level that crucial climate issues were set aside unseen. Besides, timely monsoon rain brings a fresh breath of air and carbon stocks management by communities' hats off.

Enjoy reading!

Editors

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Climate change campaign

International Climate Campaign Network Nepal in collaboration with British Council is conducting an awareness program on climate change impacts and its know-how at local level.

June 2

Kantipur

Studies needed to tackle climate change

An interaction program 'Saving the Himalaya for Saving Life on Mother Earth', held at the Jawaharlal Nehru University noted that more studies need to be conducted on the impacts of climate change on the mountains exploring ways to mitigate such impacts. The experts called that burning of fossil fuel and firewood in South Asia was threatening the Himalayas. Therefore, the region needs to switch to clean energy to tackle climate change as well as effective warning systems against floods need to be established at rivers and construction of large-scale roads posing serious damage to the Himalayan ecology.

June 2

The Himalayan Times

Political deadlock oppress crucial climate issue

Nepal was awarded 'The Montreal Protocol Implementers Award' for the year 2007 for its extraordinary contribution to the implementation of Montreal Protocol and global efforts to protect the ozone layer. However, the process of ratifying the Montreal Amendment (1997), that stressed the need to phase out HCFCs (hydro chlorofluorocarbon), has failed to gain momentum. The Ministry of Environment had already forwarded the amended draft and other essential documents to the parliament for final approval two months ago. However, the government has failed to prioritize the ratification process due to the existing political deadlock in Nepal. The country is committed to banning the import and use of HCFCs as the continued emission of these HCFCs is a major factor behind climate change.

June 5

The Kathmandu Post

Warming hit farm

An environmental study noted that climate change is creating conditions for potential food disaster mainly hampering Africa and Asia. Though farmers tried to cope with fickle weather patterns by changing planting schedules but that might not be able to adapt, said scientist at CGIAR's Research Program on Climate change, Agriculture and Food Security. Temperature increases projected by UN Climate Scientists viewed by 2050, shorten growing seasons below critical thresholds worsen weather variability and render many regions dominated by subsistence farming unsuitable for key crops.

5 June

The Rising Nepal

Artists thought on climate change

The impacts of climate change have been a hot issue in every field. In a program organized by Nepal youth, singers seemed to be worry about circumstances led by climate change and they said that they could aid in conserving environment to some extent. All they need to do is live program related to such events. In addition, media persons also play vital role in conserving environment by covering issues and awareness program related to climate change.

5 June

Gorkhapatra

Monsoon to hit Nepal timely

The favorable movement of south-easterly winds along the Bay of Bengal to the eastern region of Nepal hints at timely monsoon rains in the country. The activity favoring the arrival of the monsoon has already set up in the lower level of the atmosphere, while the set up is likely to take shape in the upper atmosphere in a couple of days. This will ensure the much needed monsoon rains in the country.

June 8

The Kathmandu Post

Carbon study in community forests

The community forest user groups of Dhading were seen effective at carbon study to conserve environment and mitigate the effects of climate change. The study was commenced with the aid of National Conservation and Development Committee (NCDC) of Dhading in 2 years ago along with the establishment of 6 CF center for study purpose. The aim of the study was to find the amount of carbon storage which later help in temperature declination.

9 June

Kantipur

Communities' hard work paid off

The Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresearch, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development and Federation of Community Forestry Users of Nepal are implementing a pilot project of four-year (2009-2013) which is being carried out in three watersheds in Chitwan, Dolakha and Gorkha since 2009 covering about 10,266 hectares of community forest area. The project aims to demonstrate the feasibility of payment mechanism in community forestry through REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation Plus) scheme, a mitigating mechanism under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In one year, the community forests in three watersheds increase carbon offset of carbon dioxide of 2.67 tonnes per hectare. Thus, the communities are being rewarded through the Forest Carbon Trust Fund for managing carbon stocks in forests under the REDD+.

14 June

The Kathmandu Post