

Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation and Development Initiative (2012–2017)
Regional Training Workshop for Developing Pro Poor Value Chains with Country Partners
ICIMOD, 27 – 30 May, 2014

Background

A value chain includes the full range of activities involved in a product life cycle -- from conception and design to sourced raw materials and intermediate inputs to marketing and distribution to the final consumer. Value chains connect mountain products and services to markets. The complex interrelationships between market imperatives, opportunities and constraints at different levels of the chain and the different interests and power relations between actors influence how value is distributed across these different levels. Small producers often require very specific interventions to stimulate their participation and enhance their 'terms of engagement' with the broader market. Value chain assessment entails analysing risks and vulnerabilities associated with environmental factors. Based on the analysis, strategies are improved in collaboration with different stakeholders to reduce poverty and increase incomes of under-served and marginalized actors. The broad goal is to enable upstream stakeholders and their institutions to participate equitably in national, regional and global markets by ensuring sustainable resources management.

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) recognizes the importance of improving value chains in the mountain region. An integral component of ICIMOD's work on livelihoods is value chain development of high value products and services. The Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation and Development Programme (KSLCDI) of ICIMOD has set concrete targets to increase the incomes of communities in the landscape by developing and promoting products and service value chains. In order to integrate the value chain methodology in the livelihoods promotion activities in KSLCDI, a training programme for the KSL partners from India and Nepal is being organized at ICIMOD in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Module (Details of each session will be provided later)

Day 1: General introduction of the main VC concepts; situation analysis, VC selection, value chain mapping techniques, (micro, meso and macro level chain mapping including poverty, environment and gender). Group work on pre-selected products from the landscape and tourism; discussions, questions and answers. Case presentations and plenary discussions.

- A basic/preliminary map of actors, functions, volume and value, geographical spread of activities from production to end markets.

Day 2: Introduction to VC analysis – SWOT analysis, economic analysis, identification of leverage points, and developing vision

- Identify key constraints/opportunities and issues at the micro (producers/community), meso (implementation and facilitation) and macro (policy) level for the shortlisted products/services.

Day 3: Developing upgrading strategies and action plans. Introducing VC governance; facilitation of VC development and follow up of VC work in KSL India and Nepal; case presentations and plenary discussions.

- Groups discuss and debate upgrading strategies and implementation mechanisms
- Groups agree on the next steps and set targets for CI activities.

Day 4: Field visit to different organizations engaged in product development, value addition and marketing

Learning Objectives

- Relevance of the VC approach for pro-poor and inclusive growth and additional income generation in KSL India and Nepal.
- Suitability of the approach for a specific country, project, or institutional context
- Opportunities for applying the VC approach in KSL pilot sites.
- Criteria and methods of selecting VC upgrading strategies
- Assess the potential impact of different VC options and design future plans

Location: ICIMOD, Kathmandu

Tentative Dates: 27--30 May 2014

Organizer: ICIMOD

Participants – Partners and professionals working to promote VC of high value products and tourism in KSL India and Nepal (with prior research and development experience); and government line departments, among others.