

Subject: Progress & Reminder for HKH-FRIEND programme

Date: 9 January 2008

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you all had a very nice New Year (and Christmas) holiday and I wish you will have a prosperous 2008!

To keep our programme active, please allow me to report you the progress for the past two months and more importantly, **remind** you the work that we need to do the next.

1. Progress

1.1 Organizational structure: As presenting in Figure 1, the programme is mainly formed by four research groups, and each group has its coordinator. Supported by the steering committee, the member secretary, the coordinator and the chairman will be working together to assist the group coordinators to further advance the programme work in the future.

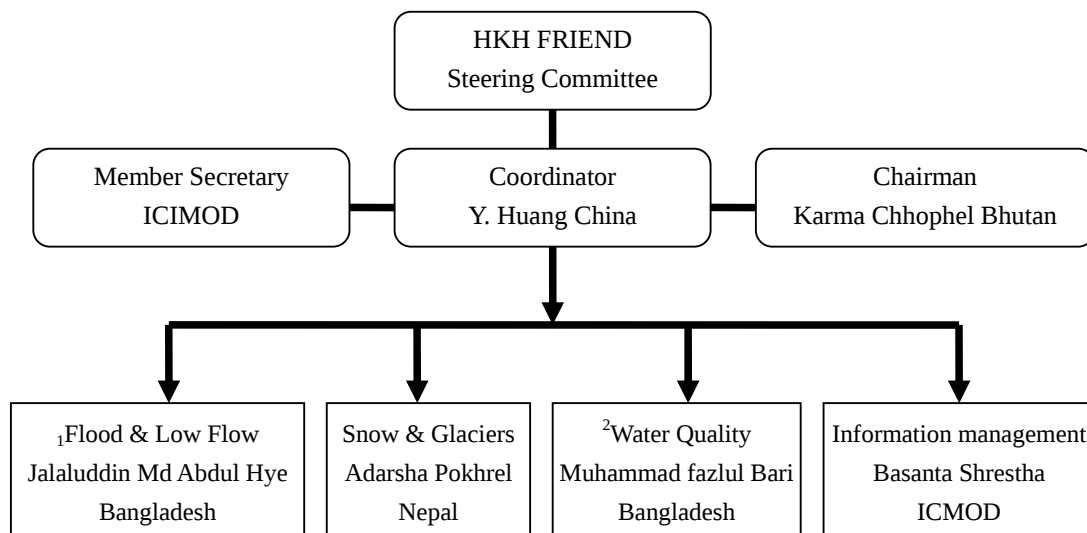


Figure 1 organizational structure of HKH-FRIEND programme

Note:

¹ As there was no any response from Professor Khadga Bahadur Thapa, to maintain an active communication, according to the discussions given in the 4th steering committee meeting Mr. Jalaluddin Md Abdul Hye shall take the role of coordinator for research group of Flood & Low Flow and prepare for the proposal/work plan for future work.

² Prof. Bari will discuss with Dr. Muhammad Azam from Pakistan to work out a solution for the coordinating-ship for Water Quality group. As the project proposals submission deadline

(28/Jan) is approaching, professor Bari will act for major correspondence before the final decision is reached.

1.2 Participation and research interests: Table 1 lists the four research groups and participation interests from member countries. Updating is mainly from Pakistan. **Confirmation from Afghanistan remains needed.**

1.3 Participants contacts: Adapting those who have proposed for changes, we have now a relatively newer list of participants (**Appendix I**). Distribution of participants for each group is given in **Appendix II**. As we didn't receive many updates from member countries, **further updating of the participants list remains necessary.**

2. Reminder

For group coordinators, Mr. Basanta Shrestha, Mr. Jalaluddin Md Abdul Hye, Prof. Muhammad Fazlul Bari (and Prof. Dr. Muhammad Azam) and Mr. Adarsha Pokhrel, please be reminded that the deadline for research proposal submission is **28 January 2008.**

I should thank you all for your kind support during the past two months which has resulted in some solid development of this programme. I still believe that with our joint efforts the HKH-FRIEND programme should have a fruitful year of 2008.

I am looking forward to your advices/suggestions/comments.

Yours sincerely,



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Table 1 Research group of HKH-FRIEND programme and tentative participations

Group	Coordinator	Topic	Afghanistan	Bhutan	Bangladesh	China	India	Myanmar	Nepal	Pakistan
Floods & Low Flows	Mr. Jalaluddin Md Abdul Hye, Bangladesh	Floods								
		Low flows								
		Water resources availability								
		Climate change impacts and adaptations								
		Ground water								
		Hydrological Processes								
		Modelling								
Snow & Glaciers	Mr. Adarsha Pokhrel, Nepal	Mass balance studies								
		Climate change impacts and adaptations								
		S&I Modelling								
Water Quality	Mr. Prof. Muhammad Fazlul Bari, Bangladesh	Environnemental Flows								
		River erosion & sedimentation								
		Water quality								
Information management	Mr. Basanta Shrestha ICIMOD	RHDC								
		Monitoring technologies (hygrometry)								
		Website & dissemination								
		Capacity building & knowledge transfer								

Appendix I Contacts of research group participants

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