

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below the periodic thematic digest on 'Mountain Livelihood and Technology, Issue 23 (21 July 2011), prepared for members of Mountain Forum and Mountain Partnership network.

Regards,

Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN) team

P.S: You can also find our thematic digests at ICIMOD [Thematic digest archives](#). Compiled links to news, events, opportunities, and resources are regularly updated on our del.icio.us page.

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News from Regional Member Countries (RMCs)

1. India: Orissa First Off The Block With National Rural Livelihoods Mission

21 July 2011

Orissa became the first state in the country to launch the National Rural Livelihoods Mission on April 18, 2011. This comes even as the state faces a CBI inquiry ordered by the Ministry of Rural Development to probe alleged corruption and irregularities in the implementation of another major social sector scheme -- the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

Source: <http://bit.ly/qHTqVE>

2. China: State Council Approves \$21b Investment In Tibet

20 July 2011

The Chinese central government plans to invest 138.4 billion yuan (\$21.38 billion) in Tibet over the next five years to support the region's development and improve local people's lives. The investment will primarily support 226 major construction projects in Tibet that will involve a total investment of 330.5 billion yuan, according to a statement issued Wednesday after a State Council meeting at which the plan was approved.

Source: <http://bit.ly/oRmAQr>

3. Bangladesh: Sex Ratio Improves In Bangladesh

18 July 2011

The overall sex ratio has improved to 100.3 males against 100 females, as per national census data. Declining maternal and girl child mortality, improved census coverage of females and increased male immigration are the primary reasons.

Source: <http://bit.ly/o10Q0Z>

4. China: Development Will Follow Eco-Civilization

17 July 2011

Southwest China's Guizhou province will be committed in developing ecological civilization while boosting industrialization at the same time, a government official said Saturday. Guizhou will also accelerate development in consolidating the result and improve residents' living by ensuring the achievements already acquired..

Source: <http://bit.ly/mTRAPk>

5. China: Solar power push in India and China could worsen lead pollution

12 July 2011

Renewable energy advocates have hailed China's plans to produce 1.6 gigawatts of solar power by 2020, and India's effort to add 12 gigawatts by 2022, including the distribution of 20 million small battery-powered "solar lanterns" in rural areas. In particular, both nations have targeted solar panels as a way to produce electricity in rural households that aren't connected to the electrical grid.

Source: <http://bit.ly/qiwR3w>

6. India: Tribe's Livelihood Threatened by Mining

9 July 2011

The Dongria believe that the mine will destroy the forests, disrupt the rivers and pollute and desecrate their lands. And they know that it will spell the end of themselves as a distinct tribe, for separation from ancestral lands is, more often than not, catastrophic for tribal peoples. When control over land is lost, or when tribal peoples are prevented from using it in accordance with their traditions, the long-term mental and physical health of the people suffers hugely.

Source: <http://bit.ly/qSgGpo>

7. Nepal: Swiss support to Sector Wide Approach for Trail Bridge in Nepal

1 July 2011

A Joint Financial Arrangements to fund the Trail Bridge Sector Wide Approach was signed between the Government of Nepal represented by Ministry of Local Development and Swiss government represented by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation Nepal along with other donors - Asian Development Bank, The World Bank, and Department for International Development - UK, in June 2011. This arrangement has a target of constructing 2200 Trail Bridge within a period of 5 years (July 2009 - June 2014) to enhance accessibility in remote rural villages.

Source: <http://bit.ly/o8znbX>

8. Chittagong Hill Tracts: Increased Seed Prices Raise Serious Concerns Regarding Food Security

May 2011

Farmers in parts of Bangladesh's southeastern Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) face a seed crisis that is undermining the food security of thousands, the World Food Programme (WFP) says. As a series of agricultural crises in the region - crop damages and conflicts - have left farmers with no seed to cultivate, the UN World Food Programme now fears that thousands face food insecurity.

Source: <http://bit.ly/ozGnIF>
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Global News

1. USA: Give rural poor control over ecosystems to fight poverty: WRI report

21 July 2011

According to the 254-page report on the health of the world's environment, conventional models for poverty reduction and economic growth may have worked well for urban populations but they have done little to help the rural poor who make up around 75% of the nearly 3 billion people who live on less than two dollars a day.

Source: <http://bit.ly/qM7ema>

2. UK: The way to clean sewage

30 June 2011

Getting drinking water by immediate purification of sewage, inconceivable some years back, is now a reality. An Australian company, Memtec has successfully used microfiltration technology to purify sewage in a small town in the UK. The town had for the past 30 years been dumping untreated sewage into the sea.

Source: <http://bit.ly/pZegFQ>

3. USA: 2011 World Food Prize Honors Former Presidents of Ghana, Brazil

21 June 2011

The World Food Prize Foundation is honoring John Agyekum Kufuor, former president of Ghana, and Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, former president of Brazil, for creating and implementing government policies that alleviated hunger and poverty in their countries. They were commended in remarks by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, and USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah.

Source: <http://bit.ly/o5k6uS>

4. Switzerland, Nepal: International award for SDC road project in Nepal

May 2011

With a second place in the "Innovation Award for Road Transport in Developing Countries", the International Roads Federation recognises the District Roads Support Project for its contribution to the transport sector and improving accessibility to villages in rural Nepal. By constructing, rehabilitating and maintaining rural roads in a labour-based, environmentally friendly and participatory manner, the project improves the living conditions of local people by facilitating access to schools, health care and economic opportunities and improving mobility.

Source: <http://bit.ly/mYltGq>

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Events

1. 25-29 July 2011

Regional Workshop on Joint Implementation of the Waigani, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

Suva (Central), Fiji

This workshop will aim to offer a holistic approach to the implementation of four Conventions. The emphasis will be placed on identifying synergies and linkages at the national level as a way to foster the implementation of the conventions' requirements.

Deadline:

Contact: ssc@unep.ch

Event website: <http://bit.ly/n5eAJ2>

2. 20-22 September 2011

SARM - Sustainable Aggregates Resource Management

Ljubljana, Slovenia

Call for Proposal

SARM International Conference welcomes all stakeholders connected with sustainable aggregates resource management (extraction, recycling, supply, transnational). Special attention will be placed to the outcomes of the SARMá SEE project.

Deadline: 1 August 2011

Contact: Slavko V Sola

Event website: <http://bit.ly/nO59Cz>

3. 21-22 November 2011

The 2nd CILS Conference 2011: International Conference on ASEAN's Role in Sustainable Development

Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Call for Proposals

The theme of the conference is "the ASEAN's Role in Sustainable Development". Within this broad conference theme, there are four parallel sessions which will focus on the sub-themes.

Deadline: 1 August 2011

Contact: Dr. Melda Kamil Ariadno, slavko.solar@geo-zs.si

Event website: <http://bit.ly/oXuDw>

4. 15-17 December 2011

International Conference on Green Technology & Environmental Conservation (GTEC - 2011)

Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India

Call for Papers

GTEC 2011 will provide a unique opportunity for the academic and industrial communities to address new challenges, share solutions and discuss research prospects for the future conservation. Technical topics of the conference include all areas of Green technology and Environmental Conservation.

Deadline: 15 August 2011

Contact: Dr.T.Sasipraba, sathyabama@gtec2011.com

Event website: <http://bit.ly/oqPQ1A>

5. 2-4 February 2012

2nd Congress of the East Asian Association of Environmental and Resource Economics

Faculty of Economics, Padjadjaran University Bandung, Indonesia

Call for Papers

Those whose abstracts accepted should submit their full papers and register to attend the conference by December 1, 2011 in order for their paper to be included in the final program.

The Congress will feature approximately 200 participants from East Asia and beyond, in their capacities as researchers, professionals, policy makers, as well as international organisation representatives.

Deadline: 1 September 2011

Contact: Yangki Imade Suara yangki.suara@fe.unpad.ac.id

Event website: <http://bit.ly/pY6WHx>

6. 15-19 October 2012

2nd International Conference on Mountain Environment and Development

Chengdu China

Call for Papers

ICEMED2012 will focus on the theme of concern for the mountains and support for our future, aiming to assess the mechanisms of the mountain and disaster, explore the evolution and controlling technologies and discuss the policy and regulatin system of sustainable development regions from both natural science and social science perspectives.

Deadline: 31 December 2011

Contact: icmed@imde.ac.cn

Event website: <http://bit.ly/h7XcgK>

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Opportunities

1. Women's Postdoctoral Research Fellowships at World Agroforestry Centre, 2011

Nairobi, Kenya

Call for Application

Women postgraduates are expected to hold a Doctoral degree in a field related to agriculture, Agroforestry, biodiversity, biometrics, capacity building, climate change, ecology, economics, environmental policy, forestry, genetic resources, geography, hydrology, impact assessment, institutional strengthening, land degradation, marketing, natural products, natural resource management, or sociology. Scholarship Open for Students of Following Countries: Developing countries (Asia and Africa)

Deadline: 31 July 2011

Contact: Human Resources Unit, icrafhru@cgiar.org

More at: <http://bit.ly/oKaSbG>

2. Vacancy: Regional Coordinator-Southern Africa

World Agroforestry Centre, LILONGWE, Malawi

Call for Application

If research management and coordination, applying research results for development, fund raising and partnering are your strengths then you are probably the person we are looking for! Southern Africa has exciting agroforestry opportunities for such work. Based in Lilongwe, you will cover Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe, with possible outreach to other countries in the sub-region. You will report directly to the Deputy Director General, Partnerships and Impact.

Deadline: 15 August 2011

Contact: Human Resources Unit, icrafhru@cgiar.org

More at: <http://bit.ly/omCypE>

3. Government of India PhD Fellowship at International Institute for Population Science, India 2011

International Institute for Population Sciences Deonar, Mumbai

Call for Application

The selected Indian students will be awarded a Government of India fellowship initially for one year only and is extendable on yearly basis as per rules of the Institute. Eligible foreign students can also apply for admission provided they secure financial support from any outside agencies. Candidates having M.Phil/Master's degree in Population Studies of a recognised university with at least 55% of marks are eligible to apply.

Deadline: 1 August 2011

Contact: Public Information Officer Dr. R.B. Bhagat, rbbhagat@iips.net

More at: <http://bit.ly/pud0iP>

4. Internship Opportunity at Technical Assistance Programme

Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention

Geneva, Switzerland

Call for Application

A 6-month internship position is available with the Technical Assistance team of the Stockholm Convention. Internship duration: 1 September 2011- 29 February 2012

Deadline: 15 August 2011

Contact: Ms. Maria Cristina Cárdenas-Fische, TA@pops.int

More at: <http://bit.ly/ooPoiU>

5. IDRC's Graduate Research Awards on Climate Change and Water, Canadian or Developing Country University 2011

Call for Proposals 2011-2012

Applicant must be citizens of a developing country and be enrolled in a master's or doctoral program at a Canadian or developing country university.

Deadline: 2 September 2011

Contact: Nicole Mayer, nmayer@idrc.ca

More at: <http://bit.ly/lx4hze>

6. Multi Stakeholder Forestry Programme

SDC Embassy of Switzerland in Nepal

Call for Proposals

Call for proposals from interested and eligible national Implementing Agencies for implementing Multi Stakeholder Forestry Programme activities in 18 selected districts of Nepal.

Deadline: 16 August 2011

Contact: The Head of Cooperation, kathmandu@sdsc.net

More at: <http://bit.ly/nsuw1e>

7. Vacancy: Victorian Director at Oaktree

Australia

The Oaktree Foundation works towards ending extreme poverty through political advocacy, education programs and supporting sustainable aid projects in developing countries. The Victorian Director is responsible for coordinating the roll-out of our programs in Victoria and

managing a highly skilled leadership team. The Victorian Director is also an important part of the core leadership group that contributes to determining Oaktree's strategic direction.

Deadline: Rolling

Contact: Claire Harman, c.harman@theoaktree.org

More at: <http://bit.ly/nz7jDZ>

8. Internship Opportunity at Alpine Network of the Protected Areas

Chambery -France

Call for Applications

The Task Force Protected Areas is an international organization. As the coordinator of the Alpine Network of Alpine Protected Areas - ALPARC, the organization of meetings represents one of its main activities. Administrative tasks are therefore very important. The interest of this internship is to immerse into professional activities in the field of international cooperation and nature protection in the Alps. You will learn how to work in a team and how to plan and manage international projects.

Deadline: 12 August 2011

Contact: info@alparc.org

More at: <http://bit.ly/mXDSAJ>

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Organisations

1. Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) Cooperation Office in Nepal, Kathmandu

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) is Switzerland's international cooperation agency within the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA). In operating with other federal offices concerned, SDC is responsible for the overall coordination of development activities and cooperation with Eastern Europe, as well as for the humanitarian aid delivered by the Swiss Confederation.

URL: <http://bit.ly/qcyZPH>

2. Mountain Forum Himalayas, Himachal Pradesh

Mountain Forum Himalayas is a collective platform initiated by CASA for addressing the issues specific to hilly States of Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal in 1997. The core areas of work are local self-governance, natural resource management, women development and empowerment and capacity building of CSOs.

URL: <http://bit.ly/n9FaWz>

3. Meghalaya Rural Development Society, Shillong, India

The International Fund For Agricultural Development a specialised agency of the United Nations working against poverty and hunger the world over is jointly implementing with the Government of Meghalaya "The Livelihoods Improvement Project for the Himalayas" through the Meghalaya Rural Development Society(MRDS). The MRDS is implementing the project in 5 Districts of the state, i.e. Ri-Bhoi, East Khasi Hills, Jaintia Hills, South Garo Hills and East Garo Hills.

URL: <http://bit.ly/nUqdWd>

4. Development Foundation for Rural Areas (DEFORA), Uganda

DEFORA is a local non-governmental organisation which has mobilised the marginal rural communities who are poverty stricken to give them information and education to create awareness in order to improve their own livelihoods. DEFORA also addresses issues such as Reproductive health and women's rights.

URL: <http://bit.ly/omb3YF>

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Resources

1. Rio+20: Making it Happen Newsletter of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 15 July 2011, Volume 2, Issue 13

URL: <http://bit.ly/p6eWqK>

2. IFRTD Forum News: Transport in the Mountains Volume 15 Issue 4 July 2011

URL: <http://bit.ly/mQ3Qle>

3. Swiss Cooperation Strategy for Nepal 2009-12

URL: <http://bit.ly/nwGUXs>

4. Rio+20 Briefing #2: Forests and the green economy

URL: <http://bit.ly/p6DfZi>

5. Farming the city article by Christopher Wong in Toronto Standards

URL: <http://bit.ly/nTj2lg>

6. Technology can feed the world by Gene Johnston

URL: <http://bit.ly/p8VGxh>

7. How to Grow Shiitake Mushrooms (Guideline for the Mushroom farmers)

URL: <http://bit.ly/ouqk2O>

8. Capacity Development for Agriculture and Rural Sectors: Lessons and Future Directions

URL: <http://bit.ly/oUAaYI>

9. Ensuring gender equality in capacity development – opportunities for rural employment and sustainable development by Helen Hambly and Silvia Sarapura University of Guelph, Canada (Paper presented at the FAO-IFAD-ILO Workshop on Gaps, trends and current research in gender dimensions of agricultural and rural employment: differentiated pathways out of poverty Rome, 31 March - 2 April 2000)

URL: <http://bit.ly/pcM4UF>

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