

ICIMOD



6TH ASIAN RURAL TOURISM FESTIVAL



# Homestay Congress 2020

Regional pathways for homestay development  
in the Kangchenjunga Landscape

9–12 February 2020 | Kakarbhitta, Jhapa, Nepal



Bringing together homestay operators from  
Bhutan, India, and Nepal for sustainable  
ecotourism development in the region



The Kangchenjunga landscape presents ample opportunities for ecotourism development. The Kangchenjunga Landscape Conservation and Development Initiative (KLCDI) at the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) has been promoting homestays through various long- and short-term ecotourism development initiatives with partners in Bhutan, India, and Nepal.

## WHY HOMESTAYS?

### FOR TOURISTS

- Experience immersion in a rural setting
- Enjoy nature, culture, and local food traditions
- Support responsible travel and contribute to the local economy

### FOR HOSTS

- Benefit from an alternative source of livelihood
- Preserve cultural traditions, crafts, and languages
- Support local conservation efforts through ecotourism

## FEEL AT HOME IN THE KANGCHENJUNGA LANDSCAPE

### OBJECTIVES OF THE HOMESTAY CONGRESS 2020

- Initiate multi-stakeholder dialogue and explore the scope of establishing an umbrella organization of homestay operators
- Develop an informed understanding of the potential and regional pathways for homestay development
- Explore partnerships and foster a regional approach to homestay development
- Document the economics of homestays and tourism festivals and improve outreach and publicity



#### For further information

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