International Conference on Mountain People Adapting to Change Solutions Beyond Boundaries Bridging Science, Policy, and Practice Kathmandu, Nepal 9 - 12 November 2014

# General information for participants

November is the beginning of winter in Kathmandu, Nepal. The temperature varies from 6-22 °Celsius, with average daytime temperatures around 15°C (about 59°F). There is very little chance of rain in this season, but showers can occur. Warm clothing and jackets are recommended, particularly for nighttime, but also be prepared for warm sunny daylight hours. Weather forecasts as of now indicate clear, sunny days for the duration of the event. Dress code for all conference and social events is smart casual. As a field visit to Godavari is planned on the first day of the event, please also carry comfortable shoes, an umbrella and plenty of sunscreen.

For more general information on Kathmandu, visit online travel portals like <u>www.lonelyplanet.com</u> or <u>www.tripadvisor.com</u>.

# Event Venue

Day 1: 9 November 2014 (Sunday)

Morning field visit (Optional) ICIMOD Knowledge Park at Godavari

## Web: www.icimod.org/godavari

Arrangement for transportation will be provided from the **hotel to Godavari and to ICIMOD**. Lunch will be served at Godavari Knowledge Park. For participants **not visiting Godavari, please make your own lunch arrangements**.

## Afternoon Inauguration

International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)

Khumaltar, Lalitpur

G.P.O. Box 3226, Kathmandu, Nepal

Tel: (977) 1 5003222

Fax: (977) 1 5003299, 5003277

## Web: http://www.icimod.org

## Map: http://goo.gl/jkWqqo

For participants not visiting Godavari, arrangement for transportation will be provided from the hotel to ICIMOD. Please **be ready at 12:45 pm sharp in the lobby of the hotel**.

### Days 2-4: 10-12 November 2014

Soaltee Crowne Plaza, Kathmandu Tahachal, Kathmandu P O Box 97 Kathmandu, Nepal Hotel Front Desk: 977-1-4273999 Hotel Fax: 977-1-427555 Web: <u>www.crowneplaza.com/kathmadu</u> Map: <u>goo.gl/Aqlo9d</u>

For guests staying at Hotel Himalaya and Hotel Annapurna, transportation will be arranged to and from Soaltee hotel. Please be ready by 7:45 am sharp in the lobby.

### **Ground Transportation**

For international participants whose accommodation is being arranged by ICIMOD, ICIMOD will coordinate with the respective hotels to arrange airport pickups and will provide buses to and from conference events when necessary. For your return journey, transport from the hotel to the airport will also be provided. You are requested to check with your hotel about the time of departure.

Nepali participants and international participants handling their own accommodation in Kathmandu will need to make their own transportation arrangements.

## Accommodation for international participants

Soaltee Crowne Plaza Kathmandu Tahachal, Kathmandu P O Box 97 Kathmandu, Nepal Hotel Front Desk: 977-1-4273999 Hotel Fax: 977-1-427555 Web: <u>www.crowneplaza.com/kathmadu</u> Map: <u>goo.gl/Aqlo9d</u>

Hotel Himalaya Sahid Sukra Marg, Lalitpur, Kathmandu P.O. Box 2141 Hotel Front Desk: 977-1-5523900 Hotel Fax: 977-1-5523909 Web: <u>www.hotelhimalaya.com.np</u> Map: <u>goo.gl/8gwjgQ</u> Hotel Annapurna Durbar Marg, Kathmandu, Nepal P.O. Box 104 Hotel Front Desk: 977-1-4221711 Hotel Fax: 977-1-4225236 Web: <u>www.annapurna.com.np</u> Map: <u>goo.gl/tWpsLV</u> Participants staying at alternative hotels will be informed separately.

#### Meals

Breakfast is included in the room rate for international participants staying in accommodation arranged by ICIMOD.

Lunch will be provided for all participants on 10, 11, and 12 November. Lunch will also be provided for participants who take part in the Godavari visit on 9 November.

Dinner. All participants will be welcome at the reception dinner sponsored by ICIMOD on 10 November. All other dinner arrangements must be made independently.

#### Travel reimbursements for ICIMOD-supported participants

Participants have been requested to purchase a ticket and share their updated travel itinerary. Please confirm the details of your travel no later than 3 November 2014 and update <u>Ms. Krisha</u> <u>Shrestha</u> (krisha.shrestha@icimod.org) on any changes to your itinerary as soon as possible.

A travel expense form will be provided on your arrival. Please fill this and return it to the Finance desk by the 10th of November, 2014. Please note:

- Original boarding passes and a copy of the receipt for the airline tickets along with other relevant receipts will be required for reimbursement of airfare.
- ICIMOD shall bear en route costs, where necessary as per ICIMOD norms, upon presentation of original receipts (airport tax, visa, taxi).
- Participants supported by ICIMOD will receive a daily allowance as per ICIMOD norms.

## Currency

Facilities for currency exchange are available at the hotel and at banks. Several money exchange centres also exist at various places. All convertible currencies are accepted. As of October 2014, 1 USD is equivalent to 98.50 Nepali Rupees.

#### Mobile Coverage

Prepaid SIMs mobile service providers NCELL will be available for purchase from the NCELL stall at the inaugural event on 9 November at ICIMOD premises.

#### Electricity

220 volts AC, 50Hz. There are frequent extended periods of power cuts, but these should not affect international participants staying in the hotels arranged by ICIMOD.

#### **Contact Information**

For any assistance during your stay in Nepal, you are welcome to contact the following numbers.

Conference organizing team: adapthkh@icimod.org

Mr Nand Kishor Agrawal nandkishor.agrawal@icimod.org, Tel: +977-1-5003222 Ext (228) Mobile: +977 9818518811

Ms Krisha Shrestha krisha.shrestha@icimod.org, Tel: +977-1-5003222 Ext (232) Mobile: +977 9851050601

Ms Jemima Diki Sherpa jemima.sherpa@icimod.org, Tel: +977-1-5003222 Ext (238) Mobile: +977 9808844578

Ms Iris Leikanger Iris.leikanger@icimod.org, Tel: +977-1-5003222 Ext (275) Mobile: +977 9803805955

Marketplace and Poster queries: Ms Bhawana Syangden Bhawana.syangden@icimod.org, Tel: +977-1-5003222 Ext (232) Mobile: + 977 9841336503

HI-AWARE Working Methodology Meeting queries:

Mr Aneel Piryani aneel.piryani@icimod.org, Tel: +977-1-5003222 Ext (215) Mobile: +977 9803019498

HICAP Review and Planning Workshop Ms Krisha Shrestha krisha.shrestha@icimod.org, Tel: +977-1-5003222 Ext (232) Mobile: +977 9851050601

Himalica Regional Workshop on Impact Pathways queries: **Ms Bhawana Syangden** <u>Bhawana.syangden@icimod.org</u>, Tel: +977-1-5003222 Ext (232) Mobile: + 977 9841336503

Water and Air Workshop queries Ms Sarita Joshi sarita.joshi@icimod.org, Tel: +977-1-5003222 Ext (261)

#### Visa and Airport Information

Unless you are a citizen of Nepal or India, **you will need a visa to enter Nepal**. You are welcome to obtain this from the Embassy of Nepal in your home country. However, Nepal also offers visa-on-arrival facilities to citizens of most countries. **For this you will need to carry US\$ 30 in cash, and two passport size photos**. You will receive the application form before landing in Kathmandu, and you will need to stand in the typically slower-moving visa on arrival line at airport immigration.

Please note that visa-on-arrival is NOT available to citizens of Afghanistan, Iraq, Palestine, Somalia, Ethiopia, Liberia, Cameroon, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Ghana, and Nigeria. If you are a citizen of one of these countries you will need to obtain your visa before flying to Nepal.

**Please note:** For those travelers who are government employees required to travel on an Official Passport, you will need to work through your agency to obtain the appropriate paperwork to apply for a visa well in advance of your trip. Please make sure to carry the invitation letter along with you at immigration in case of any queries.

Kathmandu airport is quite small, if you are lucky you can be out within 20 minutes after landing. But if many flights have landed before yours, it may take 1-2 hours to clear immigration and customs.