Registration

Registration will be free of cost for all participants.

Transportation

For the best-selected proposals, ICIMOD will arrange accommodation, provide travel fare, arrange airport pickups and provide buses to and from the conference and hotel. For your return journey, transport from the hotel to the airport will also be provided. You are requested to be ready in your hotel lobby, three hours before your departure flight time.

Participants handling their own accommodations in Kathmandu will need to arrange their own transportation.

Meals

Breakfast is included for international participants staying at the hotel arranged by ICIMOD. Lunch will be provided to all participants during the conference and expo. All participants are welcome to attend the reception dinner sponsored by ICIMOD on the first day. All other dinner arrangements must be made independently.

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 a 15-day stay in Nepal, you will need to carry USD 40 in cash, and two passport size photos. You will receive the application form before landing in Kathmandu.

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

For more information, please visit https://www.immigration.gov.np/

Please note: For those travellers 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 prior, it may take 1-2 hours to clear immigration and customs.

Customs

If you are a non-Nepali citizen, your solution may require you to go through customs. Depending on the type of equipment, the airport customs might allow you to carry the equipment with you. If they do not allow you to, you will have to deposit the equipment at the customs in the name of ICIMOD. The customs will give you a slip, which will take 10 working days for clearance.

If the equipment is too big and requires cargo shipment, you will have to contact a local cargo agent and take their services as per the law of the country where the equipment is coming from. ICIMOD will need the air waybill and invoice of the equipment. It will take 10 working days to receive clearance from customs.

Currency exchange

Hotels, airlines, travel agencies and major department stores take international credit cards. Otherwise, most transactions in Kathmandu require cash (in Nepali Rupees). We recommend that you change money at the airport bank counter upon arrival. There are commercial banks within a few kilometres of the hotels, but their working hours are limited. The hotel front desk can also change money. ATMs are common around Kathmandu. However, ATM machines in Nepal typically only provide small amounts (~USD 120) per transaction with foreign cards, and your ATM fees might add up. Exchange rates fluctuate. 1 USD equals to ~127 Nepali Rupees (as of 1 September 2022).

Electricity

Electricity service throughout Nepal is 220 Volts AC, 50 Hz. You will find different types of power plugs in Nepal, including continental European and British ones. If you plan on using equipment from your county such as a personal computer or mobile phone, we recommend that you to bring a plug adapter.

Weather, clothing, and shoes

December is the beginning of the winter season. The average temperature is around 11°C reaching highs on average of 18°C and dropping to an average minimum temperature of 4°C. During the winter, nights can get quite chilly, generally dipping to the freezing temperature, so please make sure to have warm clothes with you. Kathmandu is at 1325 meters above sea level (4300 ft), at 27.7 degrees north. The sun can be intense, bring appropriate sun protection.

Event venues

Two days conference at the ICIMOD Headquarters

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

One day expo at ICIMOD's Knowledge Park at Godavari

The <u>Knowledge Park</u> provides a practical pendant to the more theoretical activities of ICIMOD. It was set up in March 1993 in Godavari, on the southern slopes of the Kathmandu Valley, on 30 hectares of land provided by the Government of Nepal in November 1992.

Originally named the Godavari Trial and Demonstration Site, the Knowledge Park is a place where different technologies, farming practices, and other applications that support sustainable development can be tested, selected, and demonstrated. Those interested in the technologies can receive training at the Park. The Park grounds are a repository of plant germplasm resource and associated floral and faunal biodiversity.

Hotel information

Hotel Himalaya	Hotel Greenwich Village	Hotel Clarion
Sahid Shukra Marg,	Kathmandu, Nepal	Man Bhawan Sadak,
Lalitpur,	+977-01-5521780	Lalitpur,
+977-01-5523900		+977-01-5524512
Godavari Village Resort	Hotel View Bhrikuti	
Godawari, Lalitpur,	Godawari, Lalitpur,	
+977-01-5560675	+977-01-5174242	

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