



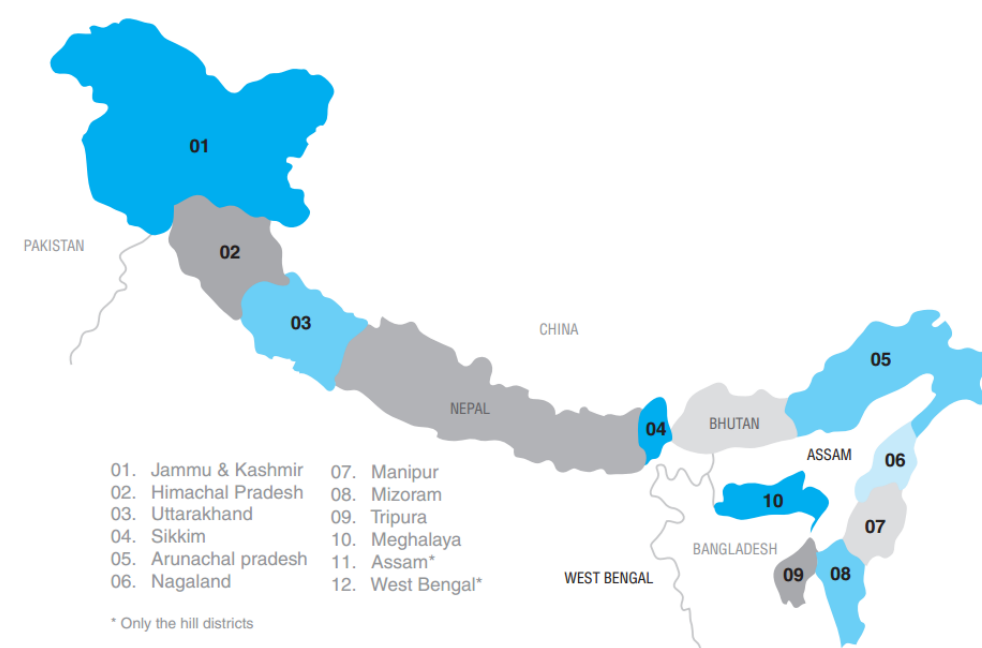
Adaptation & Resilience Building Challenges for the Himalayan Communities: Climate Change & Covid-19

Brainstorming Webinar

04th september, 2020 | 11:00 am to 05:30 pm

Background

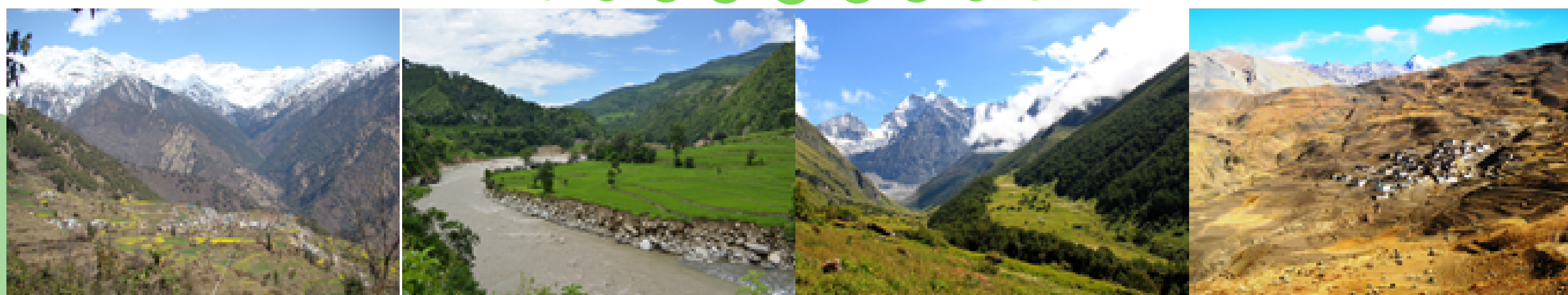
The Himalayan communities are at forefront of vulnerability due to upcoming threats of climate change. Several past researches had shown the different ways of vulnerability assessment which are mostly at generic level but not at specific level. This phenomenon has ignored mostly the marginal communities of the Himalayan states in respect to their livelihood options as well as economic perspective. Any of the consequence of climate change may directly affect these communities. In view of this, there is a need to assess the vulnerability levels of the major communities in the Indian Himalayan region (IHR). The different communities are differently vulnerable to different risks.



Vulnerability is a dynamic and its dynamism therefore should include the identification and assessment of vulnerable communities in real perspectives. Finding effective ways for adaptation to climate change and to make the communities climate resilient are the real challenges. This is also fact that there is no such evidence or example where and how climate change is going to impact the indigenous Himalayan communities. A climate resilient community is a self-reliant in their livelihoods as well as managing pandemic situations like Covid-19 risks. The adaptive capacity of the communities may be reinforced with the feeling of inclusiveness, engagement, information sharing and connecting societies through improving the livelihood options of the vulnerable Himalayan communities. This will eventually reduce pressure on conventional but limited natural resources and also will enable to develop a self-reliant system of the vulnerable communities.



Focusing on vulnerable communities of IHR, an attempt to address these issues and identifying existing gaps therein would be an important scope. The conference aims to deliberate the challenges of the vulnerable communities of the Himalaya and to develop adaptive and resilience building capacity in wake of climate change and situations like Covid-19.





Key thematic sessions

- Climate vulnerability framework for identification of the vulnerable communities in the Himalayan Region (IHR)
- Adaptation and resilience building mechanism for fostering climate smart communities in Covid-19 scenario
- Formulating policy guidelines for the vulnerable communities of the Himalaya

Keynote address



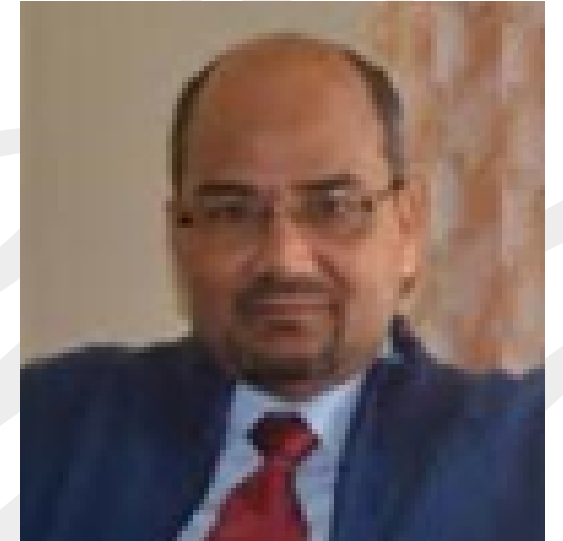
Dr. Rajan Kotru
Lead Strategist, REST &
Fellow, ICIMOD

Chair, Session-I



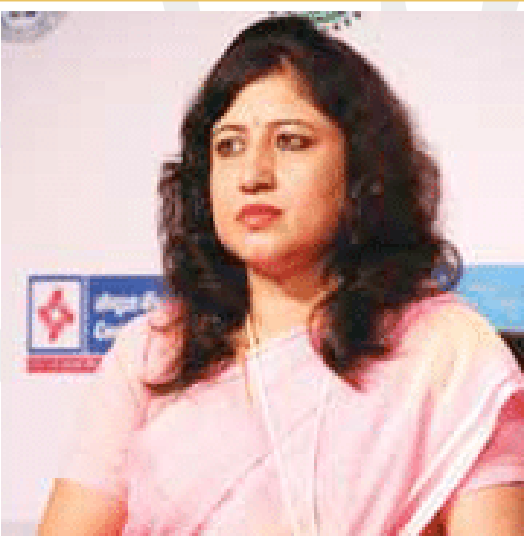
Prof. (Retd.) N.H. Ravindranath
CST, IISc, Bangalore

Chair, Session-II



Prof. R.M. Pant, Director,
NIRD&PR, Guwahati,

Chair, Session-III



Dr. Nisha Mendiratta,
Advisor/Sci-G & Associate
Head, DST, GoI

Patron



Dr. R.S. Rawal
Director, NIHE, Almora

Convener



Dr. J.C. Kuniyal
Sci-G, Head-CEA&CC,
NIHE, Almora

Organizing committee

Dr. Mithilesh Singh, Sci-D

Dr. Sumit Rai, Sci-C

Dr. Kapil Kesarwani, Sci-C

Distinguished Speakers

Session I: Vulnerability Assessment Framework

Chairperson

Prof. N.H. Ravindranath, CST-IISc, Bangalore

Panellist

Er. Lalit Kapoor, Advisor/Sci-G, MoEF&CC, GoI

Prof. P.C. Tiwari, Kumaon University, Nainital

Dr. S.S. Randhawa, Principal Scientific Officer, SCCC, HP

Asso. Prof. R. Ramshankaran, Dept. of Civil Eng., IITB, Mumbai

Dr. Rajiv Pandey, Sci-E, FRI, Dehradun

Dr. Manoj Kumar, Sci-E, FRI, Dehradun

Moderator – Dr. Subrat Sharma-LRC

Rapporteur – Drs. Sumit Rai-HQ, Renu Lata-HPRC, Kesarchand-NERC

Session II: Adaptation and Resilience Building Mechanism

Chairperson

Dr. R.M. Pant, Director, NIRD&PR

Panellist

Prof. S.C. Rai, DU, New Delhi

Prof. R.K. Maikhuri, HNBGU, Garhwal

Prof. N.A. Farooquee, IGNOU

Prof. Uma Melkania, GBPUA&T, Pantnagar

Sh. D.D. Robin, Dy Director, State CC cell (Arunachal Pradesh)

Dr. Sanjeev Sharma, Assistant Director, H.R.D.C. JNU, New Delhi

Moderator – Dr. Rajesh Joshi-SRC

Rapporteur – Drs. Mithilesh Singh-HQ, S. Shashni-HPRC, M. Sarkar-NERC

Session III: Policy Guidelines for the Vulnerable Communities

Chairperson

Dr. Nisha Mendiratta, Advisor/Sci-G & Associate Head, DST, GoI

Panellist

Dr. Kishore Kumar, Chief Scientist & Advisor, CSIR - CRRI, New Delhi

Prof. Brijlal Bijalwan, Former Chief Scientist, CSIR-IHBT Palampur, HP

Prof. Milap Punia, CSRD, JNU, New Delhi

Prof. R.C. Sundriyal, HNBGU, Garhwal

Dr. R. Johnson, Reader, Bath Spa Univ-UK

Moderator – Dr. J.C. Kuniyal-HQ

Rapporteur – Drs. Kapil Kesarwani-HQ, Mayank Joshi-SRC, LS. Rawat-GRC



G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment (GBP-NIHE) established at Kosi-Katarmal, Almora in 1988-89 as an autonomous Institute of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Govt. of India. GBP-NIHE is identified as a focal agency to advance scientific knowledge, to evolve integrated management strategies, demonstrate their efficacy for conservation of natural resources, and to ensure environmentally sound development in the entire Indian Himalayan Region (IHR). The R&D programmes of the institute are broadly based on the stakeholders' needs and are carried out by HQ. and 05 regional centres across the IHR - i) Ladakh Regional Centre (Leh, Ladakh), ii) Himachal Regional Centre (Mohal-Kullu, Himachal Pradesh), iii) Garhwal Regional Centre (Srinagar-Garhwal, Uttarakhand), iv) Sikkim Regional Centre (Pangthang, Sikkim), and v) North-East Regional Centre (Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh), along with Mountain Division housed at MoEF&CC, New Delhi.



Organized by:

**Center for Environmental Assessment & Climate Change
G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment (GBPNIHE)
Kosi-Katarmal, Almora - 263 643, Uttarakhand (INDIA)**