

Background:

Among the world's mountains, Asia has the largest, highest and most populated mountain systems - the Himalaya. The Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) is the section of the Hindu-Kush-Himalaya (HKH) within India.

The innumerable ecosystem services provided by the IHR are not only important to the people living in this region but also to those living downstream and adjoining neighboring countries. But being one of the youngest mountain chains on the earth, the inherent sensitivity to perturbations makes this region highly vulnerable to environmental problems of various amplitudes. The Pace of change outstripped many Communities' capacity to successfully adapt to environmental change. Himalaya is at the crossroads of environment change and sustainable development.

The region is generally considered as data deficient that hampers the identification of the available options for its economic growth. Hence the idea to set up Himalaya Knowledge Network (HKN) is to address diverse critical issues of the region through collaboration and networking across sectors and disciplines.

Overview:

Himalayan Knowledge Network (HKN) has been conceptualized to enhance collaboration and networking among all relevant institutions engaged with Himalaya specific R&D leading to environmental conservation and sustainable development practices. HKN aims to develop an effective network to share ideas, resources and knowledge that will promote 'Science-Society-Practice' links across IHR states.

Objectives:

- To foster an effective and collaborative network of different constituencies, academic institutions & universities working within and outside of the IHR for sustainable mountain development.
- Bring together academicians, researchers, and leaders through HKN forum for sharing quality knowledge.
- To transfer evidence - based knowledge and expertise in the key sectors into policies and practices in the IHR region.

Vision:

HKN is a pressing priority knowledge network for IHR. It will provide huge benefits to researchers, various institutes, and IHR communities at large. Using HKN, all the institutions working for Indian Himalayan Region will be able to access and share information and knowledge and derive the associated benefits for themselves and for IHR communities. It will facilitate the development of Himalayan Data Centre and stimulate research.

Mission:

HKN is designed to provide all the diverse data required for sustainable development of IHR under a single portal. The purpose is to collect and share evidence-based data to help in creating policies for IHR.

The participating institutions will be able to share and collect data from the single portal. HKN shall be a critical infrastructure for the future of Indian Himalayan Region. HKN is a significant step which will enable stakeholders from IHR and outside the region to work together for advancing sustainable development in Indian Himalayan Region.

Project Details-

Project Title: Himalaya Knowledge Network

Implementation Agency: G B Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment

Project Starting Date: 03-10-2019

Project Duration: 3 Years

Project Team:

Principal Investigator: Dr. G.C.S Negi 'Scientist-G'

Investigator: Dr. Subrat Sharma 'Scientist-F' (Ladakh Regional Centre)
Er. R. K. Singh 'Scientist-E' (Himanchal Regional Centre)
Dr. Rajesh Joshi 'Scientist-E' (Sikkim Regional Centre)
Er. M. S. Lodhi 'Scientist-E' (North East Regional Centre)
Er. S. Tarafdar 'Scientist-E' (Garhwal Regional Centre)
Dr. Vikram S. Negi 'Scientist-E'
Dr. S.C. Arya 'Scientist -D'
Er. Ashutosh Tiwari 'Scientist-C'
Dr. Kapil Kesharvani 'Scientist-C'