

# Kathmandu Valley Environment Outlook



# About the Organisations

## **International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development**

The **International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development** (ICIMOD) is an independent 'Mountain Learning and Knowledge Centre' serving the eight countries of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan – and the global mountain community. Founded in 1983, ICIMOD is based in Kathmandu, Nepal, and brings together a partnership of regional member countries, partner institutions, and donors with a commitment for development action to secure a better future for the people and environment of the extended Himalayan region. ICIMOD's activities are supported by its core programme donors: the governments of Austria, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, and its regional member countries, along with over thirty project co-financing donors. The primary objective of the Centre is to promote the development of an economically and environmentally sound mountain ecosystem and to improve the living standards of mountain populations.

## **United Nations Environment Programme**

Established in 1972 and based in Nairobi, Kenya, the **United Nations Environment Programme** (UNEP) is the voice for the environment within the United Nations system. The Executive Director is Achim Steiner.

UNEP's mission is to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. Acting as a catalyst, advocate, educator and facilitator to promote the wise use and sustainable development of the global environment, UNEP works with numerous partners within the United Nations, as well as with national governments, international and non-governmental organisations, the private sector and civil society. UNEP assesses global, regional and national environmental conditions and trends; develops international and national environmental instruments; helps to strengthen institutions for the wise management of the environment; facilitates the transfer of knowledge and technology for sustainable development, and encourages new partnerships and mind-sets within civil society and the private sector.

To ensure its global effectiveness, UNEP has six regional offices: in Africa; West Asia; Asia and the Pacific; North America; Latin America and the Caribbean; and Europe. UNEP can be reached at [www.unep.org](http://www.unep.org)

## **Ministry of Environment, Science, and Technology**

The **Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology** (MoEST) was established in 2005, when the environment functions of the previous Ministry of Population and Environment (MoPE) were transferred to the then Ministry of Science and Technology. The Ministry of Population and Environment had been created in 1995, building on the previous Ministry of Forest and Environment, the first environment ministry in Nepal set up in 1991.

The main objectives of MoEST are to promote environmentally sustainable economic development of the country, promote a natural and cultural and environment, to protect life support systems, identify new technologies through the development and promotion of research activities in the field of environment, science and technology, contribute to achieving national objectives related to poverty alleviation by developing appropriate and new technologies through research, develop and promote traditional indigenous technologies, and encourage intellectual groups working in the field of environment, science, and technology by creating appropriate opportunities.

The Ministry works through three divisions – Environment, Science and Information Technology Promotion; Planning Evaluation; and Administration – and one Department (Metrology and Hydrology). Other important organs of the Ministry include the Nepal Institute for Science and Technology, the High Level Commission for Information Technology, and the Alternative Energy Promotion Development Board. The Ministry is also the focal point for various multilateral international conventions. During the short period since its establishment, the Ministry has been successful in making public some important policies and standards related to environment, science and technology.

The Ministry can be reached through its website-[www.moest.gov.np](http://www.moest.gov.np) and email-[info@moest.gov.np](mailto:info@moest.gov.np).

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**Greta Rana** (Consultant Editor)  
**A. Beatrice Murray** (Senior Editor)  
**Dharma R. Maharjan** (Technical Support and Layout Design)  
**Asha K. Thaku** (Maps and Illustrations)

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The affiliation and professional positions of the participants were those current at the time the study was conducted.

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## The Study Team

### **ICIMOD**

Bidya Banmali Pradhan

Basanta Raj Shrestha

### **MoEST**

Khum Raj Punjali

Chhewang N. Lama (Sherpa)

### **Consultants**

Amar Bdr. Manandhar (Lead)

Kishore Thapa

Bandana Pradhan

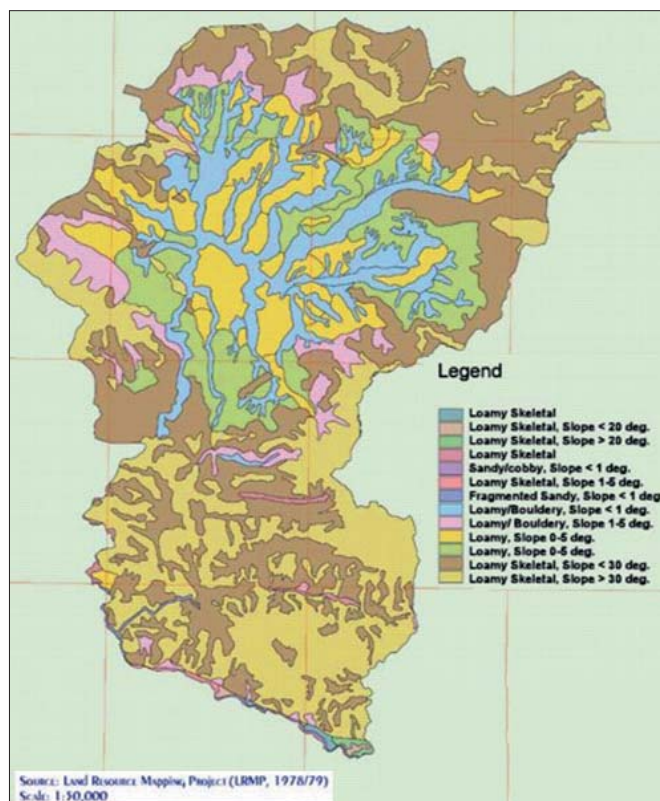
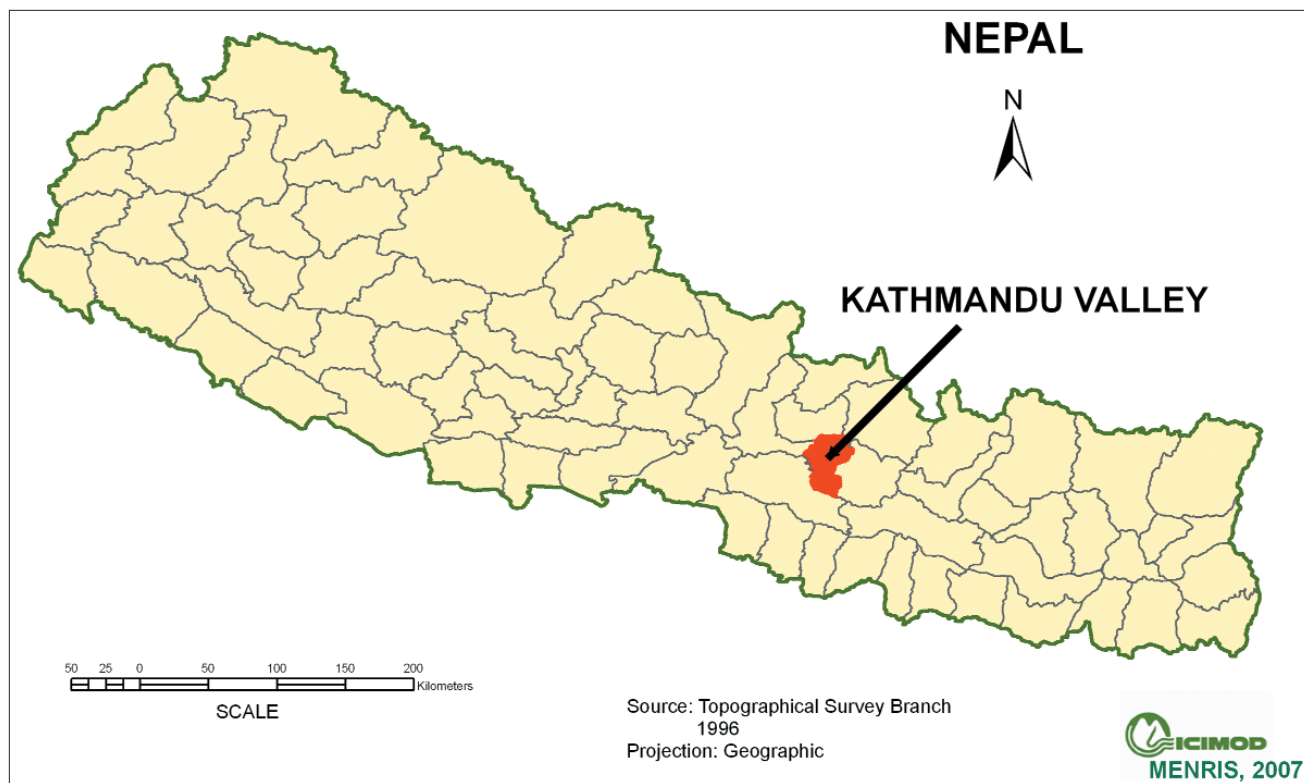
Bhushan Tuladhar

Drona Ghimire

Gyani Raja Chitrakar

**International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)**  
**Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology (MoEST)**  
and  
**United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**  
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