

NEPAL CLIMATE UPDATE

Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST)

Nepal Climate Change Knowledge Management Center (NCCKMC)

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Editors' Summary

This issue summons climate change news profoundly. Everest glaciers 'melting fast' dishearten all. However, the releasing of comprehensive climate related reports by ICIMOD add a taste to carry concrete research. The impacts of climate change not only affect agriculture but also on fisheries as well as to the migratory birds. In addition, cold waves hit hardly the normal life of people. In contrast to it, Nepal seek continuation of Kyoto protocol for climate change mitigation and it's good news that livelihood program for curtailing climate change impacts to some extent is being launched. We hope it works. Happy reading!!!

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A comprehensive climate related reports

The Kathmandu-based International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) released three reports providing the most up-to-date compilation of information on the current status of climate change in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region, the authoritative data on the number and extent of glaciers and the patterns of snowfall in the world's most mountainous region. The report attributed glacial area in Nepal has depleted by 21 percent over the past 30 year.

December 5

The Republica, The Kathmandu Post, The Himalayan Times, The Rising Nepal

Experts opined climate change impacts on fisheries

The adverse effect of climate change cause unprecedented decline in number of fisheries production. The fluctuation in temperature as well as water parameters needed for fish led disturbances in fish behavior, its development and reproduction due to which fisheries production hit hardly said a fish expert based at Rupandehi.

December 7

Gorkhapatra

Seeking Kyoto Protocol continuation

To come up with some agreements in order to slash carbon emissions and discuss ways to implement climate change mitigation mechanism in poorer countries, Nepal along with other developing countries agreed on second period commitments of the Kyoto protocol in the plenary meet of the UN Climate Talks in Durban, South Africa. While, leaders were yet to agree upon it.

December 8

The Himalayan Times

In need of rainfall

The nurturing of winter crops like barley, wheat have been parched due to no rainfall on time at different VDCs of Pyuthan. The harvesting time of these crops started but scanty rainfall add worrisome to farmers. They had to depend wholly on rainfall as there is no irrigation facility.

December 11

Kantipur

CC reduction through livelihood program

To curb the impacts of climate change, Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN) is initiating the livelihood program at Bajhkhet VDC of Lamjung through its Climate change and REDD collaborative program. For improving the livelihood, NEFIN supported the VDC in planting the plants like Cardamom, Tea, Banana, Orange etc. which slash the carbon emission. In addition, they would also help on awaking the people about climate change.

December 12

Kantipur

Cold wave and snowfall affect life

The freezing cold crippled normal life in different districts of Terai accompanying the risen of the number of patients suffering from the cold-related diseases such as pneumonia, respiratory problems and common cold. The cold also affected the winter crops. Along with that the heavy snowfall had occurred in the mountain region sweeping the people temporarily to the lower parts. The Meteorological Forecasting Division (MFD) said with the dip in mercury, almost all parts of the country were experiencing colder days and further colder days will be experienced with the mercury plummeting to freezing point in the next couple of days.

December 9,10,11,15

The Kathmandu Post, Gorkhaptra, The Rising Nepal, The Himalayan Times, Republica

No migratory birds around the reserve

The Reserve officials of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve opined that climate change might have affected the arrival of the migratory birds around the reserve as in previous years, winter migratory birds would have already flocked the reserve. But their absence this year had surprised the conservationist and bird watchers. They also said the habitat degradation might be the reason for the absence of the winter migration.

December 14

The Rising Nepal

NCKMC Highlight

Hon'ble Minister for Science and Technology and the Chief Guest for the program Ms Kalpana Dhamala released a book *Understanding Climate Change Impact in Nepal: Some Case Studies* in a program *Action Learning Group Meet and Book Release Program* organized by Nepal Climate Change Knowledge Management Center (NCKMC) on December 6, 2011 coinciding the 29th anniversary of NAST. The book is a compilation of nine research papers that covers impacts of climate change, ranging from watershed, river dynamics, agro productions and livelihood of indigenous community in Nepalese context.

The program was organized under the chairmanship of Professor Dr Surendra Raj Kafle, Vice Chancellor of NAST. Mr Vijay Singh, Assistant Country Director of UNDP was present in the program as a special guest and the participants were climate change experts, researchers, academicians, information managers, journalists, ALG members and representatives from GOs, INGOs and NGOs. Addressing the program, Hon'ble Minister stated that climate change issues should be addressed seriously and must be verified by scientific studies. She said that publication of such book will assist and contribute for further researches on climate change.