

About the authors

Kamal Banskota, PhD, is programme manager at the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) and coordinates the 'Kyoto: Think Global Act Local' (KTGAL) Project for India and Nepal. His key areas of interest are in tourism, renewable energy, natural resources and the environment, and poverty. He has been working along these and related fields for the last 25 years.

Ngamindra Dahal works for the Kathmandu-based National Trust for Nature Conservation as Energy and Climate Change Coordinator. Trained as a hydro-meteorologist, he is a researcher for the KTGAL project in Nepal, where he analysed weather-related hazards and forecasted weekly weather scenarios with a focus on the Nepal Himalaya. He has published several papers and articles on these themes in popular publications.

Bhaskar Singh Karky, until July 2007, was Programme Officer at the National Trust for Nature Conservation, and is currently a PhD fellow at the University of Twente under a Nuffic scholarship. His research work looks at the economic viability of community forestry as a carbon mitigation option. He has an MSc. in Agriculture Development Economics from Reading University, UK, and a BSc. in Agriculture from the University of Western Sydney.

Pushkin Phartiyal, PhD, is the Executive Director of Livelihoods and Sustainable Development Programme of the Central Himalayan Environment Association (CHEA). His interests are in community participation for natural resources management and rural livelihoods in the Central Himalaya, where he has been working over the past 14 years. He served as a faculty member of the Centre for Development Studies of Uttarakhand Academy of Administration, Nainital, for seven years.

Surendra P. Singh, PhD, is currently the Vice Chancellor of Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna HNB Garhwal University, Srinagar- Garhwal, Uttarakhand. Prior to this post, he was the Head of the Department of Botany, Kumaun University, Nainital. Prof Singh is a well-known ecologist, with over 100 publications in reputed international and national journals. His key areas of interest include forest ecology, ecosystem services, tree-water relations, community forests, and carbon sequestration, amongst others. He is the principal investigator of the Kyoto: Think Global, Act Local Project for India. He is a fellow of the Indian National Science Academy.

Margaret Skutsch, PhD, is an Associate Professor with the Technology and Sustainable Development Group of the University of Twente in the Netherlands. She has been engaged in research on management and impacts of community forest management in Africa and Asia for 30 years, and is the director of the international research programme, 'Kyoto: Think Global Act Local', which is looking at the potential for community forests under future climate agreements.

Ashish Tewari, PhD, is a lecturer in the Forestry Department, Kumaun University, Nainital India. A researcher with keen interest in the areas of seed science and technologies, tree water relations, forest ecology, and community forestry, he has published numerous articles related to Himalayan forestry in international and national journals.