

JACS SAS Bi-monthly info Letter-15

Year 3, Issue 6, December 2009

Here is the sixth issue of JACS SAs information letter of year 3 for all our SAs members. Enjoy it.

If any of you need our previous issues please let us know.

South Asia Coordination Office is organizing a “Regional Workshop” from 24–26 January 2010 in Kathmandu. WP 2 head, senior researchers from South Asia, Swiss Peace, Regional Coordinator will actively participate in the workshop. During the workshop, the researchers will focus on: finalization of Phase II research, research strategy for phase III, harmonization of RPs, planning of publication and constitution of RAB members.

Swiss Ambassador to Nepal His Excellency Mr. Thomas Gass inaugurated the Machhapuchhre Model Trek in Kaski district of Nepal on 10 December 2009. The Model Trek was supported by NCCR North–South under PAMS Project. On the same day Honorable State Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation Mr. Satrudhan P. Singha and Dr. Bishnu Raj Upreti, RC of SAs handed over the infrastructure of Model Trek to Machhapuchhre Tourism Development Committee.

RCO together with Trekking Agencies Association of Nepal (TAAN), Nepal Tourism Board (NTB) and Annapurna Conservation Area Project (ACAP) organized a National Conference on “Exploring of Machhapuchhre Model Trek route in Kaski district in Western Nepal” on 14th December 2009 at hotel Shangri La, Kathmandu.

Mr. Tulasi Sigdel has been selected as a new PhD student from SAs under the Landscape and Democracy Project jointly launched by RCO, HNRSC–KU, University of Toronto, University of Edinburgh and Forest Action.

We warmly welcome Tulasi Sigdel in our team!

DSG/Z

Nepal Research Group:

Dr. Katherin Rankin from University of Toronto and Dr. Andrea Nightingale from University of Edinburgh visited RCO on 8th and 30th December 2009. During the time planning and implementing of Landscape and Democracy project were discussed with Dr. Bishnu Raj Upreti, RC,SAs.

India Research Group:

No news

Pakistan Research Group:

SDPI organized 12nd Sustainable Development Conference from 21–23 December 2009, during the time the book “Livelihood Assets' Atlas of the Mountainous Districts of NWFP’ was launched. This book is the outcome of the research conducted through TPP–Messerli (Contextuality of Development Interventions).

3. Reading Recommendations:

4. Publications:

- ※ *Upreti, B. R. (2009), Impact of Armed Conflict on Natural Resources in Nepal: Challenges for Environmental Sustainability. In: Peace and Sustainable Development in South Asia: Issues and Challenges of Globalization (eds.), Antonia C. Settle, Imrana Niazi, Sarah Siddiq and Uzma T. Haroon. Lahore: Sang-e-Meel Publications and SDPI. Pp. 169–190.*
- ※ *Upreti, B. R and Pranil Kumar Upadhaya (2009), Armed Conflict and Tourism: Cost and Consequences in Nepal. In: Peace and Sustainable Development in South Asia: Issues and Challenges of Globalization (eds.), Antonia C. Settle, Imrana Niazi, Sarah Siddiq and Uzma T. Haroon. Lahore: Sang-e-Meel Publications and SDPI. Pp. 235–261.*
- ※ *Upreti, B. R. and P. Vanhoutte (2009), Security Sector Reform in Nepal: Challenges and Opportunities (Chapter 7), In: Hans Born and Albrecht Schnabel (eds.), Security Sector Reform in Challenging Environments. Geneva: LIT Verlag. Pp. 165–187*
- ※ *Richard Matthew and Upreti, B. R. (2009), Environmental Change and Human Security in Nepal In: Global Environmental Change and Human Security (Eds.) [Richard A Matthew](#), [Jon Barnett](#), [Bryan McDonald](#) and [Karen L. O'Brien](#). Arvine: MIT Press. Pp.137–154*
- ※ *Upreti, B. R. (2009), External Links of the Maoist Insurgency in Nepal In: Terrorism: Patterns of Internationalization (eds.), Jaideep Saikia and Ekaterina Stepanova (2009). New Delhi: SAGE Publications. Pp.*
- ※ *Upreti, B. R. (2009), Effect of conflict on water resources in Nepal. *Our heritage (Hamro Sampada)* Magazine. Year 8, issue: 11. Pp. 1–3.*
- ※ *Upreti, B. R. (2009), Interrelationship between conflict and federalism in Nepal (Nepalma dunda ra sanghiyata ko anter sambandha). *Human Rights Monitor* Magazine. Year 5, issue: 12, Page 5–12.*
- ※ *Upadhayaya, P. K. (2009). Post Conflict Tourism in Nepal: Challenges and Opportunities for Preventing Latent Conflict. In R. Kunwar, T. B. Dhakal, T. N. Sharma, & S. Basnyat (Eds.), *The GAZE JOURNAL OF TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY* (pp. 28–42).Kathmandu: International School of Tourism and Hotel Management.*

- ※ *Suleri, A., Shahbaz, B., Haq, S., Mehmood, N. and Khan, G. (2009). Livelihood Assets Atlas: Mountainous Districts of NWFP Pakistan, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) Islamabad Pakistan.*

Please inform your new publication regularly to us:

WP 2: astrid.fritschi@geo.uzh.ch

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5. Events:

Conferences:

Trainings:

6. Others:

TPP news:

Participation of JACS SAs members in conference, seminar, workshop and meetings

Presentation:

Pranil K. Upadhyayaya: "Conflict sensitive Code of Conducts at Machhapuchhre Model Trek – Obligation and Challenges" in National Conference on Exploring alternative trekking routes for peace and prosperity – An experience of Machhapuchhre Model Trek route in Kaski district in western Nepal, organized by RCO SAs NCCR North–South, TAAN, NTB, ACAP, 14 December 2009, Hotel Shangri–La, Kathmandu.

Bishnu R. Upreti: "Civil Military Relation and Political Transition in Nepal" in 'Fostering Sustainable Development in South Asia: Responding to Challenges' Organised by Sustainable Development Policy Institute at Islamabad, 21–23 December 2009.

Upreti, B. R., Yamuna Ghale and Safal Ghimire (2009): Food insecurity, social tension and political conflict in Nepal in 'Fostering Sustainable Development in South Asia: Responding to Challenges' Organised by Sustainable Development Policy Institute at Islamabad, 21–23 December 2009.

Upreti, B. R. and Yamuna Ghale (2009): Impacts of Armed Conflict on Biodiversity in Nepal. A paper presented at the AIT International Conference on Knowledge Management for Sustainable Development, Dec 10–12, 2009, Kathmandu

Upreti, B. R., (2009): Characteristics of post-war state: reflection from Nepal. Opinions shared in the international meeting/workshop organised by Nepal Peasant Association at hotel Malla on 15 December 2009

Upreti, B. R., (2009): Nepal's Peace Process: Scenarios, Risks and Early Warning. Opinion shared at Prime Minister's Office, Singh Darbar on 9th December 2009, where Prime Minister and other 5 ministers and secretaries were presented.

Upreti, B. R., (2009): Energy sector in Federal system in Nepal: Possibilities for cooperation and conflict in hydropower development. Opinions shared in the interaction programme "Natural Resources in Federal Nepal" organised by Hamro Sampada (Our Heritage) Bimonthly (Shyam Basnet) on 4 December 2009

Seminar:

PAMS news:

BoD indorsed two PAMS project from SAs on its meeting:

PAMS SAS-3_01, Research Based Policy Dialogues and Advocacy for Sustainable Forest Governance in Northwest Pakistan.

PAMS SAS-3_02 Hemp Production for Livelihood Security in Dhabang and Mirul VDCs of Rolpa District, Nepal.

PAMS TAAN:

With the continuous backstopping through ongoing PhD research in the field of "Tourism, Conflict and Peace" in SAS and the steady and careful execution, the annual work plan of PAMS project titled *Developing a community based tourism model in Kaski district in Western Nepal* on Machhapuchhre Model Trek has completed its annual work plans with the completion of infrastructures (five campsites, five porter shelters, and a

number trail markings) building, organization of the capacity building training on community based village tourism (Cooking, Baking and Home Stay) to 91 women householders (trainees) from seven Villages, and the formulation of the draft of conflict sensitive tourism guidelines within the allotted project period January to December 2009.

An inaugural cum infrastructure handover ceremony of this tourism model, after the joint publication of a full scale new route map of this new trekking route by NCCR, Trekking Agencies' Association of Nepal, Machhapuchhre Tourism Development Committee, and Nepal Tourism Board on 28 August 2009 in Kathmandu, was held on 10 December 2009 at Kharpani, Sardikhola in Kaski district. Swiss Ambassador to Nepal His Excellency Thomas Gass formally inaugurated this model trek on 10 December 2009. Honorable State Minister for tourism and Civil Aviation Mr. Shatrudhan Prasad Singha and Dr. Bishnu Raj Upreti, South Asia Coordinator of Swiss National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) North-South jointly handed over the built infrastructures to Machhapuchhre Tourism Development Committee on the same day. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the Directives for the Sustainable Management of Infrastructures signed jointly by Machhapuchhre Tourism Development Committee and TAAN Western Regional Chapter (PAMS executing agency) was also handed over to both parties.

National Conference

A national conference titled *Exploring alternative trekking routes for peace and prosperity – An experience of Machhapuchhre Model Trek route in Kaski district in western Nepal*, incorporating the achievement and experience of local and regional workshop held earlier, was held jointly by RCO SAs of NCCR North – South and Trekking Agencies' Association of Nepal (www.taan.org.np) in collaboration with Nepal Tourism Board (www.welcomenepal.com) and Annapurna Conservation Area Project (www.visitnepal.com/acap/) on 14 December 2009 in Kathmandu, Nepal. This event incorporated four major sessions. Conference begins with documentary on PAMS project (from beginning to end) titled 'Diversification of trekking tourism for grassroots peace-building in Nepal – Example of Machhapuchhre Model Trek', a presentation on *Conflict sensitive Code of Conducts at Machhapuchhre Model Trek – Obligation and Challenges* by PhD researcher Mr. Pranil Upadhyaya linking with PhD research, a talk programme on 'how tourism can promote peace and prosperity', and open floor discussions on all earlier presentations and views.

EPD news:

*Exploring Partnership Dynamics: North –South Research Partnerships in the Context of International Development:
A Comparative Study of Eight JACS Regions (EPD)*