



Department of Nature Conservation  
and Landscape Management



Cartography  
GIS  
Remote Sensing

**DAAD**

Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst  
German Academic Exchange Service

## International German Alumni Summer School 2016

### Forestry in Nepal – role of community forestry and UN-REDD program in sustainable development

**Kathmandu, Nepal**

**06 – 13 March 2016**

#### **Announcement and Call for Abstracts:**

The International German Alumni Summer School is a joint interdisciplinary program of the Faculty of Forestry - Department of Nature Conservation and landscape management (Prof. Renate Bürger-Arndt), the Faculty of Biology and Psychology, Institute of Zoology and Anthropology, Department of Conservation Biology (Dr. Jolanta Slowik) and the Institute of Geography (Department of Cartography, GIS and Remote Sensing (Prof. Martin Kappas) )  
The co-partners from Nepal are Kathmandu Forestry College (KAFCOL (Prof. Ambika P Gautam and Dr. Jhamak B. Karki) and Tribhuvan University (Prof Ram P Chaudhary).

Our meeting is organized within the framework of the DAAD Alumni program for developing countries and financed by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) of the German government.

The Summer School aims to provide a platform to researchers, academicians, practitioners and entrepreneurs to share their knowledge and experiences from diverse disciplines ranging from natural and social sciences to humanities with an interdisciplinary approach.

The main topics of the International German Alumni Summer School will refer to forestry development in Nepal along with poverty alleviation in the context of natural disasters like

earthquakes, unsustainable use of natural resources, security and conservation of local nature and cultural heritage of the country. The central UN-Millennium Developing Goals (MDGs) like environmental sustainability and global partnership, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will be in focus.

The weaknesses and strengths of the United Nations collaborative initiative on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) in developing countries will be discussed and the participatory role of Nepal in the pilot project of REDD on community forestry in the hilly regions for enhancing sustainable forest management will be highlighted. Under the now extended term "LULUCF" meaning "Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry, action in the field of forestry and land use are summarized in the Kyoto Protocol. Land use and land cover change is a global issue which can only be tackled internationally. Through a targeted land use and forest management, the climate can be relieved: afforestation helps in uptake of atmospheric carbon dioxide, thereby reducing the rate of deforestation, and helps in reducing emissions in countries where much of the forest areas is being cleared. The role of the forest for biodiversity protection, wellbeing of local communities and the advanced methods in remote sensing will be presented.

Our working agenda will also emphasize on the role of community forestry in Nepal for addressing the targets of the Millennium goals and consequently mitigating biodiversity loss and climate change.

We also aim to bring to the discussion platform, the decision of the recently concluded Paris UN Climate conference.

This Summer School aims to promote the cooperation between German Alumni from some of the selected Asian developing countries and German universities and thereby enhancing the capacity building of alumni in promoting the realization of MDGs. It will deal with relevant and complex topics relating to human induced and natural disasters like climate change, earthquakes, biodiversity loss, deforestation and degradation of forest habitats, human - wildlife conflicts and sustainable eco- and community tourism.

Strengthening some of the active German Alumni networks like German Alumni International Biodiversity Network (GAIInBiNet), GAForN (German Alumni Forestry Network), GAFooN (German Alumni Food Network), and German Iranian Alumni Network (GIAN), will be an important objective of this Summer School.

Multiplication function of the Summer School will be ensured through the contribution of representatives from science, economics, political institutions and NGOs like the WWF, and ICIMOD (International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development). DAAD and GIZ - Nepal delegates will also be invited. This summer school will therefore provide an opportunity to researchers, academia and business practitioners to interact in a common platform and share their expertise and practical development experiences on new challenges and emerging issues.

**Program:**

The summer school program will include:

- **Keynote talks** by the invited experts

- **Plenary sessions** - Research papers and case studies to be delivered as oral presentations by the participating alumni, invited representatives of governmental bodies, NGOs & research institutes
- **Group work activity** – Discussions with follow-up presentations on the following topics :
  - Natural resources, natural disasters mitigation and local livelihoods
  - Land-use change, sustainable agriculture and livestock productivity
  - Functions and services of natural forest
  - Species of nature conservation concern and human wildlife conflicts and its mitigation

#### **Field trips –**

- Field Excursion to Kayarkhola Watershed region (REDD+ & Community forestry pilot project region) and Chitwan National Park
- **Registration and Cost Coverage:**

There is no registration fee for the invited delegates and German Alumni.

The following costs will be covered by the DAAD:

- International return ticket (economy class airfare)
- Airport transfer to and from the place of accommodation in Kathmandu
- Transport to the field excursion sites and park entrance fees
- Accommodation and living expenses during the official period of stay for the summer school
- Travel health insurance (maximum 30 Euro) and visa application fees only
- **All other costs, such as transport costs from participants' home town to their home airport and back or travel costs for visa application in the home country have to be borne by the participants.**

#### **Eligibility criteria for applicants:**

- German University alumni from developing countries in Central and South Asia including the Far East who have stayed in Germany for at least three months for study or research purposes.
- Working in the field of natural sciences – Biology, Ecology, Geography, Geosciences/Geology, Agriculture, Forestry, Ecological economics, Agronomy, natural resources management, climate change, wildlife tourism and management, sustainable development, economic sociology and anthropology.
- Institutional affiliations may include research and education, NGOs, government agencies, local community representatives and related stakeholders
- Multipliers, e.g. people who are in a position to spread the acquired knowledge and experience
- Women alumni are especially encouraged to apply.

#### **Submission of Application with abstract:**

The application in **English** must include the following **documents in one single PDF** file:

- A cover letter, stating your motivation for participation and your special interest in the topic.
- A brief CV with personal and professional background information. Also indicate your previous stays in Germany (reason and duration), with proof of stay for scientific research purposes, study or work for at least 3 months, wherever applicable. Please insert a passport size portrait photograph in the CV
- An overview on seminars, workshops or conferences attended in Germany following completion of studies in Germany, including those funded by the DAAD
- Abstracts must be affiliated in relevance to the summer school scope and objectives, covering any of the listed topics and should also be related to your field of work or research. It should not exceed 450 words with font type 'Arial', font size 12 and 1.5 line spacing.
- Abstracts should be written in English, the official language of the Summer School

In your application you are expected to state that if selected, you commit to participate in the entire program of the summer school (all days of plenary session, excursion and social program). You are also expected to give your approval that you might appear in pictures which are published in the DAAD webpage.

The deadline for the submission of complete application as instructed above is the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January, 2016. Please send your complete application electronically as a singly PDF file to the following E-Mail:

[kaminikusum@gmail.com](mailto:kaminikusum@gmail.com), [Jolanta.Slowik@zentr.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:Jolanta.Slowik@zentr.uni-goettingen.de), [mpangau1@gwdg.de](mailto:mpangau1@gwdg.de)

### **Travel dates:**

The arrival date for all international and non-local national delegates in Kathmandu will be the 06<sup>th</sup> of March 2016 and the departure date is 13<sup>th</sup> of March, 2016.

For further inquiries, please contact the Organizing Committee.

Dr.Kamini Barua ([kaminikusum@gmail.com](mailto:kaminikusum@gmail.com))

Dr.Margaretha Pangau ([mpangau1@gwdg.de](mailto:mpangau1@gwdg.de))

Prof. Renate Bürger-Arndt ([rbuerge@gwdg.de](mailto:rbuerge@gwdg.de))

Dr.Jolanta Slowik ([Jolanta.Slowik@zentr.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:Jolanta.Slowik@zentr.uni-goettingen.de))

Prof. Martin Kappas ([mkappas@gwdg.de](mailto:mkappas@gwdg.de))