



Third Pole Environment Workshop held in Beijing

The Third Pole Environment (TPE) Workshop was held in Beijing from 14 to 16 August 2009, attracting about 70 scientific and technical staff from 15 countries. During the workshop, 20 participating scientists reported on their latest research achievements. All participants were deeply involved in the discussions and generously shared their insights on the scientific significance of the TPE workshop, key scientific issues, and the organisation of, and future planning for, the sustainable progress of the TPE initiative and related subjects.

Five key scientific issues were identified for the TPE study, namely, 1) What and how have environmental and ecological changes occurred at different time scales in the past? 2) What are the characteristics of water and energy cycles and what are their components? What is their relationship to the Indian monsoon? 3) How will ecosystems change under global warming, especially at high elevation? 4) How will glacial retreat and changes in mass balance affect water and energy cycles and their components? What are the environmental impacts? 5) What are the consequences of anthropogenic activity in the region and how can they be dealt with?

In relation to the final goal of the workshop – to deepen human understanding of the TPE – participants suggested involving various organisations, academic institutions, and interest groups to conduct a multidisciplinary study of water-ice-air-ecology-human interactions in the region. Although the project would be long term, in the near future the focus would be on joint expeditions to transects in the Third Pole region, the establishment of observation stations and a data sharing platform, summer schools for young scientists from participating countries, and the formation of a science committee consisting of scientists from a broad range of countries and academic backgrounds. A TPE general office was also envisioned to coordinate and implement programmes, host annual workshops and summer schools for young scientists, conduct regular maintenance of the TPE website, deal with correspondence, and publish regular newsletters. During the initiation stage, all participants agreed to locate the general office at the Beijing campus of the Institute of Theoretical Physics (ITP).

At the end of the workshop, Prof YAO Tandong, Lonnie Thompson, and Volker Mosbrugger were nominated by the participants to organise the TPE science committee. Future TPE workshops were also discussed, including one in Kathmandu, Nepal, in 2010 and one in New Delhi, India, in 2011.



The first International Training Course on Participatory Integrated Watershed Management held at ICIMOD

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) held the first International Training Course on Participatory Integrated Watershed Management (PIWM) from 5 to 15 October 2009 at the Godavari Training and Demonstration Centre in Kathmandu, Nepal. There were 20 participants from 12 countries, including Afghanistan, Bhutan, and Myanmar. Dr FAN Jihui from the Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), was invited to participate.

The purpose of the training course was to enhance the conceptual and practical knowledge of participants in participatory integrated watershed management. Participants were expected to learn how to identify appropriate strategies to address sustainability issues in participatory integrated watershed management, and how to analyse and prepare community-based integrated watershed management plans.

The course was run over 11 days and was structured around the following modules.

Module 1: Introduction to participatory integrated watershed management. Analysis of the role, importance, and issues of participatory watershed management and familiarisation with conservation technologies and strategies.

Module 2: Familiarisation with the processes and issues involved in working with communities in participatory integrated watershed management.

Module 3: Introduction to integrated watershed management planning with communities. Basic knowledge of different tools for community-based integrated watershed management planning.

Module 4: Introduction to the enabling framework for participatory integrated watershed management, including the policy environment, local governance, and payment for ecosystem services.

The course used a participatory training approach throughout. Classroom lectures were complemented by field visits and group exercises.

The 40th ICIMOD Board Meeting held in Chengdu

The 40th ICIMOD Board Meeting was held in Chengdu from 16 to 20 November 2009. A series of meetings were held in conjunction with the Board Meeting, including the 16th Programme Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting, the 20th ICIMOD Support Group (ISG) Meeting, and Centre's Day. Delegates reported on and



discussed the implementation of ICIMOD projects in China. The Bureau of International Cooperation, CAS, Chinese Committee on ICIMOD (CNICIMOD), and ICIMOD jointly organised a symposium 'Concerning Mountains and Supporting Future'. Five presentations were made introducing current research work being conducted on mountains, as well as ICIMOD's development strategy. Dr Schild, Director General of ICIMOD, expressed his thanks for the projects designed by CAS which are to be carried out in the HKH region.

On the assignment of Prof DING Zhongli, President of CNICIMOD and Vice President of CAS, Dr YAO Tandong, Vice President of CNICIMOD, was appointed the Chair of the Board Meeting. Mr XIANG Zhiyong, Deputy Secretary General of the Chengdu Government, presented at the opening ceremony and gave an opening address. Prof. DING gave a speech at the farewell dinner and had a broad conversation with the meeting participants.



Conference of the Chinese Committee on International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development held in Chengdu

The Conference of the Chinese Committee on International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (CNICIMOD) was held in Chengdu on 18 November 2009. During the conference, participants discussed and approved the organisational structure, personnel, constitution, and articles of association of CNICIMOD, and discussed follow-up work to be undertaken by the Committee. About 30 people attended the conference including Dr YAO Tandong, Vice President of CNICIMOD, Dr DENG Wei, Secretary General of CNICIMOD, Mr WANG Zhenyu, Director of International Organization Division of the Bureau of International Cooperation, CAS, Dr ZHANG Linxiu, Independent Board Member of ICIMOD, and Dr OUYANG Hua, Programme Manager of Integrated Water and Hazard Management (IWHM), ICIMOD, as well as committee members and representatives from other member units. Dr DENG Wei presided over the conference.

Prof HU Pinghua, Head of the Secretariat of CNICIMOD, reported on the work in progress since the establishment of CNICIMOD. The report covered the organisation of CNICIMOD, relevant meetings and activities, information gathering and advertising, youth training and communication among the talents, and cooperation projects, among other things. CNICIMOD has moved from conducting simple tasks, like communicating with and assisting ICIMOD, to coordinating with and organising relevant member units to promote and support scientific research and regional sustainable development programmes for adaptation to climate change.

Dr DENG Wei briefed participants in detail on the draft proposal for the articles of association of CNICIMOD, which stress its guidance function, and the feasibility of these regulations. When confirming the member units and committee members, qualified scientific research entities and personnel who have built a sound relationship with ICIMOD will be considered, as well as relevant government departments and competent authorities. The proposal highlights that the membership structure of CNICIMOD should facilitate its role as



a platform for connecting scientific research entities engaged in mountain research and management, government organisations, and the academic community, as well as for promoting the development of mountain science.

Mr WANG Zhenyu noted that CNICIMOD aims to coordinate research experts and staff in relative fields; facilitate international cooperation with ICIMOD; and enhance the functioning and influence of ICIMOD in China. Additionally, CNICIMOD will greatly promote the study of mountains in China and expand foreign exchange and cooperation by making use of the ICIMOD platform effectively.

Concerning other issues like the member units, mode of cooperation, content, and mechanisms of CNICIMOD, the basic framework of CNICIMOD, its members, and articles of association were confirmed through full discussion after considering suggestions.

All the participants believed that the future work of CNICIMOD should be based on the national conditions of the state, concern about the vigorous development of mountainous areas relating to the revival of the

Chinese Nation, improving CNICIMOD's capacity for scientific research, the dissemination of technical information, decision-making consultation, and others, as well as informing and influencing society through the dissemination of popular science. Dr OUYANG Hua put forward some important suggestions about the international exchange of young scientists and technical personnel and about helping CNICIMOD to act as a communication platform to facilitate international and national cooperation to promote the results of China's development and scientific and technical strengths and expand China's influence in the world. With respect to academic exchange, Dr ZHANG Yili from the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research (IGSNRR) suggested that CNICIMOD could work with other associations and institutes to hold annual academic meetings so as to expand the communication range of personnel engaged in research in mountainous areas. Mr LIN Zuoding, Deputy Director of the Hydrographic Office, Ministry of Water Resources, made suggestions about holding specific academic symposiums or forums to encourage experts, the general public, and the state to attach more importance to the development of mountainous areas.

Dr YAO Tandong mentioned that CNICIMOD should focus on the promotion of regional cooperation, innovative cooperation mechanisms, building integrated research capacity, and the expansion of China's international academic influence.

The conference finished with a friendly and animated discussion, and was deemed a great success. The conference made significant progress, and this will accelerate the development of CNICIMOD and strengthen its cooperation with ICIMOD in relevant fields.

CNICIMOD publicises International Mountain Day

International Mountain Day is an opportunity to create awareness about the importance of mountains to life, highlight the opportunities and constraints in mountain development, and build partnerships that will bring about positive change in the world's mountains and highlands.

December 11th was designated as 'International Mountain Day' by the UN General Assembly in 2003. This was a result of the success of the UN International Year of Mountains in 2002 which increased global awareness of the importance of mountains, stimulated the establishment of national committees in 78 countries, and strengthened alliances through promoting the creation of the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions, known as the 'Mountain Partnership (World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, 2 September 2002). The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is the designated lead coordinating agency for International Mountain Day and is mandated to lead its observance.

A different theme relevant to sustainable mountain development is chosen for International Mountain Day every year. The theme for 2009 was 'Disaster Risk Management in Mountains'; it aims to raise awareness about the high number of natural hazards in mountain areas and the vulnerability of mountain communities. The theme draws attention to sustainable agricultural, pastoral, and forestry practices as key elements of risk reduction, as well as the need to develop integrated strategies and policies at the national level.

Mountains are hazardous places. Many mountain communities live with the threat of earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, avalanches, landslides, and floods. The factors that cause people to live in these vulnerable situations include ties of kinship and community, a culturally different notion of risk, and, last but not least, poverty.

CNICIMOD publicised and celebrated this special event with a display of posters on this year's theme in the lobby of Chengdu Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment, CAS, and distribution of publications reflecting research work conducted on mountain hazard management and climate change adaptation in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region. Researchers and graduate students showed great interest in mountain issues and took away almost all the publications prepared. CNICIMOD was very encouraged by the level of interest shown and felt that the publicity for the event was very effective.

Workshop on International Cooperation Key Project of CAS held at IMHE

On 16 to 19 January 2010, CNICIMOD held a Workshop on International Cooperation Key Project of CAS at the Chengdu Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment (IMHE). The main objective was to discuss how to enhance collaboration with international partners



in the implementation of the project and how to keep the project running smoothly.

Dr DENG Wei, director of IMHE, CAS, gave welcome remarks, after which Dr LIU Linshan gave a presentation on the background and implementation plans of the project. Dr OUYANG Hua and Dr Arun Shrestha from ICIMOD reported on relevant work being conducted on the Koshi River. Dr Balmukunda Regmi and Dr Narendra Raj Khanal from Tribhuvan University, Nepal, introduced relevant research activities being conducted in Nepal. Other participants introduced their work and plans. After that, an animated discussion took place and a consensus was reached on the approach.

The project started in 2009 with the title 'Research on Geo-surface Processes and Adaptation to Climate Change in Himalayan Region', and is progressing smoothly.

Joint annual review of the Post-Wenchuan Earthquake Early Recovery and Disaster Risk Management Programme held in Chengdu

A joint annual review of the Post-Wenchuan Earthquake Early Recovery and Disaster Risk Management Programme was held in Chengdu from 26 to 27 January 2010. The meeting was hosted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). More than 40 representatives from the Ministry of Commerce of China, the State Council Leading Group Office on Poverty Alleviation and Development, Ministry of Water Resources of China (MWR), Ministry of Civil Affairs of China, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development of China (MOHURD), Ministry of Environment Protection of China, Ministry of Science and Technology of China, the All-China Women's Federation, China Law Society, China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research (IWHR), Water Resources Department of Sichuan Province, the Beichuan Government, Royal Norwegian Embassy in China, and



Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in China attended the meeting.

Dr Subinay Nandy from UNDP, China, presided over the meeting and gave the opening address. Dr Nandy introduced the Post-Wenchuan Earthquake Early Recovery and Disaster Risk Management Programme and gave an overview of the progress made by the programme. He expressed a wish for further cooperation with the Chinese Government, and also hoped the

programme could provide guidance in post-earthquake recovery and disaster risk management in the future.

Mr PANG Jinwu from the MWR reported on the current progress in research on reconstruction work after the earthquake, especially the work done on the safety of hydraulic structures. He also introduced the strategy and plans for the next stage of the project. Dr Gunnvor Berge from the Royal Norwegian Embassy in China expressed her appreciation of the achievements made during the previous stage of the project research. Then experts responsible for the project reported on the annual review of the progress of the research.

Mr HU Xiao, Director-General of Earthquake Engineering Research Center, IVHR, gave a detailed introduction on the implementation of the project, the benefits for the people in the disaster area, and on results sharing and exchange on an international level.

All responsible agencies then held an in-depth discussion on the implementation of follow-up projects. Representatives from different organisations expressed their high regard for the work done by IVHR.

The second Japan-China Symposium on Measures Against Sediment Disasters Caused by Earthquakes

The second Japan-China Symposium on Measures Against Sediment Disasters Caused by Earthquakes was held in Tokyo, Japan, on 2 February 2010. The Chengdu Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment (IMHE), CAS, attended the meeting as representatives of China. Dr OU Guoqiang made a presentation on 'Counter measures for Sediment-related Disasters Induced by Wenchuan Earthquake'. Professor FAN Jianrong made a presentation on 'Investigation and Monitoring Method for Disasters Induced by Wenchuan Earthquake Based on Remote Sensing'.

After the '5.12' Wenchuan Earthquake, the IMHE and Japan Society of Erosion Control Engineering signed a five-year collaborative plan on measures to deal with sediment disasters caused by earthquakes. The main objective of the Symposium was to discuss how to enhance collaboration in the implementation of the project and how to keep the project running smoothly.

During the meeting, representatives visited the Hyogo Earthquake Engineering Research Center of the National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention, Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution and Civil Engineering Research Laboratory. Representatives also discussed the 3-D Full-Scale Earthquake Testing Facility, Quick Acquisition of Dammed Lake Disaster, Dam-break Model Test, Post-earthquake Reconstruction, and other topics of mutual interest.



UNESCO to be engaged in Third Pole Environment project

UNESCO/SCOPE (Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment) has expressed interest in being involved in the Third Pole Environment (TPE) project initiated by leading scientist Dr YAO Tandong of the Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research, CAS, and plan to jointly push forward the project. On 9 February, UNESCO/SCOPE invited Prof YAO Tandong to introduce the TPE at the Third Pole Environment Meeting at UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

Prof LV Yonglong, Director of the Bureau of International Cooperation, CAS, and Chairman of SCOPE, Dr HUANG Tianhua, Representative of the Permanent Delegation of China to UNESCO, and Prof MA Yaoming, Vice-Director of the Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research, CAS, attended the meeting. The meeting attracted a number of division directors and programme secretaries from the natural science divisions of UNESCO. Among them were Dr Natarajan Ishwaran,

Director of the Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences and Secretary of the Man and Biosphere Programme, Dr Shahbaz Khan, Chief of the Water and Sustainable Development Section in the Division of Water Sciences, Dr Siegfried Demuth, Chief of the Hydrological Processes and Climate Section in the Division of Water Sciences, Dr J Alberto Tejada-Guibert, Director A.I. of the Division of Water Sciences and Secretary of the International Hydrological Programme, and Dr Robert Missotten, Chief of the Global Earth Observations Section and Secretary of the International Geoscience Programme in the Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences. Mrs Véronique Plocq Fichelet, the Executive Director of SCOPE, also attended the meeting.

During the meeting, Prof YAO Tandong presented the TPE project to UNESCO staff, elaborating on scientific questions, implementation approaches, organisation, and the first TPE workshop in Beijing. Dr Sarah Gaines, Assistant Programme Specialist in the Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences of UNESCO, and Dr Anil Mishra, Programme Specialist in the Division of Water Sciences, also took turns to report on the work that UNESCO is doing on the Third Pole.



A mutual understanding was reached that study of the Third Pole environment is of common interest and global significance and should be promoted by UNESCO/SCOPE on an international scale, although concrete approaches and management require further discussion.

The Prime Minister of Nepal calls for an alliance of mountain countries at a meeting of ministers during COP15

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) and the Center for International Climate and Environmental Research (CICERO) held a joint side event on the occasion of the UNFCCC COP15 conference on 16th December on 'Facing the Challenges: Climate Change in the Greater Himalayas'. The event brought together high level dignitaries from the Hindu Kush-Himalayan countries to discuss and elaborate on the formidable challenges facing this unique and vulnerable, but vitally important, region, and ended with a call by the Prime Minister of Nepal for an alliance of mountain countries to enhance cooperation and ensure better representation of mountains in the UNFCCC process. Guests of honour included the Prime Minister of Nepal, Mr Madhav Kumar Nepal; the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry of Bhutan, Dr Pema Gyamtsho; the Minister of Forest and Soil Conservation of Nepal, Mr Deepak Bohara; the Minister of Environment of Afghanistan and Director General National Environmental Protection Agency, Mr Mustafha Zaher; the Executive Director of the Global Change Impact Studies Centre, Pakistan, Dr Arshad Muhammad Khan; and the Minister of Environment and Development of Norway, Mr Erik Solheim. Several other important dignitaries from the region also participated, including a number of Members of Parliament from India and Nepal. The Director General of ICIMOD, Dr Andreas Schild, and the Director General of CICERO, Dr. Pål Prestrud, presented the case of the Himalayas, highlighting the importance of adaptation within the region and the dire consequences of not addressing climate change.

The purpose of the side event was to allow the governments of the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region to present the situation of their countries on climate change, and to explain the priorities of their country in relation to adaptation. The delegations had only three minutes allocated in the main plenary, thus the ICIMOD-CICERO event provided an ideal platform for them to put their case to the public at COP 15. In contrast with the caucuses for Africa and the small island states, there was no advocacy for or representation of the interests of the mountain countries. The attention of the international community should be drawn to the adaptation challenges faced by mountain populations and ecosystems.

The Prime Minister of Nepal regretted that the mountain agenda was not more prominent in the COP15 negotiations. The mountains and the issues related to them are understated in the UNFCCC texts. The Prime Minister launched the idea of an alliance of the mountain countries to enhance cooperation and improve representation in the UNFCCC process. He also announced the intention of the Government of Nepal to host a ministerial level conference on climate change in mountain countries in 2010, and invited the COP15 delegates from mountain countries to attend an informal meeting on the same day hosted by the Government of Nepal to start the process of initiating formation of an alliance of mountain governments.

The Ministers from Nepal and Bhutan made clear that global warming is causing glacial melting which in turn has negative impacts on water availability, agriculture, and livelihoods and is a threat to infrastructure development.

Pakistan drew attention to the high dependency of the whole agricultural production on irrigation fed by the Indus river system. The water of the Indus is drawn during spring, the peak season for irrigation from snow and glacier melt.

The Minister of Environment of Afghanistan described eloquently the loss of biodiversity (the gradual disappearance of the snow leopard and the Marco Polo sheep) and the negative consequences of glacier melt on the Amu Darya.

The Minister from Norway, a prominent donor country in the region, expressed solidarity with the governments from the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region that are facing the brunt of global warming. He showed the keen interest of his government to support research in the region and to expand cooperation with regional resource centres.

It was clear that the governments in the region were also able to identify ways to reduce climate vulnerability

in their countries by climate proofing development endeavours. But the means to do so are limited, as acknowledged collectively. All delegations recognised a deficit of specific knowledge and information. They emphasised the need for regional cooperation in the exchange of data, common learning, and enhancing adaptation in a transboundary approach. They commended the role of ICIMOD as a regional facilitator and supporter.

Prof. Ding Zhongli highlights climate change: An international responsibility system must be based on principles of fairness

Prof DING Zhongli, Vice-President and academician of CAS, addressed the Copenhagen Press Center on 16 December 2009. The main points are summarised in the following.

One of the important and challenging issues at the Copenhagen conference is the long-term goal of emission reduction and the allocation of emission rights in the future. The first and foremost to be noted is that the stipulated target of CO₂ concentration is sure to frame the estimated amount of CO₂ emissions from fossil energy utilisation and cement production. Emission reduction and the allocation of emission rights are in fact aspects of the same thing, on which I would like to say something based on my research.

Proposals by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Group of Eight (G8), and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) are less than fair. We are mainly referring to the Fourth Evaluation Report of the IPCC and to the proposals of the G8 nations and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) under negotiation. What would



happen if the allocation of emission rights was determined in accordance with these proposals? The analysis is as follows.

In accordance with three proposals by the IPCC, G8, and OECD, the per capita emission rights of developed countries for the period from 2006 to 2050 are 2.3~5.4 times more than those of the developing countries. This is unfair because it ignores the great difference in emissions in the past – by a factor of 7.54; lacks consideration of the wide difference in emission loads in the future; ignores the fact that the emission peak period for developed countries (2010) and for developing countries (2020) is too close; and does not take into account the enormous difference in base-year emission loads (4.8 times in 1990, and 4.4 times in 2005).

Who should be given priority in terms of long-term emission rights?

Who should be given priority in terms of long-term emission rights is the next question. We hold that policy support should definitely be provided to developing countries, not only because of emission problems in the past, but also because of the inevitable emissions by developing countries during their development for urbanisation, industrialisation, infrastructure construction, and welfare promotion. Compared to this, large proportions of the emissions of developed countries are of an extravagant nature. Therefore, I come to this understanding: that these three proposals, if accepted as the international protocol, will constitute a rare and unfair treaty in human history, and will widen the gap between the rich and the poor.

The trap designed by developed countries

We have discovered a great trap in these proposals for emission reduction, involving such elements as the hypersensitivity of temperature to CO₂ concentration, a threshold value of 2 degrees centigrade, a goal of 450

ppmv concentration, an emission space of about 800 billion tons of CO₂, the fact that the developed countries take the lead in reducing emissions, gaining 44 per cent emission space for less than 1.5 per cent of the world's population, while the developing countries who don't have medium-term goals only possess a small amount of emission space after 2020. The developing countries who haven't realised this problem have been stressing the medium-term goal of 40 per cent emission reduction by developed countries. As a matter of fact, developed countries will leave very limited emission space for developing countries, even if they realise their medium-term goal.

What we should highlight is a complete international responsibility system based on the principles of justness and fairness to control the increase in concentration of CO₂. The proposals of the IPCC, G8, and OECD are not established on these principles, and should not serve as the foundation for negotiations on the issue of long-term emission reduction.

The US shouldn't 'bind' China on the establishment of a long-term goal for emission reduction

The past emission load and current emission load of China and the US are not comparable: 1) between 1900 and 2005, the emission load per capita of the US was 20 times more than that of China; 2) the recorded emission load of the US is more than 5 times that of China; and 3) the current per capita emission load of the US is 4 times more than that of China.

Only after the establishment of a higher goal for emission reduction will the US be justified in 'binding' China. It is known that the goal proposed by the US is 17 per cent less emission load in 2020 than in 2005, and 83 per cent less emission load in 2050 than in 2005. The test carried out by us shows that the per capita CO₂ emissions of the US are 150 tons between 2006 to 2050, provided that the result is calculated



in accordance with its population in 2005. The concentration of CO₂ in the air would reach 600 ppmv in 2050 if all the countries worldwide emit CO₂ like the US. It is sure that the future per capita emissions of China will be far less than 150 tons. Thus, the US would be in an extremely passive position if China carries out the 'anti-binding' tactics and comes up with the goal that China will spare no efforts to control the future per capita emission within the range of 70 per cent of that of the US in the same period. Personally, I believe that China has the ability to realise this goal. Therefore, the developed countries should come up with a higher goal for long-term emission reduction instead of 'binding' developing countries such as China. Otherwise, they will put themselves into difficulties of their own doing.

Developed countries shouldn't deny their impact on climate change

Firstly, it is dangerous to suggest that these countries will take a negative attitude towards a series of important principles such as the principle of 'common but differentiated responsibility' and 'the polluter pays' principle.

Secondly, developed countries shouldn't deny their impact on climate change, as the high level of emissions, part of which was caused by their forefathers, is mainly attributive to people who are alive today.

Thirdly, the increase in concentration of CO₂ is inherited and the said inheritance has a close relationship with the establishment of a country's infrastructure and improvement of its welfare.

Furthermore, the negative impact of developed countries on climate change has caused a loss equivalent to USD 5,000 billion dollars. In the future, emission rights will become a scarce commodity under the premise of strict control of the increase of concentration of CO₂. In that way, developed countries are actually denying their debt, equivalent to USD 5,000 billion dollars, if they deny their impact on climate change.

Finally, developing countries must stick to discussing the issue of the negative impact on climate change caused by developed countries.

China considers ICIMOD as a valuable platform for increasing scientific exchange and regional cooperation among countries of the Himalayas



Secretariat of the Chinese Committee on ICIMOD Institute
of Mountain Hazards and Environment,
Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS)
No. 9, Section 4, Renminnanlu Road 610041,
Chengdu, Sichuan
Tel 86-28-85237507 **Fax** 85222258
Email pinghuahu@imde.ac.cn