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SUNRAISE: Sustainable Natural Resource Use in Arctic and High Mountainous Areas

Stakeholder Consultation

Date: 22nd May 2018 **Venue:** Paharpani, Dhari and CHEA Office, Nainital

Central Himalayan Environment Association (CHEA), Nainital

Summary of Workshop

The workshop organized in India by JNU at Delhi and by KU at Nainital towards sharing the SUNRAISE objectives and purpose was further followed by CHEA with focus on field based interactions regarding closing the gaps between teaching and ground realities to be further taken up in the modules and syllabus.

The one-day Stakeholder Consultation was organized on 22nd May 2018 in two sessions. During first session the field visit was organized for the team from Austria, JNU, KU and CHEA to understand the need for the development of educational programme focusing on mountains and to analyse the research and development gaps and need in understanding mountains. The interactive meeting was organized at Paharpani, Dhari, Nainital with head of Van Panchayats (VPs), members, Village Head, Cooperative members, representatives of Self Help Groups and Farmer Interest Groups and leading community members. 33 members representing 5 villages presented and shared their experiences and possible inputs on aspects of environment, climate change, livelihood prospective, social system and emerging challenges as well as need with the visitor teams. Before initiating the discussion, overview of the project was shared along with expectation from all the participants. The major points are given here under:

- The climate variability directly impacted the snowfall, rainfall pattern resulting in hardships and subsistence production, increased forest fire, migration and landslides.
- The specific study is needed to control the damage caused by wild animals and better management practice for forest especially those owned by communities (Van Panchayats).
- Better technologies need to be transferred for water management and cost effective infrastructure for water harvesting and management.



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- Studies to have evidence for impact of climate in forest vegetation and species composition along with impact of pine on soil and water.
- Holistic and integrated planning required for village development to continue the agro based activities for which government agencies and scientific institutions work in close association than in isolation.
- Current problems like forest fire, human wild life conflicts, execution of government policies should be included in the university syllabus.
- Studies and modules for providing inputs to improvise existing governance system which is still not working in harmony and how/what are gaps and possible measures.

In late evening during the second session a stakeholder discussion was organized with experts from different streams representing universities and institutions in areas of forestry and environment science, tourism, social development, computers, training and capacity building in diverse streams. The purpose was to wrap the workshop with focus on points raised at field level and the various issues those need to be addressed for sustainability of mountains. Dr. Pankaj Tewari Executive Director, CHEA welcome all the guests from JNU, Delhi, KU, Nainital, University of Salzburg, RSTAT, Nainital, Birla Institute, Bhimtal, consultants and CHEA team. The project objectives and purpose of meeting was also shared with open round of introduction. Prof. P.C. Tiwari continued the deliberations with whole idea of SUNRAISE and its outcomes.

The major outputs and recommendations of the second session are here under:

- There should be specific courses on forest fires, biodiversity and security on drinking water. In addition 3-4 days training/modules could also be useful for different stakeholders for inclusion in studies and at different level. Integrated courses for agriculture and forest need to be promoted to keep balance and to have sustainable practices with less dependency over forest resources.
- Inclusions of training institutions and professionals in short term training programmes as a course. Creating better understanding among the diverse sectors of science and practices in Mountains through 5-7 days courses including practitioners, scientist, students and researchers.
- Developing educational programs those focusing on mountains in the curriculum across the mountains. The private universities can be involved where it is easier to incorporate new syllabus such as forestry, geology, social science, etc. as it tedious task in traditional and government universities.





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- While mountain development, human made disasters, infrastructure creation, engineering issues, forest fire and road construction issues also need to be addressed through specifically designed courses.
- It was recommended to include disaster management courses and some related refresher courses at different levels of syllabus of B.Sc. and M.Sc.
- It was suggested including employment generated program courses in different education levels and to include industry interface gap in syllabus for job assurance. Teach to bridge gap by industry involvement. He also said to include eco tourism and village tourism in courses.
- Course on village based tourism (responsible tourism) could be vital in maintaining the balance in rural and urban areas.

It was concluded that the recommendations are valuable but many of them are not being visualized earlier thus had to be discussed and revisited in the consortium. It has to also work out that different models can be developed for different regions as per the need. It was also agreed that implementation of courses, syllabus and modules is not very easy in initial stage and could take time even during third year it may be executed. Thus, need to reorient of syllabus as well as courses could be discussed among the partners during next meeting.





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Participant List

Field Visit and Interactive session at Paharpani, Dhari, Nainital

Sl.	Name	Designation	Village Name	Contact No.
1.	Ramesh Singh	Van Panchayat Head	Majuli	8859811958
2.	Bhupesh Mahtoliya	Progressive Farmer	Majuli	7409804707
3.	Lalit Mohan Sharma	Cooperative President	Majuli	9410176245
4.	Bhagwati Devi	SHG Member	Majuli	7830625214
5.	Suman Devi	Van Panchayat Head	Majuli	9410954204
6.	Khajan Chandra Verma	Progressive Farmer	Majuli	9456192600
7.	Trilochan Sharma	Village Head	Majuli	9411262139
8.	Kriti Ballabh	Progressive Farmer	Seelalekh	7830544115
9.	Raviendra Kumar	Progressive Farmer	Seelalekh	8392897590
10.	Devendra Chandra	Van Panchayat Head	Seelalekh	74009974105
11.	Nandi Joshi	Progressive Farmer	Seelalekh	-
12.	Sarwati Melkani	Progressive Farmer	Seelalekh	9411354461
13.	Pushpa Melkani	SHG Member	Seelalekh	7579187183
14.	Ishwar Datt Pandey	Progressive Farmer	Seelalekh	9411793270
15.	Dhani Ram Arya	Progressive Farmer	Seelalekh	740938644
16.	Tej Singh	Cooperative	Seelalekh	-





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		member		
17.	Dheeraj Pant	Progressive Farmer	Seelalekh	9997884525
18.	Pitamber Melkani	Van Panchayat Head and Cooperative member	Jalna Neelphari	7830132352
19.	Hanshi Melkani	SHG Member	Jalna Neelphari	-
20.	Hema Melkani	SHG Member	Jalna Neelphari	-
21.	Pushpa Devi	SHG Member	Jalna Neelphari	-
22.	Bimla Devi	SHG Member	Jalna Neelphari	-
23.	Leela Melkani	SHG Member	Jalna Neelphari	8839910322
24.	Neeraj Melkani	President, Navyuwak Mangal Dal	Jalna Neelphari	9536601023
25.	Puran Chandra Melkani	Progressive Farmer	Jalna Neelphari	9456191580
26.	Govind Melkani	Progressive Farmer	Jalna Neelphari	9411540972
27.	Jay Ram	Progressive Farmer	Jalna Neelphari	7409236094
28.	Nitu Mahtoliya	Treasurer Cooperative	Mehtoliya gaon	7251807240
29.	Munni Melkani	Village Head	Mehtoliya gaon	-
30.	Bhudhi Kumar	Progressive Farmer	Mehtoliya gaon	8859262372
31.	Munni Joshi	Progressive Farmer	Mehtoliya gaon	-
32.	Suresh Chandra	Van Panchayat Head	Talli Dini	9458913382
33.	Heera Singh	Progressive Farmer	Talli Dini	9410758852





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34.	Mayank Krishna	Researcher	JNU, Delhi	8826583576
35.	Priyanka Tiwari	Researcher	JNU, Delhi	8130500436
36.	M.M. Anees	Researcher	SES/JNU, New Delhi	9811779784
37.	Praveen Kumar	Researcher	SES/JNU, New Delhi	9013365599
38.	Dhiraj Pant	Researcher	Department of Geography DSB Campus KU, Nainital	9997884525
39.	Girish Chandra Joshi	SHG and CBO expert	CHEA, Pharpani	9411790151
40.	Prof. Jurgen Breuste	Urban Ecologist	Salzburg University, Austria	00498654770812
41.	Prof. P. K. Joshi	SES	JNU, Delhi	
42.	Pankaj Tewari	Executive Director	CHEA, Nainital	9412034374
43.	Narendra S. Bisht	Project Fellow	CHEA, Nainital	9411328782
44.	Amit Mittal	Researcher	CHEA, Nainital	9756691888





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5.	Prof. P.C. Tiwari	Kumaun University	9410941117	-
6.	Dr. Devendra Mishra	Birla Institute of Applied Science, Bhimtal	9456322348, 9568296342	-
7.	Deepak Chandra	Freelance Social Expert	9411107656	-
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