

SAs RCO Discussion Paper-4

Research Partnership in South Asia: Learning and Lessons

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Bishnu Raj Upreti

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Discussion Paper

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NCCR North-South

Kathmandu, Nepal

April 2012

Citation:

Upreti BR. 2012. Research Partnership in South Asia: Learning and Lessons, SAs RCO Discussion Paper-4. Kathmandu: NCCR North-South, South Asia Coordination Office.

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ISBN: 978-9937-2-4699-6

Published by: NCCR North-South, South Asia Coordination Office, Kathmandu, Nepal;
nccr@wlink.com.np

Cover Photo: Safal Ghimire (Researchers in South Asia discussing to enhance their scientificity and methodological clarity at different interactive programs)

Printed at: Heidel Press Pvt. Ltd.
Kathmandu, Nepal

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Dedicated to the South Asian researchers and practitioners
working hard to establish complementary relationship between
the research and development to address the challenges faced
by their country people

Preface and acknowledgement

First and foremost, the author would like to acknowledge the conceivers and initiators of the idea who valued and recognised that research is a must in South Asia. The supreme gratitude goes to the country partners whose partnerships deserves due respect and reverence. The quality and quantity of the research conducted in various fields such as conflict and peace, conflict and economy, livelihoods and migration, tourism and peace and more ever since NCCR North-South came into existence will always remain helpful. The best acknowledgement goes to the researchers who contributed to the team and thereby taught and learned. I am grateful for their strenuous effort to produce their researches.

I acknowledge the tremendous support of NCCR team for initiating a research-oriented path aiming towards capacity building and generating experts in research. An utmost gratitude goes to the ongoing PhD students, PhD graduates, post-doctorate researchers and senior researchers whose valuable inputs, share of experiences, suggestion and recommendations throughout their involvement in the NCCR arena helped flock and gather various contributions.

I profoundly revere partner universities for their cooperation and collaboration for recruiting the best of students towards their research career. Also my extreme acknowledgement reaches out to the teams in Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka for making an epoch of research.

While conducting research and taking it further up to the policy level is tough, I sincerely regard the development actors and policy-makers for their collaboration and for their trust in the team and realisation of the research results. Gratitude goes to the policy-makers and actors for trusting in the findings of our research and taking it to a higher level of policy dialogue.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Dr Abid Suleri and Dr Babar Sahabaz from Pakistan, Dr Sagar Raj Sharma, Prof Dr Kailash Nath Pyakuryal, Prof Dr Bhim Prasad Subedi and Dr Ganesh Gurung from Nepal, and Dr R. Ramakumar and Dr K. Nair from India. Similarly, I appreciate the support of Mr Safal Ghimire, Ms Sulava Piya and Mr Siddhi Manandhar who forever supported me cordially in the NCCR North-South work.

Bishnu Raj Upreti, PhD

April 2012

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Research Partnership in South Asia: Learning and Lessons

1. The context

1.1 The region

The South Asia (SAs) partnership region of NCCR North-South is comprised of Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, the Maldives, Nepal and Afghanistan (see Figure 1). Diversity in terms of geography, culture, religion, political system, economic development, demographics and population makes this region very complex (see Table 1). Except for a few countries, all of the South Asian nations have the legacy of the British rule.

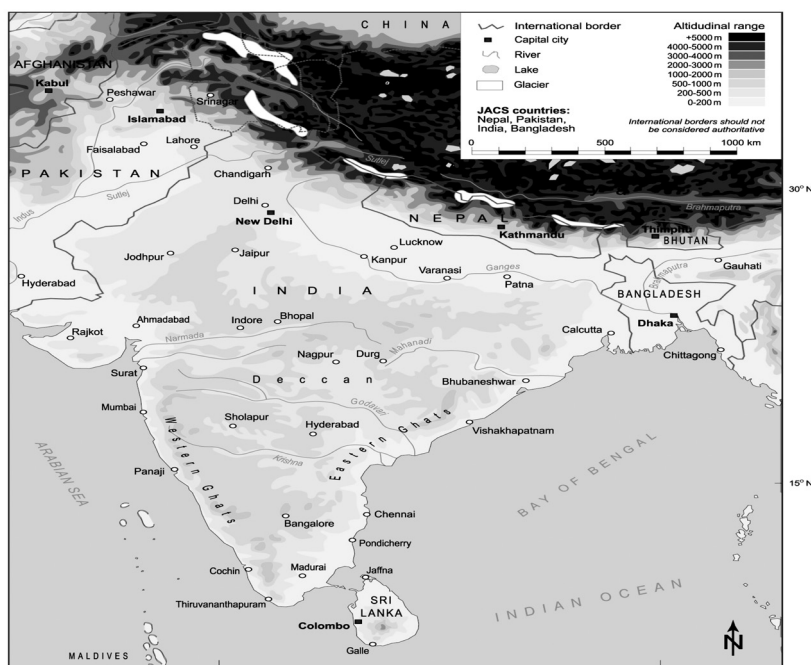


Figure 1: Map of South Asia

Source: NCCR North-South, Management Centre

South Asia is one of the most highly populated regions in the world, with the majority of people suffering from poverty and hunger, malnutrition, and lack of basic health and education facilities. South Asia is home to more than one and a half billion (1560.4 million) people; the projected population of the region in 2025 and 2050 will be more than 1.9 and 2.42 billion, respectively (see Table 1).

Table 1: Demographic characteristics of South Asia

Country	Surface Area (km ²)	Population mid-2011 (millions)	Projected Population (millions)		Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)	Life Expectancy at Birth (years)			Population Density (per km ²)
			Mid-2025	Mid-2050		Total	Male	Female	
Afghanistan	652,090	32.4	47.6	76.3	131	44	44	44	50
Bangladesh	144,000	150.7	183.2	226.3	45	69	68	69	1046
Bhutan	47,000	0.7	0.9	0.9	47	69	68	69	15
India	3,287,260	1241.3	1458.7	1691.7	50	64	63	65	378
Maldives	300	0.3	0.4	0.4	11	73	73	74	1091
Nepal	147,180	30.5	37.7	46.5	53	68	67	68	207
Pakistan	796,100	176.9	229.6	314.3	64	65	64	66	222
Sri Lanka	65,610	20.9	23.2	25.4	15	74	71	78	318
Total	5,139,540	1653.7	1981.3	2381.8	-	-	-	-	-
Average	-	-	-	-	52	65.75	64.75	64.5	415.875

Source: Compiled from World Population Data Sheet 2011, Population Reference Bureau and World Development Report 2011

Economic inequality and backwardness, poverty, malnutrition, high mortality rate and social discrimination are persistent in the region. So far, development initiatives in the region have not been able to properly address these problems. Democracy, peace, security and prosperity in the region are not possible without addressing these problems. Development-oriented research can greatly contribute to creating a politically peaceful, socially just, economically strong, environmentally sustainable and democratically mature South Asia.

The region is also characterised by mutual antagonism, power struggle, interstate hostilities, subversive cross border terrorism, separatist movements, and internal instability, which shape the strategic agendas of South Asian countries. The hostile relationship between India and Pakistan is a perennial source of insecurity and instability in the region. The recent development of conventional as well as nuclear arms capabilities and a strong military in both countries is posing a regional and global security threat. The Kashmir issue is a continuous bone of contention between the two countries. The traditional rivalry for regional supremacy, which is one of the reasons for nuclear proliferation, has the potential to destabilise this region.

Further, all the countries in South Asia are in one way or the other suffering from social tension and armed conflict. The South Asian political environment is increasingly suffering from a deep sense of insecurity. Different geopolitical changes are taking place in this region. Some of the examples are the strong US-led military presence in Afghanistan, the protracted war between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and the Sri Lankan Army that ended recently but is still left with numerous unaddressed socio-economic problems, and the failure of Norway's mediation in Sri Lanka; the growing Indian-American-Chinese interests in Nepal, the Bangladeshi-Chinese defence cooperation agreement, the US-India nuclear agreement, the Mumbai-terrorist attack and related tension between India and Pakistan, the start of the Maoist insurgency in Southern Bhutan, Sino-Indian border tensions, and political violence and insecurity in Bangladesh. All of these are posing serious political and security challenges in the region. Displacement and migration, cross-border crime, interstate tension over the use of transboundary water resources, natural disasters (the 2005 earthquake in Pakistan, 2008 flooding in India and Nepal, 2004 Tsunami in India and Sri Lanka) posed further challenges for the region.

These problems are beyond the capacity of an individual institution, or even a nation to address and therefore, need a collaborative approach and concerted action by states, politicians, policy-makers, academics and researchers, activists and the people of South Asia.

1.2 NCCR North-South research partnership in South Asia

As South Asia covers a huge area, NCCR North-South concentrates on specific areas, namely, Nepal, the North-West Frontier Province (NWFP) of Pakistan, Kerala, Maharashtra, and Northeast India, and, to a lesser degree, Bangladesh. In 2009, the research partnership also commenced operations in Sri Lanka.

Partnership is a social construction shaped by common interests, collective understanding, mutual benefits and concerted efforts. The institutional partnership arrangements in the region are very much guided by these principles. The South Asia research partnership is inherently different than other conventional research approaches, such as research councils funded research projects.

Many issues and problems in South Asia are very complicated and require multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to investigation and a broad perspective on and understanding of regional problems. NCCR North-South, although a very small actor in terms of research in the region, has realised this need and established partnerships with different academic and non-academic institutions active in South Asia to contribute to addressing these problems. NCCR North-South encourages academic and non-academic partner organisations and researchers to engage in research that addresses the problems of sustainable development. Its contributions are focused on (i) advancing research insights and capabilities, and (ii) the suitability

and meaningfulness of research to the everyday practice of poor people, development practitioners, politicians and decision-makers engaged in the improvement of poor people's livelihoods (Upreti et al. 2007).

1.3 History of the research partnership



Photo 1: Researchers participating in the South Asia Synthesis Workshop in December 2006 in Dhulikhel, Nepal/Source: SAs RCO

The NCCR North-South research collaboration was launched in South Asia through a regional workshop held in Kathmandu in 2001. This workshop documented the participants' assessment of key problems and opportunities regarding sustainable development in the region, which were used to define the research themes for the region (Müller-Böcker et al. 2004). Actual research areas were identified based on these findings, as well as on the professional interests of participating researchers. Then PhD students, Master's students and senior researchers were organised into various research groups to undertake

the research. The research progress was periodically reviewed (Upreti et al. 2007; 2012).¹

Research activities in South Asia are mainly framed within the broader context of the impact of global change and globalisation on marginal areas and marginalised people. In addition, research in the South Asia region also deals with questions on access and power relations, state policies, conflict and insecurity, and the functioning of the state (Ibid). In the second phase of the partnership, South Asian research activities were bundled into three leading themes: a) Livelihood realities of the poor and vulnerable people in the context of globalisation and conflict (Theme 1), b) Environment and resource management: access and entitlements (Theme 2), and c) Governance, institutions, policies and practices (Theme 3). These themes are operationalised through specific research projects by PhD and Master's students and senior researchers (Ibid).

One of the focuses of South Asia is the comparative analysis and synthesis of research insights gained over the past eight years. The synthesis and consolidation work relates to all three forms of knowledge, i.e., systems

¹ For example, the second regional workshop took place in Kathmandu in 2004, the third workshop again in Kathmandu in 2006, the fourth workshop in Islamabad in 2008, fifth workshop in January 2011 at Lonavala, Maharashtra, India and sixth workshop held in Pokhara in February 2012 where most of the researchers in the region gathered to review their research and exchange experiences.

knowledge, target knowledge and transformation knowledge (Pohl and Hadorn 2007) generated under various themes and in different geographic areas. At the country level, senior researchers, PhD students and Master's students form a research group and focus on specific themes.

1.4 Research focus

The Nepal Research Group's focus is on research on protected areas, migration and livelihoods, displaced people and marginalised groups, conflict transformation and peace building, geographies of violence and rural livelihoods, sanitation planning and urban livelihoods, and conflict and tourism (Shrestha 1997; Upreti 2006; Gurung 2006; Thieme and Müller-Böcker 2004; Gurung 2005; Thieme 2005; Upreti et al. 2007; Matthew and Upreti 2006; Upreti 2004; Upreti 2007; Pyakuryal et al. 2008). Nepalese state policies and institutions have not demonstrated ability to support rural livelihoods; instead, the state is responsible for actively marginalising rural people (Pandey 1999; Upreti 2006).

The focus of the Pakistan Research Group (PRG) is on forests, livelihoods and power relations, globalisation and its effect on micro-, meso- and macro-institutions, vulnerability and resilience, gender, migration and social capital, and the poverty-environment nexus vis-à-vis development interventions (Ali et al. 2007; Geiser 2005; Shahbaz et al. 2007; Upreti et al. 2007; Hamid and Siegmann 2007).

The South Asia research collaboration in India is geographically limited to only some states: Kerala, Maharashtra, Northeast and some frontier areas. Areas of research partnership are the impact of institutional arrangements on the livelihoods of rural people, agrarian change, policies and institutions and their implications for economic growth and poverty reduction, tribal livelihoods of the Paniyas, and conflict in frontier areas (Nair et al. 2007; Niar and Ramakumar 2007; Strasser 2006; Premchander and Müller eds 2006; Upreti et al. 2007; Barbora 2006).

Though short-termed, migration related research was conducted in Bangladesh as a part of the PhD research. Similarly, Sri-Lanka was not part of geographical coverage of SAs research in the first and the second phase, but it has been included in the third phase (July 2009 onward).

1.5 Accomplishment

The research programme in South Asia has been a long-term engagement that continued from the initiatives taken in the first and the second phases of the NCCR North-South. Therefore the report in the following section covers the research activities conducted in the regions that took such initiatives in the past and are still continuing in one form or the other.

To recall, the main characteristics of the NCCR North-South program are:

- the search for *pathways towards sustainable development*,
- to inform this search through *researching* problems and opportunities in specific regional and social contexts,
- to search for *policy-relevance* of research, and
- to root these activities in research partnerships, including *strengthening of the capacities* of Master's students, PhDs and senior researchers.

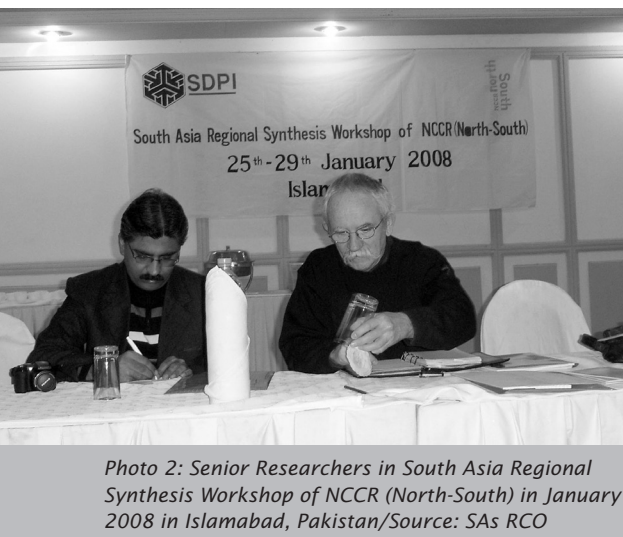


Photo 2: Senior Researchers in South Asia Regional Synthesis Workshop of NCCR (North-South) in January 2008 in Islamabad, Pakistan/Source: SAs RCO

In South Asia, the NCCR North-South program was launched along these lines after a workshop held in Kathmandu in 2001. This workshop attempted to brainstorm on the participants' assessment of key problems and opportunities regarding sustainable development in the region – which were used as entry points to specify forthcoming NCCR North-South research themes. Taking into account these findings, as well as the professional interests of participating researchers, the objectives of the overall programme and the actual research themes for PhD students, Master's students and

senior researchers in the various *research groups* were gradually developed. Thus, research activities actually started during the second half of 2002. A first review of findings took place in 2004 during a workshop, when members of the various research groups met again in Kathmandu. In December 2006, finally, the team again chose Kathmandu to review completed research. Besides these meetings at the regional level, regular exchange programs took place among different research groups.

The research work of NCCR North-South in South Asia can be differentiated into three phases of activities:

- From 2002 to mid-2006, research and capacity building efforts were initiated by and within the regional research groups in Nepal, India and Pakistan (see Table 2). Many of these projects were completed by 2006 (including a number of PhDs), and were followed by giving more emphasis on policy-oriented translations.
- By mid-2006, several new projects were launched – including activities initiated under TPPs – which stimulated comparative debates among

various research groups, and the first three comparative themes were developed involving researchers from different countries. These comparative initiatives are presently being expanded in view of a further synthesis of research insights.

- By mid-2009, new research projects (RPs), which go beyond one country and one region, led and managed jointly by one senior researcher from the south and one from the north, were designed. These research projects in the South Asia are related to migration and mobility, climate change, business and peace, food security in resource scarce areas and contested development. In each project, PhD and Master's students are integral parts who are set to conducting their research in Pakistan, India and Nepal.

Looking at NCCR North-South activities in the different countries of South Asia, it is important to realise that the programme is indeed small. With a few PhD scholarships and a limited support to senior researchers, 'institutional' and 'structural' impacts on the academic as well as development context cannot be expected. However, South Asia is innovative in testing options that adds value to and cope with institutional and structural debates in the respective contexts. A few examples are presented in the coming paragraphs.

In Pakistan, universities suffered (due to political reasons) from rather rigid administrative procedures. NCCR North-South established links between universities and more flexible non-governmental research and think tanks. Experience shows that such arrangements are functioning well.

In Nepal, NCCR North-South concentrated its efforts on facilitating the training of Master's and PhD students with Tribhuvan University and Kathmandu University.

NCCR North-South research activities in South Asia are concentrated on the *impact of global change and globalisation on marginal areas and marginal people*. Emphasis was placed on the institutions, policies and processes at local, regional, national and international levels that form the context within which individuals and households create and continuously adapt their livelihood strategies. Research was concentrated on the following objectives of understanding:

- i) how marginalised people in rural and urban areas can improve their livelihoods,
- ii) how their strategies can contribute to sustainable development, and
- iii) how public policies can further support these strategies.

This overall research focus was translated into the specific research themes of the different *regional research groups* (i.e. Pakistan, India, and Nepal).

However, it was realised that more attention needs to be placed on questions of access and power relations, including a thorough analysis of prevailing state policies.

Initially, researchers within South Asia attempted to apply the Sustainable Livelihood Approach (made popular by DFID)² in exploring *the impact of global change and globalisation on marginal areas and marginal people* as overall research theme. Looking back, this livelihood approach was a valuable tool, primarily to stimulate debate and understanding among researchers having their origin in a variety of disciplines (ranging from economics, geography, and social anthropology to natural sciences). The approach served as a checklist, which covered many researchers' points of concern – and thus served as a tool for interdisciplinary exchange. However, South Asia realised the weaknesses of the DFID-based livelihood approach. Thus, a thorough review of the approach was accomplished.

Research collaborations within South Asia and beyond have been initiated at different scales: At the level of the *Research Groups*, senior researchers, PhDs and Master's students collaborate around selected themes (for details see Annex 2).

Table 2: Details on PhD and Master's students trained under NCCR North-South in South Asia

	Male	Female	Total
PhD	24	11	35
Master's	65	34	99
Total	89	45	134

Source: RCO record, 2012

Over the course of time, NCCR-North South has been successful in building capacity of numerous students and scholars through their entitlement to research as Master's or PhD scholars. This success has helped boost the theory and knowledge building systems among the scholars. Also, various researches has been produced and has contributed to various fields including land issues and land holdings, conflict and peace, sustainable tourism, migration and others.

1.6 Research process

Altogether, 13 individual respondents, 5 academic and 5 non-academic partner institutions were surveyed during this research. The study had followed the Exploring Partnership Dynamics (EPD) standard format developed by NCCR North-South.

² DFID (2000): *Sustainable Livelihoods Guidance Sheets*. Department for International Development. www.livelihood.org/info/info_guidancesheets.

1.7 Structure of the paper

This chapter is arranged into four sections. The first section presents a general overview including the demographic and the political dynamics of South Asia, and the NCCR North-South research partnership in the region. This section also briefly covers state of the art of the NCCR North-South research focus in the region. The second section presents the results of the study in three subsections, i.e., capacity building (individual and institutional) focusing on visibility and recognition, managerial and technical capacity, the effects of research on development cooperation, and the determinants of good practices. The third section discusses the research findings under the subheadings achievements and outcomes. And, the fourth section presents conclusions and the way forward.

2. Presentation of the findings

This section is developed based on the data collected in South Asia for the research conducted by Regional Coordinators' Forum from across the world. The findings are presented under the three objectives, i.e., capacity building, relationship with international development agencies, and good practices.

2.1 Profile of the respondents

Among the 13 individual respondents the largest portion were on-going PhD students (46.2%), followed by PhD graduates (30.8%), post-doctorate researchers (15.4%) and senior researchers (7.7%) (see Table 3).

Table 3: Distribution of the respondents by scholar type

Scholar Type	Frequency	%
Post-doctorate	2	15.4
PhD graduate	4	30.8
Senior researcher	1	7.7
On-going PhD student	6	46.2
Total	13	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

The gender dimension shows that 38.4 per cent of the respondents from India, Nepal and Pakistan that participated in the survey in South Asia region were female, and the remaining 61.6 per cent were male.

2.2 Capacity building

Capacity building is largely a relative and qualitative variable, and, therefore, difficult to quantify. Hence, measuring capacity building requires specific indicators. Three indicators were used to measure capacity building through



Photo 3: PhD students in methodological discussions during the Inter-regional Training Course for the Researchers in Central Asia, South Asia and Southeast Asia in July 2011/Source: SAs RCO

the NCCR North-South research partnership in South Asia, i.e., visibility and recognition, contribution to policy process, and managerial ability of partner institutions and researchers. Information collected from respondents show that the partnership arrangement with NCCR North-South has positively contributed to partner organisations and individual researchers in terms of resources, recognition, and capacity building and, above all, by increasing their efficiency in relation to performance of research collaboration.

2.2.1 Institutional capacity

Institutional capacity building is one of the important strategic foci of the South Asia research collaboration. It is reported that academic and non-academic partners benefited from the partnership in terms of introducing new programmes in their institution or strengthening existing programmes. The partnership with NCCR North-South has assisted most partner organisations in organising training and conferences (see Table 7), and building networks with other like-minded organisations and government organisations thereby increasing national and international exposure and recognition (see Table 6), and enhancing their working capacity. The partnership has also increased the partner organisations' access to resources and their proper utilisation, increased their capacity to bring about positive changes in their organisation's policies, select research areas, conduct and promote intensive research, and utilise the research results to fill in the gaps in their existing activities, thereby contributing to both research and development. Partner organisations have also been able to publish books and articles in collaboration with NCCR North-South, which has enhanced their credibility and recognition (Upreti et al. 2012).

Partner institutions have, to a large extent, experienced growth as a result of the partnership with NCCR. For example, the Human and Natural Resource Studies Centre (HNRSC) of Kathmandu University (KU) was able to initiate fresh PhD programmes, revise and update the course curriculum of its Master's programme and strengthen physical facilities. For some academic organisations, running PhD programmes under NCCR North-South is additional to their existing programmes, while for others, it is completely a new programme. Introduction of the PhD programme has raised the status and recognition of both the faculty and the university (KU). The collaboration with NCCR North-South has also capacitated the organisation in terms of increasing its human,

financial and other technical resources. It has helped build networks. The PhD programme introduced in partnership with NCCR North-South has also drawn the attention of the many youths seeking PhD degree.

2.2.2 Visibility and recognition

The visibility and recognition of an institution is an indicator of success and is directly related to its organisational growth and capacity development. The respondents from the sampled organisations highlighted that various programmes implemented by their organisations, besides being effective, were also successful in drawing national and international attention and attracting proposals to work on similar issues.

Table 4: Visibility and recognition at the institutional level

Statement	Academic institution				Non-academic Institution				Overall			
	Yes		No		Yes		No		Yes		No	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Academic degree programme, research and development, etc. are newly introduced programmes	0	0	5	100	3	60	2	40	3	30	7	70
Collaboration has attracted other academic programmes	3	75	1	25	4	100	0	0	7	87.5	1	12.5
Collaboration has raised partners' status	3	75	1	25	5	100	0	0	8	88.9	1	11.1
Enhanced graduate enrolment	4	80	1	20	3	60	2	40	7	70	3	30
Partners have mobilised more resources	4	80	1	20	4	80	1	20	8	80	2	20
Collaboration has enhanced publications	4	80	1	20	4	80	1	20	8	80	2	20

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Table 4 presents the impacts of the collaboration between NCCR North-South and partner institutions in the region. It indicates that the visibility of partner organisations has increased as a result of the collaboration with NCCR North-South. The majority (75%) of academic partners has said that the collaboration had raised their status and contributed to attracting other academic programmes. Eighty per cent of academic partner institutions said that they were able to attract more Master's and PhD students, mobilise more financial resources, and publish more as a result of the partnership. In case of non-academic partners, all said that the collaboration with NCCR North-South had raised their status and contributed to collaborations with other academic programmes. Similarly, 80 per cent of surveyed non-academic partner institutions said that the partnership helped them to mobilise more financial resources and to publish more. All of these activities have enhanced their visibility and recognition.

Out of five academic partners, four were involved in policy-making process. Some partner institutions were involved in national level policy-making bodies, such as the National Planning Commission, government ministries, and so forth. Some partner institutions contributed to policy formulation and implementation in the areas of conservation, forest and natural resource management, migration, land reform and peace building.

Most of the academic institutions and university bodies such as research committees, grant committees, and others at local and national levels have been playing vital roles in policy formulation and implementation in universities, local bodies and at the national level.

Non-academic partner organisations were directly or indirectly involved in policy-making process. They were represented in different government and non-governmental organisations, and policy-making committees, and have been providing input to local as well as national institutions. They were involved in policy-making in social security and national sustainable development. In addition, they have also been selected as members in the federal forestry board (in Pakistan), high level land reform commission (Nepal) and migration policy-making committee (in Nepal), among others.

Regular reports obtained from different partners reveal that developing physical infrastructure is an important means of capacity building in South Asia. Southern students often do not have access to enough physical facilities for their research, such as computers, printers, working space, reference materials and libraries. South Asia has focused on these areas, as well as developing the research capacity of students and senior researchers. Hence, physical infrastructure support (e.g., computers, library resource, etc.) is important for partner organisations' capacity building.

2.2.3 Capacity building at individual level

Individuals who obtained their PhD with NCCR North-South support reported experiencing professional and intellectual growth, not only because of the degree, but also because of the kind and amount of exposure they received through the partnership. Various training, workshops and opportunities to present papers in conferences and seminars enhanced their skills and knowledge and helped build international networks. Such networks have provided them recognition and visibility. They also reported obtaining more job opportunities and good promotions; they said that obtaining a PhD through NCCR North-South partnership programme has increased their scope and broadened their horizons. The on-going PhD candidates mentioned that, although they were full-time students and are not allowed to engage in employment, they are happy with the exposure they have received. Overall, the study shows that involvement with NCCR North-South has increased individual potential, recognition and skills, which have facilitated both their knowledge and performance.

The respondents (PhD students) reflected that intensive training on various skills and platforms such as regional and international training courses provided opportunities to share knowledge and experiences, obtain feedback, and widen their network. Training on research methodologies, scientific writings and publications, opportunities to present their research in the form of papers at various conferences, seminars and workshops, interaction with foreign PhD students, and the sharing of knowledge and experiences helped them develop their expertise. Table 5 provides a breakdown of the PhD and Master's students supported by NCCR North-South to obtain their degrees.

Table 5: PhD and Masters trained in South Asia

Degree	Male	Female	Total
PhD	13 (62%)	8 (38%)	21
Master's	51 (65%)	27 (35%)	78
Total	64 (65%)	35 (35%)	99

Source: Upreti et al. 2007

The individual respondents specifically shared that participation in regional and international training courses gave them international exposure and helped increase their professional competence, which is reflected in the number and quality of their publications. They reported that they gained high status at their work place because of their degree and expertise. "Due to the NCCR North-South programme, I received international exposure and this exposure gave me an edge over my colleagues," wrote a PhD from Pakistan. One northern PhD mentioned that she has published more as a result of the NCCR North-South programme and can now lead and submit independent research, give lectures and supervise students, do visiting fellowships. Similarly, a PhD graduate from Nepal mentioned that the degree he obtained through NCCR North-South has had a positive effect on his social and professional status, not only in the scientific community and professional circles, but also in his village where he was felicitated by the Secretary of then Ministry of Education and Culture in 2007. There are other examples of researchers striving towards proficiency, both intellectually and socially. However, success also depends on the person's performance and ability to take advantage of opportunities.

Visibility helps researchers expand their recognition within the society, thereby increasing the possibility of their research findings to be used in the policy process. Hence, one of the foci of this study was to assess the visibility and recognition of South Asian researchers.

The visibility of individual researchers (both senior researchers and recent PhD graduates) was reported to have increased as a result of the collaboration with NCCR North-South. Most of the respondents (80%) said that people listened to them more now than they used to do before their association with the NCCR North-South. Table 6 shows that more than 80 per cent of respondents explained that the degree obtained through this collaboration

had enhanced their chances of promotion. More than 66 per cent of individual respondents expressed that they earned more prestige and enhanced chances of salary increase after obtaining the PhD. Similarly, more than 83 per cent of respondents published more papers after being associated with NCCR North-South (Table 6).

As to the question of earning more prestige and recognition and strengthening the capacity of individual researchers from the NCCR North-South programme, one respondent (PhD student from Nepal) said:

Yes, it has had positive effects – academically and in network building. It has made me more mature academically and helped me make useful networks; I've presented papers in important workshops on my area of research (mentioned in the filled up questionnaire form by the respondent in October 2009).

Another respondent from Pakistan (a recent PhD graduate from the NCCR North-South research partnership) said:

Immediately after obtaining my PhD, I was promoted to Assistant Professor at the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad and also started a post-doctorate within NCCR North-South (mentioned in the filled up questionnaire form by the respondent in October 2009).

However, visibility and recognition is less important to respondents in the north. Responding to a question related to the effect of the NCCR North-South degree on earning more prestige and recognition, one of the respondents from Switzerland (who had completed PhD in India a few years ago) said:

The PhD title has had some small effect, especially when collaborating with institutions in developing countries, e.g., during negotiations with donors and government institutions (mentioned in the filled up questionnaire form by the respondent in October 2009).

Table 6: Perceived degree of visibility and recognition at the individual level

Statement	Response			
	Agree		Disagree	
	No.	%	No.	%
Listened to more than before	8	80	2	20
Promotion opportunities enhanced	9	81.8	2	18.2
Earned more prestige	6	66.7	3	33.3
Invited to present more speeches on contemporary issues and present more papers	6	60	4	40
Salary increased	6	66.7	3	33.3
Published more papers	10	83.3	2	16.7

Source: Field Survey, 2008

2.2.4 Managerial capacity

Enhancing the managerial capacity of a research organisation increases opportunities for obtaining more research funds, staff training and capacity building, the effective utilisation of available resource (e.g., computer facilities and software), expansion of programme activities (e.g., new courses), regular financial auditing, and so forth. One of the expectations of the South Asia research collaboration was to develop the managerial capacity of partner institutions in the region to enhance their performance and expand their resource base. Table 7 highlights the response of partners on the issue of managerial capacity.

Table 7: Training and capacity building at the institutional level

Statement (capacity building parameters)	Response			
	Yes		No	
	No.	%	No.	%
Partners have organised different trainings	7	77.8	2	22.2
Partners have improved computer facilities and software	10	100	0	0
Partners have grown (number of staff, expansion of programme, volume of work etc.)	8	80	2	20
Increased fundraising	4	44.4	5	55.6
Regular financial auditing practised	10	100	0	0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

More than 77 per cent of collaborating institutions (7 out of 9) reported that they had organised different training programmes for their staff after joining the partnership. All partners (10 out of 10) have improved and upgraded computer facilities and software, and practised regular financial auditing. Capacity building in terms of fundraising seems relatively weak as only 44 per cent of institutional partners were able to raise more funds as a result of the NCCR North-South collaboration (see Table 7).

2.2.5 Technical capacity development

Technical capacity in this study mainly refers to training of researchers on various subjects related to research and publication on sustainable development. Hence, the indicators used here to assess technical capacity include participation in training and scientific publications.

All 13 respondents had participated in different training programmes organised by NCCR North-South and its collaborators. These 13 individuals attended 33 training programmes. Nearly all (96.9%) of the trainings were reported to be relevant as 91 per cent of them were described as useful.

Collaborating university departments were found to have institutionalised some of the training courses and were conducting them regularly. Competence in transdisciplinary approaches, research methodologies, training, and multidisciplinary research are some of the examples of the technical capacity of partner organisations.

Annual reports obtained from individual partner institutions also attest to similar results. In the western academic world, more and more quantitative measurements are used to evaluate the outcome of research. In South Asia, publications are often published on national and regional levels, rather than in high-profile international journals. The South Asia partnership region considers both as very important. On the one hand, it emphasises the publication of research findings within the countries of South Asia as a core means of reaching the key audience, while, on the other hand, it is also important that research from South Asia flows into international exchanges through international journals.

Through their involvement with NCCR North-South, several PhD students as well as post-doc researchers were able to improve their position within academia. This also means that the insights they have gained have the potential to be disseminated through teaching or further research. For example, some PhD students gained positions of higher responsibility after obtaining their PhDs (e.g., promoted to Assistant Professor, invited as a visiting fellow, promoted to managerial positions), whereas others obtained new jobs in reputed international organisations. Some of the senior researchers took executive positions (for example, Executive Director of the Sustainable Development Policy Institute [SDPI], or head of the Culture, Equity, Gender and Governance Division of the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development [ICIMOD] and Assistant Professor in Tata Institute of Social Sciences [TISS], Mumbai) and other PhD students were granted competitive NCCR North-South funds immediately after completion of their PhDs allowing them to conduct independent post-doc researches (Upreti et al. 2007). However, increased visibility and recognition of individuals are results of several factors, the contribution of NCCR North-South being an important one.

Several Master's students trained by NCCR North-South have obtained good jobs in prestigious organisations or scholarships and admission to study in reputed universities. Some Master's students have won competitive scholarships for their PhD study.

In South Asia, NCCR North-South has not only helped researchers increase their visibility and recognition, but also been successful in attracting already visible and nationally recognised senior researchers. Nationally recognised senior researchers have joined NCCR North-South research programmes in South Asia benefiting both the NCCR North-South and the researchers themselves.

Many collaborating partners have conducted theory-led, empirical, and result-oriented research, as well as contributed to policy dialogue, networking, advocacy and training in the region. In this context, young researchers have been able to participate in a series of training and supports provided by the NCCR North-South collaboration.

2.3 Determinants of good practice

The notion of 'good practice' is subjective and, therefore, judgmental in nature and may not be free of contention as it evolves through action in a specific context and time. Good practices are often the combination of various enabling factors, which are discussed in this section.

2.3.1 Choice of partner

Table 8 shows that prior information (62.5% of respondents), familiarity with the organisation (62.5% respondents) and a similar focus (87.5% respondents) were main criteria in choosing the partners.

Some other selection parameters applied in South Asia were a) similar research interests of North and South, b) the perceived potential of the organisation and interest areas preferred by NCCR North-South, and c) expertise in a particular area (e.g., Nepal Institute of Development Studies [NIDS] for migration research). However, most of the partner organisations did not have prior knowledge or contact with NCCR North-South. In a few cases, prior contact and/or relations with persons associated with NCCR North-South also determined the choice of partners.

Table 8: Factors influencing choice of partners

Statement	Response			
	Yes		No	
	No.	%	No.	%
Prior information about the organisation	5	62.5	3	37.5
Familiarity with the organisation	5	62.5	3	37.5
Language preference	0	0.0	7	100.0
Previous work with place and people	1	14.3	6	85.7
Similar focus with NCCR North-South	7	87.5	1	12.5

Source: Field Survey, 2008

2.3.2 Practice of partnership

Of the 11 widely practised KFPE (Swiss Commission for Research Partnerships with Developing Countries) principles of partnership, all except one principle regarding sharing profits equitably between partners were mentioned as being practised by the overwhelming majority of respondents. Profit sharing is more



Photo 4: Researchers in an interactive session in the South Asia Synthesis Workshop in December 2006 in Dhulikhel, Nepal/Source: SAs RCO

relevant to private enterprises, not the research programmes conducted under the NCCR North-South collaboration – 'benefits' would be a more appropriate term. Besides the 11 principles, two more principles were suggested: 'practising mutual respect' and 'learning from each other' (Table 9).

Table 9: Practice of partnership

Statement (characters of good partnerships)	Response			
	We do		We do not	
	No.	%	No.	%
Decide on objectives together	9	100	0	0
Build mutual trust	9	100	0	0
Share information; develop networks	10	100	0	0
Share responsibilities	8	88.9	1	11.1
Maintain transparency	10	100	0	0
Monitor and evaluate the collaboration	9	90	1	10
Disseminate the results	10	100	0	0
Apply the results	8	88.9	1	11.1
Share profits equitably	5	62.5	3	37.5
Increase research capacity	10	100	0	0
Build on the achievements	9	100	0	0
Practise mutual respect	10	100	0	0
Learn from each other	10	100	0	0

Source: Field Survey, 2008

2.3.3 Features of good practice

Academic freedom to carry out research activities, building up mutual trust, sharing of information, developing networks, support for disseminating results, training, consultation and visits, exchange of technical expertise, proper planning and monitoring, occasional meetings, organising seminars and conferences, transparency, sharing of both northern and southern responsibilities, and accountability, replicability and sustainability were reported by the respondents as 'features of good partnership practice' in South Asia.

3. Achievements and impacts of research collaboration

In this section, two variables: achievements and impacts are discussed. On first observation, these two variables look similar, but in essence they are complementary and carry specific meanings. Achievements are immediate or short-termed and, therefore, are similar to outputs; whereas an impact is a long-term effect and builds on achievements.

3.1 Achievements

Measuring achievement is relatively difficult and is governed by several internal and external factors. Internal factors are inherent to partner institutions or individual researchers and external ones are beyond the control of institutions

or individual researchers and are mainly affected positively or negatively by the context.

The findings of migration research were incorporated into a popular course module on migration at the Mahanirban Kolkata Research Group, Kolkata, India and researchers were part of a training team for a training that took place in December 2007 in Kolkata. Similarly, some of the research findings of the Nepal Research Group have been incorporated in the Master's Programme of HNRSCCentre for Development Studies, Kathmandu University Nepal.



Photo 5: Researchers in South Asia presenting their findings on livelihood alternatives during conflict times in the Fourteenth Sustainable Development Conference in December 2011 in Islamabad, Pakistan/Source: SAs RCO

3.1.1 Individual level

As discussed above, many South Asian researchers have developed their research-writing-publication capacity, increased visibility and recognition, and obtained better jobs and a higher level of responsibility as a result of the research partnership. They have published their research results not only in journals and books, but also in other popular media (newspapers, radios and televisions). It has helped bring the research-policy-practitioner community together. The use of the popular media has become one of the powerful instruments for utilising research results in the region. This strategy has also established South Asian researchers in the academia.

For the students, the methodology course became fundamental because of its coverage of issues such as the transdisciplinary approach to research, research ethics, research in an insecure environment, and dealing with public. Some of the South Asian partner institutions have incorporated such training in their regular programmes. Interest from non-NCCR North-South collaborators has also increased and the training course has gained popularity.

3.1.2 Institutional level

Engagement of institutional partners in multi-disciplinary research is another area of positive achievement, as multi-disciplinary research was not practised before by many of the collaborators. Some important concepts, such as livelihood (in-) security in Nepal, are flowing into general debate because of this collaboration. Other new concepts such as internal displacement, resource conflict and resource governance have been incorporated into teaching courses by Kathmandu University.

More and explicit attention has been given to institutional dimensions based on the insights and experiences gained from the collaboration in South Asia. South Asian partners have shifted their conceptual focus from assets to access, power and entitlements – a conceptual development that finds its expression in the notion of a livelihoods perspective on development. This is one of the important achievements of the partnership.

Research activities and the research results produced by South Asia partner institutions have influenced development practice in conservation, peace and conflict transformation, land reform, migration, sanitation, tourism, displacement, and much more. Relationships between research institutions and development practitioners have been strengthened. However, the interests and priorities of the two are not always the same, and, therefore, collective action and reflection is not always possible.

In mainstream development-oriented research, a causal relation is assumed between the production of (new) knowledge by researchers and the transfer of this knowledge to practitioners through researcher-practitioner relations. Insights from South Asia demonstrate that this relationship is not so linear. The livelihood-oriented research perspective used in South Asia reveals that the everyday lives of people are influenced by social relationships, and the use of knowledge gained from research depends upon the local context and the role of state actors. The South Asia region has questioned the dominant development discourses, which are often shaped by negotiations between powerful elites. Hence, it is unrealistic to expect development and research organisations to always work together. The development agenda in South Asia is mainly shaped by donors and, consequently, consciously or unconsciously, certain stakeholders who are not aligned with the donors' approach, priorities and interests are ignored or excluded. In such a situation they face a dilemma: either to accept the donors' conditions or be sidelined from development dynamics. Realising that development is a contested arena, South Asian researchers and research organisations often position themselves as a dialogue partner vis-à-vis an array of stakeholders, thus avoiding being perceived as taking sides with specific actors (be it NGO, donor, or the state).

One of the main reasons for the achievements of the partnership was the platform or forum provided by the Partnership Actions for Mitigating Syndromes of Global Change (PAMS) project. In many cases, South Asian researchers have felt that the existing platforms were not able to foster a dialogue among different stakeholders, or that such platforms were biased or even absent. Hence, initiatives were started to create proactive platforms and to test their feasibility, mainly by means of partnership action projects.

Two examples presented here highlight the importance of a neutral proactive platform to make the dissemination of research successful. The first example is from Pakistan where relationships between the state and local stakeholders

regarding forests were characterised by conflict. As a matter of fact, joint forest management procedures applied by international donors faced enormous difficulties – mainly because stakeholder dialogues under this arrangement were controlled by the State Forest Department. Thus, the NCCR North-South partners in Pakistan launched a partnership action project to test the feasibility of creating stakeholder platforms moderated by independent persons and in which the state is one of the participants, among others. As a complementary effort, one of the NCCR North-South partners, the Sustainable Development Policy Institute, launched a monthly information bulletin called the Pakistan Forest Digest, which became instrumental to interlink research, policy and practice.

Another example, from Nepal, is the partnership action project on migration, which was actively involved in responding to the needs and problems of migrant workers through the operation of programs such as Radio Paurakhi to disseminate information on migration. This project also contributed to skill improvement in the respective partner NGOs and researchers involved in dealing with migration issues. Their experiences have shown that innovative information campaigns and advocacies contribute to reach migrant workers effectively and also benefit their families.

One of the achievements of the South Asia research partnership is its contribution to theory building. The synthesis of research findings is a part of the South Asia research work, which is defined as the bringing together of, and adding value to, research insights gained by individual researchers through comparative debate.

One of the common characteristics of the NCCR North-South collaboration in South Asia is its emphasis on research group management. In Nepal, a Trimester Nepal Research Group Meeting has proved to be instrumental in contributing to the accomplishment of research work and to enhance achievements. Researchers meet regularly to exchange insights, review progress, discuss problems and share new concepts, theories or perspectives through this platform. Students as well as senior researchers are now more active in debating concepts and elaborating methodologies (i.e., helping each other).

Active collaborations with partners outside South Asia region have also contributed to bringing different concepts and themes together; for example, the conceptual framework of legal pluralism was used in research on livelihoods in the NWFP of Pakistan to understand structures and the access of households to forests. Insights have been produced into access to migration as an important source of cash income, as well as the consequences of these cash flows on livelihoods. Conceptual approaches (e.g., social capital) to migration are deepened by these collaborations.

Researchers from South Asia analyse core conceptual notions, i.e., livelihoods and livelihoods approaches. Earlier, the DFID-led Sustainable Livelihoods

Approach (SLA) was used as a conceptual framework to explore the impact of global change and globalisation on marginal areas and marginalised people. This approach is still dominant in modernisation discourse (based on structural-functionalist assumptions), which perceives poverty in countries in the South as caused primarily by structural conditions, such as the dominance of traditional subsistence-oriented production systems, lack of knowledge in facing the challenges posed by globalisation, and restrictive traditional and communal norms and values. These perceptions often guide development interventions. However, viewing poor people and lack of knowledge as the source of problems is incomplete and a broader livelihoods framework that goes beyond the Sustainable Livelihood Approach is needed. South Asia region has proposed a livelihoods framework, which attempts to go beyond the pre-conceived and normative ontology by researching what poor people actually 'do', focusing on their daily practices and lived experiences, to understand the conditions that support or hinder them in securing their livelihoods.

Institutions and researchers from South Asia are involved in different initiatives that compare research results gained in different regions of the NCCR North-South partnership. One example refers to the debate across NCCR North-South on decentralisation. Decentralisation has emerged in contemporary development discourse as a crucial ingredient for successful (and environmentally sustainable) poverty alleviation.

3.2 Impacts of the research partnership



Photo 6: Researchers in South Asia presenting their papers on development and millennium development goals in the Fourteenth Sustainable Development Conference in December 2011 in Islamabad, Pakistan/Source: SAs RCO

In this section, impacts in terms of capacity building, change in knowledgebase, academic linkages between the north and the south, mutual benefits, networking and expansion of research partners are briefly examined based on the survey results and the available publications in South Asia.

3.2.1 Impact on southern and northern partners

The respondents were asked if NCCR North-South had provided benefits to both the partners from

the south as well as the north. Nine institutional respondents replied to this question and all of them said that both have been benefited. They further mentioned that the NCCR North-South partnership provides an opportunity for the sharing of knowledge and experiences and, thereby, for mutual learning.

One of the respondents said:

[The partnership] has been providing a forum for knowledge sharing and interaction. It is also an obligation for both the partners — the north and the south — to facilitate each other based on the strengths and weaknesses of the partners (mentioned in the filled up questionnaire form by the respondent in October 2009).

Another respondent said:

Northern researchers are able to broaden their horizons and get firsthand knowledge of southern realities. For us, it was an opportunity to link issues at the micro level with meso-micro realities (mentioned in the filled up questionnaire form by the respondent in October 2009).

How the respondents feel is summed up by this response:

...usually southern partners are burdened with multiple tasks such as research, administration and teaching and, hence, are constrained from adequate time for systematic research and publications. Researchers from the north have a different setting which has greater research opportunities and flexibility. The NCCR North-South partnership creates synergy which benefits both (mentioned in the filled up questionnaire form by the respondent in October 2009).

When asked if the learning experience has been used by any other organisation, the response from one of the institutional partners was:

Most of the learning experiences have been used by government agencies, planners, researchers and concerned persons/organisations. UNEP is trying to build the partnership around climate change involving civil society and academia (mentioned in the filled up questionnaire form by the respondent in October 2009).

One of the questions was about need identification for the research, i.e., was the research demand-driven or supply-driven? The summary of the responses is: to a great extent, most of the researches conducted in the region is demand-driven and the needs of the clients were realised. Respondents cited examples of research on international migration, conflict, landlessness and exclusion, internally displaced people (IDPs) (Nepal), the agrarian crisis, water conflict and plantation conflict (India), and gender issues and WTO issues (Pakistan).

The responses to the question related to the 'determining factors for choice of research activities' can be summarised as: the selection of research topics/activities depends on the contemporary problems faced by each society. The research topics selected were livelihoods of the poor, tourism, conflict, migration and its purposes, human capital, labour, mobilisation of victims of land-based social exclusion, policy dialogue on access of Dalits to land resources, forest management, gender issues, WTO issues, disaster

management, reconstruction and rehabilitation, education, and food security. Most of the countries in this region have been dealing with problems such as conflict, political instability, gender discrimination, migration, and lack of democracy. During the period of the NCCR North-South collaboration, some countries in the region were severely affected by natural disasters (earthquakes, floods, tsunami, etc.). Hence, the choice of research activity was shaped or affected by these problems.

One of the concerns of the research partnership is the utilisation of research results and organisational learning. In relation to this, one partnership action project partner from Nepal said:

Organisational learning gained from the NCCR collaboration has increased the capacity of local activists, leaders and resource persons of the land rights movements (mentioned in the filled up questionnaire form by the respondent in October 2009).

Similarly, four academic institutions responded to this question and all of them said that the research results were utilised.

Members of the partner organisations were often reported in the media and contributed to public debate on research results. They were invited to participate in different seminars and meetings. This had had an impact on the society as it had benefited from the research results. Research results were translated into action by the concerned organisations.

NCCR North-South research activities are conducted after joint consultation with the local people based on social reality; hence, the results have practical application and are more likely to be used by concerned organisations. Due to active participation of some of the collaborators in social movements and direct contact with citizens and the public, the research activities played a vital role in developing the network, increasing knowledge, capacity building and empowering women.

The discussion in Section 2.2 clearly demonstrates the role of NCCR North-South in capacity building, and in the generation, dissemination and use of all three forms knowledge (Pohl and Hadorn 2007), as well as in collaboration and linkages between northern and southern academic institutions, mutual learning and sharing of benefits, and networking with other like-minded organisations.

The South Asia research partnership has had positive impacts in the region. The engagement of South Asia partners in regional initiatives (e.g., the South Asia Small Arms Network and the South Asia Peace Alliance, among others) has provided an opportunity to directly incorporate research findings into the activities of regional initiatives. Learning experiences and research findings have been increasingly used by government agencies, planners, researchers, and concerned individuals and organisations. In Pakistan, local partners are

working on building partnership around climate change issues involving civil society and academia.

Similarly, the north also has also benefited from the partnership mostly in gathering empirical evidence to support hypotheses, obtaining a 'field' for transdisciplinary research, and establishing personal and institutional linkages with the south. This network has the potential to produce highly useful research and development undertakings, ultimately leading to sustainable development.

3.3 Impact on international organisations

Development-oriented research becomes relevant only when its findings are utilised by development agencies to address societal challenges. Development agencies in the south are busy implementing their planned activities and rarely focus on research. Hence, feeding research results to development agencies is one of the important operational strategies of research organisations. In this section, the impacts of South Asia research on development are discussed. One of the important parameters of development agencies for using research results is the relevance of the research to their work (i.e., does the research focus on issues — such as the livelihoods of poor people, environmental degradation, and so forth — that development agencies are directly engaged in?

Table 10: Response of institutional partners to change in activities at the institutional level

Statement	Response			
	Yes		No	
	No.	%	No.	%
International agencies have applied NCCR North-South partnership experience	1	16.7	5	83.3
Collaboration with other national and international agencies expanded	4	57.1	3	42.9
Partners have mobilised additional resources for human resources development	7	87.5	1	12.5
Joint collaboration between NCCR North-South, other international agency and partner organisations realised	4	80.0	1	20.0
Partnership increased the number of trainings	4	66.7	2	33.3

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Table 10 shows that only 16.7 per cent of respondents said that the NCCR North-South partnership experiences are used by international agencies. However, 80 per cent of respondents said that their organisations were able to furnish collaboration with other international agencies as an outcome of the collaboration with NCCR North-South. Similarly, more than 87 per cent of respondents reported that partner organisations were able to mobilise additional resources for activities such as human resource development.



Photo 7: Then Minister for Foreign Affairs Upendra Yadav speaking in a programme organised by NCCR North-South and other collaborators on issues, challenges and opportunities of international labour migration/Source: SAs RCO

Table 11 shows the change of emphasis on thematic and focus areas, and influence of the NCCR North South partnership on international research and development agencies and government policies at the institutional level. It shows that 60 per cent of institutional respondents reported that the focus and themes had not changed since the collaboration with NCCR North-South. Interestingly, all of the institutional respondents stated that the results/learning experiences of the NCCR North-South partnership have contributed to changing the policies and viewpoints of international

institutions. Similarly, more than 87 per cent of institutional respondents reported that the findings of the NCCR North-South research partnership had influenced the (re)shaping of government policies in their respective countries.

Table 11: Change of emphasis on thematic and focus areas, and influence

Statement	Response			
	Yes		No	
	No.	%	No.	%
Emphasis on thematic areas same as before	6	60.0	4	40.0
Emphasis on focus areas same as before	6	60.0	4	40.0
The NCCR North-South partnership has influenced international development/cooperation agencies' policies/viewpoints	4	100.0	0	0.0
Programmes launched under the partnership have influenced the reshaping of government policies	7	87.5	1	12.5

Source: Field Survey, 2008

The main thematic areas covered by research in the South Asia region were related to sustainable development, women empowerment, rural-urban migration, social exclusion and livelihoods, conflict and peace building, natural resource management, local initiatives, marginalised/indigenous communities, land issues, and development and change among tribal communities. Similarly, the thematic areas covered by non-academic partner organisations were sustainable development, agriculture, peace and food security, gender/women empowerment, health, migration, labour rights, land rights, education, environment, health, disaster management, people's movement, governance, globalisation, livelihoods, rural development, and agriculture.

The focus areas of academic institutions were rural poor, disadvantaged groups, remote areas, socially excluded groups, marginalised/indigenous

communities, women, land issues, and development and change among tribal communities. Similarly, the focus areas of non-academic institutions were migration, international relations, marginalised groups, vulnerable groups, women, the poor, Dalits, small farmers and landless people, and gender empowerment.

Researchers were asked to give their opinion on the response of users to their research results and learning experiences. The respondents from academic and non-academic institutions stated that the research results and learning experiences were appreciated mostly by officials from partner organisations and other stakeholders including planners, policy-makers, administrators, fellow researchers, supporting organisations and the governments. In addition, they were appreciated by many national and international organisations such as the South Asia Regional Equity Support Programme, USAID, Refugee International, UNIFEM, DANIDA, and MS-Nepal (Danish Association for International Cooperation-Nepal), the Government of Pakistan, Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA), and more. They have been also appreciated by the media including TVs and radios (interviews and expert opinions of South Asian researchers were broadcast by local, national, and international TV channels and radio stations many times).

South Asian researchers have contributed to policy change process and dialogue with development stakeholders. They are involved in policy debates in their respective countries. For example, a) senior researchers from Nepal have been recognised at national level for their contributions (one was presented with a 'Special Award' for researching on women's issues related to migration and livelihoods, and for bringing these insights into the policy debate; another senior researcher was nominated as the Vice-chair of the Constituent Assembly Election Observation Joint Forum in Nepal; and another was nominated as a member of UNESCO's National Committee on Man and Biosphere) and b) a senior researcher from Pakistan is serving on the Federal Forestry Board constituted by the President of Pakistan to discuss issues revolving around forests. Partner institutions in South Asia have also contributed to the preparation of national development strategies.

The partnership action project has proved to be an excellent mechanism to demonstrate that the South Asia research focus is addressing development challenges and mitigating negative impacts. Development actors and policy-makers are convinced once they see the research results in practice. The partnership action projects on migration, land, and conservation have been instrumental in making policy-makers realise the need to adapt policies to address new challenges. For example, one of the important outcomes of land research and the related partnership action project in Nepal is the formation of the Consortium for Land Research and Policy Dialogue (COLARP) by academic

and practitioner institutions engaged in research and policy dialogue on land issues. Now, COLARP is recognised as a respected institution working on land issues. Another partnership action project entitled 'Strengthening communication and trust between actors for sustainable forest governance in the North-West Frontier Province of Pakistan' has provided an avenue for trust building and communication and interaction between local communities and the state, lack of which was a severe obstacle in the institutional reform process initiated by the Asian Development Bank and the Government of the NWFP of Pakistan. Efforts in relation to joint forest management (JFM) in India failed, mainly due to the divergence of interests of the Forest Department and local people, and because of unclear property and use rights. Because of the partnership action project, the responsible actors are interacting with independent groups in a transdisciplinary way, which has led to improved communication, trust and confidence among stakeholders, helping to ensure the sustainability of current and future efforts towards JFM.

Often development agencies do not want to engage in or support in-depth academic and scientific research. Instead, they prefer to recruit consultants with specific terms of reference for short periods of time to produce reports. Hence, developing functional partnerships with development agencies is quite difficult. However, the South Asia partnership has developed close cooperation with some development agencies, not for research, but to facilitate the use of the research findings and experiences of the NCCR North-South researchers in their programmes.

Senior researchers in the South Asia region have participated in programme development, policy formulation or strategic planning with some international agencies such as SDC Nepal, UNDP, DFID, Action Aid etc. The Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC) in Nepal is a focal organisation for Land Watch Asia. Nepal and Pakistan research teams have good cooperation with Inter-cooperation. The Regional Coordinator was invited to participate in the Swiss Strategy 2009 to 2012 development process, which took place in Kathmandu. He had also developed two background papers for this purpose. Some members of the Nepal Research Group were invited by the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction, Nepal Army, Nepal Administrative Staff College, High Level Commission on Terai Issues, National Human Rights Commission, Ministry of Labour, Department of Labour, Armed Police Force, Local Development Training Academy, and UNDP to provide expert inputs on issues related to peace, conflict transformation, small arms and post-conflict development, migration, displacement and conservation.

NCCR North-South partnership is very much concerned about the use of its research products in development. The South Asia Regional Office regularly distributes its publications to development agencies and obtains comments and suggestions. SDC Nepal officials have actively participated in NCCR North-

South activities (workshops, meetings, publications, etc.) in Nepal and the Nepal Research Group members have contributed to the development of SDC strategies, participated in the assessment of SDC projects and incorporated their research findings to improve the performance of these projects. Similarly, NCCR North-South has facilitated the linkage of its partners with development agencies on specific issues such as migration and food security. The South Asia partnership has provided a platform for partner organisations to present their experiences to the national and international community through conventions, meetings, forums, and good practices. Many members of partner organisations have had the opportunity to present research papers in national/international conferences.

The Sustainable Development Policy Institute, with co-sponsorship from NCCR North-South, annually organises the Sustainable Development Conference, which has proved to be an excellent platform for NCCR North-South researchers to share their research findings and learning from the region as well as taking part in informed policy debate with policy-makers and government authorities.

The South Asia research partnership has supported methodological trainings for researchers from partner institutions. These trainings are becoming popular among Master's and PhD students. For example, the Trimester Review and Reflection Meeting in Nepal and country research e-group (a yahoo email group of NCCR North-South researchers active in Nepal) are helping students to share and exchange their work, find resources and explore opportunities. PhD students in the region exhibit very progressive career development. Additionally, the research methodology course conducted in Nepal for some years has proved to be quite popular among researchers and students and even external student researchers have expressed an interest in participating in this training.

4. Conclusions and the way forward

One of the outcomes of the NCCR North-South research collaboration in South Asia is its success in integrating research with policy to address societal challenges (Upreti and Müller-Böker 2009). The NCCR North-South research collaboration in South Asia has produced systems, target and transformative knowledge by using disciplinary, multi-disciplinary, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches (Burger and Rainer 2003; Pohl and Hadorn 2007). In South Asia, partnership research findings have been included in education and teaching and also disseminated through the media. The mobilisation of the media has brought research results closer to society and the policy community, where the partnership action projects play an instrumental role in bringing these two communities together. Research itself has no significance if its findings do not reach the policy community and the ultimate users. Hence, the dissemination of scientific information is vitally important in making use

of research. The importance of linking research with society and the policy community is clearly highlighted by the 'Science and Society Action Plan' of the European Commission (EC 2002).

4.1 Issues

Although substantial progress has been made at the micro level, South Asia is too big and the NCCR North-South partnership operations too small to have significant institutional and structural impacts on the academic and development sectors in the region. Hence, the foremost motivating factor for some of the collaborators in the south to work with NCCR North-South is not the access to financial resources, but the networking advantage with northern institutions.

The end use or application of research results by practitioners and policy-makers is selective. Often, decision-making in South Asia does not rely on the findings of sound research, but is based on the general social understanding and negotiation. Therefore, science in general, and research results published in peer-reviewed journals in particular, are less acknowledged and used by policy-makers and practitioners in South Asia. The difficulties associated with the use of scientific results published in journal articles are due to language (as they are published in English and, therefore, have a low readership), content (written in a very scientific way which is difficult to understand), accessibility (often the journals are not readily available), affordability (the journals are expensive) and the mismatch of demand and supply (the content is not directed at the needs of policy-makers and practitioners). Hence, one of the main challenges is the choice of means for distributing research results.

South Asian research partners are facing a dilemma: to publish in peer-reviewed journals or opt for local means of distribution such as books, newspaper articles, FM radios and televisions. Ideally, a balance between the two is the best strategy. Most of the researchers in South Asia are very active in the policy-making arena and in development practice, and, therefore, have focused on publishing at the local level, against the expectations of the north, which prefers southern partners to publish in high quality peer-reviewed journals articles because of the northern evaluation system (a high citation index of journal articles is the criteria of quality assessment). Balancing these two interests is a challenge.

It has been consistently observed that international development agencies do not necessarily wait for, or are not necessarily interested in using, the research findings of independent research institutions, which are based on rigorous research methodology. Instead, they use their own consultants to produce reports, which are quick, often superficial and justify the interests of international development agencies. This clash of interests between rigorous

and methodologically sound 'scientific' research (which may not be in line with the interests of aid agencies) and 'consultancy work' (which is tailor-made and quick and directly serves the interests of development agencies) is a major limiting factor in developing operational partnership between research and development agencies in South Asia.

One of the frequently realised issues is the choice between or preference for Master's study and PhD versus post-doc research. Mid-career human resource development is a priority in South Asian countries such as Nepal and there is a demand for more Master's and PhD students than post-doc researchers. Hence, further embedding Masters and PhD study in NCCR North-South research is essential.

In some cases, realising a transdisciplinary approach to 'research for development' and 'research on development' was quite difficult for partner organisations and researchers to internalise. Similarly, quality assessment, 'how much good is good?', and 'good for whom?' are other questions the answers of which are difficult to generalise. Additionally, the highly technical and western concept of citation index may not be the right indicator in the developing countries of South Asia, as most of the policy changes are not influenced by scientific publications.

4.2 Lessons learnt

Few of the lessons learnt from the research partnership in South Asia are presented in the following paragraphs:

Engaging in new concepts and perspectives and implementing collaborative initiatives is a slow and evolutionary process that requires constant effort, intimate engagement and support. The constant backstopping and support (at both material and knowledge/skills levels) from northern and southern senior researchers is important to develop research capacity. However, this is a very demanding task.



Photo 8: Then State Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation Satrudhan Prasad Singha, Ambassador of Switzerland to Nepal, Thomas Gass, and other dignitaries in a national conference on exploring alternative trekking routes for peace and prosperity organised by an NCCR North-South PAMS on tourism in December 2009/Source: SAs RCO

Based on the South Asian experience, it is felt that achievements depend significantly upon the amount of trust and confidence built between the partners (North-South, North-North, and South-South).

Synthesis work can only start once individual researchers and research groups have gained meaningful results from their respective research works. An instance to this is the synthesis activities started in South Asia mainly in Phase 2 based on the research work of first phase. In addition, South Asia experiences indicate that related collaborative efforts work best (i) when the researchers involved share a common concern, (ii) when one of them takes a clear lead to moderate the process, and (iii) when adequate incentives are provided. Such incentives include, for example, the support given to approach peer-reviewed journals, space for new research, and so forth.

One core challenge is how to assess the quality of the NCCR North-South partnership programme. Using the number of scientific publications in journal articles (the scientific outcome of international standard) as the main criterion for judging the relevance and effectiveness of southern collaboration is incomplete. Policy changes in the south depend less upon scientific findings and more on negotiation, dialogue and advocacy. Hence, producing working papers, policy briefs, and advocacy materials and facilitating exchanges between researchers and policy-makers/politicians are vital.

Some of the concepts used in NCCR North-South, such as the syndrome context and transdisciplinarity, are very complex and difficult to operationalise. Therefore, South Asia invested considerable time in reflection on these notions, their critique and refinement. The word 'syndrome' is quite difficult to understand and frequently confused with the medical term.

Partnership action for Mitigating Syndromes of Global Change (PAMS) is one of the most effective mechanisms for social learning and practical action. This has been also documented by Haupt and Müller-Böker (2005).

Resources are often an important determining factor in research collaboration. The choice of place/geography (e.g., to work in which regions, in which countries and on what themes) is largely determined by the previous engagement and language preference (such as a focus on French- or Spanish-speaking areas) of northern institutional partners. To an extent, there is a conflict of interest between the north and the south in relation to themes and priorities. This dilemma is a reality in South Asia.

Creating a common platform for sharing and learning is important for defining research objectives, research planning and for the use of research findings by

development agencies. Further, South Asian experience clearly demonstrates that operational flexibility is key aspect to the success of research partnership.

The following are other lessons learnt from South Asian activities in diffusing research insights to the academia, as well as in the field of practising development:

First of all, the notion of 'transfer' is highly inadequate. The classical image of 'the researcher' transferring his/her knowledge to 'the practitioner' fails to take into account the reality of development as a contested social arena involving an array of stakeholders.

Research partnerships involve organisations in different countries, each embedded in specific sets of procedures, rules and regulations (e.g., regarding PhD procedures) and cultures. This context has to be respected; however, some principles – e.g., competition and transparency in the selection of candidates and the sound supervision of PhD and Master's students – have to be applied in all.

Development-oriented research is often squeezed in between the expectations of academia and certain groups of development practitioners. At present, performance is assessed purely on the criteria of citation index, with no appraisal of efforts in capacity building, the supervision of students, or the dialoguing of research findings with development practitioners.

The North-South research partnership is not merely a support to southern collaborators based on the assumption that southern institutions and researchers are 'weak', resource-starved and manipulative. It is more about engagement and negotiated outcomes of like-minded groups from both sides producing collective outcomes that create mutual benefits and win-win situations. Therefore, the basic principle of the partnership relationship should be 'mutual benefits and creating a win-win situation'.

4.3 The way forward

The decentralisation of southern partners and the strengthening of the Regional Coordination Office through autonomy and capacity building are two of the important ways to achieve the NCCR North-South objectives.

Complex institutional arrangements and dealings with southern partners by several northern institutional partners create complications. One northern institution responsible for administrative and financial matters in the region would be a more pragmatic way to effectively implement the research partnership.

The NCCR North-South research collaboration is fundamentally different from the dominant mode of research funding. Research funds are usually provided by independent councils to research institutes or individuals by applying very rigid, structural provisions that are precisely within the framework of 'donor-recipient relations'. In contrast, the NCCR North-South research collaboration is largely shaped by collective understanding, common interests and mutual benefits. Therefore, future research collaboration must be built on the above-mentioned experiences and lessons learnt from this unique approach.

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About the author

Bishnu Raj Upreti holds a PhD from the Netherlands. Dr Upreti is a senior researcher on conflict management and is known in this field nationally and internationally. His research interests include, conflict, peace, non-traditional security, state building and resource governance. He has written and/or co-edited 26 books in conflict, peace, state-building, and security. Besides research, he is also teaching at Kathmandu University. He is engaged with policy-makers, politicians and the national and international media on Nepal's armed conflict and peace process. He is currently the South Asia Regional Coordinator of NCCR North-South, a global research network active in addressing the challenges to sustainable development. Corresponding email address to Dr Upreti is bupreti@nccr.wlink.com.np.

Annex 1: Institutions involved in South Asia

Please note: Cooperation that were terminated are marked in italics

Institution name and location	Category	Affiliation with NCCR	Type of cooperation and contribution to the JACS	Remarks
India				
Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram	Academia	MoU	Exchange of knowledge, data, staff, supervision of PhD student	Not active collaboration in the 3rd phase
Kannur University, Kannur	Academia	MoU	Exchange of knowledge, data, staff, supervision of PhD student	Not active collaboration in the 3rd phase
Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai	Academia	MoU	Exchange of knowledge, data, staff, supervision of MA students	Active collaboration
PANOS Institute South Asia, Assam	NGO	-	Exchange of knowledge, data, sharing	
Nepal				
Human and Natural Resource Studies Center, Kathmandu University	Academia	MoU	Exchange of knowledge, data, staff, supervision of PhD and MA students	Active collaboration
Nepal Institute of Development Studies, Kathmandu	Research institute	MoU	Exchange of knowledge, data, staff, supervision of MA students	Active collaboration
Central Department of Geography, Kathmandu	Academia	MoU	Exchange of knowledge, data, staff, supervision of PhD and MA students	
Pakistan				
Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad	Research institute	MoU	Exchange of knowledge, data, staff, supervision of PhD and MA students	
Sustainable Development Alternatives, Islamabad	NGO	MoU	PAMS Partner (SOUTH ASIA -2_02), exchange of knowledge, data, staff	Collaboration through partnership action project
University of Agriculture Faisalabad, Faisalabad	Academia	MoU with SDPI	Exchange of knowledge, data, staff, supervision of PhD and MA students	Collaboration through SDPI
Bangladesh				
University of Dhaka, Dhaka	Academia	MoU	Research Cooperation	Not Active collaboration in 3rd phase

Annex 2: List of PhD, Master's and Bachelor's Students in South Asia

PhD research in Nepal

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
1	Anita Bhattarai-Ghimire	F	Social and Territorial Impact of Armed Conflict Induced Displacement and the Livelihood of Internally Displaced Persons in Nepal	IP5/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bishnu Raj Upreti, Yves Pedrazzini and Sagar Raj Sharma
2	Ghana Shyam Gurung	M	Reconciling Biodiversity Priorities with Livelihood Needs in Kangchenjunga Conservation Area, Nepal	IP6/WP6	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Ulrike Müller-Böker and Michael Kollmair
3	Purna Bahadur Nepali	M	Access to Land Resource of Dalits and Other Socially Excluded People – Livelihood Insecurity and Social Conflict	IP6/WP6	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Kailash Nath Pyakuryal, Ulrike Müller-Böker and Sagar Raj Sharma
4	Ashok Kumar Rajbanshi	M	Sustainable Livelihood Pattern of Marginal Communities in Peri-urban Areas – A Case of Bajrayogini Village, Kathmandu District	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	V.B.S. Kansakar and Bhim Pd. Subedi
5	Mathias Junginger	M	Migration, multi-local livelihoods and societal change in Far West Nepal	IP6/WP2	Ongoing	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Susan Thieme and Ulrike Müller-Böker
6	Mingma Gyalzen Sherpa	M	Assessing the Methodologies, Outcomes and Benefits of a Household Centered Environmental Sanitation Planning	IP3/WP2	Ongoing	Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand	Thammarat Kottatep
7	Susan Thieme	F	Social Networks and Migration – Far West Nepalese Labour Migrants in Delhi	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Ulrike Müller-Böker, Michael Kollmair
8	Pranil Kumar Upadhyaya	M	Role of Tourism in Conflict Mitigation and Peace Building in Nepal	IP7/WP1	Ongoing	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bishnu Raj Upreti, Sagar Raj Sharma, Laurent Goetschel

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
9	Tulashi Sharan Sigdel	M	Cultural Politics of Democracy and Governance	IP6/WP2	Ongoing	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bishnu Raj Upreti, Katharine Rakin and Sagar Raj Sharma
10	Nirmal Kumar BK	M	Livelihood futures in resource-scarce areas and the quest for inclusion of marginal groups.	IP6/RP2	Ongoing	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Sagar Raj Sharma, Ulrike Müller-Böker
11	Rajya Laxmi Gurung	F	Private Sector in Conflict Context: Towards creating a framework for sustainable peace in Nepal	IP7/RP6	Ongoing	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bishnu Raj Upreti and Andrea Iff
12	Mahendra Sapkota	M	Rise of Ethnic Movements and Contested Rural Development in Nepal: A Case Study of Tharu Movement	IP6/RP1	Ongoing	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Prabin Manandhar and Urs Geiser
13	Sarah L. Byrne	F	Living with violence: rural livelihoods in Mid-Western Nepal during and after the People's War	IP6/RP2	Ongoing	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Benedikt Korf and Ulrike Müller-Böker
14	Mattaeus Rist	M	Effects of Hydro power in Arun valley of Nepal	IP6/RP1	Ongoing		

Master's level research in Nepal

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
1	Bipin Kumar Acharya	M	Livelihood Strategies of a Tamang Community in a Peri-Urban Setting	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi and Indra N. Manandhar
2	Kamal Acharya	M	Livelihood Strategy of Street Readymade Cloth Vendors – A Comparative Study of Kalanki and Sundhara Area	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
3	Basanta Adhikari	M	Street Sweeping as Livelihood Strategy of a Poda Community	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
4	Meghn Dhoj Adhikari	M	Impact of Conflict Induced Displacement on Community Based Management of Resources in Conflict Affected Areas	IP6/WP2	Ongoing	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bishnu Raj Upreti
5	Nirmal P. Adhikari	M	Tourism Development and its Impact on Livelihood Strategies in Manakamana Village, Dhading District	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
6	Samana Adhikari	F	Impact of Community Forestry in the Livelihoods of Dalits	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Kailash Nath Pyakuryal
7	Nikita Agarwal	F	Role of the Private Sector in Rehabilitation of IDPs	IP7/WP1	Ongoing	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bishnu Raj Upreti
8	Lal Bahadur Ale	M	Financial Issues of Labour Migration, Pumdri Bhumdi VDC	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
9	Tara Prasad Awasthi	M	Scavenging as a Livelihood Strategy – A Case Study of Kathmandu Metropolitan City	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi and Kanhaiya Sapkota
10	Tibendra Raj Banskota	M	Portering as Livelihood Strategy – An Example of the Kathmandu Valley	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
11	Chhabi Ram Baral	M	Livelihood Strategy of Internally Displaced Persons in Kathmandu	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
12	Nirmala Devi Baral	F	Female Tempo Drivers as a Way of Earning Livelihood Strategy	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
13	Dolraj Bhandari	M	Squatting in a Metropolitan Area – A Case Study of Banshi Ghat Squatter Settlement in Kathmandu	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
14	Navin Khadananda Bhandari	M	Livelihood Security of Dalit Haliya of Darchula District	IP6/WP2	Ongoing	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Sagar Raj Sharma
15	Ritu Raj Bhandari	M	International Labour Migration as Livelihood Strategy – A Case Study of Planned Re-settled VDC (Prithvinagar) of Jhapa District	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
16	Madhav Bhattarai	M	Livelihood Strategy of the Street Vendors – A Comparative Study of Mobile and Fixed Street Vendors in Kathmandu	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
17	Kashi Ram Dahal	M	The Livelihood Strategy of Street Barbers in Kathmandu Valley	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
18	Bhola Nath Dallakoti	M	Livelihood Strategy of Street Newspaper Vendors – A Comparative Study of Mobile and Fixed Location Newspaper Vendors of Kathmandu Metropolitan City	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
19	Hemanta Dangal	M	Survival on the Street – Livelihood Strategies of Mobile and Static Street Vendors in Kathmandu City	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi and Indra N. Manandhar
20	Ganesh Dhamala	M	Livelihood Strategy of the Street Vendors – A Comparative Study between Mobile and Static Fruit Street Vendors in Kathmandu	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
21	Binod Dhungel	M	Socio-economic Conditions and Origins of International Labour Migrants in Nepal	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
22	Rea Fellmann	F	Labour Migration Nepal – Malaysia	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Susan Thieme

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
23	Stefan Camper	M	Institutional Arrangements of Forest Use in Nepal	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Michael Kollmair
24	Surya Raj Joshi	M	Problems and Challenges of Reintegration of IDPs – A Case Study of Kathmandu	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Prabin Manandhar
25	Heidi Kasper	F	Impacts of International Labour Migration on Gender Relations – A Case Study of Kalabang, Nepal	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Michael Kollmair
26	Tikaram Linkha	M	Livelihood Strategy of Poda Community – A Comparative Study of Kathmandu and Kirtipur	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
27	Martina Locher	F	Women's-Development Approach in the Kanchenjunga Conservation Area Project, East Nepal – Impact on Women's Status and Project Outcomes	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Michael Kollmair
28	Phanendra Bahadur Madai	M	Livelihood Strategy of Urban Poor – A Case Study of Squatter Settlement in Balaju	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
29	Kiran Maharjan	M	Climate Change and Floods: Vulnerability Analysis of People towards Disaster	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Chatra Mani Sharma
30	Roshna Maharjan	F	Climate Change and its Impacts on Agriculture: Farmers' Perception and Adaptation Measures: A Case Study of Jagatpur VDC of Chitwan District"	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Kailash Nath Pyakuryal
31	Nina Meier	F	Nepal – Switzerland: An Empirical Study of South-North Migration. Illustrated by Nepalese Migrants in Switzerland	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Ulrike Müller-Böker
32	Mahima Neupane	F	Access of Dalits and Socially Excluded People in Land Resources	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Kailash Nath Pyakuryal

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
33	Rajendra Neupane	M	Returning the Internally Displaced Persons in their Homeland – Opportunities and Challenges of the Post-Conflict Situation in Nepal	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bishnu Raj Upreti
34	Soney Pandey	F	Livelihood Strategies of Street Food Vendors in Kathmandu Valley	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
35	Indra Prasad Paneru	M	Livelihood Strategy and Occupational Vulnerability of Street Ice-Cream Vendors of Kathmandu Valley – A Case Study of Jawalakhel, Ratnapark and Balaju Area	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
36	Narayan Paneru	M	International Labour Migration and Status of Women – A Case Study of Sainik Basti	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi and Ganesh Gurung
37	Mahesh Pathak	M	Livelihood Strategy of Street Cobblers – A Case Study of Kathmandu Valley	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
38	Sulava Piyu	F	Livelihood Options of Internally Displaced Girls in Kathmandu and Nepalgunj: Analyzing Risks and Vulnerabilities	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Sagar Raj Sharma
39	Amit Kumar Pokharel	M	Impact of Armed Conflict on the Health of Internally Displaced Children of Nepal	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Sagar Raj Sharma
40	Karuna Pokharel	F	Livelihood Strategy of Women Labour in Garment Industries – A Case Study of Kathmandu	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
41	Narayan Pokharel	M	Labour Migration to India – A case study of Khaira VDC, Pyuthan District	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi and Kanhaiya Sapkota

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
42	Dilli Prasad Poudel	M	Livelihood Strategies and Occupational Vulnerability of the Street Vendor	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi and Indra N. Manandhar
43	Kalawoti Rai	F	Dalit Farmers and Tenant Cultivators Impact on Livelihood	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Kailash Nath Pyakuryal
44	Ramesh Kumar Rai	M	Changing Livelihood Strategy in Kami and Damai Community – A Comparative Study	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
45	Sudil Rai	M	Potato Cultivation – A Case Study of Sankhu Area Kathmandu District	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
46	Dhurba Regmi	M	Livelihood Insecurity of IDPs and Urban Crime –Human Security Perspective	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bishnu Raj Upreti
47	Ashok Raut	M	Street Children and Their Livelihood Asset, Strategies and Vulnerability – A Case Study of Street Child Vendors of Kathmandu Metropolitan City	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
48	Kiran Sapkota	M	Livelihoods and Health Problems of Squatters in Kathmandu City	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
49	Lilith Schaefer	F	Linking Livelihood Factors to Girls' Education – A Study in Kapilavastu, Nepal	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Kate Molesworth
50	Walter Schubiger	M	Land Cover Changes in the Kangchenjunga Conservation Area, Nepal	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Chana Gurung
51	Meen Bahadur shahi	M	International Labour Migration – A Case Study of Lamatola VDC, Bajhang District	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi and Ganesh Gurung

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
52	Rita Sharma	F	Woman and Livelihood Strategy of the Household in Marginal Community of Urban Periphery in Kathmandu – A Case Study of Putuwar Community in Halchowk	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
53	Jyotshna Shrestha	F	Effects on Social and Economic Roles and Responsibilities of Women Displaced Due to Conflict	IP6/WP2	Ongoing	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bishnu Raj Upreti
54	Lisha Shrestha	F	Inclusive Land Policy and Human Security in Post-Conflict Situation: A Study of Parsauni and Pratapur VDCs of Nawalparasi District	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bishnu Raj Upreti
55	Shristee Singh	F	Dalits and their Roles in Agricultural Development in the Terai Region of Nepal	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Kallash Nath Pyakuryal
56	Gita Thapa	F	Livelihood Strategy of the Urban Poor – A Case Study of Ramhity Squatter Settlement, Kathmandu	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi and Kanhaiya Sapkota
57	Nirm Bahadur Thapa	M	International Labour Migration – A Case Study of Gwado VDC, Gulmi District	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi and Kanhaiya Sapkota
58	Tek Bahadur Thapa	M	Health Accessibility Among the Foreign Migrant Households – A Case Study of Sainik Basti, Western Nepal	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi and Ganesh Gurung
59	Krishna Prasad Timilsina	M	Impact of Agric. Road from Bhimdhunga to Jivanpur on Livelihood Strategy of Rural People –Jivanpur VDC, Dhading	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
60	Simon Wyss	F	Organisation and Finance of International Labour Migration – A Case Study of Sainik Basti, Western Nepal	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Michael Kollmair and Susan Thieme

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
61	Deepak Kumar Yadav	M	Flower Selling Occupation as Livelihood – A Study of Pashupati and Dakshinkali Area of Kathmandu Valley	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
62	Flavia Toccoli-Zangerle	F	Protection through Participation – Wildlife Conservation Strategy in the Kangchenjunga Conservation Area	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Michael Kollmair and Chana Gurung
63	Bishnu Prasad Ghimire	M	Corporate Engagement For Conflict Transformation: A Case Study of Pokhara	IP7/RP6	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bishnu Raj Upreti
64	Sony KC	F	Analyzing the Roles and Challenges of Women in the Tourism Sector (An Ethnographic study of Western Nepal	IP7/WP1	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bharat Pokharel
65	Deepti Bazgain	F	CSR of private industries in Birgunj	IP7/RP6	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Sagar Raj Sharma
66	Ephraim Poetner	M	Interlinkages between Internal and International Migration: A Case Study of Migrants from Bajhang in Dhangadhi, Far West Nepal	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Mathias Junginger and Susan Thieme
67	Anjana Luitel	F	Women's Land Ownership and Empowerment A case study of Morang District	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Kallash Nath Pyakuryal
68	Anupama Mahat	F	Climate of Injustice to Local Communities in Forest Tenure and Carbon Benefits: A Case of Nawalparasi District	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bharat Pokharel
69	Suman Babu Paudel	M	Madhes Conflict and Changed Social Relationship: A Case of Bardibas VDC of Mahottari District	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bishnu Raj Upreti
70	Chhatra Mani Koirala	M	Factors Influencing Market Participation of Cardamom Farmers: A Case Study of Ilam District	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Krishna Prasad Pant

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
71	Jyoti Baidya	F	Assistance for Conflict Induced IDPs: A Case Study of Morang (An Emerging Right to Restitution)	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Kallash Nath Pyakuryal
72	Sundar Kumar Sharma	M	Political Ecology of Everest Tourism: Forging Links to Sustainable Mountain Development	IP7/WP1	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Prabin Manandhar
73	Nripal Adhikari	M	Political Ecology of Vulnerability: Case Study of Syangja Nepal		Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Kallash Nath Pyakuryal
74	Sudeep Manandhar	M	Ecotourism in the High Mountains of Nepal: A Bright Future or a Burden? A study of Ghunsa in Kanchanjunga Conservation Area"	IP7/WP1	Completed	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Krishna Ram Khadka
75	Hem Raj Paneru	M	Working in Brick Kilns Struggle for Living: in Tinthana and Harisiddhi VDC's in Kathmandu Valley	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
76	Madan Raj Joshi	M	Female Sex Workers in Kathmandu: Livelihood Assets and their Vulnerability	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
77	Rajip Adhikari	M	Geographic Analysis of Livelihood Strategy in Jagritinagar Squatter Settlement, Kathmandu	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
78	Manira Gotame	F	Domestic Workers in Their Living: A Study of Selected Localities in Kathmandu District	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
79	Yog Raj Gautam	M	An exploration in urban poverty: the case of livelihood sustainability of squatter women in Kathmandu	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tribhuvan University, Nepal	Bhim Pd. Subedi
80	Krishna Hari GC	M	Post conflict re-construction and development: Study from upper Tamakoshi hydropower	RP 6	Ongoing	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bishnu Raj Upreti
81	Prakash Budha Magar	M			Ongoing	Kathmandu University, Nepal	
82	Monalisha Maharjan	F			Ongoing	Kathmandu University, Nepal	Bishnu Raj Upreti

PhD research in Pakistan:

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
1	Babar Shahbaz	M	Analysis of Institutional Changes in Forest Management and their Impact on Rural Livelihood Strategies in NWFP, Pakistan	IP6/WP2	Completed	University of Faisalabad	Tanvir Ali, Abid Q. Suleri and Urs Geiser
2	Julia Gruenenfelder	F	Development Policies and Livelihood Realities in the North West Frontier Province (NWFP), Pakistan	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Urs Geiser and Ulrike Müller-Böker
3	Rana Muhammad Amir	M	Food security and livelihood futures in resource scarce agro-ecological zones: a case study in Northwestern highlands of Pakistan.	IP6/WP2	Ongoing	University of Faisalabad	Tanvir Ali and Babar Shahbaz
4	Muhammad Luqman	M		IP6/WP2	Ongoing	University of Faisalabad	Babar Shahbaz and Urs Geiser
5	Muhammad Saleem	M	First characterization of the Achai cattle breed under sedentary and transhumant farming systems in the Hindukush Mountains of Northern Pakistan	TN3/RP15	Ongoing	Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad, Pakistan	Professor Dr. Samina Jalali, Inam-ur-Rahim, Henri Rulff
6	Momin Khan	M	Conserving a well-adapted indigenous buffalo: the Azikheli breed in the Hindukush Mountains of Northern Pakistan	TN3/RP15	Ongoing	Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad, Pakistan	Professor Dr. Samina Jalali, Inam-ur-Rahim, Henri Rulff

Master's level research in Pakistan:

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
1	Niels Balzer	M	Der Pressure-State-Response Ansatz (PSR) – Eine Methode zur Reduktion von Komplexität? Bsp. Forstsektor Pakistan	IP 6	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Urs Geiser, Abid Q. Suleri and Ulrike Müller-Böker
2	Tahira Sadaf	F	Gendered Livelihood Strategies in Mansehra and Mardan Districts of NWFP, Pakistan – The Role of Gender Norms	IP6/WP2	Completed	University of Peshawar, Pakistan	Muhammad Bashir and Karin Siegmann
3	Muhammad Tayyab	M	Analysis of Forest Related Development Interventions in Highland Districts of NWFP, Pakistan	IP6/WP2	Completed	University of Arid Agriculture Rawalpindi, Pakistan	Sarwat N. Mirza and Abid Q. Suleri
4	Simon Thoma	F	Implementation and Impact of the Millennium Development Goals in Pakistan	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Urs Geiser and Ulrike Müller-Böker
5	Muhammad Arif Watoo	M	Stakeholders in the Context of Forest Related Projects – Implications for Forestry Extension and Rural Development	IP6/WP2	Completed	University of Agricultural Faisalabad, Pakistan	Tanvir Ali and Babar Shahbaz
6	Muhammad Awais	M	A Futuristic Study of Institutional Changes and Livelihood Assets of Forest Users in Manshera District, NWFP	IP6	Completed	University of Faisalabad	Tanvir Ali
7	Bernd Steimann	M	Decentralisation and Participation in the Forestry Sector of NWFP, Pakistan – The Role of the State	IP6	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Urs Geiser and Ulrike Müller-Böker
8	Eva Syfrig	F	Smallholder-Livelihoods in the Hindukush – Livestock and Natural Resource Management	IP2/WP4	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Bern	Hans Hurni and Daniel Masselli

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
9	Waqar-ul-Hassan Tareen	M	An exploratory study of Social Safety Nets (SSN) in Battagram district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province: Implications for food security of small farmers	IP6/WP2	Completed	University of Faisalabad	Tanvir Ali and Babar Shahbaz
10	Martin Kienzler	M	Linking Climate Change with Food Security in the highlands of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Northwest Pakistan	IP6/WP2	Ongoing	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Urs Geiser and Babar Shahbaz
11	Mushtaq Ahmad Jan	M	Socio-economic analysis of timber trade in the NWFP, with special reference to stakeholders analysis in Malakand region	IP6/WP2	Completed	University of Faisalabad	Karin Seigmann and Abid Q. Suleri

PhD research in India

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
1	Sanjay Barbora	M	Land, Class and Ethnicity – Permutations of Environmental Conflicts in Assam, Northeastern India	IP7/WP1	Completed	North Eastern Hill University, India	C. Nunthura and Juerg Helbling
2	Frank Eyhorn	M	Assessing the Potential for Organic Farming for Sustainable Livelihoods in Developing Countries – The Case of Cotton in India	IP1/WP4	Completed	NADEL, ETH, Zurich	Ur Wiesmann and Ruedi Baumgartner
3	Indu Kalamani	F	Understanding "Crisis" in a Traditional Agro-based Industry – The Case of Coir in Kerala	IP6/WP2	Ongoing	Centre for Development Studies, India	K.N. Nair
4	Naveen Kumar Agrawal	M	Development, City and Slums – A Case Study of Delhi Slums	IP6/TP	Completed	University of Delhi, India	Rashmi Agrawal
5	Smita Premchander	F	Exploring the Meaning of Money – A Study of the Impact of Microfinance in Koppal District of India	IP1/WP4	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Bern and University of Durham	Sue Miller, Urs Wiesmann and Stephan Rist
6	Juan Pedro Schmid	M	Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction in India – Effectiveness and Efficiency of Economic and Social Policies of the Centre and the States	IP6/TP	Completed	NADEL, ETH, Zurich and University of Delhi, India	Rolf Kappel and A. Abdulai
7	Balz Strasser	M	"We are as Flexible as Rubber!" Livelihood Strategies, Diversity and the Local Institutional Setting of Rubber Small Holders in Kerala, South India	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Urs Geiser and Ulrike Müller-Böker
8	C.P. Vinod	M	Negotiating the Local and the Global – the Livelihood Struggles of Tribal Paniyas in the Western Ghats of Kerala	IP6/WP2	Completed	Kannur University, India	Vineetha Menon and Urs Geiser

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
9	Sandra Walter	F	Gender, Citizenship and Urban Environmental Management – the Implications of the Institutional Reforms in Kerala	TP	Ongoing	IHEID, University of Geneva	Christine Verschuur
10	Awanish Kumar	M	Agrarian Change, Dalits and Social Movements: A Study in Maharashtra State, India	RPI	Ongoing	Tata Institute of Social Science, India	R. Ramakumar and Urs Geiser
11	Silva Lieberherr	F	Living on farming in a globalizing world: The role of social movements in Maharashtra, India.	RPI	Ongoing	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Urs Geiser and R. Ramakumar
12	Miriam Bishokarma	F	On the quest for development – the Gorkhaland movement in West Bengal/ India		Ongoing	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	
13	Craig Hatcher	M			Ongoing		

Master research in India:

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
1	Barbara Zollinger	F	Female-Headed Rubber Holdings in Kerala – Impact of Fluctuating Natural Rubber Prices on Income Generating and Expenditure Strategies	IP6	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Balz Strasser, urs Geiser and Ulrike Müller-Böker
2	Marion Kuenzler	F	Die landwirtschaftliche Entwicklung in den 90er Jahren in Indien – Fallbeispiele Andhra Pradesh und Punjab	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Rolf Kappel and Ulrike Müller-Böker
3	Patricia Meyer	F	Do Civil Society Organisations provide a Link between People and Policy? Insights from Kerala	IP6/Wp2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Urs Geiser and Ulrike Müller-Böker
4	Jamil Mokhtar	M	The Fairtrade Potential of the Rubber Supply Chain in Kerala – A Case Study Conducted on Chappals and Condoms	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Balz Strasser, Urs Geiser and Ulrike Müller-Böker
5	Anna Neukirchen	F	Armut und Marginalität in Südasien	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Urs Geiser and Ulrike Müller-Böker
6	Bheemeshwar Reddy	M	Status of Agricultural Extension Network in India	IP6/WP2	Completed	Tata Institute of Social Science, India	R. Ramakumar
7	Orvil Frey	M	Naturkauschukmärkte – Genese, Entwicklung und Gegenwart	IP6/WP2	Completed	Department of Geography, University of Zurich	Balz Strasser, Norman Backhaus and Ulrike Müller-Böker

PhD in Sri Lanka

S.N.	Name	Gender	Topic of the research	Project	Status	Institution	Supervisor/s
1	Rina M. Alluri	F	Analysis of Institutional Changes in Forest Management and their Impact on Rural Livelihood Strategies in NWFP, Pakistan	RP6	Ongoing	Swiss Peace Foundation	Andrea Iff, Laurent Goetschel
2	Bart Klem	M	Causes and dynamics of armed conflict, peacekeeping and peacebuilding interventions, development – conflict nexus. Regional focus: South Asia, Sri Lanka	RP1	Ongoing	University of Zurich	Benedikt Korf

Selected publications from the RCO and its partner institutions:

1. Upreti BR. 2012. *Research for Development: Concepts and Orientation*. SAs RCO Discussion Paper-3. Kathmandu: NCCR North-South, South Asia Coordination Office.
2. Upreti BR, Ghimire A. 2012. *Conflict, Transition, and Challenges to Nepal's Peace Process*, SAs RCO Discussion Paper-2. Kathmandu: NCCR North-South, South Asia Coordination Office.
3. Upreti BR, Zimmermann AB, Berhanu Debele, Cissé G; with contributions from the NCCR North-South Regional Coordinators. 2012. *Partnerships in Development-oriented Research: Lessons Learnt and Challenges Ahead*. Kathmandu, Nepal: NCCR North-South, South Asia Coordination Office.
4. Upreti BR, Sharma SR, Pyakuryal KN and Ghimire, S. 2010. *The Remake of a state: Post-Conflict Challenges and State building in Nepal*. Kathmandu: HNRSC and the RCO, (NCCR) North-South.
5. Upreti BR and Muller-Boeker U. 2010. *Livelihood insecurity and social conflict in Nepal*. Kathmandu: RCO.
6. Upreti BR, Sharma SR and Basnet J, editors. 2009. *Nepalma Bhumi Rajniti ra Dwanda: Gramin Rupantaranka Yathartha ra Shambhanaharu* (Land Politics and Conflict in Nepal: Realities and Potentials for Agrarian Transformation). Kathmandu: Community Self Reliance Centre, Human and Natural Resources Studies Centre, Kathmandu University and South Asia Regional Coordination Office of (NCCR) North-South.
7. Upreti BR, Topperwin N, and Heiniger M. 2009. *Peace Process and Federalism in Nepal: Experiences, reflections and learning..* Kathmandu: RCO SAS.
8. Pyakuryal KN, Upreti BR, Sharma SR, editors. 2008. *Nepal: Transition to Transformation*. Kathmandu: HNRSC, (NCCR) North-South.
9. Upreti, BR and Nepali R, editors. 2006. *Nepal at Barrel of Gun: Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons and their Impacts*. Kathmandu: South Asia Small Arms Network-Nepal.
10. Ghimire S and Nahikian A, editors, 2009. *The Student Workshop Proceeding on Peace Building in Nepal*. HNRSC-Kathmandu University, HPCR-Harvard University and RCO SAS (NCCR) North-South, Kathmandu, Nepal.
11. Ghimire A, Upreti BR, Gurung G and Adhikari J, editors. 2010. *Nepal Migration Year Book 2009*. Kathmandu: NIDS and NCCR North-South.
12. *Nepal Migration Year Book 2008*. Kathmandu: NIDS and NCCR North-South.
13. *Nepal Migration Year Book 2007*. Kathmandu: NIDS and NCCR North-South.
14. *Nepal Migration Year Book 2006*. Kathmandu: NIDS and NCCR North-South.
15. Kaspar H. 2005. *"I am the household Head now!"- Gender Aspect of Out – migration for Labour in Nepal*. Kathmandu: (NCCR) North-South and Nepal Institute of Development Studies.
16. *SASON Journal of Sociology Anthropology, Volume One*
17. *SASON Journal of Sociology Anthropology, Volume Two*
18. Pyakuryal KN, Acharya BP, Timseena B, Chhetri G, Uprety M, editors. 2008. *Social Science in a Multicultural World*. Proceedings of the International Conference held on 11-13 December 2006. Kathmadu: SASON and NCCR North-South.
19. Pyakuryal KN and Upreti BR, editors. 2011. *Land, Agriculture and Agrarian Transformation*. Kathmandu: Consortium for Land Research and Policy Dialogue (COLARP).
20. Singh Shrestha S. Compiler. 2011. *An Annotated Bibliography on Land Research in Nepal*. (COLARP).
21. Pyakuryal KN, Nepali PB, Singh S, Ghimire S, editors. 2009. Kathmandu: Consortium for Land Research and Policy Dialogues (COLARP).
22. Pradhan P, editor. 2009. *Geographic Research Methods Handbook*. Kathmandu: CDG-TU and (NCCR) North-South.

About the Publisher

The National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) North-South is one of the 20 long-term research programmes implemented by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) in areas of vital strategic importance for the advancement of science. The NCCR North-South focuses on international research cooperation and promotes high-quality disciplinary, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research with the aim of contributing to an improved understanding of the global change and challenges. It enables Swiss research institutions to enhance partnerships with institutions in developing countries, thereby building the competence and capacity of research on both sides to develop socially robust knowledge for addressing the challenges of global change. The research programme in the South is coordinated by Regional Coordination Offices (RCOs) through partnerships with researchers and research institutions.

South Asia Regional Coordination Office is one of the RCOs, which is located in Kathmandu, Nepal. Research focuses in this region are: a) governance and conflict transformation, b) livelihood options and globalisation including institutional changes livelihood insecurities, and c) natural resources and sustainable development. The major concentration of this region's research is in Nepal, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

