**Asia Pacific Youth Forum 2013 on Mountain issues and Post 2015 Development Agenda**

### Kathmandu, Nepal

#### 30 September - 4 October 2013

Through its Asia-Pacific Mountain Network ([APMN](http://www.icimod.org/?q=1522)), the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) has been engaging youth and building their capacity to bring about positive changes in society through several different initiatives. Since it began in 2009, the global membership of the Youth Engagement in Sustainable Mountain Development (Y4SMD) initiative has grown to 5,000 members, a majority of which are from ICIMOD’s regional member countries – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan. In 2010, ICIMOD started organizing youth forums in member countries to build the technical capacity and leadership skills of youth in the region as well as to enhance their knowledge on the most burning issues in mountain development. The [Asia-Pacific Youth Forum on Climate Actions and Mountain Issues](http://www.icimod.org/apyf2011) in 2011 and the[Asia Pacific Graduates' Youth Forum on Green Economy](http://www.icimod.org/apyf2012) in 2012 were expanded to include the entire[Asia-Pacific region](http://www.icimod.org/?q=4130), and the [Global Youth Forum on Mountain Issues and Sustainable Actions](http://www.icimod.org/?q=7354) in 2012 held in conjunction with the Rio+20 summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, included participants from around the globe. As the preparation and follow-up of the Rio+20 process, In 2012/13 ICIMOD organized a series of National Youth Forums on Green Solutions in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan, ran awareness campaigns in Nepal, Pakistan, and other countries by mobilizing local youth initiatives and ICIMOD Youth Ambassadors. ICIMOD has partnered with more than two dozen regional, national, and global institutes in promoting youth activities and have organized several e-conferences, Climate Cafés, knowledge sharing workshops, the Earth Debate, capacity building events, and promoted networking-advocacy on the sideline of important international events. Some of the youth ambassadors were sent to Rio+20 conference in Brazil, the UNFCCC COP 18 in Doha, and the 2nd Asia Pacific Adaptation Forum in Bangkok to advocate for mountain issues in the context of ongoing debates on  sustainable development and climate change adaptation.

Building on the success of these ventures, ICIMOD is now preparing for the Asia Pacific Youth Forum 2013 on Mountain issues and Post 2015 Development Agenda, which will take place in Kathmandu, Nepal from 30 September to 4 October 2013. The event will bring together young scientists, early career professionals, young politicians and youth initiative leaders from the region and develop their knowledge on mountain issues and the Post-2015 Development Agenda as an input towards global processes on the development of the Post-2015 Development Agenda .

Asia Pacific Youth Forum 2013 will bring together 40 participants from more than 15 countries who are engaged in sustainability issues. With technical support from several leading institutions, the five-day programme will include capacity building and knowledge exchange sessions, leadership exercises, and excursions to nearby environmental projects.

This forum has been made possible with support from the the [Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC)](http://www.deza.admin.ch/en/Home), [the Consortium for the Sustainable Development of the Andean Eco-region (CONDESAN)](http://www.mountainpartnership.org/members/members-detail/en/c/42844/), and the[International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD).](http://www.icimod.org/)

#### Who can apply?

Youth between the ages of 18 and 29 from the Asia-Pacific region with an academic or a professional degree in related fields are eligible to apply. Those with demonstrated leadership in sustainable development issues are strongly encouraged to apply.

#### Sponsorship?

Selected participants will be provided with International airfare, accommodation, food and local transport.

#### Selection

The names of selected participants will be posted on the[event page](http://www.icimod.org/?q=11492)and[Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/APY.Rioplus20). Selected participants will also be notified via email.

Selected participants will be required to present a copy of their valid passport/national identity card from their stated country of origin. Inability to do so will result in disqualification from the programme.

#### How to apply?

Please [click here](http://www.icimod.org/?q=11494) for the application form.

Deadline for Application

10 September 2013

For further information, please write to:

Event Focal Point: Smita Ghimire