



## **The contribution potential of glaciers to Himalaya river runoff**

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Glaciers are reported to crucially contribute to the water availability for large population numbers around the Himalaya. They are expected to change their water storage capacity under the changing climate conditions with major detrimental consequences for fresh water supply. The potential to modify river runoff of both the storage capacity in glaciers and its variability differs in different climate regimes and decreases downriver. The lack of appropriate data records and model performance leaves us with only vague ideas for most river systems. We present a simple method to assess the contribution potential of glaciers to river runoff from data sets available. Glacier contribution to runoff is shown together with population numbers downriver. Respective results are presented and discussed in simple plots and in a summary map.