



A Regional Framework for Transboundary Hydrometeorological Monitoring of Major River Basins in the Himalayan Region

Hua Ouyang (1) and Arun Shrestha (2)

(1) ICIMOD, Nepal (houyang@icimod.org), (2) ICIMOD, NEpal (abshrestha@icimod.org)

The Himalayas with highest altitude in the world has been considered the major water sources of the region. Ten of the large rivers originated from the Himalayas cut across several countries. More than 1.3 billion people are estimated to live depending on Himalayan waters. Climate change has posed additional stress and challenges on water resources development and management with increased scarcity of water in dry season and enhanced hazards in the monsoon through increased temperature and snow and ice melting. To address this huge challenge cooperative efforts among the countries are absolutely crucial. In view of that, management of water resources in the Himalayan region requires transboundary hydrometeorological monitoring and sharing mechanism. Present paper discusses the regional framework for transboundary monitoring of major river basins (eg. Koshi and Indus basins). Further, issues related to data management and capacity building on measurements are discussed.