

## Registration Process

Registration for both the participation and presentation (oral and poster) can be done from knowledge conclave website [www.knowledgeconclave.com.np](http://www.knowledgeconclave.com.np). Interested students can click on the thematic area they are interested in to either participate and/or make a presentation.

### Registration Fee

For regular participants: Rs. 1800/-

For poster presenters: Rs. 2000/-

For oral presenters: Rs. 2500/-

Registration fee covers transportation (Kathmandu-Chitwan-Kathmandu), food, refreshment, and conference materials. Accommodation will be provided to needy participants from outside Chitwan.

**Conference date:** April 5-7, 2020

## Important deadlines

Abstract submission deadline: February 25, 2020

Notification of abstract acceptance: March 1, 2020

Registration deadline: March 15, 2020

Orientation workshop (for oral and poster presenters): 3rd week of March 2020

Final poster and oral presentation submission: March 30, 2020

### Conference Advisory Committee

- Er. Ganesh Shah, Former Minister for Science Technology and Environment
- Prof. Dr. Pitamber Sharma, Former Vice Chair, National Planning Commission
- Dr. Sanjay Sharma, Secretary, GoN-MoEST
- Prof. Dr. Ram Prasad Khatiwada, Dean, Institute of Science and Technology, TU
- Prof. Dr. Balram Bhatta, Dean, Faculty of Forestry, AFU
- Prof. Dr. Kanaiya Jha, Dean, School of Science, KU
- Mr. Ajay Dixit, Executive Director, ISET-N

### Scientific Committee

- Prof. Dr. Binod Shrestha, Management
- Prof. Dr. Bhuminda Devkota, Veterinary Science
- Prof. Dr. Damber Bahadur Nepali, Engineering
- Prof. Dr. Deepak Subedi, Physics
- Prof. Dr. Dilip Kumar Jha, Aquatic Resource
- Prof. Dr. Durga Devkota, Social Science
- Prof. Dr. Madhav Pandey, Plant Genetics
- Prof. Dr. Subodh Sharma, Environmental Science
- Prof. Dr. Sundar Man Shrestha, Plant Pathology
- Prof. Dr. Tara Prasad Upadhyaya, Management
- Dr. Deep Narayan Shah, Freshwater Ecology
- Dr. Dibas Shrestha, Hydrology and Meteorology
- Dr. Jhamak Bahadur Karki, Conservation Biology
- Dr. Kailash Timilsina, Demography
- Dr. Kamal Adhikari, Plant Biology

- Dr. Narayan Prasad Koju, Wildlife Ecology
- Dr. Nirajan Bhattarai, Animal Breeding
- Dr. Ramesh Sapkota, Ecology
- Dr. Ramji Bogati, Urban Planning
- Dr. Rijan Bhakta Kayastha, Glaciology
- Dr. Santosh Marahatta, Agronomy
- Dr. Shailenda K. Jha, Engineering
- Dr. Shila Maskey, Air Pollution
- Dr. Shiva Chandra Dhakal, Agriculture Economics
- Mr. Rabin Malla, Development Studies
- Mr. Suresh Pradhan, Development Sociology
- Mr. Yogendra Subedi, Economics

### Technical Advisory Committee

- Prof. Dr. Rejina Maskey, Department Head, CDES-TU
- Prof. Dr. Kedar Rijal, CDES-TU
- Prof. Dr. Dinesh Raj Bhujju, RHF
- Prof. Dr. Arjun Kumar Shrestha, AFU
- Mr. Surendra Subedi, MoEST
- Mr. Kanchan Dixit, ISET-Nepal
- Mr. Ajay B. Mathema, SchEMS

### Management Committee

- Dr. Dinesh Neupane, Conference Secretary
- Prof. Dr. Chhatra Mani Sharma, CDES-TU
- Mr. Rajkumar Gumanju, MoEST
- Ms. Anustha Shrestha, ISET-Nepal
- Ms. Juna Rai, RHF
- Mr. Ram Hari Timalsina, AFU- Rampur
- Mr. Shreehari Bhattarai, AFU- Hetauda
- Mr. Narayan Niraula, Saptagandaki Multiple Campus, Chitwan

## Organizers

GoN-Ministry of Education, Science and Technology  
Agriculture and Forestry University, Nepal  
Tribhuvan University – IOST - Central Department of Environmental Science  
Institute for Social and Environmental Transition-Nepal  
Resources Himalaya Foundation

### In Partnership and Support of

Kathmandu University  
Mid-Western University

## Conference Secretariat

**Dinesh Neupane, PhD**

**Resources Himalaya Foundation**

Dr. Pralad Yonzon Memorial Conservation Chautari

Nayabato, Sanepa, Lalitpur

Phone: +977 1 5537502

Email: [knowledgeconclave@gmail.com](mailto:knowledgeconclave@gmail.com); [admin@resourcehimalaya.org](mailto:admin@resourcehimalaya.org)  
[www.knowledgeconclave.com.np](http://www.knowledgeconclave.com.np); [www.resourcehimalaya.org](http://www.resourcehimalaya.org)



# Sustainability through Knowledge and Innovation



## 6<sup>th</sup> Graduate Conference 2020 Himalayan Knowledge Conclave

Agriculture and Forestry University, Rampur, Chitwan

**April 05-07, 2020**

**(Chaitra 23-25, 2076)**



## Background

Nepali society needs visionary and creative thinkers to understand the changing social, political, cultural and economic climate. Research on these areas is essential and must be supported by quality research that young researchers conduct. Achieving high-quality research in Nepal is especially challenging given the research environment of the country. Terrain related to science, development, climate, and policy is still fragmented. The research trend does not promote critical thinking and the investments in research are limited as well. Findings are usually poorly documented and not shared among researchers even if they exist. The outputs are rarely communicated to the wider public in a language that they can understand.

Young graduates can play a significant role in carrying out research, sharing results among their peers and other groups within society for betterment. Graduates from Nepali universities need to engage with each other and a wider society in order to promote economic development, social welfare and environmental stewardship. However, they lack skills to carry out quality research and get little input from research organizations that pioneer in these issues. Due to this challenge, the findings do not generate new knowledge that will be instrumental to address policy issues and challenges. This will lead to low quality input of produced graduates to the think tanks. In both cases, society loses.

Improving the quality of education is not only the responsibility of educational institutions, but the role played by other stakeholders is equally important. It requires a partnership among these stakeholders to improve the quality of research in the country. For this reason, Tribhuvan University-Institute of Science and Technology Central Department of Environmental Science (TU-IOST-CDES), Resources Himalaya Foundation (RHF), and Institute for Social and Environmental Transition - Nepal (ISET-N) formed a consortium in 2015 to help build an ecosystem capable of carrying out high-quality research. For this, the consortium agreed to annually hold Graduate Conference of the universities in Nepal known as Himalayan Knowledge Conclave. The conference is held on first week of April every year.

The Government of Nepal - Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (GoN-MoEST) has generously patronized and supported the initiatives since 2018.

Now, it is a time to work together for 2020 conference. With this motive, the Graduate Conference 2020 has been proposed to convene from April 5 to 7, 2020. The Agriculture and Forestry University (AFU) has shown its keen interest to host the Conference at its premises in Rampur, Chitwan.

## Modality

GoN-MoEST will be key supporting institution to the conference. Agriculture and Forestry University will be the host organizer of the Conference in Chitwan this year. The initiating institutions of the Conference consortium, TU-IOST-CDES, RHF and ISET-N will continue their technical support to facilitate in the Conference. All

the universities in Nepal, their departments and colleges will be requested for their cooperation and partnership.

## Target Audience

The Conference is open to all interested graduates and graduate students of the universities in Nepal to take part actively in its sessions. Some seats are also allocated to the undergraduate students as well. The Conference anticipates over 300 participants including presenters, panelists, volunteers, reviewers, moderators, observers, judges and guests. The Conference will call for paper, poster and participation from all disciplines that comply with the theme of the Conference and upholds the scientific values and research methods.

The presentations by the students and graduates are classified as follows:

- Fresh Master's graduates: Fresh master's graduates who have successfully defended their theses are given priority in making presentations either oral or poster.
- Master level students: Selected students of master's degree present the findings of their thesis research or case studies either in oral or poster sessions.
- Bachelor level students: Selected students of bachelor level make poster presentations based on their research reports submitted to their respective institutions.
- Young researchers: Some young researchers who have recently completed their PhD are invited to give lead presentations in the Conference.

## Conference Theme for 2020

*Sustainability through Knowledge and Innovation*

## Thematic Areas

### a. Biodiversity, ecosystem and livelihood

- Agriculture and livestock
- Biological invasion and threats to biodiversity
- Ecosystem dynamics and restoration
- Ecotourism in and outside protected areas
- Gender and livelihood
- Plant and animal diversity
- Protected area and people
- Water and wetlands

### b. Climate change and disaster

- Climate change, global and local, scientific evidences
- Climate change impacts on social, economic and environment
- Climate change adaptation (CbA, EbA, Nature based Adaptation), resilience
- Development and disaster, DRR

- Earthquake, landslide, flood, GLOF, drought, lightning, snow avalanches, epidemics
- ### c. Economics and management
- Capacity development/building
  - Good governance
  - Labor relations and human resource management
  - Public administration and small business entrepreneurship
  - Public spending
  - Social marketing
  - Rural and urban developments
- ### d. Energy
- Alternative energy, constraints and opportunities
  - Energy, prosperity and infrastructure development
  - Energy supply and demand
  - Energy diversification and energy use efficiencies
- ### e. Health and medical science
- Disease and health
  - Occupational health
  - Public health and environmental pollution
- ### f. Indigenous knowledge and technologies
- Biotechnology and food technology
  - Electrical, electronics and computer/information technology
  - Indigenous and traditional knowledge
  - Innovative technologies for industry, health, household and companies
  - Nanotechnology
- ### g. Pollution and control measures
- Air, surface water and land pollution
  - Ground water pollution and control
  - Remedies and pollution control technology
  - Waste management
- ### h. Sociology and humanities
- Anthropology and history
  - Gender and ethnicity
  - Journalism
  - Law and political science
  - Psychology
- ### i. STEM (Science, Technologies, Mathematics and Engineering)
- Architecture and civil engineering
  - Earth science including hydrology and meteorology
  - Geography
  - Material science
  - Mathematical modeling
  - Mechanical and industrial engineering
  - Molecular and cellular biology
  - Optimization