

**Commission for Development Studies at the Austrian Academy of Sciences (KEF)**

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The Commission for Development Studies at the Austrian Academy of Sciences (KEF) was founded in 1981 as a follow up to the 1979 UN-Conference 'Science and Technology for Development' in Vienna.

As a small organisation with the back-up of its 30 members, KEF aims at bridging the gap between science and development by supporting a development-oriented approach in research and science.

KEF members are scientists working at universities and other research organisations, NGOs and international organisations as well as political decision-makers representing four different ministries.

KEF both carries out applied cooperative research projects with Austrian partners and partners in developing countries and acts as an advisory body to the scientific community, the private sector, to government bodies and to funding agencies with regard to scientific issues of development cooperation.

This event was kindly endorsed by:



**Commission for Development Studies at the Austrian Academy of Sciences (KEF)**



University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna  
Department of Forest and Soil Sciences



**Brighten up the future**  
Research for Development Forum

With financial support of:  
Ministry of Science and Research

**BMW\_F<sup>a</sup>**

For organisational matters we kindly ask you to register for this event by sending an e-mail to:

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**KEF Events 2008**

## Research for Development Roundtables



## Contributing to sustainability in Nepal

**April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008**  
**18.00-20.30**

Schwachhöferhaus, Hörsaal 6  
Peter Jordan-Strasse 82, 1180 Wien

Buses: 40A, 10A to Dänenstraße

<http://www.kef-online.at>



Government of Nepal



# Contributing to sustainability in Nepal

**Chiranjeevee Khadka, KEF-Project 150**  
Criteria and Indicators (C&I) for community based sustainable forest management

The concept of a C&I has become widely accepted as a suitable forest policy, management and research approach for conceptualising, evaluating, and implementing sustainable forestry at the national, regional and community management level.

In a close cooperation of the Institute of Silviculture at the BOKU University, the Federation of Community Forestry Users' in Nepal (FECOFUN), Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RRN) and the Natural and Organizational Resource Management Services (NORMS), these aspects of sustainable forest management in Nepal are analysed.



The overall goal of this study is to identify criteria and indicators for community based sustainable forest management. Diverse groups of stakeholders and the Forestry User Groups (FUGs) participate in this process in two approaches: The *bottom up approach* is facilitated by public participation in different case studies in the districts of Makawanpur and Chitwan. The *top down approach* takes place at a national level.

C&I will be applied to evaluate the current management plans with regards to sustainability. They might help to promote poverty reduction, ecological integrity, and to maintain biological diversity and forest health.

**Madhu Sudan Acharya, KEF-Project 153**  
Implementation and monitoring of soil bioengineering measures

Soil erosion and slope failures, which are critical in mountainous countries like Nepal, require a multidisciplinary approach that considers sustainable, environmental and socioeconomic aspects. Soil stabilisation techniques have been developed by soil bioengineering over the last 20 years. Soil bioengineering is now established as an alternative and additional engineering discipline in Nepal. Living plants and auxiliary materials are used as construction material.



Within the project cooperation of the Institute of Soil Bioengineering and Landscape Construction (BOKU University) and the Geotechnical Institute (Tribhuvan University) different activities have been organised to share the knowledge of using soil bioengineering systems for slope stabilisation work with a wider range of stakeholders. A field study has been conducted to compare a vegetated bamboo crib wall with a conventional slope stabilisation method (gabion) by means of different parameters.

Local people have been involved in the practical construction work, and public awareness on the different applications of soil bioengineering techniques increased substantially. The implemented construction work of the crib wall serves as an on-site demonstration project, and it is now also used for a training programme.



## Programme:

**18.00-19.15**

OPENING BY

**Dr. Michael Hauser,**  
*BOKU DEV-FORUM / Commission for Development Studies at the Austrian Academy of Sciences*

## Contributing to sustainability in Nepal

PROJECT PRESENTATION BY

**Mr. Chiranjeevee Khadka,**  
*Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RRN)*  
Criteria and Indicators (C&I) for community based sustainable forest management

PROJECT PRESENTATION BY

**Dr. Madhu Sudan Acharya,**  
*Department of Road (Nepal)*  
Implementation and monitoring of soil bioengineering measures

**19.15-20.30**

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION WITH...

**DI Michael Johann,**  
*Chairperson of the Farmers Association of the Green Party*

**Mr. Ghan Shyam Pandey,**  
*Chairperson of the Federation of Community Forestry Users' in Nepal*

**DI Sandra Wibmer,**  
*Austrian Development Agency (ADA), Environment and Natural Resources*

MODERATED BY

**DI Elfriede Fuhrmann,**  
*Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Environment and Water Management*