

# Water and air challenges in the HKH under climate and environmental change: Opportunities using a transdisciplinary approach

**International Workshop, Kathmandu, Nepal, Nov. 7-9, 2014**

## Organizers:

- University of Hamburg, Germany: Cluster of Excellence Integrated Climate System Analysis & Prediction (CISAP), Research Group Climate Change & Security (CLISEC); Research group on Theoretical Meteorology
- University of Reading, United Kingdom: The Walker Institute for Climate System Research
- International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, Kathmandu, Nepal

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## International workshop at University of Hamburg, Oct. 09-11, 2013

- Resources and Land Management, Water, Food and Energy Security
- Rural/Urban interactions: Livelihoods, Gender Migration and Development
- Migration and climate change in mountain context
- ➔ Building interdisciplinary knowledge and collaborations among scholars working on climate impacts in HKH region and representing leading institutions
- ➔ Interdisciplinary special issue of *Earth System Dynamics*, published early 2015



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## Rationale

- Constructive expert dialogue on research needs and best practices in transdisciplinary research in and on the HKH region.
- Bring together activities in different research fields with action and policy-oriented framework.
- Discuss successful transdisciplinary projects and initiatives.
- Assess barriers and gaps to consistent and holistic research.
- Better understanding of vulnerabilities and potential of integrated water management, e.g. in agriculture.
- Socio-political & gendered factors in water use, e.g. food security
- Holistic view for future research, stakeholders & policy-makers.
- Address complex interactions between air quality, climate change, economic development, and societal challenges

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## Objectives

1. Understand key water issues in the complex nexus between air quality, social and economic development, under climate change, mountain glacier melting and monsoon change in HKH.
2. Build transdisciplinary knowledge on vulnerability and adaptation, human action and social interaction under changing environmental conditions and resource availability; assess mechanisms to strengthen livelihood and resilience.
3. Consolidate cross-cutting network of scholars and set agenda for transdisciplinary projects and educational/training exchange.
4. Defines best practices in transdisciplinary research: papers and executive documents, proposals for priorities and challenges in research, policy, and governance related to HKH.