



Regional Wildland Fire Networks: North America – Mesoamerica – South America – Caribbean – Mediterranean – Southeast Europe / Caucasus – Euro-Alpine – Near East – Sub-Saharan Africa – South Asia – Southeast Asia – Australasia – Northeast Asia – Central Asia – Eurasia



Regional South Asia Wildland Fire Network



Major Landscape Fire Issues in South Asia



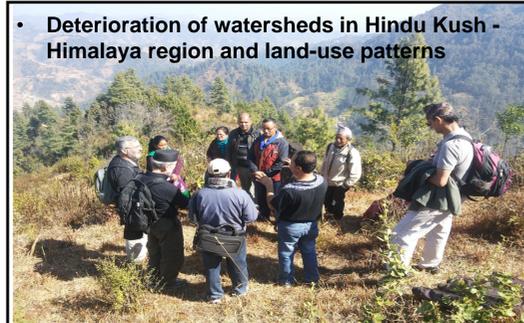
- Increasing occurrence of uncontrolled fires as a consequence of climate change and altered natural fire regimes
- Increasing occurrence of extreme weather (droughts and precipitation) and fire severity



- Diverse ecosystems, socio-economic and cultural settings and forest types
- Diverse fire regimes and vulnerabilities due to its geographical and climatic variations



- Increasing vulnerability to human populations, negative impacts in social, ecological systems and secondary disasters



- Deterioration of watersheds in Hindu Kush - Himalaya region and land-use patterns

Key Issues:

- Human resource development
- Funding for fire management activities
- Awareness raising
- Fire and climate change interaction
- Fire and REDD+ Mechanism
- Fire management and livelihoods of local communities



The South Asia Regional Network

The Network was founded in Nepal in 2017 to provide platform for discussion, policy dialogue, research and development in wildland fire management in the south Asia. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are the participating countries at the moment. It aims to enhance existing national and regional capability in fire management, including early detection, monitoring, early warning and impact assessment, and facilitating international cooperation in wildland fire management.

The Network is under the auspices of the Global Wildland Fire Network (GWFN), UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), the UNISDR Wildland Fire Advisory Group (WFAG) and its Secretariat, the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC).



Regional Network Activities

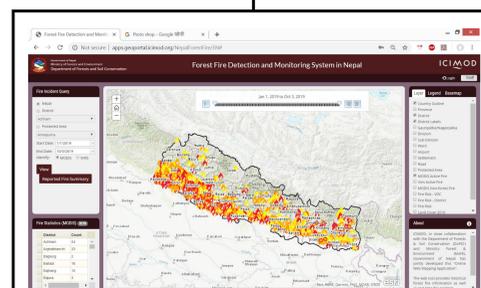


A Canadian mission visited Nepal in association with 'Nepal Forest and Wildfire Management Project', implemented by the Thompson River University of Kamloops, British Columbia (www.tru.ca) supported by the International Development Research Centre of Ottawa (www.idrc.ca) in a bilateral collaboration to improve forest and wildfire management in Nepal during 2015-2017.



2017 Asia Forest Fire Management Training, Implemented by NIFoS, APARI and GFMC in Republic of Korea, 15 to 22 October 2017

New Initiatives



Establishment of the 'Fire Control Room' and operation of the 'Forest Fire Detection and Monitoring System in Nepal' in the Department of Forests and Soil Conservation, Government of Nepal in collaboration with ICIMOD.

The online web tool provides historical forest fire information as well as real-time fire incident. Furthermore, this tool also sends this information via SMS & Email to relevant stakeholders. This web tool provides another useful functionality that will help enter and maintain the data on damages due to forest fires e.g. loss of lives and assets due to forest fires.

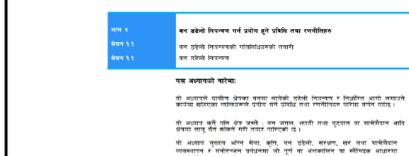
<http://apps.geoportal.icimod.org/NepalForestFire/EN#>

EUROFIRE-NEPANESE



Translation of the 'EuroFire Competency Standards' into Nepalese version to capacitate forestry, agricultural and fire services of Nepal in landscape fire management and local rural communities in self-defense against wildfires.

<http://gfmc.online/eurofire/ef-nepal.html>



Short Term Training Course on 'Forest Fire Management', AFoCO Regional Education & Training Center (RETC), Republic of Union of Myanmar, 22-26 October 2018

