



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENT

Volume-3, Issue-3, Jun-Aug 2014

ISSN 2091-2854

HELPING HANDS FOR THE *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENT*

EDITORIAL

Nepal is a “least developed country”, with limited research activity. Some Government organizations, universities and national and international nongovernmental organizations are conducting research with support from donor agencies. Environmental research is, however, limited and not a priority. Most of the annual national budget is used to meet the basic needs of the population.

Nepal is small, but there are many unexplored areas for research, and it has therefore been able to attract researchers and funding agencies from other countries. This has given graduates of environmental studies in Nepal the opportunity to gain skills and practical knowledge. In the present issue the papers covers the areas like green economy, agriculture, energy, greenhouse gases, environmental health, pesticides and pollution. The paper entitled “Status of arsenic contamination in ground water in Nepal” has discussed the water pollution in Nepal whereas the paper entitled “Conflict between Bankariya and other Stakeholders for the use of forest product” has discussed the problems of Bankariya, one of the highly marginalized indigenous nationalities of Nepal. All the papers of the present issue are important for the readers.

Progressive Sustainable Developers Nepal (PSD-Nepal), a nongovernmental organization, was established in 2012 with the aim of conserving nature and natural resources, disseminating environmental awareness and conducting research and development in science and technology. After about 1 year, I started the *International Journal of Environment*, with the aim of publishing high-quality research in various areas of environmental science. With the support of AuthorAID and INASP, United Kingdom, the editorial team found the right tools, and, currently, there are hundreds of helping hands supporting the journal.

I am pleased to present our readers with Volume 3, issue 3 of the *International Journal of Environment*, which is available online at [Nepal Journals Online](http://NepalJournalsOnline.com).

I consider that the journal was established at the right time. It now receives submissions from authors around the globe. There has been a significant growth in interest from national and international authors, reviewers and other members of the editorial board of the journal, with increasing number of high-quality papers on a broad range of topics.

The present issue was made possible by the invaluable support of highly qualified reviewers and board members representing all areas relevant to the journal and the hard work of PSD-Nepal staff. I am sure that there will be more support for the journal in the future.

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