

ANESCO - Alumni Network for Ecology, Sustainability and Conservation

International Alumni Project Seminar: Eco-Tourism and Sustainable Development – Challenges, Solutions and Perspectives

October 07 - 17, 2017
Kathmandu / Sauraha (Nepal)

- **2nd ANNOUNCEMENT** -

Mission

The project seminar addresses international alumni of Master programmes at German universities qualified in the fields of sustainability, ecology and / or conservation. You are cordially invited to take part in the alumni project seminar in the context of the international alumni network ANESCO (= “Alumni Network for Ecology, Sustainability and Conservation”)!

The ANESCO group was established in 2013 for exchanging information and international project-related cooperation between established and ongoing experts focussing sustainability, ecology and nature conservation worldwide. After fruitful project seminars in 2013 and 2015 in Germany ANESCO is now going to have its first meeting in Nepal.

Targets of the project seminar are:

- Learn about positive and negative effects of ecotourism for a sustainable development with a special focus on tourism-induced greenhouse gas emissions, compensation opportunities, nature conservation and socio-economic development.
- Teaching and applying modern methodological skills, to analyse developments, strategies and perspectives of ecotourism concepts and examples focussing Nepal

- Carrying out active and self-organized group work in the Chitwan National Park, an ecological and touristic hotspot in Nepal. This case study analysis includes a public presentation and publication of the results.
- Initiating a partnership with one or more local school(s) and the ANESCO alumni network and develop environmental education packages together with teachers and children.
- During the project seminar methodological tools for the following topics will be provided by invited experts: (1) touristic infrastructure development, (2) community involvement and local economies (participation, acceptance), (3) protected area management, (4) tourism carbon footprint and compensation opportunities, (5) school partnership & environmental education, (6) research.
- Strengthening the international network between experts and initiators of sustainability processes e.g. by further profiling and broadening the “ANESCO” group (**A**lumni **N**etwork for **E**cology, **S**ustainability and **C**onservation) as a platform to exchange knowledge, experiences and perspectives between alumni, students, experts, stakeholders and the regional public.

The alumni project seminar will be hold in English and host 40 alumni participants.

Project Seminar Venues

Kathmandu is the capital city of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal. With a population of 1.4 million it is the largest metropolis in the Himalayan hill region and the center of Nepal's history, art, culture and economy. The Kathmandu Valley lies at the crossroads of ancient civilizations of Asia, and has at least 130 important monuments, including several pilgrimage sites for Hindus and Buddhists. There are seven UNESCO World Heritage Sites within the valley.

Sauraha / Chitwan National Park: The village Sauraha is located in the subtropical Inner Terai lowlands of south-central Nepal close to the Rapti River. It is the eastern gateway to Chitwan National Park, the first national park in Nepal established in 1973 and granted the status of a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984. The National Park covers an area of 932 km² and hosts a famous biodiversity including the Bengal Tiger and the One-horned Rhino.



Park Village Votel, Kathmandu



Maruni Sanctuary Lodge, Chitwan

Preliminary Programme

	Morning (9-12)	Afternoon (14-17)	Evening (19-)
Part 1: Kathmandu			
1 Sat, 07.10.		Arrival Alumni	Open Meeting
2 Sun, 08.10.	Welcome Meeting: 1. Seminar outlook 2. Introduction to Nepal (Dr. Indra Sapkota) 3. Alumni slide show	Cultural Heritage Tour Kathmandu (UNESCO sites etc.) (Dr Indra Sapkota, Megh Adhikari)	Alumni Presentations
3 Mon, 09.10.	Kick-Off Meeting: "Post-earthquake recovery and Sustainable Tourism Development in Nepal", with case study Langtang Valley, with cooperating institutions and invited experts (e.g. DNPWC Kathmandu –Joint Secretary from Ministry of Forests of DG from DNPWC)	Visit of 2-3 selected institutions: 1. Ministry - Department of Forest Responsible experts: (Joint Secy from Department of Ministry please add names here) 2. Ministry - Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation/DNPWC 3. I/NGO – WWF/ICIMOD 4. Nepal Tourism Board and Other Tourism Company etc.	Free
4 Tue, 10.10.	Workshop organised and presented by alumni (ANESCO) and cooperation partners: "Linking sustainable tourism, climate protection and civil society – best practice examples from all over the world", addressing also partner institutions like atmosfair, invited students and stakeholders	14:00-16:00 University tour with presentation of research projects and study programmes – University's Dean of Institute of Forestry 16:00-18:00 Open meeting with local experts – will be there other people from tourism business 18:00-20:00 dinner at/nearby the university	Free
5 Wed, 11.10.	Presentation of the atmosfair climate-neutral trekking project near Kathmandu (Shivapuri NP) or visit of potential partner school in Kathmandu Warden – Shivapuri National Park	Travel to Sauraha/ Chitwan (Arrival: 18:00)	Welcome by National Trust f. Nature Conservation/NTNC, free
Part 2: Sauraha, Chitwan National Park			
6 Thu, 12.10.	Presentations: (1) Eco-tourism in Chitwan National park (2) Wildlife research and monitoring, National Trust f. Nature Conservation (NTNC)	Excursion 1: Jungle Safari (& visit of potential ANESCO partnership institution, e.g. School)	Free
7 Fri, 13.10.	9:00 – 11:00 Small 1-hour workshops: (1) Stakeholder analysis and interview skills, (2) Field techniques for wildlife monitoring (NTNC), with partner institutions and invited experts,	11:30 – 18.00 Excursion 2: Elephant breeding center - Kasara, Baghmara buffer zone community forest	Free / Alumni Presentations
8 Sat, 14.10.	Excursion 3, e.g. to crocodile breeding farm, Lake Bishajari Tal or to Vulture breeding center or Ramsar site / including start of group work* (interviews etc.)	Excursion 3 / Group Work	Group Work
9 Sun, 15.10.	Group Work	Group Work Evaluation, presentation of results	Free
10 Mon, 16.10.	9:30 - 12:00: Public Presentation with panel discussion, with invited experts	14.00 – 16.00: Group work report writing 16.30-18.30 Summary & evaluation, future plans	20:00 Party
11 Tue, 17.10.	Trip to Kathmandu & Departure		

* **Proposal for Working Groups** (Case study in Chitwan): (1) touristic infrastructure development, (2) community involvement and local economies (participation, acceptance), (3) protected area management, (4) tourism carbon footprint and compensation opportunities, (5) school partnership & environmental education, (6) research.

Costs & Funding

Travel and stay expenses: The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and STUBE are kindly supporting the project seminar. 100% of the stay expenses and 75-100% of the travel will be financed.

a. Stay expenses (accommodation, food, excursion guides and local bus transports) are covered 100%.

b. Travel expenses: Due to limited funds and currency uncertainties it will not be possible to re-fund these expenses completely. A refund of at least 75% (travel cost grand) can be guaranteed and - depending on the financial reserves after the project seminar - it is intended to refund more, if possible 100%.

Travel costs to Kathmandu and back home have to be paid in advance by the participants. The refund will be realized within 6 weeks after the ending of the project seminar.

Seminar Fee:

The project seminar intends to completely compensate its carbon footprint (ca. 250.000 kg CO₂eq). Therefore a seminar fee will be charged. Participants can – depending on their financial resources - choose between the following options:

a. 30.00 EUR Basic Fee which covers 50% of the prospected mean footprint.

b. 60.00 EUR Standard Fee which covers 100% of the prospected mean footprint.

c. 90.00 EUR Solidary Fee which covers 150% of the prospected mean footprint.

The fee has to be paid before July 15th, 2017. Bank transfer information will be delivered with the official invitation in the beginning of June.

How to apply

Please submit the **application form (attachment)**, a **short C.V. with photo (1 page)** and a **short motivation letter (1 page)** via e-mail until **1st June 2017** to: tiemo@uni-greifswald.de.

Applicants of the STUBE network are requested to apply via: stube@dwbo.de

Contact

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Organising Institutions

Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-University of Greifswald
(Germany)



Development Education Programme for
Students Berlin and Brandenburg (STUBE),
Germany



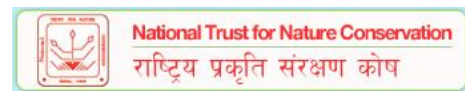
Linking Tourism and conservation (LT&C),
Norway



atmosfair, Germany



National Trust for Nature Conservation
Nepal (NTNC)



Department of Forest/District Forest Office,
Kathmandu, Nepal



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
(DAAD), Germany

