

## Partnership with local communities for protected area management: An assessment of bufferzone program in Nepal

Presenter



**Dr. Neelam C. Poudyal**

*Professor at University of Tennessee's School of Natural Resource in Knoxville, USA; A Fulbright Research Scholar*

Physical presence : SIAS Meeting Hall  
Virtual presence : <https://bit.ly/3GBWJCO>  
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Time: 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

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*Future Himalayan Research Seminar Series on Environment and Development* is a research sharing platform to present recent and ongoing studies where researchers can meaningfully engage with each other and share knowledge. Not limiting itself to presentation and feedback loop, the seminar is also a platform for researcher to build social and intellectual relationship with contemporaries and experts from diverse array of research tradition within the overarching theme. Research seminar series is a bi-monthly event with open access to everyone interested. The seminar is planned for 1.5 hours, with first 45 minutes for presentation and the later half to engage with the audience for discussion and debate.

## Seminar Overview

Park-people conflict is an enduring issue for biodiversity conservation around the world. The traditional “fences and fines” approach of park management fell short of securing cooperation from local communities that impact or are impacted by wildlife. Consensus exists to build partnerships with local communities but how to operationalize an effective collaboration to promote conservation remains an unanswered public policy question. This seminar will highlight the preliminary findings from a recent assessment of the extent to which Nepal’s a distinctive Buffer zone program has promoted conservation and contributed in improving park-people relationship. Challenges and possible future strategies to improve the effectiveness of collaborative approaches like Buffer zone program amid evolving political development will also be discussed.



**Dr. Neelam C. Poudyal** is a Professor of natural resource policy and human dimensions at University of Tennessee’s School of Natural Resource in Knoxville, USA. He has a B.S. in forestry from Institute of Forestry, an M.A. in geography from Western Illinois University, and a Ph.D. in natural resource economics from the University of Tennessee. He has published over 100 journal articles and served as an associate editor for Journal of Forestry, and Human Dimensions of Wildlife. Earlier in 2003, he briefly worked in Nepal for National Trust for Nature Conservation to promote forest conservation and management among the people relocated from inside the Chitwan national park.

Dr. Poudyal is currently a Fulbright U.S. Scholar in Research and is affiliated with the Institute of Forestry, Pokhara Campus.

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