

370th IDEC Seminar, 111st TAOYAKA Program Seminar & 109th Study Session of Development and Cultural Change Forum

***Title of the Seminar - Coupled Human Nature Systems:
Ecological Survey of Invasive Plant Species in Community
Forests of Lowland Nepal***



About the Speaker:

Dharma Raj Dangol, PhD

*Visiting Professor, Graduate School for
International Development and
Cooperation, Hiroshima University,
Japan*

*Professor, Natural History Museum,
Institute of Science and Technology,
Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal
&*

*Senior Research Scientist and
Chairperson, Institute for Social and
Environmental Research, Nepal*

Date: 20 June 2017

Time: 14:30 to 16:00

Venue: Small Conference Room, IDEC

Abstract:

Invasive plant species cause impacts on biodiversity, socio-natural ecosystems, environmental services and human wellbeing as a whole. It is crucial to understand the invasion of these species in different community forests for effective management. Thus, an ecological survey was conducted in 21 community forests (CFs) of Chitwan National Park of lowland Nepal in 2013, 2014 and 2015. The survey mainly focused on investigation of 3 major invasive species namely *Mikania micrantha*, *Chromolaena odorata* and *Lantana camara*. Among these 3 species, it was found that the highest invasion of *Mikania* and *Lantana* in Narayani CFs and *Chromolaena* in Barandavar CFs. It was also observed that *Imperata cylindrica*, *Ageratum houstonianum* and *Clerodendrum infortunatum* were the three most dominant understory species. The invasion of these species is increasing rapidly over the years impacts the human and wildlife ecosystems in the CFs. Further studies on management through utilization of these species for the livelihood improvement such as biogas, fodder and forages are necessary in future.

For More Information, please contact:

Professor Keshav Lall Maharjan: mkeshav@hiroshima-u.ac.jp