

THE INITIATION

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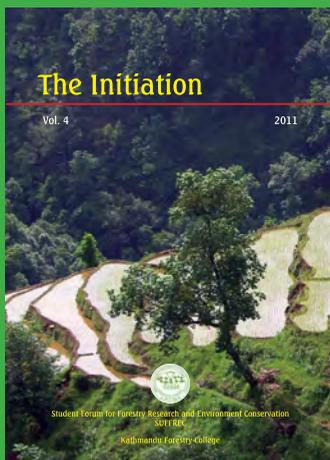
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Fourth Issue of **The Initiation**

Preface

Knowledge is power and its value increases by sharing it with others. We, Student Forum for Forestry Research and Environment Conservation (SUFFREC) have created a platform to voice the issues of the environment and nature conservation by compiling outstanding articles from diversified sources and some of the well known names in the field of forestry in Nepal. In the context of growing importance of the documentation of the environmental and forestry related issues, 'The Initiation' is gaining more and more popularity among the readers, every year. With each new volume, we thrive to do better than we did before and give a better end product. The journal aims to educate the readers about the status of forests and environmental issues in Nepal. And we are trying to address the gap between the academicians, researchers, implementers and policy makers and showcase our journal to a wider audience. We are continually trying to bring illumination to the unheard environmental and nature related issues from different parts of the country taking one step at a time.

We face an expanding epidemic of global environmental issues: global warming, diminishing biodiversity, growing shortages in fresh water supplies, desertification, population growth and urbanization, to mention just a few. To battle these problems and to find ways to prevent others from occurring, we need an environmentally-informed citizenry. The existence of these numerous environmental problems today is partly due to the limited number of people qualified to identify accurately and effectively solve concrete, complex problems. Conventional education, which is to abstract and fragmentary, has been unsuccessful in preparing individual to confront the changing complexity of reality. At the present time, there is a substantial demand for environmental related researches to inculcate the ability to acquire, analyze, synthesize, communicate, apply and evaluate existing knowledge on the environment, which subsequently play a dynamic role in identifying solutions that can be used to solve environmental problems.

Nepal's natural resources are facing increasing anthropogenic pressures. The concept of sustainable forest management is changing its focus from wood production towards a course of environmental, economic and socio-cultural extents. So to achieve sustainability has become an issue year by year and fulfilling the diverse interests of various stakeholders is making it more complex. So the research in this sector is necessary to deal with such potential issues.

This year we come up with twenty-two various articles related to forestry and environment, which are categorized into three different groups – research, review and information. This categorization will offer the readers to acquire quick information from what they are interested to go through.

The research section begins with the article by Hem Sagar Baral and consists nine articles in total while review section consists six articles with opening one by Madhav Karki. And third section, information consists seven articles with the first article by T.B. Khatri. It is our pleasure to inform you that there are two papers related outside the country to encourage the young researcher's effort in providing the diversified information.

Despite a number of commitments from government organizations, NGOs, INGOs and international community, we are unable to obtain a concrete output in the forestry sector. It clearly demonstrates that the efforts that are being made are not enough to address the current needs of the nation. Our rich treasury of natural resources should be explored in such a way that it substantially contributes to the well-being of Nepalese people. Through this publication, we attempt to contribute towards addressing the complex problems of forestry and to explore the unheard aspects of forestry and environmental field. We hope this issue will contribute to fulfill the need of the readers and enhance the knowledge and understanding of forestry and nature conservation, thereby standing firmly in meeting the conservation goal. We expect your support and positive reception for this issue, as always.