

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
ON  
**NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
AND RURAL LIVELIHOODS**

**26-28 OCTOBER, 2017**



**HOSTED BY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**  
**SCHOOL OF EARTH SCIENCES**  
**MIZORAM UNIVERSITY, AIZAWL – 796004**  
**MIZORAM, INDIA**  
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## **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL LIVELIHOODS**

### **CONCEPT NOTE**

Natural resources are depleting at alarming rates because of their irrational use pattern. Although, utilization of resources is an intrinsic component of the process of development yet, overexploitation of natural resources has led to environmental degradation and change in pattern of rural economy. Rural communities, in particular, are greatly affected by the increasing use of natural resources. To many of them, development is about livelihood and survival rather than increasing productivity and accumulation of wealth. Management of natural resources seems to be the only way forward to sustain the livability of rural communities.

Management of natural resources requires collaborative works from various stakeholders as the use and un-use of natural resources depend upon a number of factors including historical, political, economic, social and cultural. Through the substantial holistic approach and concrete framework for policy research could be conceptualized, planned and implemented. The International Conference on 'Natural Resources Management for Sustainable Development and Rural Livelihoods' will provide a common platform to researchers, scholars and activists from various disciplines all over the world to share their works, ideas and experiences on sustainability and management of natural resources.

Department of Geography and Resource Management, Mizoram University, Aizawl, India, hosts an international conference on natural resources management for sustainable development and rural livelihoods which will address ways to boost agricultural productivity for food security and sustainable economic development, while conserving and restoring the natural resource base. Topics to be covered include: assessment, management of natural resources for sustainable development, rural livelihoods and food security; integrated management of water and land resources; conserving agriculture systems; climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies including carbon sequestration in soils for different land use systems; and policy frameworks for capacity building to mitigate emerging problems in natural resource management. Developing and transition economies will be increasingly concerned with natural resources management, sustainable development and rural livelihood issues; they will have to solve a three-fold challenge: a better environment, good economic performances and poverty reduction as targeted by the Millennium Development Goals. Developing and emerging countries will also have to tackle with increasing scarcities.

### **RATIONALE OF THE CONFERENCE**

We aim at providing the researchers on natural resources and livelihoods of the world countries to reflect on where they are with their multidisciplinary research and with the cross-cutting issues. They will not only discuss among themselves but also with international peers from all over the world and hence gain from international experience with a holistic approach to natural resources management towards sustainable development and rural livelihoods.

### **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE**

- To evaluate past research efforts in integrated natural resources management for sustainable development and rural livelihoods,
- To streamline future scientific efforts in support of sustainable livelihood,
- To draw recommendations for capacity building in land, forest and water management

Invited participants are international scientists, leading farmers and experts from governmental and non-governmental organizations, researchers, representatives of donor organizations and decision-makers who will exchange views on how to use and manage natural resources for sustainable development and rural livelihoods.

### **THEMES TO BE DISCUSSED**

The Conference will focus on various aspects of natural resources management for sustainable development and rural livelihood which will be elaborated upon into the 11 thematic sessions:

- **Natural resources management**
- **Climate change and sustainability issues**
- **Biodiversity**
- **Crop productivity**
- **Water harvesting for improving livelihoods**
- **Socio-economy of sustainable livelihoods**
- **Farmers forum on Sustainable Livelihoods and natural Resources**
- **Agricultural and forestation issues**
- **Soil conservation and forestry**
- **Landscapes**
- **Technologies for improved rural welfare**

### **ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY**

Mizoram University (MZU) was established on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2001 by the Mizoram University Act, 2000 which appeared in the Gazette of India (Extraordinary) on 25th April, 2000 as a Central University having His Excellency, the President of India as its Visitor. The objectives of the University, as laid down in the Act are *"to disseminate and advance knowledge by providing instructional and research facilities in such branches of learning as it may deem fit, to make provisions for integrated courses in humanities, natural and physical sciences, social sciences, forestry and other allied disciplines in the educational programmes of the University; to take appropriate measures for promoting innovations in teaching-disciplinary studies and research; to educate and train man-power in the development of the state of Mizoram; and to pay special attention to the improvement of the social and economic conditions and welfare of the people of that State, their intellectual, academic and cultural development"*. Keeping these objectives in view, Mizoram University has embarked on various programmes/schemes in terms of academic and administrative development.

## **ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT**

The Department of Geography and Resource Management was established in 2003 under the name of Department of Geography, Tribal Culture and Resource Management. Later on, the name of the department was changed to 'Department of Geography and Resource Management'. The department awards M.Sc. degree in Geography and total student intake is 30/semester. In addition, the department also commence Ph.D. course. It is actively engaged in developing its laboratories, GIS, Computer and Cartography and inputs specialized courses in regional planning and is intending to provide specialized courses in Remote Sensing, GIS and Computer Cartography. Currently there are eight faculty members and four non-teaching staff in the department.

## **HOW TO REACH AIZAWL**

Aizawl can be reached by Air through Kolkata/Guwahati. Connected flights are also available from Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Hyderabad. The MZU is approximately 20 Km away from Lengpui Airport towards Aizawl city. Pre-paid taxis are easily available from the Airport to reach the University. The taxi fare is Rs. 1000. Silchar is the nearest railway station to Aizawl. The journey (by road) from Silchar to Aizawl takes around 6 Hrs. Sumos (share basis) are available from Mizoram Circuit House, Sonai Road, Silchar.

Although, climatic conditions are very feasible throughout the year yet; the month of October is very conducive. Temperature varies between 15° and 20° C.

## **ACCOMMODATION AND REGISTRATION FEE**

Accommodation – lodging and boarding will be provided free of cost in the hotels and university guest house for the out-stationed participants. In addition local transportation (from airport to conference venue and back) will also be provided free. Nominal registration fee is Rs. 1000 for the faculties and Rs. 600 for the Research Scholars. For foreign delegates registration fee is \$100 for faculties and \$60 for the research scholar.

## **DEADLINES**

Abstract submission: April 30, 2017  
Notification of acceptance: May 15, 2017  
Full length paper submission: June 30, 2017  
Notification of acceptance: July 30, 2017  
Conference dates: Oct 26-28, 2017

## **SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACT AND FULL LENGTH MANUSCRIPT**

### ***ABSTRACT***

Abstract Book of the Seminar will be published separately. The format of abstract is as follows: Title of the Manuscript (New Times Roman, font size 14, bold) followed by author (s) name,

affiliation (s) and email (s) (New Times Roman, font size 11, italics). Abstract should be between 150 to 200 words comprising introduction, objective, methodology used and findings without giving headings and five key words. It should be in New Times Roman with font size 11. Abstract should be submitted through **email attachment on or before April 30, 2017**, E-mail: [mzugeography@gmail.com](mailto:mzugeography@gmail.com)

### ***FULL LENGTH PAPER***

Publication of pre-seminar proceedings is proposed which will be released on the inauguration day of the seminar. The format of the manuscript should be as follows: First page – Title of paper (New Times Roman, font size 14, bold), name of author (s) affiliation (s) and email of corresponding author (New Times Roman, font size 11, italics). The text will start with abstract, introduction, methods and materials, results and discussion, conclusions and references. Foot notes are discouraged. The manuscript should be written in New Times Roman and font size 11. Reference cited in the text and in the end should strictly be according to Harvard Referencing Style. For example:

Arrami, M. and Garner, H. (2008) A tale of two citations. *Nature*, 451 (7177), 397-399.

Barros, B., Read, T. and Verdejo, M. F. (2008) Virtual collaborative experimentation: an approach combining remote and local labs. *IEEE Transactions on Education*, [Online] 51 (2), 242-250 Available from: doi:10.1109/TE.2007.908071 [Accessed 29th June 2010].

Full length paper should also be submitted through **email attachment only on or before June 30, 2017**, E-mail: [mzugeography@gmail.com](mailto:mzugeography@gmail.com)

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