

# Summer Field School[Online] Mountain Ecosystems and Resource Management

This presentation is authored by Somnath Roy(Affiliation: IUCN, Department: IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management) and talks about various aspects of sustainable tourism and its contribution to the mountain ecosystem. This presentation has been prepared keeping in mind the Summer Field School on Mountain Ecosystems and Resource Management that is going to take place from 19<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

# Sustainable tourism and its contribution to the mountain ecosystem

# Mountain Ecosystems

Mountain Life captured at Himachal Pradesh,  
India



# Species of grass found in Kibber

Peregrine species of grass found in Kibber,  
HP, India



# What is sustainable tourism?

Sustainable tourism refers to the principles and practices applied to conserve the region and community. Sustainable tourism can be practiced by the tour operators, tourists, government and the local people.

Sustainable tourism will help to create employment opportunities for the local community thereby promoting rural and tribal upliftment in the mountainous regions.

# How sustainable tourism contributes to the well being of the community?

- Sustainable tourism includes the use of fuel-efficient solutions like solar batteries and power.
- Avoid using plastic water bottles, use of water filters, reusable bags, containers, fuel-efficient cars and vehicles.
- Sustainable tourism helps to eradicate the pollution levels existing in the ecosystem.
- Sustainable tourism contribute to a greener environment and solution to revive the affected ecosystem in the region.
- It keeps a check on the air quality in the surrounding environment.

# Sustainable tourism

Sustainable tourism has a major role to play in mountain ecosystems



# Plant Life in the mountains

Plants thrive in huge numbers in the mountain ecosystem





# What is ecotourism?

Ecotourism refers to the principles and practices followed to reduce pollution and harmful carbon and Sulphur emissions reducing acid rain and deforestation. It is a part of sustainable tourism.

Ecotourism is increasingly becoming popular in ecosystems surrounding mountains. Eco-friendly homestays, appliances and other green initiatives are being used and thought of as powerful means to stop pollution and combat its harmful effects.

# Ecotourism initiatives

- Tour operators registered with the government have started the practice of using cars operated by batteries to reduce carbon emissions.
- The undisturbed natural areas are kept clean and proper sanitation and hygiene are maintained in factories and industries where tourists visit quite often with their families and friends.
- Afforestation policies are being introduced and promoted in green areas surrounding the region.

# Ecotourism initiatives(Continued..)

- Setting up remote sensing data by tourism officials in protected areas are being given priority to prevent illegal sale and use of wildlife drugs and animal poaching to improve ecosystem governance.
- Drones are also being used by tourism officials to track wildlife and any threatening activities that can harm the ecosystem in an adverse manner.
- Preservation of the national parks and gardens are given priority and importance by using accurate data and technical advancements.

THE END