

This unique photographic exhibition consisting of 12 repeat panorama pairs plus around 40 other photographs will be available for interested parties to display from July 2008 onwards.

You can help to raise awareness for the impact of climate change on the fragile mountain environment and mountain people by making the '50 Years of Change – Glaciers, Landscapes, People and Resilience in the Mt. Everest Region' exhibition available in your country.

For exhibition information contact

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ICIMOD is an independent regional knowledge, learning and enabling centre serving eight member countries in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region, as well as the global mountain community.

Founded in 1983, ICIMOD is based in Kathmandu, Nepal. ICIMOD brings together a partnership of regional member countries, partner institutions and donors with a commitment for development action to secure a better future for the mountain people and environment.

ICIMOD's activities are supported by its core programme donors, including regional member countries, along with programme co-financing donors.



## 50 Years of Change

Glaciers, Landscapes,  
People and Resilience in  
the Mt. Everest Region,  
Nepal

## PHOTO EXHIBITION



Tengboche Monastery, Khumbu



## Hidden Treasure of Historic Photographs

During the 1950s and 1960s, Austrian and Swiss scientists conducted intensive studies of the Everest region of Nepal. The glaciers, mountains and valleys of the Khumbu were meticulously photographed and measured by these teams. Around the same time, the Swiss glaciologist Fritz Müller spent eight months in Khumbu at places above 5000m, studying and photographing the mighty Himalayan glaciers.

Now, 50 years later, the hundreds of black and white photographs taken by these climber scientists are of immense value to researchers attempting to understand the impacts of climate change on the world's highest mountain range, the Himalayas.

Starting in 1984, mountain geographer Alton Byers has revisited the sites of many of these old photographs and taken replicates, illustrating the stunning changes in the climatic, cultural, and physical landscapes of the Khumbu that have occurred over the past half century.



Swiss team working on a glacier in Khumbu in 1956

## The Photo Exhibition

As part of its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) is presenting a photo exhibition 50 Years of Change – Glaciers, Landscapes, People and Resilience in the Everest Region. The exhibition is being developed in collaboration with UNEP, Asian Trekking, The Mountain Institute, and The American Alpine Club.

The repeat panorama photographs exhibited are unique and provide empirical evidence of fluctuations in the glaciers and glacial lakes in the wake of global climate change. Slopes once white with ice are now barren rock, and small ponds have grown into huge lakes that threaten downstream communities in the event of an outburst. The **'before and after'** photographs show us how this mighty but vulnerable landscape has forever changed in just a few decades.

This exhibition visually demonstrates how climate change and glacial melting are affecting the fragile environment of the Himalayas and beyond. It also contains a collection of photographs illustrating the rich lives and culture of the Khumbu people, and the changes in the human landscape.

The exhibition will be unveiled at the Everest Base Camp on 18 April 2008. It will then move to several European countries, as well as countries in the Himalayan region, and will finish its journey in Kathmandu, Nepal in December 2008.

