

## **Curriculum Vitae of Surya Kumar MAHARJAN, PhD**

### **Personal info**

*DoB* 29<sup>th</sup> June, 1982  
*Gender* Male  
*Marital status* Married  
*Nationality* Nepalese  
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*E-mail* surya.maharjan@hc.tu.edu.np or maharjansurya@gmail.com

### **Academic qualification**

#### ***PhD (2021)***

*Title* Plant species distribution along an elevational gradient in the Himalayas, Nepal - on drivers, mechanisms & the effects of climate change  
*University* Forest Ecology & Forest Management Chair Group, Wageningen University & Research (WUR), The Netherlands

#### ***MSc Forest & Nature Conservation & MSc Agriculture & Forestry - Erasmus Mundus Master's Degree Programme in European Forestry - a Double Degree Programme (2009)***

*Specialization* Forest Ecology & Forest Management  
*Passed with* Distinction  
*University* WUR, The Netherlands & University of Joensuu (Now University of Eastern Finland), Finland

#### ***BSc Forestry (2005)***

*Passed with* Distinction  
*University* Institute of Forestry - Pokhara, Tribhuvan University, Nepal

### **Work experience**

#### **Short term assignments**

##### ***Forest Ecologist (Apr - Jun, 2022)***

*Organization:* School of Forestry & Natural Resource Management, Nepal  
*Assignment:* A Study of Forest Management Systems of Productive Forests in Lumbini Province, Nepal

##### ***PES Expert (Aug - Nov, 2021)***

*Organization:* Rupantaran Nepal, Nepal  
*Assignment:* Preparation of "A step-by-step approach for Piloting Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) in the LIRIC project municipalities"

##### ***Consultant (23<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2018 – 22<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2020)***

*Organization:* Rupantaran Nepal & IOD PARC Nepal  
*Assignment:* Climate Resilient Development Planning - Process Learning Study under NCCSP through MEL Unit (3 short-term contracts for 3 field visits)

**Consultant** (13<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2017)

*Organization:* IOD PARC, Edinburgh, UK

*Assignment:* Monitoring “The Shared Watercourses Summit - Towards improving governance of shared watercourses in South Asia”

**Consultant** (19<sup>th</sup> Sept – 16<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2014)

*Organization:* ADRA Nepal

*Assignment:* Baseline Survey of Good Governance & Livelihood (GOAL) Project

**Consultant** (25<sup>th</sup> Apr – 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2014)

*Organization:* ADRA Nepal

*Assignment:* Documentation of Best Practices & Lessons from Leadership & Good Governance Project II (LeGGO II)

**Research Associate** (1<sup>st</sup> Sept – 4<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2013)

*Organization:* ADRA Nepal

*Assignment:* Endline Survey of the project LeGGO II

### **Long term positions**

**Assistant Professor – Forest Ecology** (Mar 2021 onwards)

*Organization:* Institute of Forestry, Tribhuvan University, Nepal

*Responsibility*

- Provide lectures
- Facilitate field works & lab works
- Plan & lead researches & projects

**Senior Programme Officer** (Aug 2013 – Dec 2015)

*Organization:* Rupantaran Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal

*Responsibility*

- Design, implement, manage & monitor programmes/projects (Forestry, Climate Change Adaptation, Biodiversity Conservation, Governance & Livelihood related programmes/projects)
- Provide technical input to programmes/projects related to Forest Ecology & Forest Management, Climate Change Adaptation & Mitigation, Biodiversity Conservation, RS & GIS
- Coordinate Forestry, Biodiversity & Climate Change related research works
- Capacity building of staffs & partners
- Knowledge documentation
- Project specific procurement & staff management

**Forest Ecologist / RS & GIS Specialist** (June – July 2013)

*Organization:* Rupantaran Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal

*Responsibility*

- Provide technical input to the project “Preliminary Assessment for Piloting Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) in Lamjung & Manang, Nepal”

- Satellite image based land use land cover mapping (image processing, analysis & interpretation)
- Ecosystem services identification, prioritization & economic valuation using InVEST model
- Coordination & networking with stakeholders at the national & district level
- Monitoring, evaluation & reporting

***Forestry Expert (Part time, Dec 2012 – May 2013)***

*Organization:* MinErgy Pvt. Ltd., Lalitpur, Nepal

*Responsibility*

- Provide technical input to forest biomass-based energy projects: “Rapid feasibility assessment for Improved Charring Retort”; “Resource base analysis for viability of Improved Charring Retort to meet industrial demand for charcoal in Brick kilns”; & “Demonstration of Improved Charring Retort”
- Coordination & networking with district level & national level stakeholders
- Data analysis & reporting

***Forest Ecology & Forest Management Expert (Part time, Sept 2012 – May 2013)***

*Organization:* Green Governance Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal

*Responsibility*

- Project design & implementation
- Monitoring, evaluation & reporting
- Capacity building (facilitating trainings, workshops & orientations)
- Provide technical backstopping support to the projects “Baseline & Socio-Economic Survey of the Ecosystem Based Adaptation Project Area” & “Biodiversity Resource Inventory - Ecosystem Assessment of Bhadaure Tamagi VDC, Panchase Area”

***District Research Coordinator (Mar – Apr 2013)***

*Organization:* International Organisation Development Ltd. (IOD-PARC), Edinburgh, UK & Rupantaran Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal

*Responsibility*

- Impact evaluation of World Food Programme Cash/Food for Asset (C/FFA) work on Livelihood Resilience
- Participate in analysis workshop & share findings
- Document findings in the forms of Village Development Committee & District Development Committee profiles

***RS & GIS & Documentation Expert (Apr – Aug 2012)***

*Organization:* Nepal Climate Change Support Programme (NCCSP), Rupantaran Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal

*Responsibility*

- Participatory climate change vulnerability assessment & mapping
- Identify climate adaptation needs of communities by using multi-criteria index & pair-wise ranking tools

- Documentation of indigenous climate change adaptation practices
- Local Adaptation Plans for Action (LAPA) preparation
- Photo monitoring guideline development

***Enterprise & Forest Officer & Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) Focal Person (Dec 2011 – Apr 2012)***

*Organization:* Interim Forestry Project (IFP), Rupantaran Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal

*Responsibility*

- Provide technical backstopping support related to sustainable forest management; pro-poor forest based enterprise development; & PES
- Monitoring, evaluation & reporting
- Capacity building (facilitating trainings, workshops & orientations)

***Junior Researcher (July – Nov 2011)***

*Organization:* Rights & Resources Initiatives, USA & Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation, Nepal

*Responsibility*

- Forest Tenure Assessment - South Asia
- RS & GIS based forest cover change analysis in 8 VDCs of Sindhupalchok

***Research Assistant (Part-time, Oct 2010 – July 2011)***

*Organization:* Assessing Human Elephant Conflict Status in Sarlahi, Nepal - A guide for formulating potential mitigation strategies - A Rufford Small Grant Project funded by The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

*Responsibility*

- Economic valuation of damages caused by elephant
- Coordination with local, district & national level stakeholders
- Data collection, analysis & reporting

***Junior Consultant (May 2010 – July 2011)***

*Organization:* Nepal Swiss Community Forestry Project (NSCFP), Kathmandu, Nepal

*Responsibility*

- Non timber forest products commercialization feasibility study in Okhaldhunga
- Ecological impact assessment of the project activities
- Assessment of status of Community Forest Management School Plots
- RS & GIS based forest cover change analysis in Dolakha
- Capacity building (facilitating trainings & workshops)
- Support decentralized planning: District Forest Sector Plan preparation in Dolakha & Khotang

***Intern (Oct – Dec 2007)***

*Organization:* Ecological Resilience Project, Alterra, Wageningen University, Wageningen, The Netherlands

*Responsibility*

- Database preparation & data analysis

- Parameterization

**Intern** (Mar – July 2007)

Organization: WWF Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal

**Responsibility**

- Buffer Zone Community Forest Operation Plan preparation & handover
- Reporting (preparation of weekly reports of Terai Arc Landscape-Protected Area & Buffer Zone Project)

**Publications**

**Peer reviewed**

- Maharjan S.K., Sterck F.J., Raes N., Zhao Y. & Poorter L. In press. Climate change induced elevational range shifts of Himalayan tree species. *Biotropica*.
- Maharjan S.K., Sterck F.J., Raes N. & Poorter L. 2022. Temperature & soils predict the distribution of plant species along the Himalayan elevational gradient. *Journal of Tropical Ecology* 38: 58-70. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S026646742100050X>
- Thapa Chhetri V., Jha P. & Maharjan S.K. 2021. Medicinal Plants Used in COVID-19 Pandemic in Buddhabhumi Municipality, Kapilvastu, Nepal. *Ethnobotany Research & Applications* 22(26):1-19. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.32859/era.22.26.1-19>
- Maharjan S.K., Sterck F.J., Dhakal B.P., Makri M. & Poorter L. 2021. Functional traits shape tree species distribution in the Himalayas. *Journal of Ecology*, 00: 1-17. doi: 10.1111/1365-2745.13759
- Maharjan S.K., Poorter L., Holmgren M., Bongers F., Wieringa J.J. & Hawthorne W.D. 2011. Plant Functional Traits & the Distribution of West African Rain Forest Trees along the Rainfall Gradient. *Biotropica*, 43: 552–561. doi: 10.1111/j.1744-7429.2010.00747.x

**Others**

- Maharjan S.K., Pandey P.N. & Gurung B.D. 2015. Three decades of community forestry in Nepal - journey from meeting demands of rural communities to building robust civil society institutions. Technical paper accepted in XIV World Forestry Congress, Durban, South Africa, 7-11 September 2015. Available online at: <http://foris.fao.org/wfc2015/api/file/5534f3b5c13f7d133fb630be/contents/95e8db59-b2ce-4185-a67d-6732ee77f787.pdf>
- Jha P. & Maharjan S.K. 2013. Human Elephant Conflict (HEC) Status in Sarlahi, Nepal. *In* DNPWC. Biodiversity Conservation Efforts in Nepal, pp. 62-70. Department of National Parks & Wildlife Conservation, Babarmahal, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Sharma B.K., Timalina K., Rai R., Maharjan S.K., Joshi A. & Rakhil B. 2013. Biodiversity Resource Inventory – Ecosystem Assessment of Bhadaure Tamagi VDC, Kaski, pp 87. IUCN Nepal, Kupondole, Lalitpur, Nepal.
- Niraula R.R. & Maharjan S.K. 2011. Forest Cover Change Analysis in Dolakha District (1990-2010): Application of GIS & Remote Sensing, pp. 53. Nepal Swiss Community Forestry Project/SDC/Intercooperation, Nepal.
- Maharjan S.K. 2010. Feasibility of Non Timber Forest Products Commercialization in

Okhaldhunga District – In Nepali, pp. 40. Nepal Swiss Community Forestry Project/SDC/Intercooperation, Nepal.

- Maharjan S.K., Poorter L. & Holmgren M. 2009. Role of Functional Traits in the Distribution of West African Rainforest Plant Species, pp. 73. MSc Thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science in Forest & Nature Conservation, Wageningen University, Wageningen, The Netherlands & Master of Science in Agriculture & Forestry, University of Joensuu, Joensuu, Finland.
- Maharjan S.K. & Awasthi K.D. 2006. Investigation of Triggering Factors on Landslide Occurrence & Landslide Hazard Zonation – A GIS based approach, pp. 95. BSc thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Forestry, Institute of Forestry, Pokhara Campus, Tribhuvan University, Nepal.

### **Trainings/Orientations given/facilitated**

- Training of Trainers on Climate Change Sensitization organized by Rupantaran Nepal, 2014.
- Training of Trainers on Governance Coaching organized by Rupantaran Nepal, 2014.
- Application of GIS in NRM Training organized by Rupantaran Nepal, 2014.
- GPS Basics & Geo-tagging for Photo Monitoring Training organized by Rupantaran Nepal & CIDT, 2012.
- Sustainable Forest Management Training organized by IFP, Rupantaran Nepal, 2011.
- Orientation on Climate Change & PES organized by IFP, Rupantaran Nepal, 2011.
- Using GPS for Forest Boundary Survey Training organized by NSCFP, 2010.

### **Trainings/Orientations received/participated**

- Enterprise Development & Value Chain Analysis Training organized by Rupantaran Nepal & CIDT, 2012.
- Orientation on Gender Analysis & Gender Mainstreaming organized by Rupantaran Nepal & CIDT, 2012.
- Forest Tenure in Asia Workshop organized by RRI & Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation, 2011.

### **Personal skills**

*Language*                      *Newari* (Mother tongue); *Nepali* (Native); *English* (Proficient); *Hindi* (Fluent)

*Technical*                      • Computer skills (Proficient in MS Office, Internet & Multimedia handling)  
   • RS & GIS skills (Proficient in ArcGIS, ENVI, ERDAS, GPS)  
   • Statistical skills (Proficient in SPSS & R)

*Driving licence*              Category A, B (Issued by Government of Nepal)

### **Declarations**

I undersigned certify to the best of my knowledge & belief that this curriculum vitae (CV) describes correctly about my qualification, experience & me.

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2023

Surya Kumar Maharjan