



Fellow's Individual Project

Fellow	Host Institution	PhD enrolment	Start Date	Duration
ESR 1	SLU	Y	Month 9	36 months

Project title and related WP(s): Climate change adaptation programmes and political violence in Nepal (WP2, WP7).

Objectives: Climate change adaptation programmes are being implemented around the world in an attempt to help people respond to the challenges of rapidly changing environments. Much of the research on adaptation focuses on transforming people's behaviour or infrastructure needs, yet 'environmental change', 'conflict' and 'violence' are produced through social-political processes that operate in everyday contexts. In other words, responses to climate change are *mediated* through environmental governance, including the discourses, institutions, claims to authority, and sense of responsibility for governing resources. Working in Nepal the ESR will explore how conflict includes everyday social struggles that can produce inequality, exclusion and poverty, while and how violence refers to both sporadic and organised physical violence between individuals and groups. The ESR will focus on the social-political mechanisms through which environmental change impacts are mediated working with communities in Nepal. The study will focus on: the narratives of perceptions of environmental change; the rules and practices for governing resources; struggles over the right to govern; and struggles over how people come to understand their own responsibilities and abilities to respond to environmental change.

Expected results: The ESR will offer new insights into how to address the social causes of vulnerability and inequity in ways that can mitigate the risk of causing further conflict.

Planned secondments: IDS (3 months) to do comparative work with IDS scholars on climate change and poverty and UVM (3 months) to study social political mechanisms and climate change impacts.