

## Mahesh Poudyal

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### OTHER AFFILIATIONS

*Research Fellow*, ForestAction-Nepal, <https://forestaction.org/>

### KEY QUALIFICATION

Over 15 years (8 years post-doctoral) of policy-oriented research experience in socio-economic and institutional aspects of biodiversity conservation, natural resource governance and utilisation, customary land and tree tenure systems, and gender, poverty and rural livelihoods. Proficient in qualitative and quantitative social science research, with publication record in high-impact journals. An efficient project manager with experience of leading significant portions of large interdisciplinary and multi-partner research projects. Teaching experience at undergraduate and postgraduate levels covering environmental policy and governance, and social research methods.

### EDUCATION

- 2010 **PhD in Environment and Politics**, University of York, UK
- 2005 **Master of Resource Management**, Simon Fraser University, Canada
- 2002 **B.Sc. in Environment, Economics and Ecology (1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours)**, University of York, UK

### RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

#### Aug 2017 – Jun 2018 **Postdoctoral Fellow, Ecosystem Services for Poverty Alleviation (ESPA) Programme**

I co-edited a book (<https://is.gd/lhjaPT>) synthesising nine years of research outputs from the ESPA programme, managing relationships with 18 lead authors and several co-authors, and with the publishers. I provided academic support for synthesis and impact activities for selected ESPA-funded projects, and reviewed end-of-project reports.

#### Sep 2013 – Jan 2017 **Postdoctoral Research Officer, School of Environment, Natural Resource and Geography, Bangor University**

I led the socio-economic work package of the ESPA-funded [P4ges project](#), managing 3-4 research assistants during the project. I led the design of household surveys; coordinated data collection in rural Madagascar; and led socio-economic data management and archiving within the project, with two datasets archived with ReShare UK. I continue to be involved in data analysis and have published three peer reviewed journal articles as the lead author and have contributed to several others.

#### Sep 2011 – Sep 2013 **Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Forest Resource Management, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences**

I contributed to the studies of forest commons in Sweden, and in community forestry in general. I led the action-research component to analyse and encourage shareholders' participation in the governance of a forest common in northern Sweden. This work has resulted in two peer-reviewed papers and several conference presentations.

#### Apr 2011 – Aug 2011 **Researcher, ForestAction-Nepal**

I coordinated the collaboration between ForestAction-Nepal and Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in the development of joint research proposals. I also led the analysis of existing survey data on Swedish Forest Commons, resulting in one peer-reviewed paper.

#### May 2010 – Mar 2011 **Research Associate, Environment Department, University of York**

*EC 6th Framework Project INNOVKAR – Project no. INCO-CT-032037 - <http://inco-innovkar.cirad.fr>*

As the Leader of Work Package 1 – “Shea tree dynamics and fruit production in the parklands”, I coordinated the field-data collection on shea trees in collaboration with INNOVKAR partners in Africa (Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, Senegal, Uganda) and led data management and analysis.

As the Deputy Leader of Work Package 2 – “Adaptation and resilience of shea tree facing climate”, I coordinated the compilation of existing shea distribution data across the continent for climatic modelling.

I also fulfilled the administrative and financial reporting obligations for this project to the EC for Environment Department, University of York.

#### May 2007 – Feb 2010 **Post-graduate Researcher (part-time), Environment Department, University of York**

*EC 6th Framework Project INNOVKAR – Project no. INCO-CT-032037 - <http://inco-innovkar.cirad.fr>*

Roles and responsibilities as listed above (May 2010 – March 2011), undertaken concurrently with my PhD research.

**Oct 2003 – Dec 2004      Research Assistant, Simon Fraser University***Study of Rhino Poaching in Chitwan and Nawalparasi Districts, Nepal*

As a Co-I, I contributed in conceptualising the research, and prepare a successful grant application (c. €100K). I played a leading role in designing the household survey questionnaire and discrete choice experiment; and coordinated the administration of surveys and choice experiment. I also played a leading role in data analysis and report write-up; co-authored two peer-reviewed journal articles and presented findings at various conferences.

**TEACHING & SUPERVISION**

- In recent years, I've developed and delivered specialised sessions for graduate students and researchers on 'Gender and Forestry in the Global South' (Masters/PhD Course at SLU, Umeå in 2012, 6 participants) and 'Social Research Methods' (ESPA Summer School 2016, Scotland, ~30 participants) – latter covering qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods, survey design and implementation, and research ethics.
- I've co-designed and delivered a one-week intensive course in 'Community-based conservation and behavioural change' as part of the Durrell Conservation Academy Mauritius's Post-Graduate Diploma in Endangered Species Recovery (16-20 June 2014, Mauritius, 10 participants). The module broadly covered: evolution of community-based conservation; property rights and common-pool resources; understanding behavioural change and measuring illegal behaviour; conservation interventions; valuing nature; and social research methods.
- As a graduate student, I've given lectures and ran tutorials on courses such as 'Global Change [human dimensions]', 'Environment, Law and Policy', and 'Forest Management'.
- I've co-supervised one PhD Student (Per Sandström) in the Department of Forest Resource Management, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Umeå (w/ Dr Gun Lidestav and Dr Johan Svensson). Per successfully defended his thesis in February 2015.
- At Bangor University, I've hosted and mentored two junior researchers from the University of Antananarivo, Madagascar – Alexandra Rasoamanana (April 2015) and Rina Mandimbinaina (April/May 2016), training and supporting them in data management and analysis, and in communicating research via posters and presentations. I also provided research mentorship to Patrick Rafidimanantsoa (ESPA Fellow, 2014-2016) (w/ Prof Julia Jones, Bangor; Dr Mark Mulligan, KCL and Prof Bruno Ramamonjisoa, Antananarivo).

**PUBLICATIONS**

Over the years, I've communicated my research through publications in high impact journals as well as via other means such as conference presentations and policy briefs. I've published 12 peer-reviewed papers, 5 book chapters and co-edited a book. In recent years, I've also communicated my research to wider audience via blogs, news media and twitter. I've Google h-index of 7 and i10-index of 5 since 2014 (<https://is.gd/zucOyb>), with one of my 2016 papers cited over 60 times so far.

**Refereed Journal Articles**

**Poudyal, M.**, O.S. Rakotonarivo, J.H. Razafimanahaka, N. Hockley, J.P.G. Jones (2018) "Household economy, forest dependency & opportunity costs of conservation in eastern rainforests of Madagascar", *Scientific Data* 5: 180225. <https://is.gd/34GLAc>

**Poudyal, M.**, J.P.G. Jones, O.S. Rakotonarivo, N. Hockley, J.M. Gibbons, R. Mandimbinaina, A. Rasoamanana, N.S. Andrianantenaina (2018) "Who bears the cost of forest conservation?", *PeerJ* 6:e5106. <https://is.gd/urR36z>

Rafidimanantsoa, H., **M. Poudyal**, B. Ramamonjisoa, and J.P.G. Jones (2018). "Mind the gap: the use of research in protected area management in Madagascar." *Madagascar Conservation & Development* 13 (1). <https://is.gd/V5pYJN>

Jones, J.P.G., R. Mandimbinaina, R. Kelly, P. Ranjatson, B. Rakotojoelina, K. Schreckenber, **M. Poudyal** (2018) "Human migration to the forest frontier: implications for land use change and conservation management", *Geo: Geography and Environment* 2018;e00050. <https://is.gd/HFxFK1d>

Rakotonarivo, O.S., J.B. Jacobsen, **M. Poudyal**, A. Rasoamanana, N. Hockley (2018) "Estimating welfare impacts where property rights are contested: methodological and policy implications", *Land Use Policy* 70: 71-83.

**Poudyal, M.**, B.S. Ramamonjisoa, N. Hockley, O.S. Rakotonarivo, J.M. Gibbons, R. Mandimbinaina, A. Rasoamanana, J.P.G. Jones (2016) "Can REDD+ social safeguards reach the 'right' people? Lessons from Madagascar", *Global Environmental Change* 37: 31-42. <https://is.gd/T4pqEW>

Sandström, S., **M. Poudyal**, S. Berg Lejon, and G. Lidestav (2016) "Absent neighbours and passive shareholders – The issue of residency and involvement in the management of a forest common", *Journal of Forest Economics*, 24: 205-217.

- Poudyal, M.**, G. Lidestav, P. Sandström, and S. Sandström (2015) "Supporting community governance in boreal forests by introducing participatory-GIS through action research", *International Journal of Action Research* 11(3): 236-264.
- Lidestav, G., **M. Poudyal**, E. Holmgren, and E.C.H. Kesitalo (2013) "Shareholder perceptions of individual and common benefits in Swedish Forest Commons", *International Journal of the Commons* 7(1): 164-182.
- Poudyal, M.** (2011) "Chiefs and trees: tenures and incentives in the management and use of two multipurpose tree species in agroforestry parklands in Northern Ghana", *Society and Natural Resources* 24(10): 1063-1077.
- Poudyal, M.**, K. Rothley, and D. Knowler (2009) "Ecological and economic analysis of poaching of the greater one horned rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) in Nepal", *Ecological Applications* 19(7): 1693-1707.
- Rothley, K.D., D.J. Knowler, and **M. Poudyal** (2004) "Population model for the greater one- horned rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) in Royal Chitwan National Park, Nepal", *Pachyderm* 37: 19-27.

### Book / Book Chapters

- Schreckenberg, K., G. Mace, and **M. Poudyal** (eds.) (2018) *Ecosystem Services and Poverty Alleviation: Trade-offs and Governance*. London: Routledge.
- Mace, G., K. Schreckenberg, and **M. Poudyal** (2018) "Ecosystem services for human wellbeing: trade-offs and governance", in K. Schreckenberg, G. Mace and M. Poudyal (eds) *Ecosystem Services and Poverty Alleviation: Trade-offs and Governance*, pp 305-316. London: Routledge.
- Cooke, P. and **M. Poudyal** (2014) "Local implications of forest tenure reform: section context and overview", in R. Bluffstone and E.J.Z. Robinson (eds) *Forest Tenure Reform in Asia and Africa: Local Control for Improved Livelihoods and Forest Management*, pp 109-112. New York: RFF Press.
- Poudyal, M.**, B. Adhikari, and J. Lovett (2014) "Community-Based Leasehold Forestry in Nepal: A Genuine Tenure Reform in Progress?", in R. Bluffstone and E.J.Z. Robinson (eds) *Forest Tenure Reform in Asia and Africa: Local Control for Improved Livelihoods and Forest Management*, pp 196-211. New York: RFF Press.
- Adhikari, B., D. Knowler, **M. Poudyal**, and W. Haider (2013) "Park-people conflicts, rhino conservation and poverty alleviation in Nepal", in P.J.H. van Beukering et. al. (eds) *Nature's Wealth: The Economics of Ecosystem Services and Poverty*, pp 37-55. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.
- Poudyal, M.** and J.C. Lovett (2010) "Biodiesel as the potential alternative vehicle fuel: European policy and global environmental concern", in J.C. Lovett and D.G. Ockwell (eds) *A Handbook of Environmental Management*, pp 408-430. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar.

### Datasets

- Poudyal, M.**, Rakotonarivo, O.S., Rasoamanana, A., Mandimbiniaina, R., Spener, N., Hockley, N., Jones, J.P.G. (2018) Household survey and discrete choice experiment for investigating the opportunity cost of conservation restrictions in eastern Madagascar. [Data Collection]. Colchester, Essex: UK Data Archive. <https://is.gd/6d9U9I>
- Poudyal, M.**, Rasoamanana, A., Andrianantenaina, S.N., Mandimbiniaina, R., Hockley, N., Razafimanahaka, J.H., Rakotomboavonjy, V., Rabakoson, J.C., Ambinintsoa, J., Randrianarisoa, M., Jones, J.P.G. (2018) Household-level agricultural inputs-outputs, off-farm income and wild-harvested products survey in eastern Madagascar. [Data Collection]. Colchester, Essex: UK Data Archive. <https://is.gd/esv7UD>

### Working Papers

- Poudyal, M.**, and D. Knowler (2005) "Poaching of the One-Horned Indian Rhinoceros in the Chitwan Valley, Nepal – A Retrospective Econometric Analysis". *PREM Working Paper No. 05–07*. Poverty Reduction and Environmental Management (PREM) Program, Institute of Environmental Studies, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- Knowler, D., and **M. Poudyal** (2005) "Simulation Modelling of Policies to Combat the Poaching of Rhino in Royal Chitwan National Park, Nepal". *PREM Working Paper No. 05–11*. Poverty Reduction and Environmental Management (PREM) Program, Institute of Environmental Studies, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- Adhikari, B.P., W. Haider, O. Gurung, **M. Poudyal**, B. Beardmore, D. Knowler, and P. van Beukering (2005) "Stakeholder Perspectives in Biodiversity Conservation – Analysis of Local, National and Global Stakes in Rhino Conservation in Royal Chitwan National Park, Nepal". *PREM Working Paper 05–12*. Poverty Reduction and Environmental Management (PREM) Program, IVM, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

**Conference Proceedings / Presentations (since 2012)**

**Poudyal, M.**, B.S. Ramamonjisoa, O.S. Rakotonarivo, N.S. Andrianantenaina, N. Hockley, J.M. Gibbons, R. Mandimbiniaina, A. Rasoamanana, and J.P.G. Jones (2016) “Who bears the cost of forest conservation?” Presented at *2nd Annual FLARE Meeting*, 2-5 December 2016, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.

**Poudyal, M.**, J.P.G. Jones, N. Hockley, S. Rakotonarivo, B. Ramamonjisoa, R. Mandimbiniaina, and A. Rasoamanana (2014) “Who bears the cost of forest conservation under REDD+?” Presented at *ESPA 2014 Annual Science Meeting*, 26–27 November 2014, New Delhi, India.

**Poudyal, M.**, G. Lidestav, S. Sandström, and P. Sandström (2014) “Experiences of introducing tools for better communication about land uses: The case of forestry within Vilhelmina Upper Forest Commons”, In *Future Direction of Small-scale and Community-based Forestry (Proceedings from the IUFRO 3.08 & 6.08 Joint Conference, 8-13 September 2013 in Fukuoka, Japan)*, pp 300-305.

**Poudyal, M.**, S. Sandström, G. Lidestav, and S. Berg Lejon (2014) “Absent neighbours and passive shareholders – the issue of residency and involvement in the management of a forest common.” Presented at *IASC 3rd European Meeting: From generation to generation – the use of commons in a changing society*, 16-19 September 2014, Umeå, Sweden.

**Poudyal, M.**, and G. Lidestav (2012) “Governance and benefits sharing in the Swedish forest commons: an assessment of the shareholder satisfaction”, In *Forest Commons – Role Model for Sustainable Local Governance and Forest Management (Proceedings from the International Workshop 9-11 October 2011 in Burbach, Germany)*, Booklet 22 of the *State Forestry Administration Series North Rhine-Westphalia*, pp 58-65.

**Poudyal, M.** and G. Lidestav (2012) “Analysing participation in Swedish forest commons: where women stand?” Presented at *IUFRO 6.08 – Gender and Forestry Conference, Environmental governance and four decades of gender research: Where do we stand?* 27–29 November 2012, Wondo Genet Forestry College, Ethiopia.

**Poudyal, M.** and G. Lidestav (2012) “Increasing shareholder participation in forest commons’ governance: what are the chances and challenges?” Presented at *Rural at the Edge – the 2nd Nordic Conference for Rural Research*, 21-23 May 2012, Joensuu, Finland.

**Other**

**Poudyal, M.** (2017) “Ensuring participatory and pro-poor Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) schemes: Insights from ESPA research”, *ESPA Policy and Practice Briefing April 2017*, Ecosystem Services for Poverty Alleviation (ESPA) Programme Directorate, Edinburgh, UK.

Lovett, J.C., and **M. Poudyal** (2006) “Terraforming Africa”, *African Journal of Ecology* 44: 302-304.

**Invited Seminars / Talks**

**25/07/2018** — **Faculty of Natural Resources & Environment, University for Development Studies, Tamale, Ghana.** Invited seminar on “Who bears the cost of forest conservation?”.

**22/03/2018** — **Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), Bangalore, India.** “Who bears the cost of forest conservation?”.

**25/10/2017** — **Centre for Sustainable & Resilient Communities (CSRC), University of Huddersfield.** Invited seminar on “Forest conservation in the tropics: global benefits with local costs?”.

**21/06/2017** — **ForestAction-Nepal.** “Ensuring participatory and pro-poor PES schemes: Insights from ESPA research”.

**28/06/2016** — **ESSA-Forêts, Université d’Antananarivo, Madagascar.** “Can REDD+ social safeguards reach the ‘right’ people? Lessons from Madagascar”.

**05/05/2016** — **School of Geosciences, University of Edinburgh.** “Challenges in implementing payment for ecosystem services in the tropics: a case of REDD+ in Madagascar”.

**28/04/2016** — **Conservation@Bangor, Bangor University.** “Community feedback in research projects”.

**24/10/2014** — **ESPA Social Science Event, London.** “Confidentiality in data management: the need for data firewalls within projects and for external users”.

## PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

**2012 Teaching in Higher Education**, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Umeå, Sweden. The course covered theoretical and practical aspects of pedagogy at university level, including designing teaching activities/sessions and selecting appropriate teaching methods, and interacting with students and giving feedback.

## AWARDS

- 2005-2008** Overseas Research Students Awards Scheme (ORSAS), for the PhD degree at the University of York, UK (Approx. £18K over three years)
- 2005-2008** Research Studentship, Environment Department, University of York, for the PhD degree at the University of York, UK (Approx. £27K over three years)
- 2002/2003** Graduate Fellowships, for Master of Resources Management at Simon Fraser University, Canada (Approx. CAD 10K for one year)
- 1999-2002** Overseas Students' Trust Fund (OSTF) Scholarship, for BSc in Environment, Economics, and Ecology at the University of York, UK (Approx. £52K over three years)

## CONSULTANCIES & GRANTS

- 2019** — Centre for Sustainable Landscape and Forestry, University of Edinburgh. As a 'Strategic and Funding Development' consultant, I supported in the development of a funding proposal to NERC's Landscape Decisions PCT call. Feb 2019 (c. £2000).
- 2017** — Ecosystem Services for Poverty Alleviation (ESPA) Programme. Consultant contract to provide 'a rapid review of ESPA literature on Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)'. Mar/Apr 2017 (c. £ 4000).
- 2012** — Kungl. Skogs- och Lantbruksakademien (KSLA) conference grant of SEK 10K, at Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Umeå, Sweden.
- 2003** — Co-I "Economic Incentives and Poaching of the One-Horned Indian Rhinoceros in Nepal", funded through the Poverty Reduction and Environmental Management (PREM) programme of the Netherlands government. PREM Project #06 (<https://is.gd/vSYxTu>), c. €100K.

## MEMBERSHIPS

International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE)  
 European Society for Ecological Economics (ESEE)  
 Britain-Nepal Academic Council (BNAC)  
 South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE)

## LANGUAGES

**English** – fluent (speaking, reading, writing); **Nepali** – native language; **Hindi** – speak, read, and write with basic competence; **French** – beginner (level 1)

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Reviewer for several academic journals including Area Development and Policy, Ecological Economics, Environmental Conservation, European Journal of Wildlife Research, Forest Policy and Economics, Forests, Journal of Forest Economics, Geoforum, Land Use Policy, Madagascar Conservation and Development, Natural Resources Forum, Rural Sociology, Journal of Rural Studies, World Development.

Member of the Scientific Committee for International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM), June 19-22, 2017 in Umeå, Sweden.