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**German-Bhutan
Himalaya Society**

BHUTAN DAY

Saturday, 15 June 2024

Klimahaus Bremerhaven

General Assembly for Members on 14 June



Foto: Klimahaus
Bremerhaven
Marcus Meyer

**Topic: “Climate change in
the climate-neutral kingdom”**

**Participation in
Bhutan Day is
possible both
on-site & online.**

Photo: Marcus Westberg



Programme Bhutan Day, 15 June 2024

The Annual General Assembly for Members of the German Bhutan Himalaya Society will take place on the evening before, Friday, June 14, 2024 from 6 p.m. Non-members are very welcome.

Presentations and speeches will be translated from English to German and vice versa.

Time is Central European Summer Time; [Bhutan Standard time is 4 hours ahead]

10.30 Welcome

[14:30] Reinhard Wolf, DBHG

10:45 Opening Address

*[14:45] H.E. Ambassador Tshoki Choden,
Embassy of the Kingdom of Bhutan/
Brussels*

11:15 Environmental and climate risks in the Hindu-Kush Himalayan region

[15:15] Dr. Pema Gyamtsho, Director General ICIMOD (International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, Kathmandu / Nepal)

12:00 The Messenger – Ride for Action

[16:00] Actor and filmmaker Jamyang Jamtsho Wangchuk on his climate campaign

12.15 Lunch break

[16:15]

14:00 Global climate justice

[18:00] Dr. Uli Wischnath, consultant for national and international climate policy at the Klimahaus

14:45 Funding of environmental and climate projects in Bhutan by Germany

*[18:45] Representative Zukunft – Umwelt – Gesellschaft (ZUG) gGmbH
German parliamentarians (requested)*

15.30 Coffee break

[19:30]

16.00 Relevant issues for Bhutan at the United Nations climate negotiations

[20:00] Representative the Bhutanese Delegation for the climate negotiations in Bonn

16.45 Final discussion

[20:45]

17.00 End of Bhutan Day

[21:00]



Speakers



Tshoki Choden
*Ambassador of the
Royal Bhutanese
Embassy in Brussels*

Tshoki Choden is the ambassador responsible for the EU and the countries Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Spain, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and Germany. Previously, she was Director of the Department of Bilateral Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade. There she worked in various positions in the ministry as well as in the Royal Bhutanese Embassy in New Delhi and in the Permanent Mission of Bhutan to the United Nations in New York. She holds a master's degree in inter-national relations from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA).



Dr. Pema Gyamtsho

Dr. Pema Gyamtsho, an agricultural scientist with a master's degree from New Zealand and a Ph.D. from ETH Zurich. He is General

Director of the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), which includes eight countries in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region.

The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) serves the people of the Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) region. The centre is based in Kathmandu, Nepal and works in and for its eight regional member countries – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan. Operating as an intergovernmental knowledge hub, ICIMOD works to enhance the lives and livelihoods of HKH residents, safeguard mountain environments and cultures, and foster regional cooperation for conservation and sustainable development.



Jamyang Jamtsho Wangchuk

Jamyang Jamtsho Wangchuk is a Bhutanese actor and film producer. He made his film debut in 1997. He had a leading role in the film "Seven Years in Tibet" and played the 14-year-old Dalai Lama. He studied film production in South Korea. In 2018 he wrote and directed his first short film The Open Door, which premiered at the Locarno Film Festival and won an award at the Seoul International Senior Film Festival. In 2021, he launched "The Messenger – ride for Action," a cycling campaign to raise awareness of climate change issues.



Dr. Uli Wischnath

Consultant for national and international climate policy at the Klimahaus® Bremerhaven

With its approximately 500,000 visitors per year, the Klimahaus Bremerhaven has huge potential for climate education, which thinks about its own climate protection and sustainability balance and develops an appropriate strategy. Both tasks must be solved against the background of national and international political developments. Uli Wischnath brings these perspectives into the Klimahaus processes, in which he plays a leading role.

More Speakers

Representative of ZUG (www.z-u-g.org/en), a federal company and specialised project management agency for topics relating to environmental protection, conservation and climate action.

Representative of the Bhutanese delegation for the climate negotiations in Bonn.

German parliamentarians who visited Bhutan in 2023 and 2024 (requested)

About our Event Topic: “Climate change in climate-neutral kingdom”

Bhutan, a carbon neutral country, does not contribute to global warming but suffers from its effects. The region is warming faster than the global average; At 3°C warming, 75% of glaciers in Bhutan and Nepal could melt by the end of the century. This threatens food and energy security and leads to significant biodiversity loss.

Bhutan’s development relies heavily on climate-sensitive sectors, including agriculture, hydro-power and forestry. The risk of glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs), which can have catastrophic effects on the population and infrastructure, is increasing.

Hydropower, industrial growth, agriculture and tourism are key areas for sustainable development. However, these sectors are extremely vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate change.

Hydropower depends on stable rainfall patterns, which are affected by climate change. Farmers are suffering from unpredictable temperature fluctuations and changing monsoon patterns. Infrastructure, including roads, are at risk from landslides and flash floods, while Bhutan’s richly diverse forests are also affected.

These topics will be discussed with interesting guests at the Bhutan Day. In addition, the Bhutan Day offers friends the opportunity to exchange information and personal experiences.



Registration

We kindly ask you to register for Bhutan Day latest by May 31, 2024.

Just send an email to info@bhutan-gesellschaft.de.

How to get to the Klimahaus Bremerhaven

By train: Traveling by train is possible without any problems. From Bremerhaven main station you can easily reach the Klimahaus using public transport (stop “Havenwelten”). It’s about 2.5 km on foot.

By car: Address for navigation systems: H.-H.-Meier-Straße; 27568 Bremerhaven. You can park in the Havenwelten car park, directly under the Klimahaus, or the P&R car park at Bremerhaven main station.

Overnight Stay

There are a variety of accommodation options in different price ranges. A cheap option is e.g. the Havenhostel; Mayor-Smidt-Strasse 209; 27568 Bremerhaven; Tel: +49 471 30 96 69-0; bremervhaven@havenhostel.de; www.havenhostel.de.



Deutsche Bhutan Himalaya Gesellschaft e.V.

Executive Board: Reinhard Wolf (President),
Dr. Irmela Harz (Vice-President),
Brigitte Eisenack (Treasurer), Herbert Küster;
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