Scientific evidences indicate that the Himalayan region is warming at much higher rate than
average global rate making India as one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change. It
is because of fact that the size of humanity (about 600 million) affected by the projected
change, both within the region and the adjacent Gangetic Plains, surpasses any other
country/region across the globe. Traditional societies and indigenous peoples living in the
Himalaya represent hundreds of yearlong natural experiments in securing livelihoods
harmoniously in this fragile and marginal yet natural resource rich region of the world. Hence
it is only wise to learn from those experiences that may help addressing multiple challenges
that the climate change presents to the region. Local communities in the region have
developed many local climate adaptive practices which emerged in response to changes in
weather for centuries such as maintaining fragmented land holdings and genetic diversity in
farming systems. A range of such practices concerning farming and natural resource
management systems are being documented from selected eco-cultural zones in the Indian
Himalayan Region. The aim is to bring forth the rich traditional knowledge systems in
national climate change discourse and thus help integrate the “Best Practices” in the formal
decision making systems for sustainable development of the region.