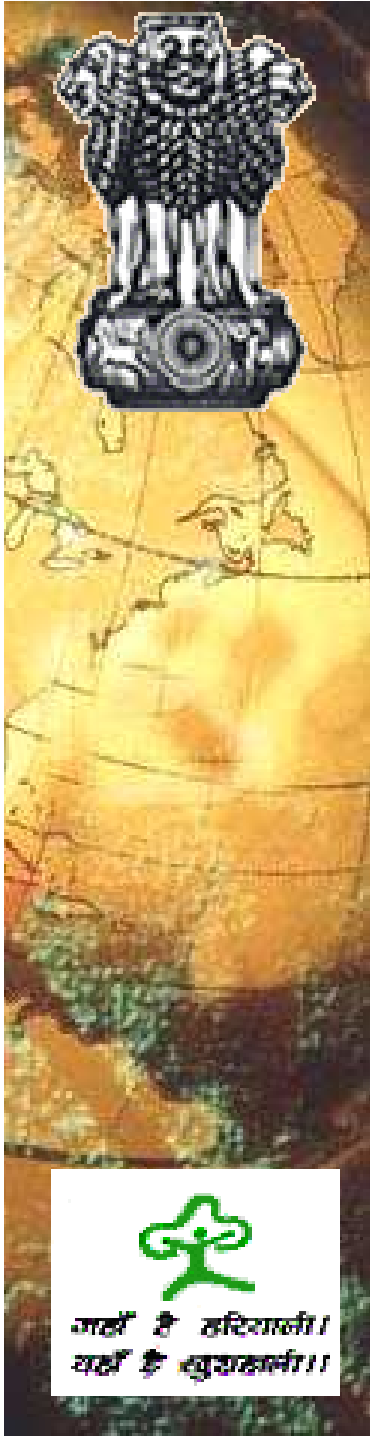


Country Presentation India

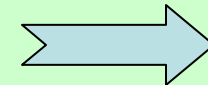
for the session on
Updating and improving NBSAPs

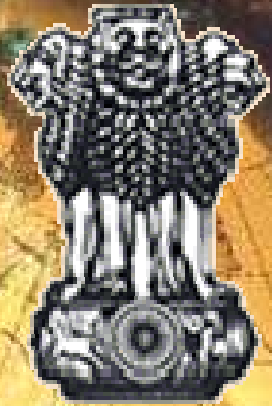
Regional Workshop for South,
South-East and East Asia on
Capacity Building for NBSAPs

Singapore, January 14-18, 2008



India is a country rich in biological diversity

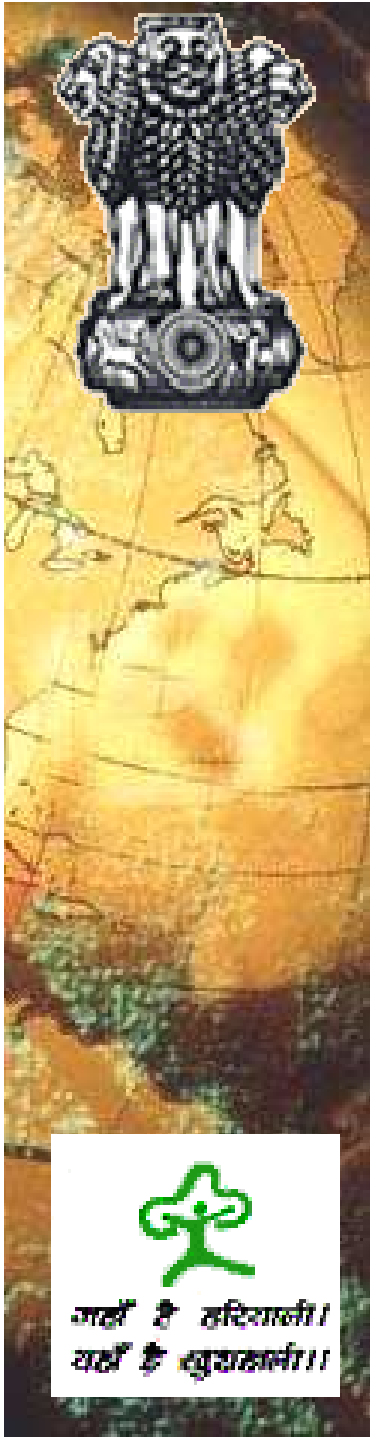




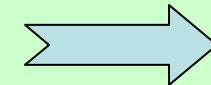
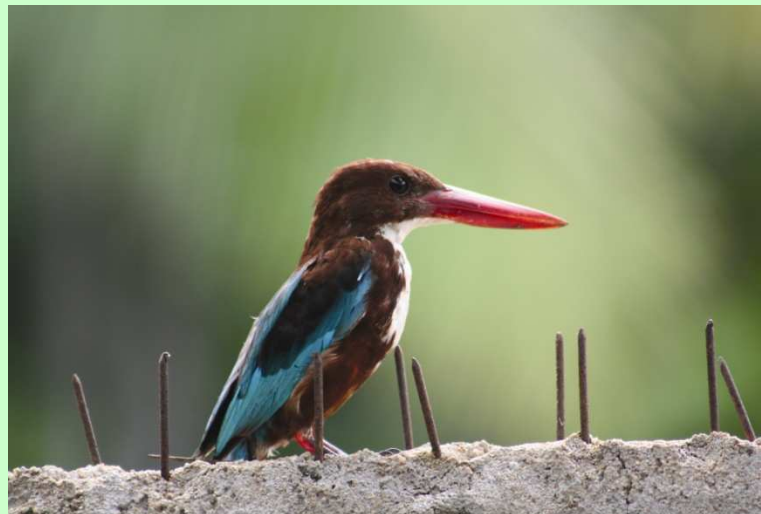
- With 2.4% of land area, India accounts for 7-8% of recorded species.
- Over 46,000 species of plants and 89,000 species of animals recorded so far.
- India also has diversity of ecosystems such as forests, grasslands, wetlands, mangroves, coral reefs, desert, etc.
- India an acknowledged centre of crop diversity.

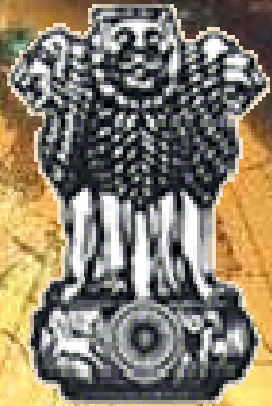


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Measures for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in India did NOT start with CBD.

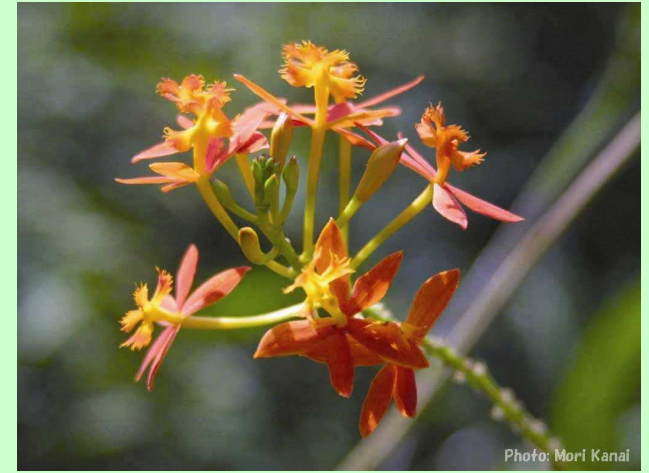
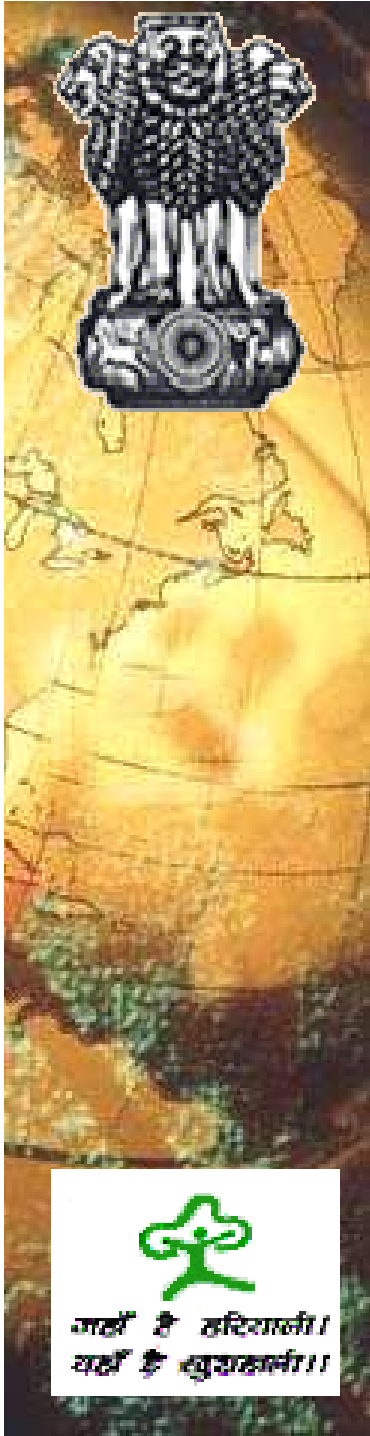




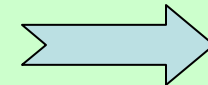
- Strategies and plans for conservation and sustainable use of bio-resources ingrained in Indian ethos and way of life.
- India has a long history of conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.
- Stable organizational structure for environment protection has gradually evolved.
- Environment protection enshrined in our Constitution (Articles 48A and 51A (g)).



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Numerous and wide ranging policies, programmes and projects are in place





- Legal and policy regime
 - Forest Conservation Act,
 - Wildlife Protection Act,
 - National Wildlife Action Plan,
 - National Forestry Action Programme,
 - National Environment Policy.
- Surveys and inventorisation
 - floral and faunal resources.
- *In-situ* conservation
 - National Parks,
 - Wildlife Sanctuaries,
 - Biosphere Reserves etc.
- Conservation of ecologically fragile areas
 - mangroves,
 - wetlands,
 - coral reefs etc.
- *Ex-situ* conservation
 - botanic gardens,
 - zoos,
 - gene banks.

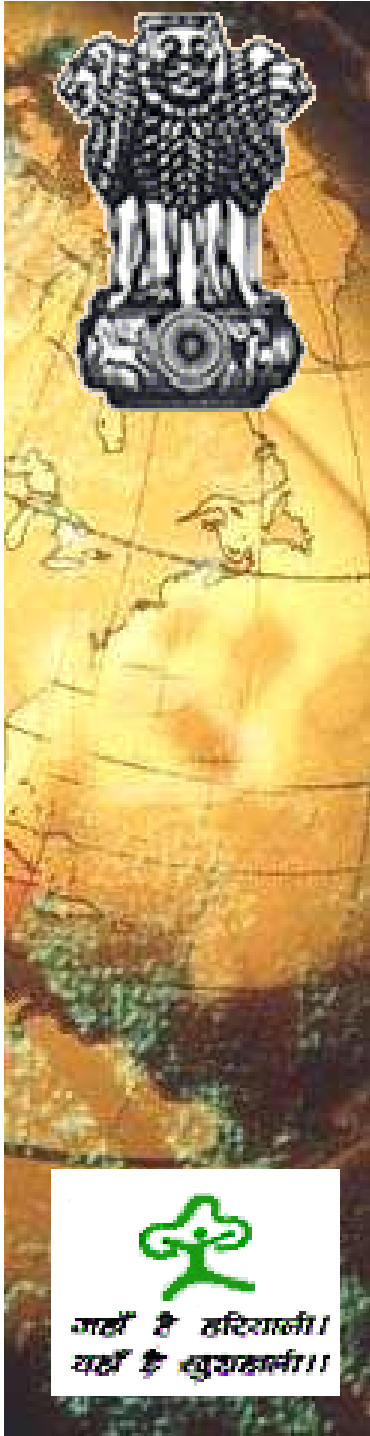


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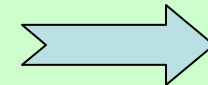
Post-CBD measures

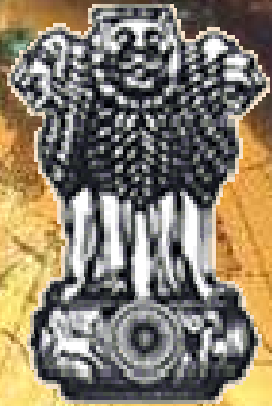
- Pursuant to the ratification of CBD in 1994, the following were initiated :
- Development of Biological Diversity Act - enacted in 2002, Rules notified 2004
- Development of a policy and action strategy on biodiversity





India framed its National Policy and Macro-level Action Strategy on Biodiversity in 1999

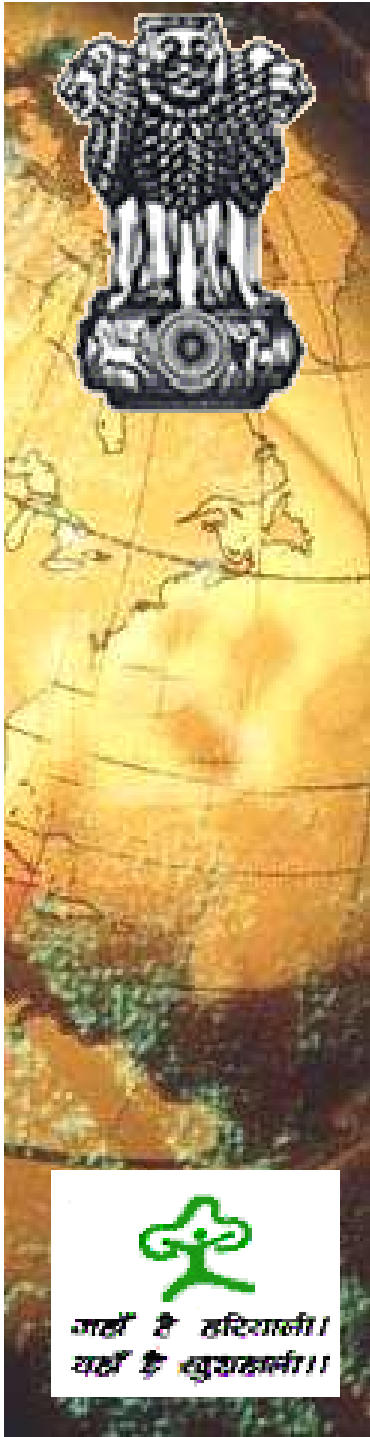




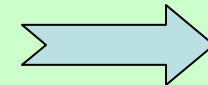
- Initiated the exercise of preparing National Action Plan on Biodiversity in 1994-95, by setting up a core group of Experts.
- Extensive consultations held with experts, NGOs, State Govts. and the concerned Ministries, including organization of a National Workshop in June 1997 chaired by Hon'ble MEF.
- The document on National Policy and Macro-level Action Strategy on Biodiversity was printed in 1999 after the same was also placed before the Committee of Secretaries.
- It is a macro-level statement of existing policies and programmes, gaps and further actions needed for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
- Govt. of India submitted this document to CBD Secretariat. (However, it is not found on CBD's website)

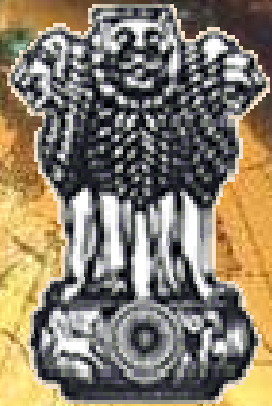


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India's UNDP/GEF project on NBSAP





- India accessed GEF funds to be assisted in preparing NBSAP and action plans at state and regional levels, based on the framework document of 1999 (Slide V refers).
- NBSAP project implemented during 2000-2004.
- 73 executing agencies identified for preparing action plans for 10 eco-regions, 18 sub-state sites, 33 States/UTs and 12 thematic areas.
- Many of the executing agencies for preparing State level BSAPs were the concerned State Govt. Depts. or their specialised institutes.
- Process was highly participatory involving various stakeholders.
- NBSAP process hailed as one of the most participatory environmental planning processes, facilitated by MoEF through unique consortium arrangement, in an attempt to move away from general trend of centralized planning.



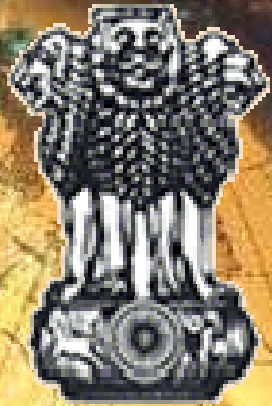
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- Call for participation in 20 languages, use of mass media, folk media, organisation of mass participation events, involvement of about 50,000 people.
- Apart from conventional methods (workshops, seminars), biodiversity festivals, yatras, rallies, (cycle, bullock-cart, boat), cultural programmes organized.
- Unique process applauded at international level also.
- Intermediate products were more than 70 sub-national level action plans prepared by executing agencies.
- Some of the State level action plans were also printed by State Govts.



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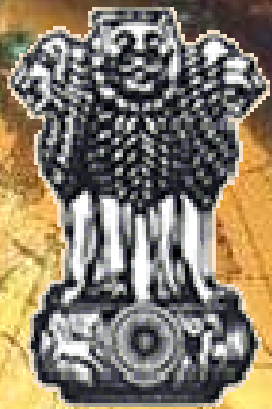
- Posters prepared on 3 State level BSAPs for WGRI-2 meeting in Paris, depicting state level experiences in developing and implementing BSAPs in Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh states.
- One Resource person from India will speak in detail on BSAP of MP and integration of biodiversity in state development policies.
- The other resource person from India will speak in detail on Action Plan prepared for a sub-state site (Western Ghats) under NBSAP project.
- Final Technical Report of Project accepted by MoEF in 2005.
- Govt. decided that NBSAP could be finalized only after NEP (which at that time was under preparation), was finalized and approved, so that it is in conformity with NEP.



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National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP)

- After approval of NEP by Cabinet in May 2006, preparation of **NBAP** taken up in consonance with **NEP**, and using final **technical report** of **NBSAP** project as one of the inputs.
- **Draft NBAP** is in **consonance** with **NEP**, and is **founded** in the backdrop of NEP's cardinal **prescription** that **human beings** are at the **centre of concern** for sustainable development, and the most secure **basis for conservation** is to ensure that **people** dependent on particular resources **obtain better livelihoods** from the act of **conservation** than from their **degradation**.
- India's cultural diversity is closely linked with its bio-geographic features.
- **NBAP** attempts to be sensitive to and **consistent with ecological, social** and **economic** mosaic of the country.
- Draft NBAP prepared taking into account CoP guidance and WGRI recommendations, as also the 2010 biodiversity target.



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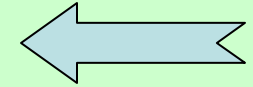
Draft NBAP

- Draft NBAP has six chapters:
 - Preamble
 - Introduction
 - Biodiversity Conservation: threats and constraints →
 - Objectives
 - Action Plan →
 - Matrix for implementation →



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Chapter 3 describes major threat and constraints



- Habitat fragmentation, degradation and loss and shrinking of genetic diversity
- Declining natural resource base and overexploitation of resources
- Invasive Alien Species
- Climate Change and Desertification
- Impact of Development Projects
- Biodiversity Information Base
- New and emerging biotechnologies
- Economic valuation and natural resource accounting
- Policy, Legal and Administrative measures
- Institutional framework and capacity building



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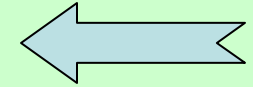
Action Plan

- To address these threats, Chapter 4 outlines objectives of NBAP, followed by corresponding action points (emanating from objectives) in Chapter 5 under the following heads:
 - Strengthening and integrating *in-situ*, on-farm and *ex-situ* conservation
 - Augmentation of Natural Resource Base and its sustainable utilization : Ensuring inter- and intra-generational equity
 - Regulating introductions, and managing invasive alien species
 - Assessment of vulnerability, and adaptation to climate change & desertification



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Action Plan (Contd.)



- Integration of biodiversity concerns in economic and social development
- Impact of Pollution
- Developing and integrating biodiversity databases
- Strengthening implementation of policy, legislative and administrative measures for biodiversity conservation and management
- Developing national capacities for biodiversity conservation and appropriate use of new technologies
- Use of economic instruments/valuation in biodiversity related decision making processes
- International cooperation



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Implementation of NBAP

- Biodiversity being cross-sectoral in nature, implementation of activities heavily dependent on coordinated efforts of diverse actors, e.g., State Govts., concerned Central sectoral Ministries/ Depts., research institutions, govt. and non-govt. organizations, and above all people themselves.
- Many of activities listed in NBAP already ongoing.
- To be taken up under ambit of existing schemes and programmes of Central and State Govts., securing utilization of available infrastructure and funds, with augmentation wherever required.
- Time-frame indicated short-term (within 5 years), medium term (between 5 and 10 years), and long term (beyond 10 years).



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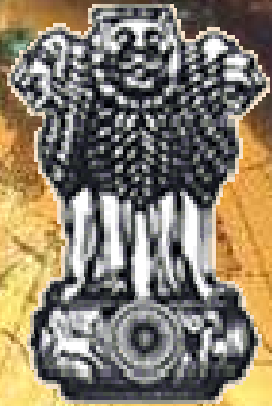
Draft NBAP – Next Steps

- Draft NBAP circulated to divisions/units within MoEF, including forestry and wildlife, in June, 2007.
- Comments received were incorporated.
- Revised draft put on Ministry's website (www.moef.gov.in) on August 31, 2007, inviting comments of all stakeholders.
- Draft NBAP also circulated to the concerned Central Government Ministries/Departments for their comments.
- After incorporating comments, necessary Govt. approval will be obtained on the revised document.



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Thank You



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