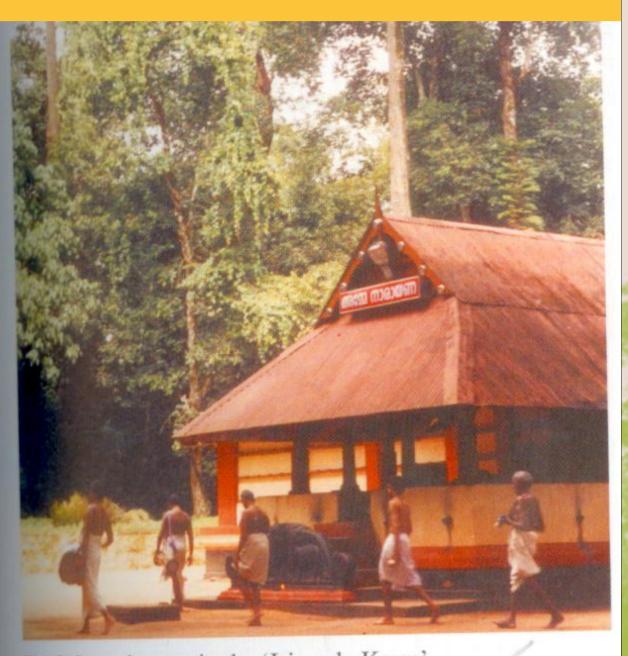


Preparartion of Kerala BSAP, whch was done through extensive participatory process involving people from all walk of life, is the first major step towards our efforts to provide a framework for the conservation of biodiversity in Kerala.

Dr. A. E. Muthunayagam, Pricipal Secretary, Govt. of Kerala





## Kerala BSAP, India: A Framework for **Conservation and Sustainable Development**

UNDP/GEF funded NBSAP project was executed in India from January 2000 to March 2004, wherein 73 executing agencies were identified for preparing action plans for 33 states/UTs, 18 sub-state sites, 10 eco-regions and 12 thematic areas. Situated in one of the hotspots of biodiversity (Western Ghats), Kerala harbours an enormous diversity of plants and animals, in a variety of habitats and ecosystems. For the preparartion of Kerala BSAP, Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI) was identified as the nodal agency and a steering committee under the chairmanship of Director, KFRI was constituted. Based upon the local requirements, 12 thematic groups were constituted. To ensure maximum participation, workshops, public hearings, meetings, discussions and awareness programmes were organized involving all the major stakeholders. Some of the important action points of Kerala BSAP are mentioned below.

## What did we achieve?

Research on biology and ecology of weeds to implement effective eradication program with emphasis on biological and mechanical control.

Artisans and craftsmen living on biological resources such as bamboo, reeds, canes, etc. to be supported by marketing information design development welfare schemes and organizational support.



Reduce catchment degradation due to uncontrolled and improper landuse, deforestation, grazing, etc.





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Employment creation in rural areas around forests in agriculture and infrastructure development to mitigate the unemployment problem around forests.

Develop site-specific tourism policy based

on carrying capacity assessment so as to

protect traditional practices and conserve

biodiversity.



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Introduce and popularize the holistic approach on primary health care linking with biodiversity and indigenous knowledge.

Promote the quality and value of traditional varieties through value addition, thereby creating demand which will balance between HYVs and local land races in terms of sustainable use.

The core areas to be further improved in term of habitat management so as to reduce the movement of wild animals to marginal areas in search of food.

The sacred groves and undisturbed natural habitat available around the household to be kept intact.

