

It is well established that human well-being depends on biological diversity and ecosystem and the goods and services they provide. India has a deep rooted conservation ethos and over decades has generated several models of biodiversity governance. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, during India's Presidency of the Eleventh Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted an innovative mechanism for collating good practices from across the country. The first India Biodiversity Awards were jointly announced by the Ministry and UNDP India in 2012 at the High Level Segment of the Eleventh meeting of Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to recognise and honour outstanding models of biodiversity governance at the grassroots level. Following its success, the second India Biodiversity Awards were announced in May, 2014, at the International Day for Biological Diversity. Over 300 good cases of biodiversity governance have been gathered from these two rounds. The winners were selected by an eminent jury based on the effectiveness of the cases in terms of biodiversity outcomes, livelihood improvement, stakeholder participation, impact on biodiversity policy and programmes, and institutional design.



**Ministry of Environment,
Forest & Climate Change**

Indira Paryavaran Bhavan
Jor Bagh Road
New Delhi - 110 003

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**National Biodiversity
Authority**

5th Floor, TICEL Bio Park,
CSIR Road, Taramani,
Chennai - 600 113, India

Visit: nbaindia.org



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**United Nations
Development Programme**

55 Lodhi Estate
New Delhi - 110003, India
Tel: +91-11-46532333
Fax: +91-11-24627612

business-outreach.in@undp.org
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ANNOUNCEMENT

**INDIA
BIODIVERSITY
AWARDS
2016**



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**RECOGNISING
CHAMPIONS OF
BIODIVERSITY
CONSERVATION
IN INDIA**

India is a megadiverse country and is home to nearly 8 percent of the world's total recorded species of plants and animals. An estimated 45,000 plants and 91,000 animal species have been recorded in the country so far. Four of the 34 global biodiversity hotspots are represented in India: the Himalaya, Indo-Burma, the Western Ghats — Sri Lanka and Sundaland. India is also an acknowledged centre of crop diversity and harbours hundreds of varieties of crop plants such as rice, maize, millets etc.



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AWARD CATEGORIES 2016

The categories for the India Biodiversity Awards 2016 are aligned with the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, to incentivize stakeholders in the effective implementation of the Act.

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Category 1

CONSERVATION OF THREATENED SPECIES

Conservation efforts by individuals and institutions that have led to protection, management and restoration of habitats and population recovery resulting in significant reduction in the threat level to at-risk species.



Category 2

SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Efforts led by individuals and institutions resulting in sustainability of resources, best practices for their sustainable use that integrate empowerment of weaker sections of communities.



Category 3

REPLICABLE MECHANISMS FOR ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING

Efforts led by individuals and institutions resulting in monetary and non-monetary equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilisation of bio-resources with the concerned communities.



Category 4

BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES

Recognising efforts by Biodiversity Management Committees on documentation of biological resources that integrate traditional knowledge; generating awareness; establishing best practices for conservation and sustainable use; and equitable sharing of benefits.

Call for nominations will be announced shortly and can be accessed on the **UNDP website: in.undp.org**

