

South Asia Regional Workshop on CHM

Bangladesh Country Status

**Government of the People's Republic of
Bangladesh**



Status of Biodiversity in Bangladesh

- **Bangladesh is rich with diversity of species and we have a quite diverse ecosystems**
- **Diversity of ecosystems and its rich floral and faunal resources have made Bangladesh and its ecosystems resilient to natural calamities**
- **Bangladesh has been divided into 25 bio-ecological zones.**



Bangladesh and CBD related ICTPs

- Bangladesh is party to CBD, Cartagena Protocol on Bio-safety to CBD, CMS, CITES, World Heritage Convention, Ramsar Convention, UNFCCC and UNCCD.
- Since signing in 1992 and ratification in 1994, Bangladesh is implementing various development activities under this convention



Information Source for CHM

- Department of Environment, Forest Department, Fisheries Department, National Herbarium and NARs Institutes
- Information on 28 designated Protected Areas managed by FD and 12 Ecological Critical Areas (ECAs) managed by DOE and a number of Fish Sanctuaries including Hilsha Sanctuaries managed by the Fisheries Department
- Red Data Book of animals (IUCN Bangladesh).
- Data generated from waterfowl census.
- Data Generated from Floral and Faunal survey undertaken in some ecologically critical areas (ECAs) and Protected Areas.
- Lessons Learnt and Success stories from implementation of various project initiatives on biodiversity conservation.



Information Sources

- Bangladesh has *ex-situ* gene bank facilities.
- An important gene bank has been established for conservation of rice genetic resources at BRRI.
- This bank has so far collection of 4523 varieties of traditional rice excluding exotic varieties.
- It has a total of about 8,000 collection of rice varieties.
- Some other institutes have also gene-banks in their premises.



Information on Sustainable use initiatives

- **Ministry of Environment and Forest through Forest Department, Forest Research Institute, Bangladesh National Herbarium and Department of Environment have various regular and development activities for conservation of biodiversity at the species and ecosystem level.**
- **The current major development projects of Forest Department are Integrated Protected Area Co-management (IPAC), Biodiversity Management Projects in various PAs, Community-based Coastal Afforestation project in the coastal districts.**
- **Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock has taken projects on conservation of open water fisheries.**



Information on Impact Assessment and minimizing adverse impacts

- Under the environment conservation act it is mandatory for all the proposed development project to undertake environmental assessment.
- The rules and regulations framed in Bangladesh Environment Conservation Rules 1997 provides detailed procedures for EIA approval and environmental clearance against various types of projects.



Research and Training

- There are several research institute for agricultural crop biodiversity like BARI, BRRI and BJRI etc.
- Forestry sub-sector has FRI; Fisheries sub-sector has Freshwater Fisheries RI, Brackish water Fisheries RI, Tidal water Fisheries RI; Livestock Department has Livestock RI. There is an institute for Tea Development.
- Ministry of Science and Technology has taken initiative establish centre of excellence with a view to conduct dedicated research on national and global aspect of Genetic Resources.



Cooperation under CBD beyond the boundary

- Bangladesh is one of the pioneering country in establishing regional cooperation among the south Asian countries.**
- It has almost similar biodiversity both in ecosystem and species with neighboring states.**
- We've signed agreement with India for sharing of Ganges water, without enough fresh water recharge the health of mangrove ecosystem may be jeopardized**
- We're developing common approach for conservation of Sundarbans, the World Heritage Sites extended to both countries.**



Access to genetic resources

- **Bangladesh has been working for generation of information for enabling the focal points of CBD and the concerned authorities to adopt legal documents for implementation of CBD provisions regarding access to genetic resources.**
- **We've already formulated a draft Biodiversity Conservation Act.**
- **Regulatory and Institutional Framework for handling IPR issues focusing genetic resources has yet to be developed in the country.**



Ecosystem Approach

- Bangladesh government is putting emphasis on integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use.
- Environmental Impact Assessment of development activity, more and more participation of people's in the planning and implementation of development activity is a positive sign toward achieving the objective of CBD with Ecosystem approach.



The Main thematic areas that could be included in Bangladesh CHM

- **Marine and coastal ecosystem,**
- **Inland wetland biodiversity and homestead biodiversity**
- **Forest ecosystems (Evergreen, Semi-evergreen, Moist deciduous)**
- **Hilly Ecosystems**
- **Agricultural biodiversity and agro-ecological zones**



Recent Initiatives on establishing CHM

- Establishment of CHM has been included under Updating and Mainstreaming of NBSAP
- Bangladesh made proposal for direct access to GEF resources for the assignment
- Stakeholder participation and a coordination mechanism has been proposed in the proposed project to interact and oversee the CHM and other issues in the proposed project.
- Bangladesh has already established BCH under Caertagena protocol on biosafety
- Bangladesh has submitted the 4th National Report to CBD.



Conclusion

- Pressures on Bangladesh's biological resources are intense and growing.
- We need to have more and more regional and international cooperation for making meticulous policies and implementing them towards conserving our biodiversity taking ecosystem approach into consideration.
- CHM, regarding goods and services of biological resources of Bangladesh should be developed through updating and collating information, and using expert knowledge in various fields.
- Technical assistance and support of SCBD, GEF and the nations already launched their CHM would be vital to achieve success in this regard.



Thank you

