






जहाँ है हडियाली ।  
वहाँ है खुशहाली ॥

# Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law



National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai



India, a **megadiverse** country with 2.4% of the land area, and 4% of water accounts for 7-8% of the recorded species of the world.

In India **45,968** species of plants and **91,364** species of animals have been documented so far.

# Biodiversity - Indian Scenario

- India is one of the recognized mega biodiverse countries of the world.
- Out of 34 globally identified biodiversity hotspots, India harbours four hotspots
- Recognised as one of the eight Vavilovian Centres of origin and diversity of crop plants.
- India accounts 8% of the world recorded species.

# International Conventions/Agreements

India has participated in major international events on environment and biodiversity conservation since 1972. India is party to the following international agreements which have bearing on biodiversity:

- Bonn Convention on Migratory Species.
- Convention on Biological Diversity,
- Convention on International Trade on Endangered Species,
- FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for food and agriculture
- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands,
- World Heritage Convention,
- World Trade Organization,
- UN Framework Convention on Climate Change,
- UN Convention to Combating Desertification,
- UN Commission on Sustainable Development,
- UN Law of the Seas,

# Important National Legislations

- Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
- Indian Forest Act, 1927 and Forest (conservation) Act, 1980
- Protection of plant varieties and Farmers Right Act, 2001
- The Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest dwellers, (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006
- The Geographical Indications of Goods Act, 1999.
- Biological Diversity Act, 2002
- The Indian Patents Act 1970 and Amendment 2005
- The National Green Tribunal Act, 2010

# The Biological Diversity Act 2002 (BDA)

- Provides for - *conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources, knowledge and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.*
- To implement the provisions of the BD Act National Biodiversity Authority (under Section 8 of BDA) was established in 2003 at Chennai.
- BD Rules 2004 notified under Section 62 of BD Act 2002

# Implementation of Biological Diversity Act

**National Level**

**National Biodiversity Authority**

**State Level**

**State Biodiversity Board**

**Local Level**

**Biodiversity Management  
Committee**



# Gaps in implementing BDA

- Lack of awareness and lack of regional capacity
- Gaps exist in legal mechanisms and its implementation.
- Promotion of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity
- Capacity building, training and awareness generation at all levels with more emphasis on BMCs
- Creating, enabling and supporting implementation process including guidelines NBA, SBBs and BMCs.
- Strengthening enforcement mechanism and synergies / coordination among the departments to support /commission special studies.
- Enhancing and promoting linkages / synergies with different sectors and related to legal instruments for mainstreaming biodiversity in other programmes



# Need for the CEBPOL

- Issues relating to policy and law in biodiversity are complex, and are still evolving especially in the context of ABS and associated traditional knowledge.
- In India, there is no organization in the country that specialises in policy and legal issues relating to biodiversity.
- CEBPOL, provide advice and support to the Government on all biodiversity policy related issues,
- Help in complex negotiations on ABS and traditional knowledge at the national and international level.
- CEBPOL will help in effective implementation of the international agreements relating to biodiversity and its conservation.

# Objectives of the CEBPOL

- Develop professional expertise in biodiversity related policies and laws, inter alia through encouragement of research, development and training matters relating to CBD.
- Interface with other multilateral environment agreements and United Nations bodies.
- To provide professional support, advice and expertise to the Government of India on matters relating to biodiversity policies and laws at the national level, as well as in international negotiations relating to biodiversity in multilateral forums.
- To develop capacity building programmes through multidisciplinary research and customise training programmes
- To facilitate interactive information sharing through web conferencing, web seminars and virtual meetings
- To help develop India as a regional and international resource Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law.

# Functions and activities of CEBPOL

- Collect, collate, analyse and disseminate information relating to biodiversity policy and law.
- Execute short and long-term training courses and sensitisation programmes on biodiversity policies and laws for various target groups
- Engage consultants, policy analysts, legal experts and interns on both short-term and long-term basis for providing professional inputs in the training, research, education, analysis and awareness activities
- Prepare for the Government of India, country's position papers on various aspects relating to biodiversity policies and law for international meetings and negotiations.
- Establish appropriate linkages with other similar centres / institutions, both nationally and internationally, for developing collaborative programmes and academic exchange.
- To strengthen implementation of Biological Diversity Act at the national level.
- contribute to the ongoing negotiations and eventually implementation of the protocol on ABS.

# Norwegian Collaborating Institutions

- **1. Norwegian Directorate of Nature Management**

works closely with other authorities and interest groups, in sectors such as agriculture, transport, energy and fisheries.

- **2. Fridtjof Nansen Institute (FNI)** - engaged in research on biodiversity and biosafety. FNI works in the areas of [Global governance and sustainable development](#), [Marine affairs and Law of the Sea](#), [Biodiversity and biosafety](#), [Polar and Russian politics](#), [European energy and environmental politics](#) and [Chinese energy and environmental politics](#)

- **3. Norway's Institute for Water Research (NIVA)** – Mapping of biodiversity, environmental monitoring relating to biodiversity and international convention s on biodiversity.

# Team structure

1. **One** Project Manager

2. **Three** Consultants in the field of:

- Law and policy,
- Biodiversity
- Natural resources

3. **Five** Office/computer and finance assistant/Interns

## Funding support from Norway

- Capacity building
- Training
- Seminar
- Workshops
- CEBPOL will be located in NBA, Chennai
- The approx. cost of establishing CEBPOL is 1.20 million US\$.

# ***Thanks***



Biodiversity is life  
Biodiversity is our life