

ToT on
“Effective Implementation of NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY ACT 2002 through Panchayats”
(21 - 23, March 2023)

in collaboration with Centre for Social Studies, Surat, Gujarat

Abstract

The capacity building on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity with a focus on the Biodiversity Act 2002 is planned to introduce principles and governance tools to different stakeholders of biodiversity conservation at the grassroots level, particularly for those involved in rural development and Panchayati raj systems for better governance and use of Biodiversity at Panchayat level. This program takes a transdisciplinary approach consisting of natural and social scientists from different disciplines and adds value to India's existing efforts on biodiversity governance promoted by National Biodiversity Authority. It will also help strengthen state and national ties between researchers and administrators working on managing biodiversity and ecosystem services by creating a well-structured capacity building community. The programme is designed under the larger perspective laid down by the "Convention of Biodiversity" (CBD), the "Intergovernmental platform for biodiversity and ecosystem services" (IPBES) and the governance approaches adopted in India's Biodiversity Act 2002.



Introduction

The goal of the capacity building on "sustainable use of biodiversity" is to introduce principles and governance tools to different stakeholders of biodiversity conservation at the grassroots level, particularly for those stakeholders (Rural development and Panchayati Raj) involved in the governance and Use of Biodiversity at the State and district level. The capacity building programme will be imparted as Training of Trainee (ToT) mode. The programme is designed under the larger perspective laid down by the "Convention of Biodiversity" (CBD), and the "Intergovernmental platform for biodiversity and ecosystem services" (IPBES) and the governance approaches adopted in India's Biodiversity Act 2002. As envisioned at intergovernmental levels, the linkages between the 'nature's contribution to the people' (NCP) and 'good quality of life' (GQL) have been taken as a guiding principle to develop capacity building modules for this programme. The program will start with the discussion details of biodiversity action plans at national, state and local level. Our focus is on the governance aspects of biodiversity at local level without compromising the development need of the people. The training programme will be imparted with practical examples from the field.

Significance of the Capacity Building Programme

This program takes a transdisciplinary approach consisting of natural and social scientists from different disciplines. It adds value to India's existing efforts on biodiversity governance. It will also help strengthen state and national ties between researchers and administrators working on managing biodiversity and ecosystem services by creating a well-structured capacity building community. Through networking, we focus on capacity building in all five regions at the national level. By working together with Biodiversity Authority, it is expected that this project will contribute consistently to the objectives of implementing the national Biodiversity Action Plan and Biodiversity Act 2002.

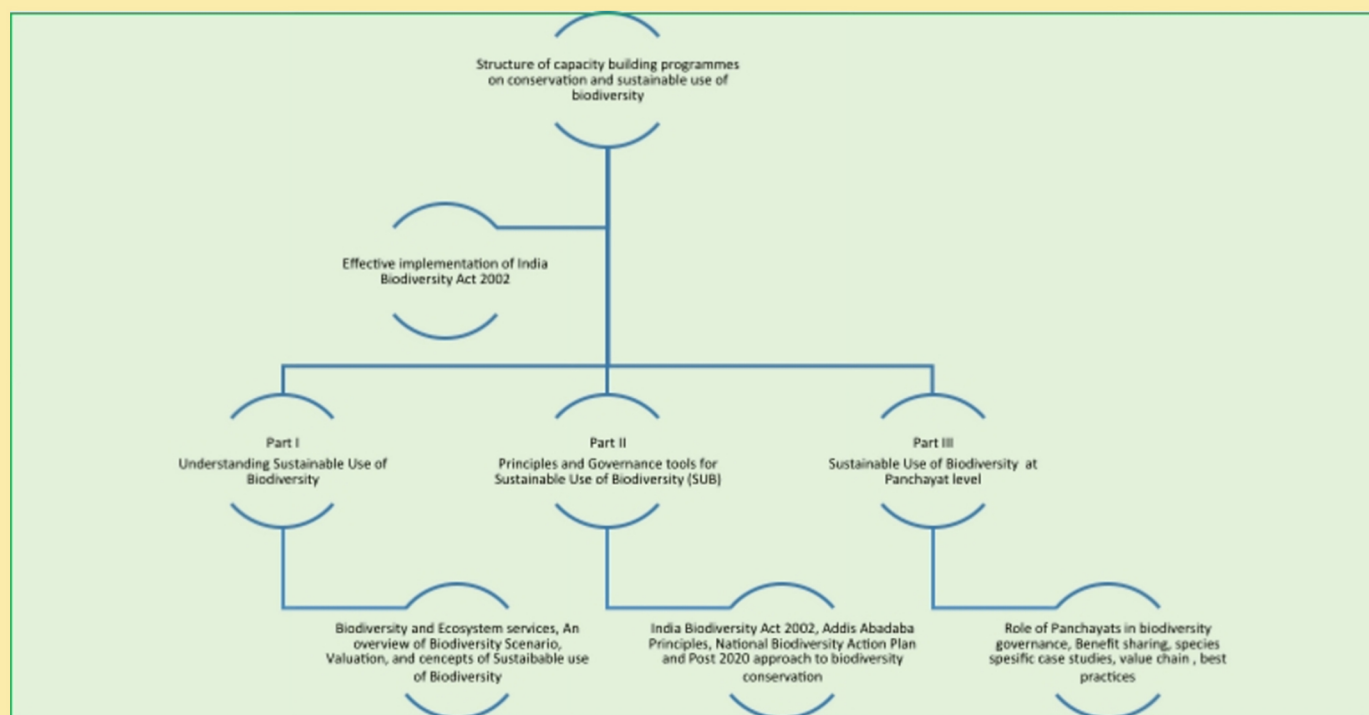
Objective

The main objective of the programme is to introduce principles and governance tools to different stakeholders of biodiversity conservation at the state level, particularly for those involved in rural development and Panchayati raj systems for better governance and Use of Biodiversity at the Panchayat level. The programme also aims to develop modules for grass root level on different aspects of Biodiversity Conservation, mainly focusing on governance aspects based on India's Biodiversity Act 2002.

Structure of the programme

The main thrust of the programme is on the effective implementation of the Biodiversity Act 2002. The capacity building programme is divided into three parts for imparting a better knowledge base and skill improvement. Part one discusses the knowledge base associated with biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of biological resources. Part two concentrates on the principles and governance tools laid down in the India Biodiversity Act 2002. Part three of the programme is on the significance of local self-governance (Panchayati Raj) in biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use for rural development . Part three also highlight issue pertaining to local level development and biodiversity con-servations.

Figure 1. Structure of the Capacity Building Programme



Capacity Building Modules for Training of Trainers (Three Days Program)

The following modules are developed to impart the knowledge and skill for the sustainable use of biodiversity at the grassroots level using governance principles. These modules' are based on conceptualization developed by the Intergovernmental platform for biodiversity and ecosystem services. These modules use examples and best practices from rural India for capacity building activities at the pan India level.

I. Conceptual Understanding Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (Day 1 for improving the knowledge base (33%))

- 1) Biodiversity and People:- deals with the conceptual understanding of the interrelationship between biodiversity, ecosystem services and human quality of life.
- 2) Drivers of Biodiversity loss:- deals with the direct and indirect drives of biodiversity loss at global, regional and local levels (land use, climate change, invasive species, institutional change and population growth)
- 3) Value of Biodiversity- deals with material, non-material and regulating values and their relationship with quality of life.
- 4) Indigenous Local knowledge and its role in biodiversity conservation: deals with traditional and indigenous knowledge and its significance in biodiversity conservation and Use

II. II Principles and Governance Tools of Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (for improving the knowledge base Day 2 (33%))

- 5) An Introduction to Principles and governance tools for sustainable Use of biodiversity
- 6) Convention of Biodiversity and Addis Ababa Principles of Sustainable Use of Biodiversity
- 7) India Biodiversity Act 2002 and India Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2019
- 8) Ecosystem restoration in CPR for improving Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

III. Sustainable Use of Biodiversity at the Panchayat Level (Skill Improvement Day 3, (33%))

- 9) Biodiversity Governance at Panchayat Level:- Biodiversity Management Committee and Biodiversity Register (understanding and Practical examples)
- 10) Practical lessons in Preparing Biodiversity Register and integrating with GPDP
- 11) Role of Micro Enterprises for Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (The Case of Bamboo and Medicinal Plants Conservation)
- 12) Common Property Resource Use: Land restoration, Biodiversity Parks, Ecotourism etc for Panchayat Revenue Maximization

Venue of the ToT Programs and Participants

The venue of the ToT will be the Centre for Social Studies, Surat, Gujarat.

The clientele for the capacity building will be drawn from government, non-government and academics.

Expected output

The ToT will effectively disseminate the knowledge and skill required for improving the governance of biodiversity and ecosystem services at the grassroots level through Panchayat Raj. It will also help to impart the socio-economic and governance dimensions of biodiversity and ecosystem services to 2.6 lakhs panchayats in India.

Dr. Satyakam Joshi

Director and Professor
Centre for Social Studies
Surat, Gujarat
Email Id: satyakamjoshi@gmail.com

Venue:

Centre for Social Studies
Veer Narmad South Gujarat University Campus,
Udhana Magadalla Road,
Surat - 395 007.
Gujarat, India

Phones : + 91-261-297 7172 / 297 7174/ 2255298
Fax: +91-261-297 7017

Dr. Jyothis Sathyapalan

Professor

Centre for Natural Resource Management

National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR)

Ministry of Rural Development, Gol.

Rajendranagar, Hyderabad -5000 30

Contact Person: Ms. Nikita Sharma

e-mail: nikita@nirdpr.org.in
jyothis.nird@gov.in