



UNEP-GEF-MoEF-ABS Project

Report on Cluster Meeting for Biodiversity Management Committees and Village Panchayats of North Goa.

Cluster meeting was organized for North Goa Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) and Village Panchayats on understanding the Biological Diversity Act, 2002; Access and Benefit Sharing and other important related aspects on 15th July 2016, at 2:30pm to 05:00 pm at “Abolim Hall”, International Center Goa, Dona-Paula, Goa. 56 BMC members were present representing 26 BMCs of North Goa and 11 members from 7 village panchayats attended the meeting.

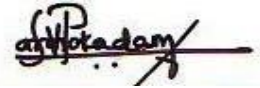
Mrs. Reshma Kerkar, Scientific Officer, formally welcomed the participants and gave a short presentation on Biological Diversity Act, 2002; Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) formation and functioning, etc. Shri. Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board, enlighten the importance of functioning of BMCs and its mandates to the participants present for the meeting. He highlighted on the UNEP-GEF-MoEF-ABS Project, Peoples Biodiversity Register (PBR) and Access Benefit Sharing (ABS) and also informed about the recently constituted Technical Support Groups (TSGs) to help BMCs to document the PBR.

This was followed by reporting from one representative each from the BMCs /Village Panchayats attending the meeting which was coordinated by Dr. Varsha Raikar Hoble, Project Assistant I. Apart from functioning of the BMCs and their experiences sharing, the reporting also included constrains, difficulties faced by BMC members and these queries, complain, difficulties, etc were resolved/addressed by Member Secretary and staff of Goa State Biodiversity Board.

Those BMCs which are constituted resolved to inaugurate the same at the earliest so that they can receive the 1st installment from GSBB. The Village Panchayats who have not yet constituted got a fair knowledge about how BMCs are functioning in South Goa and what is expected from their BMC once it is constituted. 2nd installment cheques were disbursed by the hands of Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board. The meeting concluded with vote of thanks by Dr. Vidhya Gaude, State Project Coordinator.

Prepared by: Ms. Sneha Bhonsle, STA

Checked by: Dr. Vidhya Gaude, SPC



Shri. Pradip Sarmokadam
Member Secretary,GSBB



Lecture on functioning of BMCs by Smt.Reshma Kerkar



Member Secretary addressing the gathering



BMC Members participated for Cluster Meeting.



Interactive Session



Distributing Cheques for BMCs.