



One-Day Consultative Meeting to Celebrate International Year of Biodiversity on 16 December 2010

Background

Biodiversity is the variation of life forms within a given ecosystem, biome or on the entire Earth. It is often used as a measure of the health of biological systems. The biodiversity found on Earth today consists of many millions of distinct biological species. Coinciding with the date of the ‘2010 Biodiversity Target’, the year has been declared as the ‘International Year of Biodiversity (IYB)’ by the 61st session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2006. The International Year of Biodiversity is meant to help raise awareness of the importance of biodiversity through activities and events in many countries. This means, as well, to influence decision makers, and "to elevate biological diversity nearer to the top of the political agenda". The celebrations of the International Year of Biodiversity are a unique opportunity to raise public awareness about the vital role of biodiversity sustaining life on Earth, supporting ecosystem services and of its importance to human wellbeing and poverty reduction. The main goals of the International Year of Biodiversity are to:

- Enhance public awareness of the importance of conserving biodiversity and of the underlying threats to biodiversity
- Raise awareness of the accomplishments to save biodiversity that have already been realized by communities and governments
- Promote innovative solutions to reduce the threats to biodiversity
- Encourage individuals, organizations and governments to take immediate steps to halt biodiversity loss
- Start dialog between stakeholders for the steps to be taken in the post-2010 period

IYB is a year-long celebration of biological diversity and its value for life on Earth, taking place around the world in 2010. In this series, Forest research Institute, Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education, Dehradun is organizing a one-day consultative meeting on the topic “Biodiversity: Challenges and Issues” on December 16, 2010. In this consultative meeting invited lead speakers will be delivering talks on the topics such as agrobiodiversity, plant biodiversity, animal biodiversity, microbial diversity and insect diversity as well as policy and legal issues associated with biodiversity. After the invited lectures there will be a discussion on the topic among the participants leading to the formulation of recommendations for conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity. The participants will be from forestry institutions based at Dehradun, Botanical Survey of India, Zoological Survey of India, State Forest Departments, State Biodiversity Boards, Vice Chancellors of Universities of Uttarakhand, ICFRE institutes and other dignitaries standing for the cause of biodiversity. The programme of the meeting is given below :

The information given above, for the most part, is based on the official websites of the Convention on Biological Diversity and of the International Year of Biodiversity.



ONE-DAY CONSULTATIVE MEETING

on

Biodiversity: Challenges and Issues

Organized by

Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education and Forest Research Institute,
Dehradun on December 16, 2010

Programme

9:00 - 10:00	Inaugural Session and Key Note Address
10:00 - 10:30	Inaugural Tea
10:30 - 11:30	Plant Diversity “Challenges and issues of plant diversity in India” by Professor R. D. Gaur
11:30 – 12:30	Animal Diversity “Man-animal conflict, a challenge for wildlife conservation” by Mr. H. S. Panwar
12:30 - 13:30	Microbial Diversity “Microbial diversity and ecosystem functions” by Dr. T. S. Suryanarayanan
13:30 – 14:15	Lunch
14:15- 15:15	Insect Diversity “Climate change and Biodiversity: Indian perspective” by Dr. A. K. Ghosh
15:15 - 15:30	Tea Break
15:30 – 16:30	Policy issues “Managing Biodiversity in the emerging scenario” by Dr. P. L. Gautam
16:30- 17:30	Interactive Session and Recommendations



Organizing Committee

Chief Patron

Dr. G. S. Rawat
Director General
Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education

Chairman

Dr. S. S. Negi
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Members

Shri Sandeep Tripathi, Director Research, ICFRE
Shri Pankaj Agarwal, Asst. Director General (PF), ICFRE
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Dr. V.R.R. Singh, Head, Siviculture Division, FRI
Shri A. S. Rawat, Group Coordinator (Research), FRI
Shri Shalendra Kaushik, Chief Librarian, FRI
Dr. Subhash Nautiyal, Head, Botany Division, FRI