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BIODIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY HEALTH: OPERATIONALIZING LINKAGES BETWEEN CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT ON THE GROUND

Date: 9th Oct, 2012

Time: 18:15 – 19:45

Venue: Room G.05 - Ground level

The interlinkages between biodiversity and health are well recognized. However, the need and potential of strengthening traditional understanding and practices related to health at the community level is an area that has not been sufficiently addressed in planning processes. Unlike mainstream health interventions, this involves a comprehensive assessment of various contributing factors to health, including biological resources, knowledge and human resources, socio-cultural resources and related policy processes. It involves attention to medicinal plants and faunal products, dietary and nutritional aspects, access to these resources, ecosystem integrity, landscape values, rights to practitioners to practice, opportunities for livelihood enhancement among others.

Recognizing that several institutions are engaged in discrete related activities, an effort is being made to pool the individual capacities of different agencies towards demonstrating how the linkages between community health and biodiversity conservation at the level of basic implementation can be strengthened.

Co-ordinated by the United Nations University-Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS), an international initiative on Biodiversity and Community Health is being mooted. Current partners include Bioversity International, UNDP's Equator Initiative, UNEP, University Network on Biological and Cultural Diversity, COMPAS Network on Endogenous Development, Foundation for Revitalisation of Local Health Traditions and the National Biodiversity Authority of India, in collaboration with the Secretariat of the CBD.

Draft Agenda

Welcome and introduction
Statements by heads of different partner institutions (UNU-IAS, UNDP, UNEP, Biodiversity International, FRLHT)
Remarks by Executive Secretary to CBD- Dr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Diaz
<i>Panel discussion</i> Discussants: Darshan Shankar, Anastasiya Timoshyna, Marieta Sakalian, Eileen de Ravin, Yolanda Teran and Representative from Government of India (TBC)
Discussion

The initiative seeks collaborations and suggestions from interested institutions and people. All are welcome.

Light refreshments will be served.

For further details, please contact Suneetha Subramanian (subramanian@ias.unu.edu)
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