

Report of National workshop on Protocol Development for Sustainable Governance of NTFP Resources

On 25th and 26th May 2010, ninety one participants from Odisha, Chhatisgarh, Tamilnadu, Kerala, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh and from technical institutes like eco-cert and media houses were present in the conference hall of Hotel Hindustan International to participate in the National workshop on Protocol Development for Sustainable Governance of NTFP Resources organised by Regional Centre for Development Cooperation (RCDC) and supported by European Commission. The workshop was different in the sense that importance was given to the primary NTFP collectors and focus was given to learn from them various sustainable harvesting governance protocols used by them. The plenary consists of primary NTFP collectors, Cooperative leaders, CFM leaders, NGO staff members, media, certification experts and forest officials.

Executive Director Mr. K. C. Dash welcomed all the participants and briefed about the overall activities of RCDC. According to him, from its inception in 1993, RCDC has been working with the forest dependent communities and their livelihood. At present the presence of RCDC has been increased to 16 districts and more than five hundred villages. Natural resource management and the stake of communities and its governance by local people is the prime objective of RCDC. For that purpose, RCDC has been strengthening federations of local institutions and facilitating the process of exercising their rights. Currently, three field offices at Bolangir, Nawarangpur and Koraput are functioning along with Bhubaneswar as Head Office. There are 29 women cooperatives with apex cooperative are dealing with various NTFP items to strengthen their socio-economic base. RCDC gives more emphasis on the capacity building of PRIs, community institutions such as Village Development Committee, Village Forest Protection Committees, Farmers Committees etc. and Community Based Organisations such as Women's Groups, Youth Organisations and federations of village forest protection committees, federation of self-help groups etc especially to address the local developmental and environmental issues. If the capacity of these institutions/organisations were built up then they would be in a position to manage their local resources effectively and at the same time articulate the development process for them.

After that, he requested Renuapa, Laxmidhar Balia, Gorachand Mahanta, Ganapati Pradhan, Thabir Meher to inaugurate the meeting by lighting the candle. Then Mr. Dash asked all the participants to introduce themselves. After completion of the self introduction process, Mr. Bikas Rath shared the aims and objectives of the workshop. He presented on the importance, status, issues and challenges of NTFP harvesting protocol development through a power-point presentation.

Objective of this workshop

- To discuss governance protocols that are associated with ownership over forest resources and NTFP resources in particular.
- To provide a platform that would help create awareness about various dynamics of governance protocols.
- To help community-level forest governance institutions to make their protocols more logical, systematic, legally acceptable, and multi-beneficial.
- To present role models that can inspire others.

Then he narrated the meanings and what the consultation is all about in the following manner:

- Protocol is a set of rules which works as a tool of governance.
- Protocol, when a component of governance, asserts ownership. This may be called governance protocol.
- When not associated with ownership, protocol may be just a suggestion or a methodology. This is the category of non-governance protocols.

A logical, socio-economically justified, multi-beneficial, and effective protocol is one of the important indicators of good governance.

Factors influencing governance protocols

- Socio-religious: These are taboos more or less unconsciously followed without understanding their practical implications for resources and resource-dependent people. Like restriction on entry in sacred groves.
- Socio-economic: Like, for conflict resolution
- Commercial: Differential commercial value may influence differential protocols
- Scientific: Like, tapping methodology

Basic norms for Protocol development

- Sustainability of dependency(livelihood) implying to sustainability of the resource
- Social justice
- Legal consistency
- Multi-beneficial and integrated approach
- Flexibility to change with the needs of time

Steps in protocol development for sustainable governance of NTFP resources

- Step-1: Resource mapping and identification of vulnerable species
- Step-1: Identifying resource dependency in respect of various socio-economic groups, women, etc.
- Step-3: Understanding the linkage between resource vulnerability and resource dependency
- Step-4: Stakeholder consultation on possible solutions(phase-wise)

- Step-5: Protocol formulation keeping in view the socio-economic factors, local-, national-, and international utilities of the vulnerable resources
- Step-6: Periodic review of the impact of protocols both on resources and the dependent groups and necessary modification in the protocols, when required.
- All these should be clearly documented.

Protocol diversity

Governance protocols may vary from place to place according to differences in species distribution, socio-economic profile and dependency, etc. Non-governance protocols usually remain same at all places.

On behalf of the participants for more clarification various questions were asked which were answered by Mr. Rath. The questions were as follows:

1. The protocol will be product specific or area specific.
2. In the context of climate change, there is change in the harvesting amount and quality of the NTFP and even we experience drought of NTFP. How a protocol will be effective in this case?
3. There are some excisable NTFP items. Could we impose a sustainable harvesting protocol for these items?
4. The market conditions influence the NTFP harvesting. Could the protocol be respected in case of a good market price? Are the people not tempted to harvest their own violating the protocols?
5. People's protocol and government's perception may vary and in this context which one will be effective?
6. The institution building factor is needed for a governance protocol. Whether the governance protocol strengthens the institutions or the conflicts will be more?
7. Honey collection process is different from place to place. Could it be possible to introduce a unique governance protocol for the same?

Tea break was taken up for twenty minutes. Next, Mr. Laxmidhar Balia, convener Odisha Jangle Manch addressed the plenary on OJM and its role in promoting governance protocol for sustainable harvesting of NTFP. The highlights of his presentation were to build an environment for governance protocol promotion in various districts that will lead to sustainable forest management. Odisha Jungal Manch is a federation of 22 DFFs (District Forest Federations) which came into existence in the year 2003. The basic objective was to take up greater issues at an apex level to have a greater impact of lobby and advocacy.

According to Mr. Balia, the current forest scenario has myriads of issues. Climate change, global warming, REDD politics are all now linked to forest conservation and management. Hence, SFM is largely talked about at all levels. The

sustainable harvesting of NTFPs by the local communities constitutes and contributes to a large extent for the SFM activities. Besides, the village communities have several traditional good harvesting practices and these are unrecorded and unnoticed. We may deliberate upon those and can promote governance protocols at the community level.

Lunch break was taken place after the open house discussion and clarifications on the questions by Mr. Rath.

The second session was chaired by Barsha Mehta from Maharashtra and the session was on the role models in community level protocol development for NTFP harvesting: experiences from Odisha.

Mr. Dasarathi Behera and Mukunda Pujari from Kalahandi DFF spoke on the traditional and current bamboo harvesting protocols and management guidelines prepared by the communities. Bamboo is the asset of Kalahandi. The local communities use bamboo shoots as food and also prepare a curry out of bamboo also. Again the SC communities harvest unripe bamboos from the forest. These are deterrent factors for bamboo growth and this not governed by the forest department or by the communities. Realising the future, communities in Narla have introduced harvesting protocols or rules to stop Bamboo shoot (Karadi) eating and now, there is an increase in bamboo population.

Secondly, the DFF and networking activities have restricted forest department to harass the rural communities and the communities were able to bring back one lakh sixty thousand rupees from forest department that remained outstanding on them for last two years.

Mr. Vishnu Purti narrated their experience on sal leaf harvesting. This role model was from Budhikhamari of Mayurbhanja. Budhikhamari is well-known for the birth place of JFM. After 30 years of forest protection as VSS, they only able to get Rs 100/- rupees towards benefit sharing of the final harvesting. The experience with JFM is rather depreciated by the community. Sal leaf and Siali leaf collection are the practices of the local people for preparing plates and *chaupadis*. The pressure is more on the plants. So, the communities are now using mahul and other leafs as the second line cover to strengthen the leaf items. The communities in that locality have some harvesting principles to use the resources sustainably.

Mr. Viswanath Barad from Nayagarh shared his experience on NTFP management by the local communities of Nayagarh. According to him there are much NTFP potential in the forests. People are not aware about these potential and its use. They normally bring only for household consumption. Rest amount go waste in the forest. People are also not aware about its market price and there is no trading facility in the near by market. In Nayagarh, we have char, harida, bahada, sal leaf and seed in plenty. Nothing has been done regarding harvesting

protocol and its marketability. People's perception towards NTFP needs to change. We have protocols for wood but not for any other NTFP item.

Mr. Thabir Meher and Kulamani sahuo were of the opinion that Kendu leaf is a nationalized item though there is FR Act which grants kendu leaf ownership right to the communities. The government determines the rates for Gochha katai, kendu leaf price, collection period, area under each division etc. the pluckers have a number of issues like accident benefits, insurance facility, more price etc. kendu leaf gives more revenue to the Government of Odisha but there is very less investment towards welfare of the pluckers. A harvesting protocol could solve many problems of the primary pluckers.

Mr Laxman Pujari shared his experience on SFM and the usefulness of governance protocol for SFM. Communities in Churapahad area are now following the principles prepared by them to undertake SFM. They are protecting, managing, regenerating and conserving forests with their SFM plans. People have identified forest issues, deterrent factors of forest health, wildlife issues, biodiversity issues and accordingly designed measures to save and promote them. Forest resources are enumerated and extinct and endangered plant and animal species are tried to re-establish. Five villages are covered under SFM on a trial basis. People have developed SFM plans and both male and female are playing their roles. Harvesting protocols of NTFP are strictly followed for various items.

Mr. Bansidhar Sahoo and Ganapati Pradhan presented on forest networking and NTFP. They focused on the network building process and it helps in exchanging the NTFP harvesting rules and regulations made by communities to share the forest benefits.

Mr. Tikendra Jal belongs to Gandhamardan Surakshya Parishad and they are demonstrating against Vedanta. Gandhamardan is a biodiversity sensitive area and it has livelihood support for many tribals. From that context he shared his thought on the importance of governance harvesting protocols of NTFPs.

Professionally coming of from a *baidya* family and a teacher Mr. Lalit Mohan Pradhan narrated about the utilities of NTFPs from healing point of view.

Two persons from Khadia Communities shared their experiences and traditional harvesting of honey.

Then open house discussion went on over the topics. Since the time was less, the moderator asked the participants to discuss them in post session hour.

Second day the third session began by 9am. A film show was shown by the Kovel foundation on Gum Karaya collection.

Mr. Bikash Rath recapitulated the previous day's sharing. The third session was chaired by Mr. B. C. Pal, CCF. The third session was about role models in community level protocol development for NTFP harvesting: experiences from other states. Mr. Ramachandran from KEYSTONE foundation presented their harvesting protocols on honey and resin as follows:

Keystone foundation is situated in Kotagiri of Nilgiri district under Tamilnadu. They are working with tribal communities like Erulas, Kurumbas, Cholanaickens, Kattunaickens, Paniya, Aranadan, Muthar etc. the work area is Nilagiri Biosphere Reserve that extends three states like Tamilnadu, Karnatak and Keral.

Honey Harvests - Traditional methods

- All tribes in this region collect
- They have traditional method of harvesting
- Harvesting during night
- Harvest whole comb
- Squeeze combs
- Use unhygienic cloths and pots

Honey harvests- Keystone Interventions

- Mainly Hygienic
- Ecological Awareness
- Encourage only *Dorsata* honey
- Mature combs
- Midrib cutting/No Squeezing
- Use of nets/ white cloths
- Graded cans to store
- Leave some nests without harvesting
- Proper documentation

Honey collection Process:

Collect only honey portion

- Possibility of second harvest
- Honey combs protected

Collect only mature combs

- More water content in immature honey
- It can spoil honey

Do not squeeze honey by hand

- Dirt in honey, hands mix
- Larvae juice and pollen

Midrib cutting

- Easy to extract honey from comb

- More hygienic
- Less pollen

Resin harvest & Harvesters

Resin (*canarium strictum*)- traditional harvest

- Harvesting methods
- Changes from area to area
- Three methods
- collect resin that naturally exudates
- Harvest making small incisions on the barks
- Harvest by making larger incisions and put fire near the tree so that exudation is fast

Sustainable harvest - Keystone intervention

- Harvesters meeting
- Awareness building of resource and revival of traditional knowledge
- Grading quality-wise
- Try to make them aware of Importance of sustainable harvest

Thumb rules of harvest

- Avoid harvesting young trees
- Avoid use of unmanaged fire
- Use of sharp tools
- Avoid frequent harvest
- Change sites
- Awareness of tree & season
- Leave some trees un-harvested

Resources- Their Knowledge

- Region they harvest now
- Number of Trees/Plants found in their region
- Their status now
- Method of collection
- Awareness of the quality of produce they collect
- Threats these trees facing
- New generation of trees as trees are declining of population

Impacts of bad harvest

- Impact the growth, reproduction and survival of individual plants
- Impact at individual level affects the population also. May also alter vegetative reproduction pattern
- Food supply affected, soil erosion
- Genetic traits also affected

Thumb rules of harvest

- Types of roots, lateral roots less impact than tap roots (removal of)
- Minimize impacts on individual, avoid uprooting entire plants, replant, minimize removal of proportion of roots
- Determine appropriate rotation time

- Think about reproductive strategy
- Think about timing and seasonality
- Delay harvest until reproduce
- Retain un-harvested plant that produce seeds

Unsustainable harvest of Amla (Goose berry)

- Harvest on Demand
- More demand more destructive methods
- Early harvest
- Tree felling/ lopping branches
- Harvest all fruits

Impacts of unsustainable harvests

- Directly affect regeneration, survival & life circle
- Plant use its energy to counter the threat
- Long term continuity of plants affected
- Affect ecosystem
- Food, fruit dispersal, germination
- Weaker plants and face threats

Sustainable methods

- Keystone interventions
- Revive traditional methods
- Harvesters meeting and forest managers
- Record the harvest
- Thumb rules to follow
- Encourage value addition

Thumb Rules to Follow

- Leave a percentage of fruits on the plant
- Leave a percentage of plants in an area
- Leave an area un-harvested
- See the maturity, color and size
- Avoid immature harvest
- Design appropriate tools

The next to present was Miss. Hemlata from Kovel Foundation. She presented about the organisation as well as about the Gum karaya harvesting protocol the communities are practicing in Andhra Pradesh. The organisation is working in six zones covering six districts of AP.

The major work areas of Kovel foundation are:

- Institutional Building
- Capacity Building
- Livelihood promotion
- Regeneration
- Research & Development

Livelihood promotion – Micro enterprise

- **Issues** – Distant markets, exploitation by middle men, selling raw produce, high expenditure & low income

NTFP

- Value addition (Gums, Amla, Tamarind, etc)
- Promotion of alternative marketing channels through MACS
- Facilitating identification & marketing of additional NTFP / Medicinal plants
- Designed & developed Resource material for the use of both Trainers and illiterate tribal trainees as well

Agriculture

- Promoting Non Pesticidal Management under sustainable agriculture
- Marketing of organic products integrating with MACS

Impact – Increased incomes & reduced burden thereby expenditure

Research & Development

- Value Chain Analysis of potential NTFP
- Baseline surveys to develop strategies and workable models in value addition & resource conservation
- Quantitative Resource Surveys
- Socio-economic Impact Assessment studies
- Market studies
- NTFP Assessment studies

Regeneration

- Established Gum Karaya Nurseries in 3 Zones of Kovel and raising Gum Karaya & other plants
- Taking up plantations in the private lands of tribals to ensure their ownership
- About 80000 Gum karaya plants (Saplings & poles) have been planted in tribal own lands

Impact - Understanding the importance of the white gold & other NTFP species with the efforts by Kovel, the tribals are conserving the trees by following scientific practices

Mr. Madhab Tete from Maharashtra presented their activities on governance protocol on sustainable harvesting. According to him, these are the guidelines:

- Item wise assessment of NTFPs
- Collection of NTFPs should be need-based, commercial purpose.
- any traditional procedure is present
- avoiding harmful practices
- Nature of dependency, degree and frequency of harvesting.
- Introduction of rules and regulations
- Evaluation
- Follow up

He has also cited some of the challenges before us while developing a protocol. These are as follows:

- There is a shift in traditional values
- NTFP for household consumption (price and distressed sale)
- Legal species (Relationship between Adivasis and law)

Mr. Manoj from Legal Environmental Action Forum (LEAF), Bastar presented their activities on governance protocol. They are working in areas like Santkarmari, Kakalagu and in parts of Malkangiri. They shared their experience with the communities dealing with wild mango and Mahua. People have promoted Mahua banks for liquor production as it is linked to their culture. Governance protocol may be seen from livelihood needs ground as well as from business ground. Mahul in that region is used as alcohol, food, oil and molasses. People also have usufruct rights over NTFP as a part of livelihood sustenance.

Open house discussion went on till the lunch break at 1.30 pm.

The 4th and last session was chaired by Mr. N. C. Kanoongo. The theme under discussion was to make community level protocols more logical, effective and legally acceptable and multi- beneficial. This session was classified into two heads ie, interaction with cooperatives and interaction with experts.

Mr. Ajit Bisoyee from Subhalaxmi cooperatives stated about the origin and present functionality of the cooperatives. At present the cooperative is trading with Hillbroom, Goose berry, Harida, Bahada and Siali leaf.

Mr. Dibakar Jani from Dayanidhiguda of Koraput Ma Laxmi Cooperative presented that the cooperative is taking up forest conservation measures along with harvesting and trading. Currently, the cooperative is dealing with Siali leaf, Satabari, Hill broom and Garuda. FRA issues are also dealt by the group.

Next presenter was Mr. Balakrushna Panda. According to him, defunct and functional SHGs are capacitated to form cooperatives and these are registered under Orissa Cooperatives Registration act 2001. Both ecology and economy are taken in to consideration while planning for SFM and it is integrated to livelihood. The major activities are as follows:

- Institution building
- Entrepreneurship development
- Market access
- SFM advocacy
- Collective procurement
- Deposit in cooperatives
- Value addition to the commodities
- Marketing

The functional areas of cooperative are man management, material management, market management and money management. Now, the cooperative is thinking of ploughing back of profit for forest development activities.

Mr. Dasharathi Sahoo of Chadheiapalli presented about their experience in NTFP management in general and bamboo in particular. Aswini Kumar Mahanta spoke on the initiatives taken to close the polluting sponge iron factories. Taking part in the discussion Mr. Thabir Meher told the following points:

- More focus on CFR
- PRI level NTFP outlets
- OJM permission is needed for any policy level changes by the government so far as NTFP is concerned.
- First we should promote governance protocol and ask the government to follow.
- Livelihood should be protected

Dr. Abhisek from ECOCERT presented the process for certification and the preconditions required for that purpose. Some highlights of his presentations were as follows:

About ECOCERT:

- International Certification Body
- Global Presence - 120 countries
- Market share (Organic) - 47%
- Certification Areas:

-Agriculture

-Wild Collection / Forest Produce

-Textile

-Food & Pharmaceutical

-Cosmetic

-Aquaculture

-Inputs

Type of Certification

- Individual Certification
- Organized Growers Group Certification (OGG)

Definitions:

- EC-regulation 834/2007, art. 12.1(j): Wild collection means the collection of wild plants and parts thereof, growing naturally in natural areas, forests and agricultural areas.
- NOP §205.2: A wild crop is any plant or portion of a plant that is collected or harvested from a site that is not maintained under cultivation or other agricultural management.

Rules for Collection & Inspection of wild crops:

- Edible plants and edible parts must be grown naturally
- Semi-cultivation
- Abandoned Orchards
- Collection area must not have been treated with prohibited products as per Annex II EC & NOP national list of allowed substances

Plant Protection Products:

- Substance of crop or animal origin

Azadiarchtin

Plant oils

Quassia extract

Gelatin,

Lecitin

- Microorganism used for Pest & disease control
- Substances to be used in traps / dispensers
- Other substances

Collection Management Plan

- Collection area : description of sub zones, Landscape, risk of erosion, pest management, risk of contamination, livestock, history of collection zone,
- Maps : scale, description of borders of zone, processing unit map
- Produce : list of crop
- Plant identification list: Names, CITES, Information
- Collection description & rules for each produce:

Name, Collected parts, Purpose, Potential collection, other collectors

- Collectors & other personnel: registration, agreement, training, collection permission, qualification
- Information on local / National rule
- ICS : determine inspector, inspection records, time of collection
- Harvest: Avoid fire, frequent harvesting, un-matured part, etc.
- Processing

Packaging Materials:

Allowed Substances:

- HDPP
- HDPE
- PET with no BPA
- Tetra Pack
- Biodegradable Substances
- PVC – Not allowed

Application:

➔ Operator must fill in wild collection module of the unit description

-Description of the collection area

-Description of the collected products

- Preservation of the collected product
 - ➔ Certification officer must check if project is eligible for certification by verifying if definition for wild collection/wild crop apply and if collection of the respective crop(s) is not forbidden by national law and/or because crop is a CITES protected species
 - ➔ Operator signs contract(s) k02, each collector ak05 (or similar contract)

Preparation Inspection:

- ➔ Arrange inspection at a time when collection takes place
- ➔ Make a risk assessment in order to fix percentage of collectors to be visited (if possible for each collection site) considering at least the following criteria:
 - Implementation collection management plan
 - Endangerment of collected species
 - Precaution & separation measures collection
 - Introduction of measures to avoid commingling and contamination
 - Precaution & separation measures storage
 - Training and supervision of collectors

Inspection:

- ➔ Inspector must visit (to be specified in assignment):
 - Each collection site
 - At least 20 % of the collectors of each collection site (or more based on result of risk assessment)
 - All buyers of the collected products
 - All storage and processing facilities
 - ➔ Inspector must check:
 - Stability of the collection habitat
 - Collection methods (maintenance of species must be assured)
 - Availability of collection permission
 - Collected quantities (not more than permitted)
 - Collection management plan

Documents Check List:

- Company registration certificate
- Project Area Map
- Name of villages & hamlets
- Approved collector list
- List of collection centre in charge
- Internal inspection report
- Forest officials Declaration
- ICS Manual
- ICS annual report
- Records of competency of ICS staff
- Collectors training
- Project manager & internal inspector's bio-data

- Internal standards for wild collection
- Purchase Register
- Processing details
 - - Processing area map, cleaning record, traceability
 - - Process flow chart
- Storage Records
- Sales Records
- Stock Records
- Transport Bills

Individual Certification documents

- GP Documents or Forest Declaration
- 7/12 Copy
- Field Map
- Farmer Diary
- Purchase receipt of Inputs
- Seed declaration
- Traceability documents
- Sale Record
- Transport Documents

Fair Trade Certification:

- Fair trade is a trade partnership which aims for an alternative to traditional international trade, and whose objective is to succeed in the sustainable and harmonious development of disadvantaged and marginalised producers and wage workers.

Objective of Fair Trade

- To improve revenues for and the welfare of the producers by facilitating their access to the market, supporting producer organisations, guaranteeing them a better price, and establishing continuity in the business relations.
- To promote the development of disadvantaged producers, particularly women and people living in poverty, and to protect children from exploitation in the production process.
- To create model relationships through dialogue, transparency and respect.

The main principles:

➤ **Commodity chain approach**

All operators of the chain have to comply with the Standards.

Conformity assessment of the whole EFT chain

Optional commitment of retailers to certification

- **Commitment and responsibility** of key operators in a solidarity project on a long term basis
- **Economic solidarity**

For a fair redistribution of margins all along the chain, minimum guaranteed price to the farmers, assured minimum wages to workers and creation of a social fund

➤ **Transparency** of information to guarantee (recover) confidence between farmers and consumers

➤ **Environment**

High level of requirements in a continuous improvement

EFT Criteria:

▪ **Social responsibility**

-Safety and Hygiene at the work place

▪ **Environmental responsibility**

▪ Organic mandatory for all agricultural commodities

▪ Biodiversity protection (CITES convention)

▪ GMO banned

▪ Transport causing lowest ecological impact

▪ **Transparency of the information**

▪ Respect of labeling rules (compulsory mentions)

▪ Mixed products : % of EFT ingredients to be respected

▪ Precise communication about the product and the chain

Specific requirements of EFT

1. Forced labour

2. Child labour

3. Freedom of association and collective bargaining

4. Participatory management structure

5. Formal employment

6. Hours of work

7. Overtime

8. Effective payment/wage levels

9. Non discrimination

10. Workplace safety and hygiene

11. Safety measures

12. Hazardous products

13. Vulnerable persons

14. Ablution facilities

15. First aid

16. Education and training

17. Health insurance

18. Welfare activities

19. Environmental commitment

20. Management of water and energy resources

21. Transport

22. Traceability

Certification Procedure:

- 1.Submission of application
- 2. Cost Estimation
- 3. Invoicing and payment of fees
- 4. Signing of inspection contract
- 5. Inspection and submitting the inspection report to the certification department
- 6. Issuance of certification decision
- 7. Compliance of certification decision and issuance of certificate
- 8. Issue of Transaction Certificates / Inspection Certificates for traded lots
- One inspection per annum.

At last, Mr. Kanoongo in his address said, man is not static if the society is progressive. Every generation is a new nation. Our constitution is also not static. It is amended in accordance with the need. Considering NTFP as a part and parcel of ecosystem as a whole, we can not limit ourselves only to livelihood and trading. So far as protocol development is concerned it should be logical from economic point of view. Utilisation of human resources should be viewed as the employment opportunity created by virtue of it. Effectivity should be considered from continuity point of view. It should be legally sound means it should not affect anybody.

Forest monitors the climate. It is the natural carbon sink. Orissa forest ecosystem is degrading very fast. Forest protection and conservation could be done by the communities and not by the forest department. So, we should conserve forest as it is the life support system for the millions of people. Our future generation needs forest. If we conserve forest then only we are able to collect NTFP sustainably.

To end the consultation, Mr. Bikas Rath thanked all the inhouse and outside participants.

Annexure - 1

Programme Schedule

25th May 2010

9.30-10.00:	Registration
SESSION-I	
10.00-10.30:	Welcome address by Executive Director, RCDC
10.30-10.40:	Joint inauguration by senior-most community representative from Odisha and other states
10.40-11.00:	Self-introduction by participants
11.00-11.30:	Presentation by Bikash Rath, Sr. Programme Manager on the importance, status, issues, and challenges of NTFP harvesting protocol development

11.30-11.50: Tea break
11.50-12.10: Address by Mr. B.K. Pattanaik, Retired Forest Officer
12.10-12.30: Address by Mr. Laxmidhar Balia, Convenor Odisha Jungle Manch
12.30-1.15: Open House Discussion

1.15-2.15: Lunch break

SESSION-II

2.15-4.15: Role models in community-level protocol development for NTFP harvesting: Experiences from Odisha (continued)

SPEAKERS

Mr. Dasarathi Behera and Mukund Pujari on Bamboo Management

Mr. Bishnu Purty on Sal Leaves

Mr. Biswanath Baral on NTFP Management

Mr. Thabir Meher and Kulamani Sahu on Kendu Leaf

Mr. Laxman Pujari on SFM

Mr. Bansidhar Sahu and Ganapati Pradhan Forest Network and NTFP

Mr. Tekendra Jal on Medicinal Plants Conservation

Mr. Lalit Mohan Pradhan on Medicinal Plants Conservation
Khadia Community, Mayurbhanj

4.15-5.00: Open House Discussion
5.00: Tourist Visit within Bhubaneswar

26th May 2010

SESSION-III

9.00-10.00: FILM SHOW

10.00-10.30: Recapitulating previous day's sharing: Bikash Rath

10.30-1.00: Role models in community-level protocol development for NTFP harvesting: Experiences from other states

Mr. Ramchandran and Co Keystone Foundation, TN

Miss. Hemalata and Co, Kovel Foundation, AP

Mr. Madhav Tete and Co, Econet, Pune, Maharashtra

Mr. Manoj and Co, LEAF, Bastar, CG

1.00-1.30: Open House Discussion

1.30-2.30: Lunch Break

Session-IV

2.30-4.00: How to make community-level protocols more logical, effective, legally acceptable, and multi-beneficial

Dr. Abhishek Kumar, ECOCERT

Mr. B.C. Pal, Retired CCF

4.00-5.00: Open House Discussion

5.00: Valedictory

List of Participants:

Annexure - 2