

**Proceedings of the First Meeting of Consortium Advisory Committee (CAC) of NAIP
sub-project**

**“Harmonizing biodiversity conservation and agricultural intensification through
integration of plant, animal and fish genetic resources for livelihood security in
fragile ecosystems” held on 21.3.2010 at NBPGR, New Delhi-12**

The first meeting of CAC of the NAIP sub-project on “Harmonizing biodiversity conservation and agricultural intensification through integration of plant, animal and fish genetic resources for livelihood security in fragile ecosystems” was organized on 21.3.2010 at NBPGR in continuation to the Launch Workshop of the project held on 20.3.2010. The following CAC members were present:

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|-------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. Dr. R.S. Rana | : | Chairman |
| 2. Dr. A.P. Srivastava | : | Member |
| 3. Mr. D.S. Murthy | : | Member |
| 4. Dr. K.E. Prasada Rao | : | Member |
| 5. Dr. B.P. Singh | : | Member |
| 6. Dr. B.D. Sharma | : | Member |
| 7. Ms. Anita Sharma | : | Member |
| 8. Sh. Sunda Ram | : | Member |
| 9. Dr. S.K. Sharma | : | Member & CL |
| 10. Dr. I.S. Bisht | : | Member & Acting CPI |

Only one CAC member, Dr. Y. K. Gupta, could not participate.

The Director, NBPGR and Consortium Leader (CL) of the above stated NAIP sub-project welcomed the Chairman and members of the CAC, and other project participants (Annexure-I).

The Chairman, Dr. R.S. Rana, in his opening remarks, congratulated the project consortium partners for initiating such a unique project that integrates indigenous genetic resources management and use at community level and links the same with sustainable development and livelihood security of the local inhabitants. He emphasized that interventions for on-farm management of genetic resources should be undertaken with a participatory approach at all stages of the process. The use of participatory methods can serve to include farmers in the research process and to incorporate their knowledge on local socioeconomic and agroecological conditions, their genetic resource management practices, and the characteristics and origins of their varieties/breeds into project data.

Dr. A.P. Srivastava, the National Coordinator of NAIP Component-3 (SRLS) highlighted the role of CAC, being the apex advisory body, in successful operation and execution of various project activities including monitoring effectiveness of implementation and adherence to the agreed objectives, evaluating outcomes and impact, need-based mid-course corrections, recommending re-allocations of funds between sub-project activities and if necessary, of sub-project reorientation. CAC also can help in facilitating the dissemination and up-scaling of replicable results.

The Acting CPI of the project, Dr. I.S. Bisht, made a brief presentation about the project for kind information of the CAC Chairman and members. The presentation was

interactive and comments/considered views of all participants were duly received and deliberated.

The presentation about the project was followed by individual presentations of various project partners viz. NBAGR, Karnal; NBFGR, Lucknow; MPUAT, Udaipur & its NGO associate Seva Mandir; CSK-HPKV, Palampur; ANGRAU, Adilabad, and APSBDB, Hyderabad. Community based interventions for next six months on bioresource documentation, identification of promising genotypes/farming systems for interventions, and exploring various “add value” options to local resources for livelihood security of the local inhabitants were deliberated by individual project partners including assemblage of baseline information for uploading in M&E tracking system of NAIP for future monitoring.

The following recommendations emerged based on discussions held subsequent to presentations made by the project partners:

1. The baseline information, as envisaged under M&E initiatives, should be completed by 31st May 2010 by all consortium partners and made available to the CPI for finalization and onward transmission to PIU, NAIP and uploading in M&E tracking system online by 30th June 2010.
2. The structured information on various project activities to be undertaken for next six months based on M&E format should be developed by all project partners individually and for the entire project at CPI level, objective and activity-wise. The same should be submitted to PIU, NAIP and also uploaded in M&E tracking system online for future monitoring of the outputs/outcome thereon latest by 15th May 2010.
3. Farmer participants at selected villages/clusters in respective districts should be finalized at the earliest for detailed bioresource inventorisation and “add value” interventions. Strict transparency in selection of farmer participants should be observed and representation from weaker sections of the community should be ensured.
4. The first interaction meeting at all three districts should be organized as early as possible so that actual interventions could start without losing time. Only project-oriented interventions should be undertaken on priority.
5. Consortium partners should work in close collaboration at each stage of project implementation. Survey of baseline data for plant, animal and fish resources, and identification of farm families for interventions integrating all three components should be jointly undertaken. The three Bureaux, however, are major partners in bioresource inventorisation whereas the respective universities should take lead in addressing “add value” or benefit enhancing options for farmers from local bioresource diversity at community level.
6. At community level interface, support of SHG, Village Panchayats and other local self-governments may be sought. Social conflicts, if any, should always be avoided.
7. For developing Community Biodiversity Registers (CBRs) or community gene banks, expertise of State Biodiversity Boards should also be considered wherever such initiatives are in place. Community genebanks may provide a way for farmers to store valuable germplasm in a community based *ex situ* setting. This approach may enhance benefits when integrated with, for example, a seed exchange network, helping to improve farmers’ control over their genetic material. CBRs, on the other

hand, not only keep track of households who manage local resources at community level but affirm the value of indigenous knowledge of these resources and encourage their continued use and conservation. IPR issues, if any, should also be duly addressed.

8. The A.P. State Biodiversity Board (APSBDB) should restructure its activities in tune with the project requirements rather than addressing their obligations to the State Biodiversity Board.
9. Modalities should be worked out to bring synergy with other NAIP projects operative in these districts and other development/extension activities of the line departments working in the area. Duplication of efforts should always be avoided.
10. Efforts should be made to incorporate local resources into agricultural extension packages. Training of extension personnel to make them recognize importance of local resources for conservation and local livelihoods would help strengthen the relationship between farming community and national genetic resource management system.
11. All consortium partners should designate one nodal person from respective institutions for effective liaisoning and communication with the Chairman, CAC on project performance and periodic update.
12. An efficient financial management should be in place to ensure timely submission of SoEs, AUC and annual accounts so that fund flow operates smoothly. The CPI/CCPI should make use of the delegated powers for successful implemented of project activities in best possible manner.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

(I.S. Bisht)
Acting CPI

(S.K. Sharma)
Consortium Leader

(R.S. Rana)
Chairman, CAC

List of Participants

CAC Members

1. Dr. R.S. Rana : Chairman
2. Dr. A.P. Srivastava : Member
3. Mr. D.S. Murthy : Member
4. Dr. K.E. Prasada Rao : Member
5. Dr. B.P. Singh : Member
6. Dr. B.D. Sharma : Member
7. Ms. Anita Sharma : Member
8. Sh. Sunda Ram : Member
9. Dr. S.K. Sharma : Member & Consortium Leader
10. Dr. I.S. Bisht : Member & Acting CPI

NBPGR: Lead Consortium

11. Dr. S.K. Malik
12. Dr. K.C. Bhatt
13. Dr. Gunjeet Kumar
14. Dr. K. S. Varaprasad
15. Dr. S.R. Pandravada
16. Dr. N.K. Dwivedi
17. Dr. J.C. Rana

Consortium Partners

- ***NBAGR, Karnal***
Dr. B.K. Joshi, Director
Dr. Anand Jain
- ***NBFGR, Lucknow***
 20. Dr. W.S. Lakra, Director
 21. Dr. K.K. Ial
 22. Dr. P.Punia
 23. Dr.(Mrs). Mohindra
 24. Dr. L.K.Tyagi
 25. Sh. R.K.Singh
- ***CSK-HPKV, Palampur***
 26. Dr. R.P Kaushik
 27. Dr. Alok Sharma
 28. Dr. R.C. Chauhan
 29. Dr. U.K. Puri
 30. Dr Gopal Katna
 31. Dr M.C. Rana
 32. Dr Shivani Katoch
- ***MPUAT, Udaipur***
 33. Prof. S.R.Maloo
 34. Dr. S.P. Tailor
 35. Dr. N.K. Jain
 36. Dr. V.P. Saini
- ***NGRAU, Adilabad***
 37. Dr. P. Ramesh
- ***APSBDB, Hyderabad***
 38. Mr. Rajeev Mathew
- ***Seva Mandir, Udaipur***
 39. Mr. S. Tiwari
 40. Mr. N. Ameta