



**G. B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development,
Himachal Unit, Mohal - Kullu - 175 126, Himachal Pradesh**

Project Title: Development of Peoples' Biodiversity Register of Selected Panchayats in Kullu District, Himachal Pradesh

Concept Proposal

1. Background

The young, fragile, dynamic, complex and diverse Himalaya has special significance across the globe. It is very well known for the representative, natural, unique and socio-economically important biodiversity, and recognized amongst the 34 global biodiversity hotspots. In addition, the components of the Himalayan biodiversity exhibit a great dynamism on account of its evolving state. The Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) constitutes a significant part of the Himalayan hotspot, and very well known for the unique topography, climatic conditions, diverse habitats and a large altitudinal range. The typical topographical gradients support tropical, sub-tropical, temperate, sub-alpine, alpine and tundra biomes/ecosystems. The biodiversity of these ecosystems is utilized by the inhabitants directly and indirectly for their sustenance and income generation. The review of literature revealed that the available information is scattered. Data base for the biological resources is not available. The studies carried out across the IHR suggest that biodiversity of the Himalayan ecosystems is depleting fast due to habitat degradation caused by various anthropogenic activities including over exploitation and changing environmental conditions. In addition, the continued anthropogenic activities coupled with natural calamities and changing environmental conditions have resulted reduction in opportunities for availing the services provided by the Himalayan ecosystems. The increasing human population has increased the demand of biological resources many fold. This has caused the rapid depletion of biological resources particularly the forest cover and economically important species.

The state Himachal Pradesh is also known for the representative, natural, unique and socio-economically important biodiversity. Like other states of the IHR, with the increasing human population, the demand of biological resources has increased many folds. The increasing anthropogenic activities and changing environmental conditions have resulted the rapid loss of biological resources. Therefore, for developing authentic and comprehensive data base, there is a need to conduct extensive and intensive surveys for the exploration of biological resources at Panchayat, Block and District levels, and develop data base of biological resources.

The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) has taken initiative to establish State Biodiversity Boards, and through State Biodiversity Boards constitute Biodiversity Management Committees at Panchayat, Block, District and Municipality levels, and develop Peoples' Biodiversity Register (PBR). Following the initiative of NBA, Himachal Pradesh State Biodiversity Board (HPSBB) has initiated the constitution of Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) at Panchayat, Block, District and Municipality levels in the selected districts of Himachal Pradesh, and through Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) and Technical Supporting Groups (TSGs) for the development of People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs).

The G. B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development, Himachal Unit, Mohal – Kullu, Himachal Pradesh has signed MOU with the Chairpersons, BMCs of the 23 Panchayats in Kullu and Naggar Blocks and Himachal Pradesh State Biodiversity Board (HPSBB), Shimla for the development of People’s Biodiversity Register (PBR).

2. Objectives

- To document the biodiversity components such as plants, animals, microbes, insects and their possible use by the local communities in the selected BMC
- To document topographic and socio economic features of the selected BMCs with special emphasis on human population, climate, topography, natural ecosystems, livestock resources, livelihood patterns *etc.*
- To documentation the traditional knowledge and accurate information about the BMC, ecosystem and its natural resources
- To facilitate and engage the trained youth in developing BMC
- To develop the reports on the programme using the suitable self-monitoring and evaluation tools

3. Approach

Extensive and intensive surveys will be conducted in each selected Panchayat for generating information on agricultural crop plants; fruit plants; fodder crops; medicinal plants; ornamental plants; timber plants; weeds; pests and insects of crops; microbial diversity; domesticated animals; fish diversity; market for domesticated animals; market/fairs for domesticated animals, medicinal plants and other products; people scape, landscape; water scape and soil type; trees; shrubs; herbs; tubers; grasses; climbers; wild plant species of importance; wild plants of medicinal importance; wild relatives of crops; wild ornamental plants; wild fumigate/chewing plants; timber plants; other plants in the wild; wild animal species; wild aquatic biodiversity; and aquatic species. Samples of each species will be collected and identified with the help of available literature i.e., published papers, reports, books, etc. In addition, the information will be also generated through interactive meetings, PRAs, etc. The data will be compiled in the prescribed formats and PBRs will be development.

4. Work Plan

Objectives/Activities	Months											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Recruitment of staff												
Purchase of equipments												
Documentation of the biodiversity components												
Documentation of topographic and socio economic features of the selected panchayats												
Documentation of traditional knowledge and accurate information about the panchayats, ecosystem and its natural resources.												
Facilitating and engaging the trained youth in developing PBR												
Sharing knowledge outputs among												

local people												
Compilation and documentation												
Development of PBRs												

5. Expected Outcome

The study will provide following information.

- Population demography, land use and land cover, water resources and soil type
- Inventory of floristic diversity including aquatic plant diversity
- Inventory of faunal diversity including domesticated animals and market/fairs for domesticated animals, and aquatic faunal diversity
- Inventory of agricultural, vegetable and horticultural crop plants
- Inventory of medicinal, wild edible, fodder, fuel, timber, fibre, religious, ornamental, wild relatives of crop plants, plant products and other plants of miscellaneous uses
- Inventory of weeds, pests, insects and diseases of crops and microbes

Final Outcome “People’s Biodiversity Register”

6. Budget Requirement

S. No	Budget Heads	Year I (Rs.)	Total (Rs.)
A.	Recurring (R & D)		
1	Manpower		
	Senior Project Fellow (05) @ Rs. 18,000/- + HRA (10%) per month	11,88,000/-	11,88,000/-
	Data Entry Operator cum Field Assistant (01) @ Rs. 10,000/- fixed per month	1,20,000/-	1,20,000/-
2	Travel	3,50,000/-	3,50,000/-
3	Contingency	2,00,000/-	2,00,000/-
B.	Non - Recurring (Scientific Equipment)		
1	Equipments	1,63,200/-	1,63,200/-
C.	Overhead @ 15% of recurring cost	2,78,800/-	2,78,800/-
	Total (A + B + C)	23,00,000/-	23,00,000/-

Total Budget: Rs. 23,00,000/- (Rs. Twenty three lakhs only)

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