



Invitation for contributions

Case studies on Biodiversity and Livelihoods

As we are all aware, a large number of field based programmes related to biodiversity, livelihoods and poverty reduction are being carried out by various agencies in different regions of the country. Most of the valuable experiences, successes and significant learning are being cited as contributing to our understanding of linkages between the issues. However, a quick assessment reveals that most of these experiences are lying as anecdotal cases in individual organizations with limited translation of these experiences in a written form to support better understanding of issues and policy making at appropriate levels. This gap also leads to limited outreach of these experiences.

To address this gap, the National Biodiversity Authority(NBA) intends to undertake an assessment of the actions related to biodiversity, livelihoods and poverty reduction in the country using a case study approach besides establishing a platform to provide space that could promote extensive outreach to facilitate mutual learning of experiences, knowledge, processes, results, impacts etc. from field based experiences.

Using a case study approach

A case study is not a research piece but a qualitative description, expected to contain enough concrete, relevant and accurate information of different major elements. Good understanding about the case is very fundamental before starting to present it. Furnishing enough details ensures the credibility besides providing a clear picture about the situation, problem, approach, results achieved etc. Case studies help to identify actual problems/issues, list out the key players their stakes, roles, contributions.

Use of multiple sources to collect information leads to getting more details and strengthen the case; application of multiple methods to collect data will aid to get different views and dimensions. If possible time series data could be incorporated to show the trend and progress- both in terms of qualitative and quantitative information. Enough information is essential to arrive at concrete ideas/conclusions. A case study helps the reader to get comprehensive understanding of the issue and to apply the learning in his/her own context.

NBA provides the platform for mutual learning

NBA is in the process of developing a set of case studies based on the details gathered from different organizations working on different issues/sectors related to biodiversity, livelihoods and poverty reduction.

In addition, NBA is establishing an on-line portal to facilitate better exchange of ideas, experiences and for sharing information on issues related to biodiversity, livelihoods and poverty reduction. This portal can also house individual case studies from a range of stakeholders.

NBA requests those organizations, experts, and individuals including local community representatives to share their experiences on issues of action related interventions to link conservation action that leads to securing livelihoods and contributing to poverty reduction.

For the convenience of quick organization of a case study and to make it comprehensive we propose the following generic template. It is not a rigid structure that needs to be strictly followed but rather a suggestive framework. The authors could decide the length of the case study or submission but request is made to keep the maximum size of each contribution to five pages.

Structure and details of case studies

Location/geography	:	Details about where the project activities were carried out
Rational of the Intervention	:	Basis for the intervention
Problem/Objective	:	What is the issue that is addressed during the intervention and why the problem is important
Ecosystem	:	Description of the ecosystem, its status and issues
Participant community	:	Description about the livelihood and socio cultural aspects
Other stakeholders	:	Stakes, roles, responsibilities and participation of the stakeholders
Key activities	:	Major activities carried out to achieve the results, institutional arrangements to implement activities, local institutions, CBOs involved
Results/Impacts	:	Achieved/ significant results pertaining to conservation practices, to support the livelihoods of the local communities, poverty eradication efforts, gender equity etc.
Challenges	:	Difficulties met with and efforts made to address/overcome
Beyond results	:	Sustainability institutional, management, financial etc replicability / scalability, Scope for these activities. Scope for policy inputs - local, regional and national levels, new opportunities
Lessons learned	:	Learnings from success or failure, insights gained
Full contacts	:	Details of the individual or organization for further contact

Few more points to consider

You could add visuals which will help the readers to have feel of the information provided in the case study.

Many of the readers may not be familiar with technical terms and jargons linked to biodiversity and livelihoods - hence suggested to restrict the usage of generic terms.

If local terms are used to ensure the authenticity, please provide the meaning for the terms to help the reader to understand.

All the information provided for will be duly acknowledge and showcased during CBD-COP11 meeting in Hyderabad.

For more details contact:

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