

The Programme

In line with the objectives of Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM), SACEP has initiated a programme to help its member countries to build necessary capacity needs for the management of their rich biological resources.

This programme contains two major components:

1. Support to Establish National Biodiversity CHM Websites of South Asian Countries and Establish a South Asian Regional CHM
2. Capacity building for the Clearing-House Mechanism



Participants at the training held in March 2007

The objective

The objective of the project is to create awareness among government officials, students and general public on Clearing-House Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity and build their capacity on how to make use of it for conservation activities

South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme Capacity Building for the CHM of the Convention on Biological Diversity



The Chief Guest, Hon' Patali Champika Ranawaka, Minister of Environment & Natural Resources of Sri Lanka, Dr. A.A. Boaz, DG, SACEP and Prof. Sarath Kotagama at the inauguration of training programme held in March 2007



Guests, Resource Persons and Participants at the training programme held from 28 to 30 April 2008

What is CHM

Recognizing the importance of biodiversity, governments adopted the Convention on Biological Diversity in 1992 as a framework for action. From the start it was understood that scientific knowledge and technological know-how would have a vital role to play.

However, expertise in managing information and technology varies enormously from country to country. For this reason, the Convention has established a "Clearing-House Mechanism" to ensure that all governments have access to the information and technologies they need for their work on biodiversity.

The CHM seeks to support the Convention's thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work by promoting cooperation in six key areas: tools for decision-making, training and capacity-building, research, funding, technology transfer, and the repatriation of information.

SACEP and RBINS collaboration

Two 4 day national training programmes for post graduate students of Sri Lanka on access to information on biological diversity related conventions were successfully completed in March 2007. There were 50 post graduate students trained in these two programmes.

The program was conducted with the financial assistance of the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS) and support from the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Sri Lanka and CBD Secretariat.



Guests, Resource Persons and Participants at the training programme, March, 2007

SACEP UNESCO collaboration

Under this collaboration, a national training on Capacity Building on Biological Diversity and Cartagena Protocol on Bio-safety through Clearing House Mechanism was held from 28-30 April 2008 at Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Thirty three participants comprising of Senior Level Government Officials participated at the 3 day Non Residential Training Programme.

The program was funded by UNESCO and UNEP-GEF Project for Building Capacity for Effective Participation in the Bio-safety Clearing House of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of Sri Lanka.