



TWO DAY ADVANCE REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY LAW AND ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING May 11-12, 2019

Organised by:

Tamil Nadu National Law University,
Tiruchirappalli In collaboration with:

National Law School of India University, Bangalore

Sponsored by:

UNDP- GEF (Global ABS Project)

About TNNLU:

The Tamil Nadu National Law University (TNNLU) was established by the Government of Tamil Nadu by an Act of State Legislature (Tamil Nadu Act No. 9 of 2012) with the laudable objectives of advancing and disseminating knowledge of law and legal processes and their role in national development. It also aims to instil a sense of responsibility in students and researchers to serve society in the field of law by developing skills with regard to advocacy, legal services, legislation and law reforms. TNNLU has organized innumerable lectures, seminars, symposia and conferences (including a recent international conference on Affirmative Action and the Sustainable Development Goal of Gender Equality), to promote legal knowledge and to make law and legal processes as efficient instruments of social development.

About NLSIU:

Established in 1986, National Law School of India University, Bangalore (NLSIU) is one of the top law institutes of the world. Set up in order to reform legal education in India, it has, over the years, significantly contributed to the legal profession by producing excellent advocates, academicians, judges and public servants.

ABOUT UNDP-GEF:

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) works in around 170 Countries and territories to eradicate poverty, inequalities and exclusion. The UNDP Global Environmental Facility(UNDP-GEF) unit constituted "to support countries with simultaneous eradication of poverty and significant reduction of inequalities and exclusion by catalysing environmental finance for sustainable development." The main motive of this unit is "Strengthening Human Resources, legal Frameworks, and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol and help countries to develop strong Policies, skills, Partnerships and institution to sustain their progress. One of the main purpose of Nagoya Protocol is the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources. Through various programmes, workshops, training and advocacy and Awareness raising events etc., the project increases knowledge and understanding of the objectives and obligations of the Nagoya protocol and facilitate the stakeholders to implement effective laws and guidelines, negotiate agreements and monitor and enforce compliance.

ABOUT THE WORKSHOP:

There are around 8.7 million species estimated to be in existence in the World. India's share of the global diversity is an impressive 8.1% of the total, despite it having only 2.4% of the land area of the World. Being home to such tremendous variety of species and one of the 12 mega diversity countries of the World makes it imperative on the State to protect this treasured characteristic of our land and take all the possible measures to conserve the life of such species that inhabit our Country.

According to the text of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), an internationally legally binding agreement that was adopted in 1992, defines Biological diversity "means the variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems." As per the definition clause, the Biological resources include "genetic resources, organisms or parts thereof, populations, or any other biotic component of ecosystems with actual or potential use or value for humanity."

Being a party to the Convention, the Government of India enacted the Biological Diversity (BD) Act in the year 2002 to implement the obligations as enshrined in the Convention on Biological Diversity. The country further formulate rules at the Centre and the State for its necessary implementation.

The State of Tamil Nadu is endowed with a rich biodiversity. It accounts for nearly 1/3rd of the total flora of India. Species and Generic diversity of flora of Tamil Nadu is comparatively richer than the neighbourhood states. The State of Tamil Nadu harbours a total of 5547 taxa that includes 5239 species, 72 subspecies and 548 varieties distributed in 231 families under 1668 genera. Tamil Nadu also has three biosphere reserves located in Nilgiris, Gulf of Mannar and Agasthiyarmalai.

TNNLU is collaborating with NLSIU under the Global ABS Project to conduct a two day Advanced Regional Workshop on Biodiversity Laws and Access and Benefit Sharing which aimed at dissemination of information on Biodiversity laws, training researchers, academicians, professions in the field of agriculture and bio-technology etc in the State of Tamil Nadu.

OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP:

1. To acquaint the participants with biodiversity laws and ABS provisions - both at the national and International Level.
2. To familiarize the participants with the procedure and formalities with regards to ABS
3. To provide the participants with an updated information of the latest practices and challenges with regards to ABS Systems and Mechanism.
4. To facilitate discussions, deliberations and implementation methodologies for sustainable ABS Systems in developing economies.

Patron - in - Chief
Prof. (Dr.) Kamala Sankaran
Vice Chancellor,
Tamil Nadu National Law University,
Tiruchirapalli

Workshop Co-ordinators:
Dr. S K Balashanmugam
Assistant Professor of Law, TNNLU
and
Ms. Hemavathi S Shekhar
Assistant Professor of Law, TNNLU

Venue: TNNLU Campus Registration for
Participants are free. Accommodation
will be provided on a Payment and First
come first served basis.