

PROJECT PROFILE

Title: Developing a Suitable Database on Biodiversity

Principle Investigator: Dr. C. Kunhikannan, Scientist D (2003- 2005)
Shri Raman Nautiyal, Scientist C (2001-2003)
Smt. Manisha Pasbola, Scientist C (2000-2001)
Dr.S.S.R. Bennet, Scientist (Retd.) (1999-2000)

Project Associates: Shri.R.Vivekanandan, Scientist- E
Dr. N. Venkatsubramanian, R.A I
Smt. R. Thamilarasi, R.A II

Start and Completion dates: April 1999 - March 2005

Objectives:

1. Develop a user – friendly and easily retrievable information system
2. To have a data – bank with up – to – date data on biodiversity inventory and relevant information system
3. To mobilize substantial amount of data available with the research organizations and forest departments to encourage more enlightened conservation practice
4. Develop data gathering and monitoring capabilities at the local levels to build networks for the early warnings of new threats to biodiversity.

Funding Agency: ICFRE

SUMMARY

Biodiversity studies help to quantify what we know about a particular site in relation to land use and economies. Detailed biodiversity assessments provide the basic information to discover the complex links among species. A well-established biodiversity baseline allows selection of indicator species for long-term monitoring. The information, particularly on availability, the status, various uses and the threat faced by the species is documented in various literatures. The information retrieval system is very poor. The means of storing and retrieving new findings have not kept pace with discovery. It is felt that an easy receivable information system on biodiversity is imperative. Thus a project on Development of suitable database on biodiversity was undertaken at this institute. Information on plant species was collected in ready-made format. Tables were designed in MS Access for incorporation of data and reports and forms in Visual Basic for designing the retrieval system. Data on 70 plant species has been entered in all the tables under the relevant heads and a database has been prepared with different retrieval options. The database has options for the adding new records, modification and deletion of records.