Biodiversity Regime Challenges and Opportunities

K. Vijayakumaran
Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute
Mangalore Research Centre

vijayettan@yahoo.com

Is our perception right?

Every inconvenience is an adventure wrongly perceived. And every adventure is an inconvenience rightly perceived

-G.K. Chesterton

Is Biodiversity Regime another inconvenient truth?

Where we are?

- International Obligations
- Legal instruments
- Institutional mechanism
- Local Initiatives
- Research and Advocacy
- HRD

Challenges at Community level

- Education and empowerment
- Organizing and Training
- Civil society partnership
- Documenting traditional knowledge

Challenges for CSOs

- Design programmes to educate people on Biodiversity Regime
- Network with National and International agencies
- Build up capacity to meet the challenges in sharing of benefits
- Engage in conservation and documentation at community level

What are we doing in HRD?

- Initiatives -few
- Levels-Higher
- Focus- Biology and Ecology
- Objective- Conservation
- Awareness and reach-Insufficient
- Geographical spread Limited

Options for HRD

- Strengthening traditional disciplines
- Integrating new topics to suit to Biodiversity Regime
- Introducing New Course
- Introduce extra curricular activities in line of NSS

Challenges for Academics

- Design courses to cater to the needs of Biodiversity Regime at under-graduate and PG level
- Conceive and introduce Certificate and diploma level programme for common people in regional languages
- Promote dialogue, interaction and partnerships with CSOs

Challenges for Researchers

- Open up and come out of the shell
- Be active participants in raising public concerns
- Organize, create platforms for exchange of ideas
- Perform the social responsibility
- Instill the youngsters with the skill and courage

Challenges for Students

- Develop a passion for learning and a concern for environment
- Think laterally and break traditions
- Seek knowledge and Share your knowledge
- Discuss and debate issues boldly and openly
- Explore the areas where you can help your community
- Believe that every one of you have mission