

Two-Day Regional Meeting on  
**Conservation, Use and Exchange of Crop Genetic Resources: Promoting  
Regional Cooperation for a Food-Secure, Climate-Resilient South Asia**

26-27 August 2015  
Hotel Soaltee, Kathmandu

**Programme Agenda**

<b>DAY ONE (Maihar Hall)</b>	
8:30 – 9:00	<b>R E G I S T R A T I O N</b>
<b>Inaugural Session</b>	
9:00 – 10:15	<p><b>Chair:</b> Dr. Posh Raj Pandey, Chairman, SAWTEE</p> <p><b>Keynote Speaker:</b> H.E. Mr. Arjun B Thapa, Secretary General, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation</p> <p><b>Setting the Agenda on Crop Genetic Resources</b>  <i>Global Regimes, Contexts and Complexities:</i> Dr. Kristin Rosendal, Research Director/Research Professor, and Mr. Steinar Andresen, Research Professor, The Fridtjof Nansen Institute, Norway</p> <p><i>South Asian Contexts and Complexities:</i> Mr. Kamalesh Adhikari, Doctoral Researcher, The Australian National University, Australia</p> <p><i>National Contexts and Complexities:</i> Dr. Anitha Ramanna-Pathak, S P Jain School of Global Management, India</p> <p><b>Remarks from the Chair</b></p>
10:15 – 10:30	<b>T E A &amp; C O F F E E B R E A K</b>

<b>Climate and Natural Disasters in South Asia: Scope for Regional Cooperation on the Conservation, Use and Exchange of Crop Genetic Resources</b>	
10:30 – 12:30	<p><b>Chair:</b> Dr. David James Molden, Director General, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Nepal</p> <p><b>Presenters</b></p> <p><i>Case of Nepal:</i> Ms. Yamuna Ghale, Senior Programme Officer, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Nepal (15 minutes)</p> <p><i>Case of India:</i> Ms. Susan Mathew, Senior Program Officer , Consumer Unity Trust Society International (CUTS), India (15 minutes)</p> <p><i>Case of Pakistan:</i> Dr. Pirzada Wajid Hussain Shah, Chief Executive Officer, Roots Pakistan, Pakistan (15 minutes)</p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p> <p><b>Remarks from the Chair</b></p>
12:30 – 1:30	<b>L U N C H B R E A K</b>
<b>Responding to Food Insecurity: Role of Global, Regional and National Gene Banks</b>	
1:30 – 3:30	<p><b>Chair:</b> Dr. Yam Raj Pandey, Executive Director, Nepal Agricultural Research Council, Nepal</p> <p><b>Presenters</b></p> <p><i>South Asian Seed Bank:</i> Dr. Manoj Thibbotuwawa, Head, Agriculture Economic Policy, Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS) (15 minutes)</p> <p><i>Role of National Gene Banks and Community Seed Banks:</i> Dr. Bhuwon Sthapit, Senior Scientist and Regional Project Coordinator, Bioversity International, Nepal (15 minutes)</p> <p><i>Global Seed Vault in Norway and Community Seed Banks: Issues for South Asia:</i> Dr. Rashed Al Mahmud Titumir, Chairman, Unnayan Oneshan, Bangladesh (15 minutes)</p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p> <p><b>Remarks from the Chair</b></p>
3:30 – 3:50	<b>T E A &amp; C O F F E E B R E A K</b>

<b>Patent and Plant Variety Protection under the TRIPS Agreement: Implications and Scope for Regional Cooperation</b>	
3:50 – 5:30	<p><b>Chair:</b> Dr. Fahad Saeed, Head, Climate Change Unit, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Pakistan</p> <p><b>Presenters</b>  <i>Case of India:</i> Mr. Yogesh A. Pai, National Law University, India (15 minutes)  <i>Case of Nepal:</i> Dr. Pratap Kumar Shrestha, Programme Specialist, Seed Systems and Plant Genetic Resources USC Canada (15 minutes)  <i>Case of Bangladesh:</i> Dr. Mohammad Towhidul Islam, Associate Professor, Department of Law, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh (15 minutes)</p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p> <p><b>Remarks from the Chair</b></p>
7:00	<b>D I N N E R</b>
<b>DAY TWO (Madhvi Hall)</b>	
8:30 – 9:00	<b>R E G I S T R A T I O N</b>
<b>Access and Benefit Sharing under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol: Implications and Scope for Regional Cooperation</b>	
9:00 – 11:00	<p><b>Chair:</b> Mrs. R.H.M.P. Abeykoon, Director (Biodiversity), Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, Sri Lanka</p> <p><b>Presenters</b>  <i>Case of Bangladesh:</i> Ms. Marina Nazneen, Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forest, Bangladesh (15 minutes)  <i>Case of Pakistan:</i> Ms. Parveen Ejaz, Deputy Director (Biodiversity), Biodiversity Directorate, Ministry of Climate Change, Pakistan (15 minutes)  <i>Case of India:</i> Mr. T.C. James, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India (15 minutes)  <i>Case of Nepal:</i> Dr. Krishna Prasad Oli, Senior Access and Benefit Sharing Expert, Nepal (15 minutes)</p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p> <p><b>Remarks from the Chair</b></p>
11:00 – 11:15	<b>T E A &amp; C O F F E E</b>

<b>Multilateral System and Standard Material Transfer Agreement of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture: Implications and Scope for Regional Cooperation</b>	
11:15 – 1:15	<p><b>Chair:</b> Mr. Uday Chandra Thakur, Spokesperson (Joint Secretary), Ministry of Agricultural Development, Nepal</p> <p><b>Presenters</b>  <i>Case of Sri Lanka:</i> Dr. D.H. Muthukuda Arachchi, Former Director, Department of Agriculture, and Former Head, Plant Genetic Resources Centre of Sri Lanka (15 minutes)  <i>Case of India:</i> Mr. Gorelal Dewakar, Assistant Commissioner (Seeds), Department of Agriculture and Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture, India (15 minutes)  <i>Case of Nepal:</i> Dr. Devendra Gauchan, National Project Manager, Bioversity International, Nepal (15 minutes)  <i>Case of Pakistan:</i> Dr. Abdul Ghafoor, Principal Scientific Officer, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, Pakistan (15 minutes)</p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p> <p><b>Remarks from the Chair</b></p>
1:00 – 2:15	<b>L U N C H</b>
<b>Role of International and National Agriculture Research Centers for Conservation, Use and Exchange of Native and Local Seeds</b>	
2:15 – 4:00	<p><b>Chair:</b> Dr. Balaram Thapa, Executive Director, Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research, and Development (LI-BIRD), Nepal</p> <p><b>Presenters</b>  <i>Role of IRRI for Conservation, Use and Exchange of Native and Local Seeds:</i> Dr. Bhaba Prasad Tripathi, Senior Associate Scientist and Coordinator, IRRI Nepal (15 minutes)  <i>Role of CIMMYT for Conservation, Use and Exchange of Native and Local Seeds:</i> Dr. Arun Kumar Joshi, Principal Scientist and Country Representative, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), South Asia Office, Nepal (15 minutes)  <i>Role of Bangladesh's Plant Genetic Resource Centre for Conservation, Use and Exchange of Native and Local Seeds:</i> Dr. Amjad Hossain, Chief Scientific Officer, Plant Genetic Resource Centre, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI), Bangladesh (15 minutes)</p> <p><b>Floor Discussion</b></p> <p><b>Remarks from the Chair</b></p>
4:00 – 4:15	<b>T E A &amp; C O F F E E</b>
<b>Regional Agenda for a Food-Secure, Climate-Resilient South Asia</b>	
4:15 – 6:00	<p><b>Chair:</b> Dr. Hiramani Ghimire, Executive Director, SAWTEE</p> <p><b>Future Course of Action</b></p>



Dr. Kristin Rosendal, Research Director/Research Professor, The Fridtjof Nansen Institute, Norway

Mr. Yogesh A. Pai, National Law University, India

Mr. Steinar Andresen, Research Professor, The Fridtjof Nansen Institute, Norway

Mr. Kamalesh Adhikari, Doctoral Researcher, Australian National University, Australia

**Floor Discussion**

**Remarks from the Chair**