

# BSAP of Madhya Pradesh, India: Conservation and Poverty Alleviation

UNDP/GEF funded NBSAP project was executed in India from January 2000 to March 2004, wherein 73 executing agencies were identified for preparing action plans for 33 states/UTs, 18 sub-state sites, 10 eco-regions and 12 thematic areas. A highly participatory approach involving various stakeholders was adopted. Madhya Pradesh (MP), one of the 27 federal states of India, is land-locked and located in central India. For the preparation of MP's BSAP, Government of MP established a Biodiversity and Biotechnology Board under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister, that in turn constituted three Standing Committees viz., Committee on Biodiversity Conservation, Committee on Sustainable Use of Biodiversity and Committee on Equitable Sharing of Biodiversity; and Environmental Planning and Coordination (EPCO) was appointed as the executing agency. The state government also created a separate Department of Biodiversity and Biotechnology to act as the nodal department for BSAP of the state.

## What did we achieve?

Horticulture Directorate is promoting farm forestry on wastelands not suitable for traditional crop cultivation. They are also popularizing medicinal and aromatic plant varieties besides providing improved seed varieties to poor families ensuring better family income.

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All major stakeholders which include local communities, scientists, social activists, academicians, students, politicians, media, etc were involved.

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Fisheries department transferred management control and rights of 2482 water bodies (83362 ha) to the fishing cooperatives and 78 ponds (364.45 ha) leased out to women groups and backward classes to ensure community participation in natural resource management,

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Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) and forest dept staff empowered for holistic development of forestry sector. Emphasis was on the development of forest villages within 5 km of forest boundaries involving concerned departments.

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Department of Agriculture introduced organic farming at selected villages known as "bio-village". Besides raising productivity in sustainable manner, they are also promoting alternative energy sources like biogas.

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Department of Animal Husbandry is promoting cattle and poultry breeding for improving the livelihood opportunities of rural people by providing additional source of income specially to landless, small and marginal farmers.

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Drought Prone Area Development Programme and District Poverty Alleviation Programme (DPAP) implemented under rural development programmes. WB provided assistance for DPAP.

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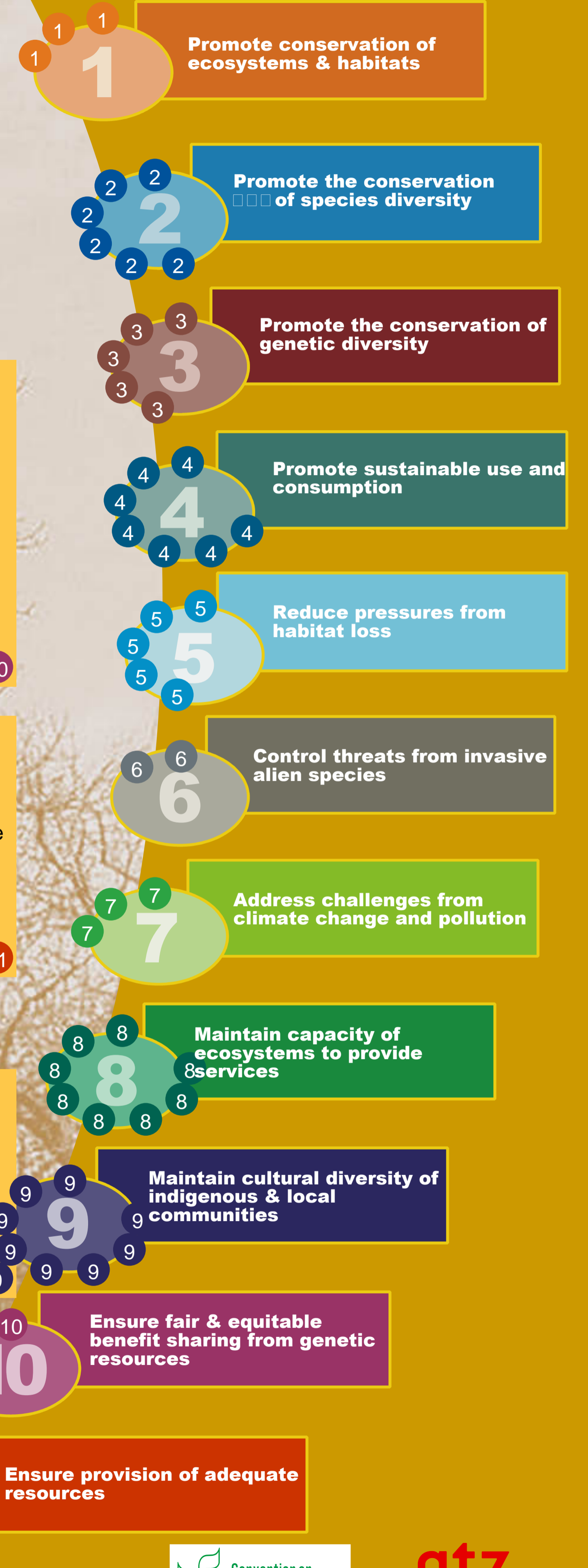
Community Based Organizations and NGOs were engaged in activities such as seed collection, aquaculture, preparation of biodiversity registers, cultivation of medicinal plants, advocacy on peoples rights and benefit sharing issues, etc.

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M.P. Council of Science & Technology initiated application of S&T for poverty alleviation and biodiversity conservation through ex-situ conservation and tissue culture techniques.

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## 2010 Biodiversity Target



No document of this nature can be as comprehensive and conclusive and therefore ensuring effective participation by the people is the key to the success of any biodiversity conservation strategy.

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