



Introduction

The world 'taxonomy' refers to the science of description, naming and classification of the organisms ranging from micro to higher forms including micro-organisms, plants and animal. The ability to identify the organism is a basic prerequisite of a state for the implementation on international conservation on Biological Diversity.

It is estimated that more than 1.7million species in the world have already been discovered, described and named. It is also assumed that 30 million species are yet waiting for their nomenclature.

The conferences (CBD) of parties (COPEs) have recognized that the implementation of decision of the conservation is suffering due to the inadequacy or lake of taxonomic skill and resources in developing world. In 2002, the sixth meeting of the COP approved the Global Taxonomic Initiative (GTI: VI/6) programme of the work to be implemented. The Eight meeting of the COP (VIII/3) in Brazil, in 2006, emphasized the need to build and retain capacity to address the taxonomic impediment and explore to ensure sustainability of the necessary finical support for the Global Taxonomy Initiative.

The COP urged parties and Governments to establish National focal points for the Global Taxonomy Initiative, so that they can contribute to the implementation of national taxonomic need assessments, related to fauna and flora.

The COP (VII/18) advised and requested the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to support the implementation of planned activated on taxonomic need assessments and provide financial resources to developing countries which helps to establish national focal points support capacity building activities.

GTI Focal Point

As per the decision (VII/8) of the COP to the CDB, Government of Nepal in **6 June 2006** designated Director General, Department of Plant Resources as the National Focal point for GTI: A steering committee of 11 members has been formed represented by number of participating National institutes of various sectors. It plans, to assess the status and capacities of taxonomic activities, strengthen national institutes for their capacity building and development.

Objectives

The objectives of GTI focal point in Nepal are provide an opportunity in building capacity in the field of taxonomy, embracing fauna, flora, microorganism, networking with national institutes, develop incentive for the local shareholders and mechanism to attract younger people in the taxonomic field. Besides these, it has following specific objectives.

1. Networking with National institute (NI) for implementing programme on GTI.
2. Promote collaboration and synergy in research and information sharing in the field of Taxonomy.
3. Acquisition of reference material and dissemination to concerned institution.
4. Provide flora for dialogue and sharing experience within member countries of the south Asian sub region.
5. Facilitate human resource development through training, education including public awareness programme.
6. Promote research, collection curation, maintenance and strengthening the collection of the materials in Herbaria related to fauna and flora of the country.

Activities

1. Establish and strengthen secretariat of GTI focal point.
2. Networking with identified National institutes.
3. Carry out taxonomic need assessments and capacities at the national level.
4. Enhance and support the existing national journals dealing with taxonomy related to fauna and flora.
5. Develop incentives and mechanism to attract younger people in the taxonomic field.
6. Conduct exchange programme, among countries of the south Asian sub region.

7. Develop educational activities, training and awareness programme to promote taxonomy as important component of Biodiversity studies (fauna and flora).
8. Train Para taxonomist involving inter alia farmers, extension workers, teachers, elderly and knowledgeable treble people.
9. Develop information system of National, Regional and Global perspective.
10. Repatriate data associated with specimens including digitized image.
11. Provide taxonomic information including invasive alien species to concerned authorities.
12. Prepare and disseminate field guides and keys for identification of biodiversities.
13. Strengthen national institute with basic infrastructure facilities to carry on taxonomic of the region works.

GTI Steering Committee

S. N.	Designation	Address
1.	Chairman, (D. G., DPR)	Department of Plant Resources (DPR) Thapathali, Kathmandu
2.	Member	Central Department of Zoology, Tribhuvan University (T.U.)
3.	Member	Central Department of Botany, Tribhuvan University (T.U.)
4.	Member	Natural History Museum, Tribhuvan University (T.U.)
5.	Member	Central Department of Microbiology, Tribhuvan University (T.U.)
6.	Member	National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST)
7.	Member	National Herbarium and Plant Laboratories (KATH) Godavari, Lalitpur
8.	Member	Department of Forest (DoF), Babarmahal, Kathmandu
9.	Member	Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) Babarmahal, Kathmandu
10.	Member	National Agriculture Research Council (NARC), Lalitpur
11.	Member Secretary (Section Head, Biodiversity)	Department of Plant Resources (DPR) Thapathali, Kathmandu

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