# RCES AND BIODIVERSITY:

LOCAL SOLUTIONS LINKING EDUCATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

COP 11 SIDE EVENT ORGANIZED BY UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES



UNU-IAS

Institute of Advanced Studies

## TIME & DATE:

8 October 2012, 13:15-14:45

**VENUE:** Room G.01 Ground level

## **SUPPORTED BY:**

Regional Centres of Expertise on ESD (RCEs)

## **OVERVIEW**

Bio-cultural diversity has emerged as an important component of education for sustainable development (ESD). ESD principles like value orientation, transformative education, cooperation, problem solving, participatory action, holistic perspectives and self-organization are integral for conserving, revitalizing and sustainably using biological and cultural resources. At the same time, looking at bio-cultural diversity through the prism of learning offers a perspective that mutually reinforces strategies of both areas.

This side event highlights cross-sectoral, multi-stakeholder partnerships, good practices and pilot models that successfully engage communities in the sustainable use or conservation of local bio-cultural diversity. A multiplicity of contextualized development strategies through educational interventions make the RCE network a unique place for showcasing how local stakeholders can synergize actions under a common umbrella for collective action towards bio-cultural diversity. The network also portrays the relevance of a local-global space for concerted action and understanding of bio-cultural diversity beyond localized geographical boundaries.

To date, UNU has acknowledged 101 RCEs globally. More than 50 RCEs are working on bio-cultural diversity. Case studies from various continents demonstrate the relevance of RCE projects especially within the broader mandates of effective implementation and awareness of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Five case studies from various Asia-Pacific RCEs will be presented at the side event.



#### PROGRAMME AGENDA

- 1. Opening remarks
  - Kazuhiko Takemoto (ESD Program Director, UNU-IAS)
- Introduction to RCE case studies

   Unnikrishnan Payyappallimana (UNU-IAS)
- 3. RCE presentations

RCE Cha-am, Thailand - Sonjai Havanond

RCE Chandigarh, India – Ravleen Singh

RCE Chubu, Japan
– Kinhide Mushakoji

RCE Greater Phnom Penh, Cambodia - Lalita Siriwattananon

RCE Srinagar, India
– Abdhesh Gangwar

- 4. Panel discussion (Chair Kazuhiko Takemoto)
- 5. Q & A

Light lunch will be served