



PRESS RELEASE



## **Bio rights: Innovative mechanism For Resource Mobilization.**

**Hyderabad, 16 Oct 2012-** TERRE Policy Centre and South Asian Forum for Environment (SAFE) released an evidence-based policy paper today on 'Bio-Rights'-an innovative mechanism that enhances biodiversity through improving the livelihood of the local community.

193 signatory countries to the Convention of Biodiversity, (CBD) after having miserably failed to meet 2010 target of significantly reducing the rate of biodiversity, are entering the final stage of the negotiations at COP11 here in Hyderabad. The countries are devising the strategies for implementation and mobilization of the resources to meet yet another set of biodiversity targets called ' Aichi Targets', that they agreed 2 years back in Nagoya, Japan. " Let us not forget what Albert Einstein said-we can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them", said Rajendra Shende, Chairman of TERRE Policy Centre and former UNEP Director. " We need promote novel social-business instruments for the sustainable development of the local communities", added Mr. Shende.

Dr. Dipayan Dey, a committed environmental economist, who in the innovative Bio rights project at East Kolkata Wetland Ramsar site, channeled the revenue from ecotourism into the fisheries activities across 3500 hectares of shallow water bodies and piloted the idea of bio-rights. Such allocation of revenue acted like a financial tool for risk spreading and risk coverage for the fishers as well.

“Bio rights is a neo-fiscal paradigm that tries to protect areas of global biological importance by compensating the poor people for not degrading the natural environment”, stated Dr. Dey while underlying the role of the government and the financial institutes.

*SAFE and TERRE will hold the side event on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2012 in the margins of COP 11 of CBD on “ Bio rights of Commons for Conservation of Biodiversity “.*

Full paper:

<http://www.terrepolicycentre.org/pdf/BIORIGHTS-Policy-Paper.pdf>

Notes:

**SAFE:** South Asian Forum for Environment is civil society organization working towards sustainable development and poverty alleviation in the Indian eco-region through community based interventions. Working on climate adaptive sustainable development in Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan, SAFE is also member of working group in Planning Commission of India.

**TERRE:** is a non-profit, non-partisan and independent organization dedicated to the sustainable solutions to the developmental imperatives. Energy and food security are the core issues that TERRE addresses through its activities. Partnering with organizations in Italy, Scotland, Middle East and India it Promotes evidence based policies.