



Press Release

**Enabling Bamboo Policy in India: From Ideas to Action**  
**(Workshop on Bamboo Policy for Officials and Stake Holders)**  
**(06 December - Hotel Grand, Cochin)**

India has 20% of World's bamboo resources and the North East India has 52% of India's bamboo resources which is to be proud of. Bamboo provides the necessities of life to common man besides it bestows upon us many environmental and ecological benefits. However, management of natural bamboo forests received less attention in the past which resulted in heavy exploitation and depletion of the stock and the sites. Voice from different organisations and stake holders have been raised from time to time to unleash bamboo from clutches of bureaucracy and heavy regulations. Government also has shown keen interest on this, keeping in mind the potential benefit rural, tribal and other communities, living in and around forest area can garner which will have significant impact on their life and livelihood.

In this regard Centre for Civil Society (CCS) in collaboration with South Asia Bamboo Foundation (SABF) and Kerala State Bamboo Mission (KSBM) with support from Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF) is organising a day long workshop on Saturday, 06 December in Cochin alongside the Kerala Bamboo Festival. The workshop would be attended by policy makers, officials and stake holders engaged in implementation of bamboo schemes including the provisions of Forest Rights Act 2006 and other schemes of Government of India where bamboo can play a predominant role. The workshop aims to enable participants on understanding core issues regarding bamboo market in India, method and ways to deal with identified challenges to unleash potential of bamboo as resource. The workshop will cover topics such as enabling bamboo enterprises, bamboo for social sector and livelihood development, Institutional mechanism, Experiences from other similar sector through thematic sessions.

The workshop will be inaugurated by Mr. C. P. John (Member, Kerala State Planning Board and Vice-Chairman, Kerala State Bamboo Mission) while Dr. B. S. Corrie (IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Kerala) would deliver special address to the participants. Delegates from all bamboo growing states in India would participate in the workshop. International delegates from Korea, Nepal and Belgium would also be sharing their experience in workshop.