

## The context

Traditional Knowledge is time tested; fuels science and technology. Yet, traditional knowledge based anthropogenic activities affect natural resources, ecosystems and environment variously. Local people harvest wild animals, fish and forest-minor-products often using traditional-practices that may have negative impacts. One such activity is centuries-old community-based fishing-festivals (“mound”) of Uttarakhand Himalayas that have social acceptance, diverse-motives and attract huge participation.

Large-scale fishing using powder prepared from locally available medicinal-shrub, *timru* (*Zanthoxylum armatum*) as anaesthetizer on the fishing festival day, during every June-July, the period which coincides with breeding periods of most aquatic organisms, damages aquatic ecosystem, biodiversity including fish, and endangers local livelihoods and food-security avenues.

Similarly, large-scale harvesting of caterpillar fungus (*Ophiocordyceps sinensis*) in upper Himalayas and killing of wild-animals during “parad festival” in Bastar, Chhattisgarh are examples of tradition-based rude destruction done by unaware and insensitive local custodians of resources, prevalent in India.

Local people and other stakeholders need consultation and sensitization on impacts of traditions, culture, conservation needs, recovery plans, means of regulation, monitoring, and sustainable practices based on research-evidence and local-capabilities of various stakeholders, fostering a plea for dissuasion of destructive-traditions.

## Sponsor

The United States India Educational Foundation (USIEF), New Delhi (USIEF, Fulbright Alumni Award) and INTACH, New Delhi.

## Organizer, venue and duration

ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation (ICAR-IISWC) at Dehradun during **14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> June 2019**.

The venue is 4 km from Dehra Dun Railway Station, 7 km from Inter State Bus Terminal (ISBT), D. Dun, 24 km from Jolygrant airport, D. Dun and 260 km from New Delhi.

## Who will participate?

All those who are associated with management of traditional knowledge, natural resources, agriculture, livestock, fisheries, aquatic ecosystems, rivers, aquatic biodiversity, forest resources, wildlife, environment, pollution control, and promotion of livelihood and food security will participate.

Particularly, primary- and secondary-stakeholders including informant

farmers-fishermen, field functionaries, environmentalists, government officials from Line-Departments, professors, academicians, scientists, students, scholars, local elected-representatives, civic activists, NGOs and press/media persons from whole India, especially from Uttarakhand.

## Registration

Limited to 100 participants.

**Registration and abstract/Full paper deadline:** 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019

**Event fee:** No fee levied.

## Travel, lodging and boarding

**No travel fare or TA/DA** will be paid. However, boarding and lodging at suitable guesthouse to outstation participants and working lunch and local hospitality for all the participants will be provided by the Organizer.

## How to apply?

The filled-in application form enclosed along with extended abstract or full paper or presentation and discussion points may be sent to Organizing Secretary, RTC 2019.

## Mailing address

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# National Seminar -Cum- Consultation Workshop On

## Revisiting Traditions and Culture (RTC 2019): Impacts on Environment, Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Natural Resources

**June 14-15, 2019  
At**

**ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil  
and Water Conservation  
(Indian Council of Agricultural  
Research)**

218-Kaulagarh Road, Dehra Dun-248 195  
(Uttarakhand, [www.cswcrtiweb.org](http://www.cswcrtiweb.org))



## About the Seminar-Cum-Consultation Workshop

### The program

The 2-days national-seminar-cum-consultation-workshop is unique that would bring diverse stakeholders together, revisit anthropological, particularly tradition- or culture-based activities pondering on “Hunting-Fishing-Traditions-Future Harvests” and evolve common consensus to dissuade destructive traditions, and promote scientific and rational principles of resource management towards sustaining livelihoods/food security avenues.

Theme-wise consultation and moderation to sensitize multi-level stakeholders by sharing information on critical myths, their impacts, and build local consensus for solutions based on focus group discussions, interactive arguments and consultative dialogues included.



### Themes

1. **Associations of traditions, culture and religions** with environment and Natural Resources in general.
2. **Impacts of traditions- and culture-based activities** on natural resources and environment, biodiversity etc.
3. **Impacts of community-based fishing festivals (mound)** on rivers, aquatic biodiversity, socio-culture and on *timru* (*Zanthoxylum armatum* (DC.)).
4. **Needed technological options, legal frameworks and policy guidelines** to contain impacts and promote rehabilitation.

### Objectives

To consolidate features and impacts of various tradition- or culture-based anthropogenic activities on environment and natural resources.

To sensitize local people, fishermen-farmers and other stakeholders on ill-effects of traditional fishing festivals (*mound*), such other unscientific fishing practices and river management issues.

To refresh, introduce and provide newer and established concepts, ITKs and technologies of fisheries, aquatic ecosystems and biodiversity conservation, fish farming, and watershed management to achieve improved understandings on natural resources, harvests, ecosystems and socio-cultural needs so as to break existing impasse between management interests.



### Outcome

Inter-disciplinary comprehension on traditions, culture, community-practices, watershed resources, riverine ecosystems, inter-dependence of natural or ecological

resources, watershed management needs, and overall knowledge-base and skills will be enhanced.

Various stakeholders may be sensitized on ill-effects of traditions like fishing festivals.

Positive changes in public's opinion, attitude, and behaviour with respect to conservation issues bringing ecological literacy among ethnic communities and, traditional farmers-fishermen, and feeling of ownership on natural resources will be instilled.

Compelling public engagements in managerial efforts will be called for participatory solutions and designs to help dissuade or reduce participation in destructive fishing festivals and such others.

The participants being a cross-section of people and diverse stakeholders including master-trainer professionals and field functionaries, the outcome will be magnified through snowball and cascade effects to whole Uttarakhand besides other Himalayan States and Countries.



**Registration Form for the National Seminar-Cum-Consutation Workshop on  
Revisiting Traditions and Culture:  
Impacts on Environment, Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Natural Resources  
(14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> June 2019)**

Full Name (in block letters).....

Academic qualification.....

Designation.....

Department/Organization.....

Area of experience.....

Address .....

.....

Email.....

Mobile no.....

Fax.....

Accommodation: Needed / not needed

Abstract/Paper/Story title:

Tick the Theme under which to be listed and discussed

1. **Association of traditions and culture** with environment, ecosystems, biodiversity, and natural resources in general.
2. **Impacts of traditions and culture** on environment, ecosystems, biodiversity, and natural resources.
3. **Traditions of fishing and fishing festivals** (*mound*) and their impacts.
4. **Technological options and legal and policy guidelines** to manage, promote or contain tradition based influences.

Specific note if any:

Date:

Place:

(Name or Signature of the participant)