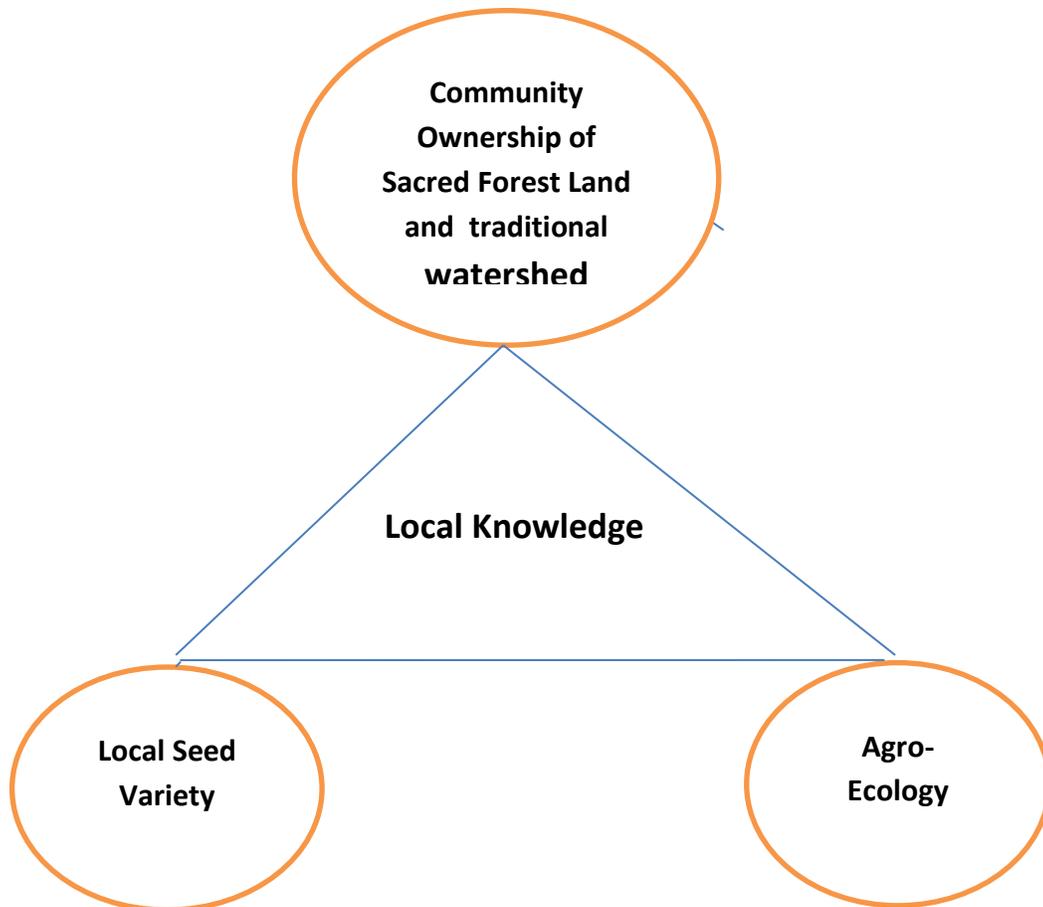


**Local Knowledge is a cross cutting Inter-dependent between
Community Ownership of Sacred Forest,
Local Seed Variety and Agroecology**

Community ownership of sacred forest land and traditional watershed is the crucial, fundamental, foundational cross-cutting principle in order to balance local knowledge and local seed varieties to sustain agroecology.



Only if communities living in the mountainous regions own the forest and land can you have agroecology. Community ownership of land and forest is the crucial base for developing community ecological livelihoods, and community based ecological livelihoods is the only nutrition for sustaining the biodiversity of the planet by returning to Nature what Nature has sacrificed for humanity for hundreds of years. This is the wisest strategy for ameliorating the effects of climate change and regenerating human society to become more humane.

What CENDI wants is to influence to different nations in Southeast Asia to make t community ownership of sacred forest legal. We want to work hand-in-hand with intellectual activists, scientist activists, media activists and key farmer activists in order to move forward the biodiversity right in SEA in order to take care of local seed varieties and kick out GM seeds and their chemical fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides which are killing the natural diversity and human health, and also killing the opportunities and principles for practicing the local diversities of knowledge and wisdom and custom that have preserved the natural diversity of the planet up to now.

To do this, we need, on the one hand, to strengthen the seed sovereignty strategy, and on the other hand, build a new program applying satellite technology to indicate diverse landscapes in areas where diverse indigenous people living with the diversity of their own ecological homes.

This is why we would like to bring satellite technology to apply in different regions we have been working in to show as evidence. Only by campaigning intellectually and by uniting altogether can we fight against GM seeds in ASEAN countries. In Vietnam the government aims to open up 37-50% of the most fertile rice land for GM corn. It is the government's dream that in coming years Vietnam will become the biggest exporter of over 20 different varieties of GM corn from Vietnam and Laos. It means a struggle between local seed varieties, local knowledge and agroecological cultivation on one side, and GM seeds and GM technology and GM cultivation on the other. At stake in this struggle is the health of the ecosystem and problem of human survival. We therefore need a very strong stick to break down the fence in order to rescue and secure the lives of 1 billion indigenous people in the planet.