

Proceedings of the second meeting of the Core Committee held on December 15, 2014 at Sunway GRT Grand Hotel, Puducherry, under the UNDP funded project “ Biodiversity Conservation with Special Reference to Aquatic, marine and Coastal Biodiversity”.

The meeting was chaired by Shri Vinod Kumar, Director, IGNFA. The List of participants who attended the meeting is annexed as Annexure A.

The meeting commenced with welcome note by Dr. S. Senthil Kumar, Associate Professor, IGNFA, who also brief on the background of the project, deliverables, achievements and agenda for the meeting. He also informed the Committee that some of the Members could not participate in the meeting due to their preoccupation and to elicit views of various coastal states/ UT's on the project, IFS officers from Andhra Pradesh, Goa and Puducherry on request are attending as a Special Invitee for the meeting.

Following that, the Committee took stock of progress made in the project and on deliberations expressed its satisfaction on achievements as tabulated below:

S.No.	Deliverables	Status
1.	Formation of Core Committee	Core Committee formed
2.	Submission of draft work plan	Draft Plan submitted
3.	Identify the resource persons and organize a workshop of the ‘Core Group’	Meeting held on 14.03.2014 with the identified resource persons (proceedings enclosed)
4.	Procure Resource Material	Resource material collected
5.	Development and Compilation of resource material	Reference material for the topics has been compiled for all the modules finalized in the first core Committee proceedings
6.	Conduct a three day Course	Organized in Pondicherry from 15th - 17th December,2014
7.	Hiring of support staff	One Research Associate is engaged in this project.
8.	Capacity building of IGNFA faculty	Potential sites for exposure visits have been identified and correspondence is in progress with host institution/organizers. UNDP has been requested to extend the project up to June 2015 in order to complete this component.

In continuation to that, the agenda were was placed before the Committee was discussed and following decisions were taken.

1. Finalization of resource materials and way forward

The Committee went through the resource materials gathered under the project chapter wise and made following suggestions.

1. With reference to **Module no 1, “Marine and aquatic resources”**, the Committee felt that India specific inputs from various sources may be added to enrich the module. In this regard, it suggested to incorporate relevant portions from studies conducted on Chilika under the chapter 1.1 - Understanding the Oceans, Tides of India in the chapter **1.2 - The role of tidal cycles in marine ecosystems**, Information from manuals like Estuaries of India published by the Annamalai University marine biology division and Predictability model by ICZM Odisha, Gujarat and other coastal states in the chapter **1.3 - Definitions and description of coastal and marine ecosystems, mangroves, sea grass, sea weeds and coral reefs**; and coastal related inputs available on ENVIS under the chapter **1.4 - Coastal and Marine biodiversity**. It was also suggested to use photographs and contents from ZSI and WII. Dr. Shiva Kumar, WII and Dr. Venkataraman, ZSI agreed to share the relevant information on these counts as well as the photographs.
2. With reference to **Module no 2, “Ecosystem Approaches”**, Dr. Shiva Kumar, WII and Dr. Venkataraman, ZSI agreed to update the resource materials under chapter **2.3 - Balancing needs of different economic and non-economic activities**. Dr. Shiva Kumar, WII also agreed to rewrite the chapter **2.4- Migration of marine fauna** incorporating sea turtle studies conducted in India. The Committee also suggested to include Chilika Case study as an example under chapter **2.3 - Balancing needs of different economic and non-economic activities**.
3. With reference to **Module no 3, “Planning and Management”**, Dr. Shiva Kumar, WII suggested to incorporate materials from “Strategic Environment Assessment” by Sh. Rao , under the chapter **3.5 - Environment Impact Assessment**. Similarly, the Committee suggested to enrich the chapter **3.7 - Integrated coastal zone management**, by incorporating information from Dr.B.R.Subramanuim book on *Integrated Coastal Zone management*.
4. With reference to **Module no 4, “Livelihoods”**, the Committee suggested to enrich the chapter **4.2 Mainstreaming biodiversity into production processes**, by incorporating case studies from Coringa Wildlife sanctuary (Andhra Pradesh) and Malvan region initiatives (Maharashtra).

With these suggestions, the Committee approved the resource materials. Committee further suggested for arranging these materials in the form of lecture module through a professional editor / agency to enhance logical flow and to simplify the concepts so that same could be used by probationers with varied academic background.

It was agreed to request UNDP to provide financial assistance for improvement of resource materials through professional editing agency and to extend the period of engagement of academic associate engaged in the project for smooth coordination.

The Committee also suggested IGNFA to pilot test the material with 2014 batch IFS officers and fine tune the module based on the feedback. The Committee suggested that along with pilot testing, field visit to well managed coastal areas should be arranged for the probationers to appreciate management related issues and practical orientation.

2. Identification of success stories

The Committee suggested incorporating case studies pertaining to Whale Shark Conservation efforts in Gujarat, Malvan Coast Initiatives in Maharashtra, sea weed cultivation studies from Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park, coastal land based ecotourism initiatives in Andaman Islands, and management of man-animal conflict in seascapes in addition to the case studies already identified by the IGNFA in the resource materials.

3. Identification of sites for exposure visits

The Committee discussed in detail about the sites suitable for exposure visit of in-service officers and probationers and suggested following locations.

1. Kurusadai Island of Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park – for coral reef restoration studies
2. Bhitarkanika Sanctuary – for turtle nesting studies
3. Andaman and Nicobar island – for studying Marine Protected Area management and Monitoring studies on coral reefs, Ecotourism initiatives and Island biodiversity
4. Nalaban Bird Sanctuary, Chilika Odisha – for Coastal wetland and Protected Area management studies
5. Sunderbans – for livelihood studies and Protected Area management
6. Marine National Park, Jam Nagar, Gujarat - for studying Marine Protected Area management
7. Point Calimer Wildlife Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu - for Coastal birds conservation studies
8. Pittchavaram Mangroves Forests, Tamil Nadu - Ecotourism and livelihood studies
9. Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary, AP – Mangrove conservation works

For In-service Officers, the Committee suggested UNDP to arrange exposure visit to Philippines considering significant strides made by them in the coastal sector.

Similarly, Scotland (Community partnership based management), and Great Barrier Reef (Marine Protected area Management) were also suggested for visit of faculty members and probationers.

4. Identification of resource persons

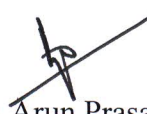
After detailed discussion, the Committee identified following resource persons on various thematic areas.

S.NO.	RESOURCE PERSON	TOPIC
1.	Dr. S. Shivakumar, WII	Management and Planning
2.	Dr. Krishnan, NCSCM Dr Ramesh, NCSCM, Dr Senthil Kumar	ICRZ ICRZ
3.	Dr. Y.S.Yadava, BOBP, Dr. Naganathan, IFS, Tamil Nadu Dr. S.Senthil Kumar, IFS, IGNFA	Livelihood issues in marine ecosystems
4.	Dr. C.N.Pandey, IFS, Gujrat Dr. Vasudevan, IFS, Maharastra Dr. Kathiresan, Annamalai University	Mangroves management
5.	Sh. Ajai Saxena IFS, AGMUT Sh. Amit Asthana, IFS, Tamil Nadu Dr. S.Senthil Kumar, IFS IGNFA Sh. Rama Subramaniam, IFS Tamil Nadu	Management of marine protected areas
6.	Dr. Alok Saxena, IFS, IGNFA	Island biodiversity
7.	Dr. Ritesh, Wetland International Sh. G.Rajesh, IFS, Odisha, Chilika Development Authority	Wetland and Coastal Management
8.	Dr. K. Venkataraman, ZSI Dr.Raghunathan, ZSI	Marine Biodiversity

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by Dr S. Senthil Kumar, Associate Professor IGNFA.

Annexure-A
List of participants

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4.	Sh. Lima Toshi	CCF(Biodiversity Conservation), O/o PCCF AND Chief Wildlife Warden, Pangal Malagi, Chennai. Tamil Nadu	toshi6261@gmail.com	+91- 94430776011
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 (K C A Arun Prasad)
 Member Secretary