

Proceedings of First meeting of Core Committee, UNDP Project on Capacity Building of Indian Forest Service Officers on **'Biodiversity Conservation with Special Reference to Aquatic, Marine and Coastal Biodiversity'** on March 14, 2014 at New Delhi.

The first meeting of the Core Committee of UNDP Project on capacity building of Indian Forest Service (IFS) Officers on 'Biodiversity conservation with special reference to aquatic, marine and coastal biodiversity' was held on 14th March, 2014 at Hotel Janpath, New Delhi. List of participants who attended the meeting is annexed as Annexure-A. The meeting started with a welcome note by Ms. Anu Nagar, Associate Professor. The Chairman, Dr. Alok Saxena, Additional Director briefed about the objectives of the project and also outlined the agenda for the meeting and the expected outcomes. It was explained by him that it was essential to initiate capacity building efforts for IFS officers working in coastal States/Union Territories as they are involved in the conservation and management of coastal ecological resources like mangroves, coral reefs etc. It is envisaged in the project that there would be a 3-day module on coastal and marine biodiversity for all IFS probationers and a one or two week programme for in-service IFS officers. Following recommendations were made by the participants:

- a) It was suggested that the module should be conducted for 4 days instead of (3) three. However, considering the increasing number of forestry related subjects being covered by IGNFA and reduced period of professional training of IFS probationers at Academy, it will be difficult to spare more time for this subject. Moreover, some aspects of this subject are covered in the syllabus of other related subjects like Environment Conservation, Wildlife Management etc Therefore it was decided to begin with a 3-day module for the probationers and if it is found insufficient, the period may be increased to 4-day subsequently.
- b) Dr Y. S. Yadav suggested that the entire syllabus could be grouped in the following sub modules:
 - o Marine and Coastal Aquatic Resources
 - o Ecosystem Approaches
 - o Planning and Management

- Livelihood Issues
- Institutional Aspects

This was agreed by the members

- c) Draft of course curriculum as proposed by Dr. C.N.Pandey and Dr. K.Shivakumar was discussed and after deliberations the course curriculum as given in Annexure-B, was recommended. It was suggested that IGNFA could edit the syllabus based on the five discussed sub modules and circulate to participants for their comments.
- d) It was also proposed that an interpretation and marine center should be made with a collaborative effort with the other organizations like WII.
- e) It was recommended that relevant case studies be compiled and should be part of the corresponding theme of the curriculum.
- f) For the preparation of study material the following format was agreed upon:
- i. Basic Text
 - ii. Interesting Facts on the relative topics
 - iii. Case studies
 - iv. Food for thought in form of Questions
 - v. Future approaches
 - vi. Further readings
- g) For the development of study material. It was decided that the following resources persons would be responsible for topics allocated to them:

S.No.	Topic	Resource Person
1.	Management and Planning	Dr. S. Shivakumar
2.	Livelihood and ecosystems	Dr. Y.S.Yadava
3.	Mangroves management	Dr. C.N.Pandey, Dr. Vasudevan
4.	Case studies on Gulf of Mannar	Shri. Amit Asthana
5.	International Laws and Institutional aspect	Dr. Alok Saxena
6.	Wetland and Coastal Management	Dr. Ritesh
7.	Marine Biodiversity and Ocean science	Dr. K. Venkataraman
8.	Editorial Team	Dr. Alok Saxena, Ms. Lianchawii, Dr. CN Pande

