

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL FOREST ACADEMY
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun-248006

Minutes of Second Meeting of "Apex Academic Committee on REDD-plus in relation to global warming and climate change"

The meeting was held on 29th August 2013 in meeting room of IGNFA, Dehradun under chairmanship of Dr. Jagdish Kishwan, Chief Adviser Policy and Program Implementation, Wildlife Trust of India. Following officers also attended the meeting:

1. Mr. R.K. Goel, Director, IGNFA, and Director WII
2. Dr. Alok Saxena, Additional Director, IGNFA
3. Dr. G.S. Goraya, DDG (Research), ICFRE
4. Dr. J.V. Sharma, Senior Fellow, TERI
5. Dr. Ruchi Badola (Scientist G), Eco-development Planning & Participatory Management, WII
6. Dr. Mohit Gera, Additional Professor, IGNFA
7. Dr. Hiten Padalia, Scientist D, IIRS, Dehradun
8. Dr. Kirti Joshi, Scientist, UCOST, Dehradun

2. The meeting began with a warm welcome to the Committee members by Dr. Alok Saxena, which was followed by opening remarks of Mr. R.K. Goel, who appreciated the tasks accomplished by the Core Committee on printing of two-page brochure on REDD-plus, writing of the comprehensive note on REDD-plus highlighting its evaluation and development; issues and challenges of implementing REDD-plus; and India's stand on REDD-plus. He also informed the Committee on other achievements of the Core Committee on development of a module and reading material for capacity building of IFS (P).

3. Dr. Jagdish Kishwan updated, the Committee on progress made towards implementation of REDD-plus at global level including present status of UNFCCC negotiations on the subject. He highlighted the achievements made during the 38th Meeting of SBSTA on Methodological and Technological procedures held in Bonn, Germany in June 2013. He also highlighted almost the negligible progress made on achieving ways and means for financing REDD-plus, and also the decisions on National Forest Monitoring System, frequency of submission of information on safeguards, drivers of RED and forest degradation, MRV and Non Carbon Benefits.

4. Dr. Mohit Gera, apprised the Committee on the progress made by the Core Committee on decisions of First Apex Committee Meeting on printing of Introductory note on REDD-plus, drafting of the comprehensive note on REDD-plus synthesizing the existing information available on REDD-plus, modules and

reading material to be utilized for capacity building of IFS (P), in-service IFS officers and officers belonging to other services.

5. After formally releasing the two-page brochure on REDD-plus and due deliberations, the committee decided the following:

- i) The Comprehensive note will be examined by Dr. J.V. Sharma and Dr. Ruchi Badola, members of the Apex Committee who will send their comments to the Core Committee by 10 September 2013 to enable preparation of the final draft by the Core Committee, who will submit the same to the Apex Committee by 15th October 2013.
- ii) The 3-day module for capacity building of IFS (P) was approved with minor amendments on inclusion of a comprehensive introduction of importance of all forest ecosystem services, importance of communities and sustainable harvests from forest ecosystem. The other modules, i.e., two day module on **REDD-plus** and five day module on **"Forests and Climate Change with special reference to REDD-plus"** for in-service IFS officers and two day module on **"Climate Change with special reference to ecological functions"** for officers belonging to other services will be developed by Dr. Mohit Gera and his team by 2nd September 2013 and shared with Core Committee members for comments and suggestions, and same would be submitted by the members by 10th September 2013. The Core Committee will incorporate the comments as appropriate, and submit the final draft to Apex Committee for approval by 15th October 2013.
- iii) The reading materials for the modules will be developed by the Core Committee after finalization of different modules.
- iv) IGNFA may get associated with a Pilot project with ICFRE in Uttarakhand or some future Project(s) of TERI, or USAID project coordinated by IG (EAP) in MoEF. Also, IGNFA may utilize Working Plan exercise as Pilot study for two aspects of REDD-plus, viz., measurement of forest degradation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks, preferably incorporating all the five carbon pools for accounting.
- v) The Committee also approved Uttarakhand Council of Science and Technology as an institution, and Mr. Amit Garg Prof., IIM Ahmedabad to be members of the Apex Academic Committee on REDD-plus. On Dr. Ravindranath's (IISc.) request for withdrawal of his name from Apex Academic Committee, the Committee placed on record the need of his expertise and guidance. Dr. Mohit Gera was advised to fix the Third Meeting after 15th October 2013 in consultation with Dr. Ravindranath and Dr. Subodh Sharma (MoEF).

- vi) The Committee further decided to work in future on the two key agenda items, i.e., construction of National Forest Reference Level (NFRL) and Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) related to REDD-plus implementation.

6. Meeting ended with thanks to the chair.

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Dr. Mohit Gera
Member Secretary, REDD-plus Cell

No. 1203/NFA-2013

Date: 02/09/2013

Copy for information forwarded to:

1. Dr. Jagdish Kishwan, Chief Adviser Policy and Program Implementation, Wildlife Trust of India.
2. Director, WII, Dehradun.
3. Sh. A.K. Wahal, DG, FSI, Dehradun.
4. Dr. R.B.S. Rawat, PCCF & HoFF Uttarakhand Forest Department, Dehradun.
5. DDG (Research), ICFRE, Dehradun.
6. Director, IIRS, Dehradun.
7. Director General, Uttarakhand State Council for Science & Technology, Dehradun.
8. Dr. Ravindranath, Professor, CEE, IISC, Bangalore.
9. Dr. Subodh Sharma, Advisor Climate Change MoEF, New Delhi.
10. Dr. J.V. Sharma, Sr. Fellow TERI, New Delhi.
11. Mr. Subhash Chandra, DIG (FP), MoEF, New Delhi.
12. PA to Director, IGNFA for information of Director.
13. PA to Additional Director, IGNFA for information of Addl. Director.


02/9/2013
Dr. Mohit Gera

Member Secretary, REDD-plus Cell