



**Webinar
on
NCCF Forest Management Certification Scheme and
Accreditation Requirements for the Certification Bodies**

**Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests
and
National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies**

15 May 2020

#TogetherWeCan fight COVID-19
At NCCF, We Care:
Stay Home; Stay Safe; Stay Healthy

We all are deeply concerned and impacted by the COVID 19 outbreak worldwide and stand together with the international community in fight against this pandemic.

We reaffirm our gratitude to the frontline healthcare professionals, sanitation workers, policemen, people from administration, emergency service providers, delivery staff and all key workers the world over, who are risking their lives to maintain the essential services and fighting against the COVID-19.

To all our valued partners and stakeholders, we would like to wish good health and full safety.

Presentation Outline

- About Forests and Forest Certification
- About NCCF
- NCCF FM Certification Standard
- Business Prospects for Certification Bodies
- Competencies involved for personnel in Certification
- Certification Process

How precious are Forests ?



Home to Wildlife



Home to Tribals and Forest dwellers



Combat to Climate Change



Important CO₂ sinks



Supply timber to wood based industries

World's Forests : Overview

- World's Forests cover 31% of earth's surface area (~4.06 billion hectares) (GFRA, FAO 2020)



	Country	Forest Area (Million ha)	%of World's Forest
1	Russian Federation	815	20%
2	Brazil	497	12%
3	Canada	347	9%
4	United States of America	310	8%
5	China	220	5%
6	Rest of the World	1870	46%
	Total	4059	

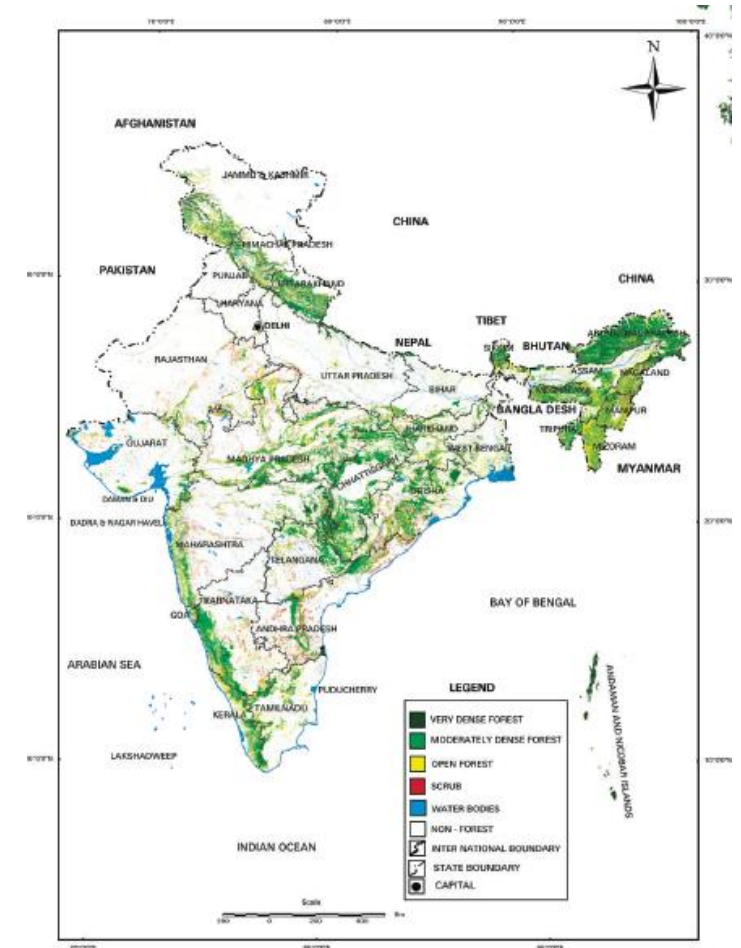
World's Forests : Overview

Some key findings

- The world's forest area has shrunk since 1990 by 178 million hectares, roughly the size of Libya.
- During the last decade Forest area has increased in Asia, Oceania and Europe, while the highest rate of net forest losses were recorded in Africa, followed by South America.
- Primary forests account for some 1.11 billion hectares.
- About 30 percent of all forests is used primarily for production of wood and non-wood forest products.
- The share of forests designated primarily for soil and water protection is increasing.
- Most forest areas - 93 percent of the total - consist of naturally regenerating forests, while the remainder is planted.
- Total forest carbon stock is decreasing with declining forest area although the carbon stock density has slightly increased within the last three decades.

India's Forests

- Globally, India stands at 10th position accounting for **2% of Total Forest Cover of the world**
- As per India State of Forest Report 2019:
 - Forest Cover = 71.22 mha (21.67%)
 - Tree Cover = 9.50 mha (2.89%)
 - Forest & Tree Cover = 80.72 mha (24.56% of GA)
- Out of 6.5 Lakh villages of the country, around **1.73 lakh villages located in and around forests**
- Total carbon stock in forests is estimated to be 7082 million tonnes.
- Protected Areas (PA) Network:
 - **868 PAs spreads over 16.5 mha (5.02 % of GA)**
 - 104 National Parks
 - 550 Wildlife Sanctuaries
 - 87 Conservation Reserves
 - 127 Community Reserves



Key Objectives of Sustainable Forest Management

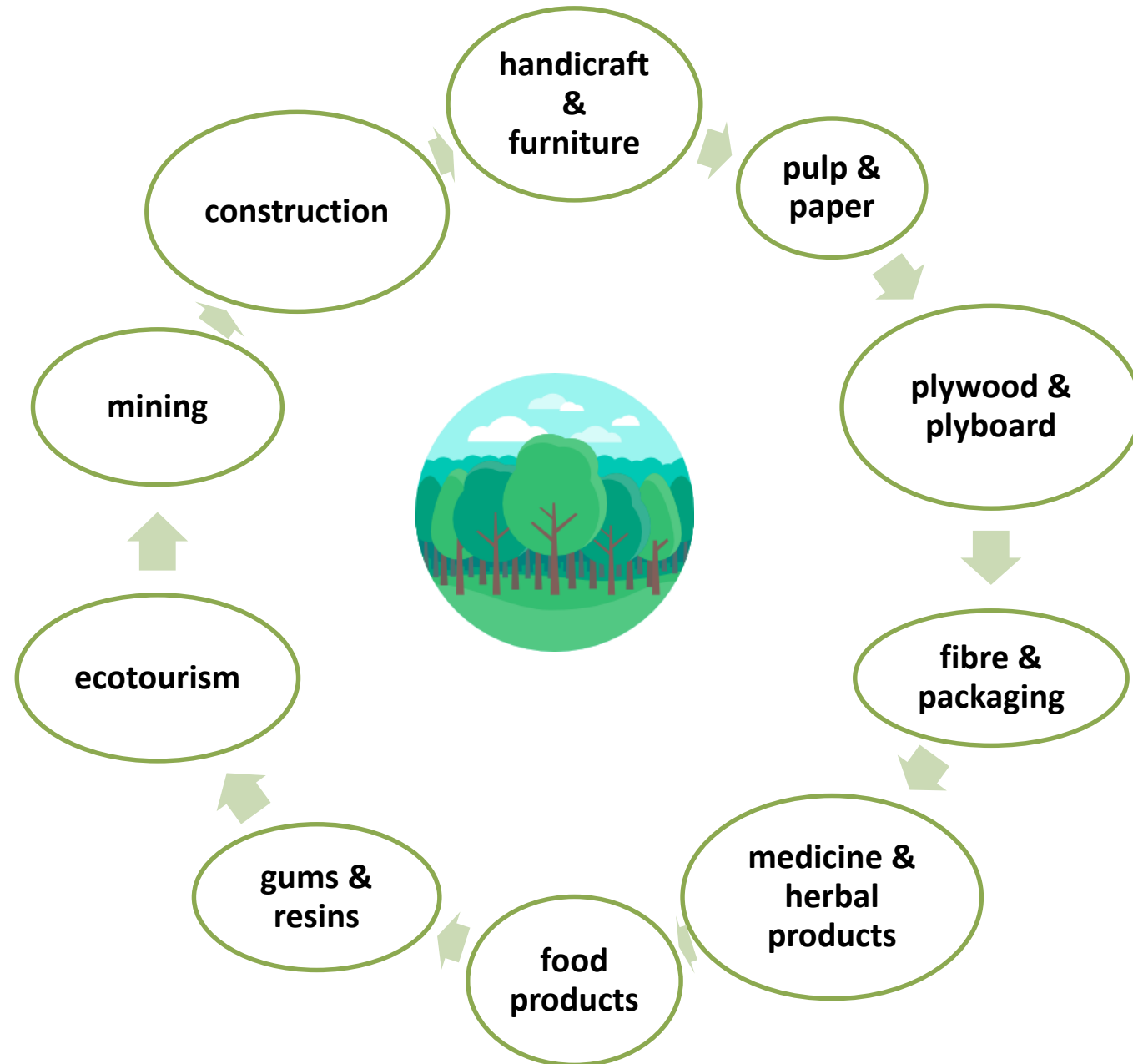
Forests are to be managed essentially for:

- Forest Hydrology: Soil and Moisture Conservation
- Carbon Sequestration
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Providing Livelihoods

Timber and other forest produce are by-products of forest management



“We have to grow more wood and use more wood”

Industrial Dependence on Forestry Sector



Forests and GDP

Forests in GDP:

2.6% in 1950s  1.7% in 2010 

Let us aim to double the GDP contribution of forests to 3.4% by 2025??

Reasons for low contribution:

- ✓ Higher growth of economy in other sectors
- ✓ Less productivity of forests
- ✓ Under valuation of forest products & ecosystem services
- ✓ Reduction in import tariffs to let imports satisfy growing Indian demand for wood products

How to increase contribution:

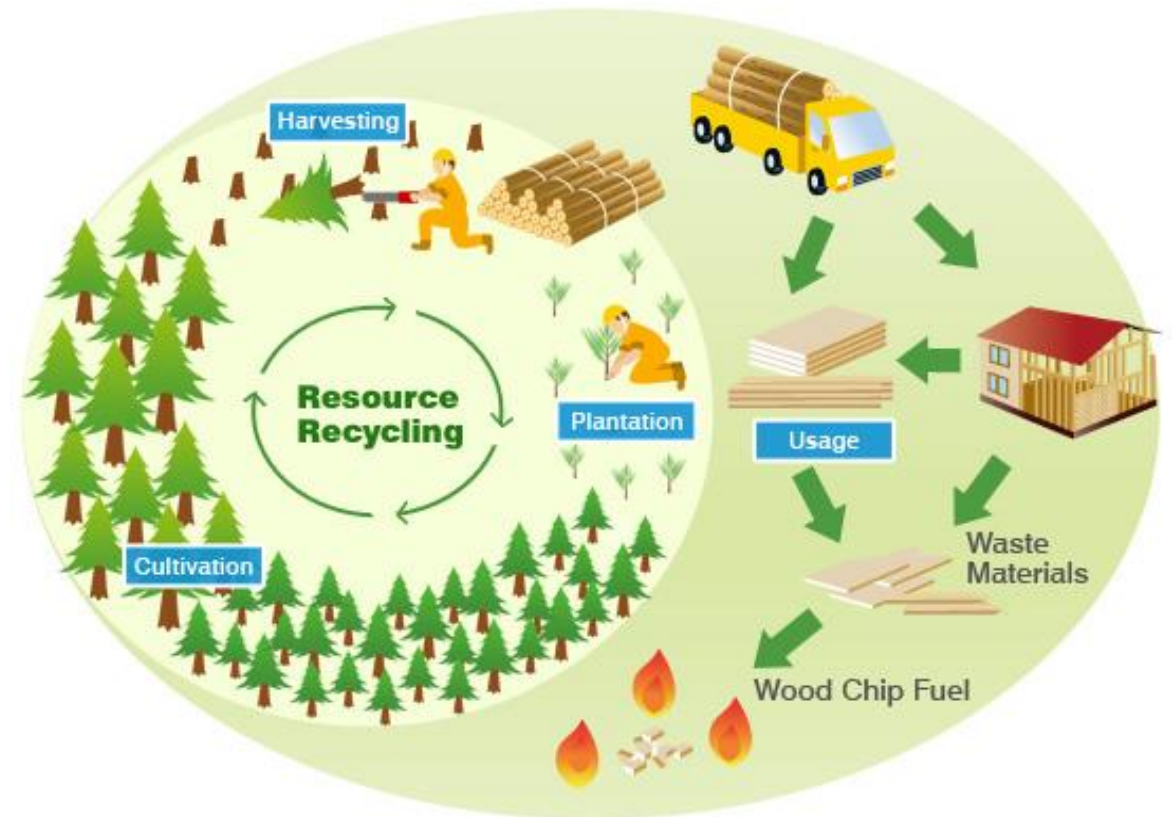
- ✓ Using Forest Certification as a management and improvement tool
- ✓ Increasing productivity of forests
- ✓ Valuation of forest products & ecosystem services
- ✓ Promoting domestic Indian wood market
- ✓ Checking import tariffs

Sustainable Forest Management

- Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) is the management of forests on the principles of Sustainable Development, i.e. balancing environmental, economic and social aspects

Elements of SFM (as per Non-legally binding Instruments of FAO)

1. Extent of forest resources
2. Biological Diversity
3. Forest health and vitality
4. Productive functions of forest resources
5. Protective functions of forest resources
6. Socio-economic functions of forest resources
7. Legal, institutional and policy framework



“National Working Plan Code 2014” promotes sustainable management of forests and biodiversity in India

SFM and India's International Commitments

- **Sustainable Development Goals** are major drivers in efforts to halt deforestation and forest degradation worldwide. Strengthen the positive contributions that forests play in achieving SDGs, particularly no poverty, zero hunger, climate action, life on land and combating desertification
- **Article 5 of Paris Agreement** recognizes REDD+ as a fundamental element, for tackling climate change as well as to conserve and enhance Biological Carbon Reservoir of forests and other ecosystems.
- **Nationally Determined Contribution:** additional 2.5 - 3 billion tons of CO₂eq. by 2030 through additional forest and tree cover
- **Bonn Challenge:** restoring 26 mha of degraded and deforested land by 2030



**SFM
contributing
to SDG
Goals**

 **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**



SDG Goal 15 : Life on Land

“Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss”



SDG 15.2 (SFM) Target:

“By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally”

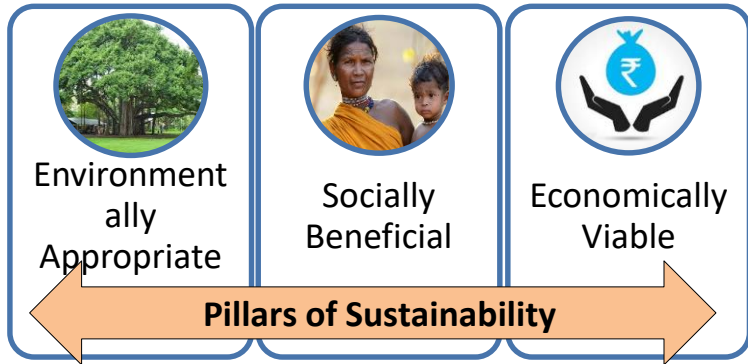
Indicator 15.2.1:

Progress towards sustainable forest management

Concept:

“Forest area certified under an independently verified certification scheme”

Certification: Emerging Tool for Sustainable Forest Management



Forest Certification: “A voluntary process whereby an independent third party (“certifier”) assesses **quality of forest management** and production against a set of requirements (“standards”) predetermined by a public or private certification organization”. **(FAO)**

Types of Forest Certification

Forest Management Unit (FMU) certification:

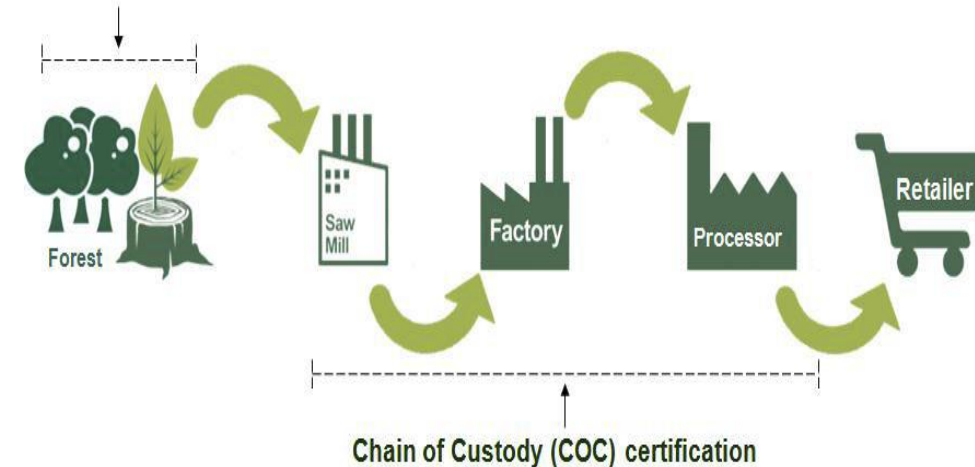
Process leading to issuance of Certificate by an independent party, which assesses forest/ plantation against defined standards Forest – Owners and Managers

Chain of Custody certification (CoC)

Process of tracking wood products from certified forest to point of sale to ensure certified origin of product

Forest – Primary & Secondary Manufacturers- Traders- Retailers

Forest Management (FM) certification



Chain of Custody Certifications

CoC certificates of wood and wood based industries (manufactures and traders)

- Furniture and handicrafts
- MDF, particle board, plywood and veneer sheets
- Paper and Paper products (Graphic paper, etc.)
- Pulp, Pulp dissolving
- Packaging material
- Printed material (Books, calendars, catalogues, posters, labels, wrappers, etc.)
- Boxes, cardboard, cartons and crates
- Wooden pallets, , wood planks and sawn wood
- Toys and games made with paper
- Textiles, bobbins, spools, rolls

International Policy Shift towards Certification

- Globally, more than 32 million acres/year natural forests unsustainably logged
- Both producer and consumer countries can help ensure SFM

Two aspects of responsible trade management:

1. Demand Side:

- EU-FLEGT (Forest Law Enforcement in Governance and Trade), 2005
- Lacey Act, 2008, USA
- Illegal Logging Prohibition Act, 2011 (Australia)

2. Supply Side:

Forest Certification: a tool to guide foresters to improve their forest management practices, verified by independent auditors - connects foresters with consumers, and the processing industries in between.

Global Forest Certification Schemes

International schemes:

- Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)
- Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)
- Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)

Regional & Country specific Forest certification Schemes:

- American Tree Farm System (ATFS)
- Canadian Standards Association (CSA)
- Malaysian timber Certification Council (MTCC)
- China National Forest Certification Scheme (CNFCS)
- Sustainable Green Ecosystem Council (SGEC), Japan
- ***Indian Forest Certification Scheme: Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests (NCCF); PEFC Endorsed Scheme***



Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification

Global, not-for-profit for certification

Voluntary mechanism

Alliance of national forest certification systems

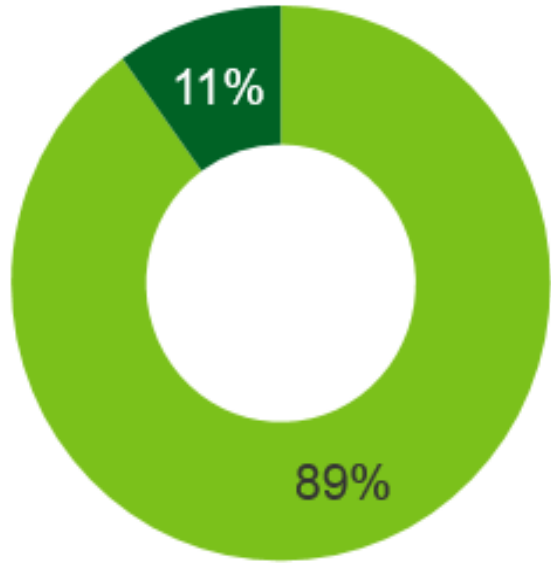


PEFC recognised National Schemes

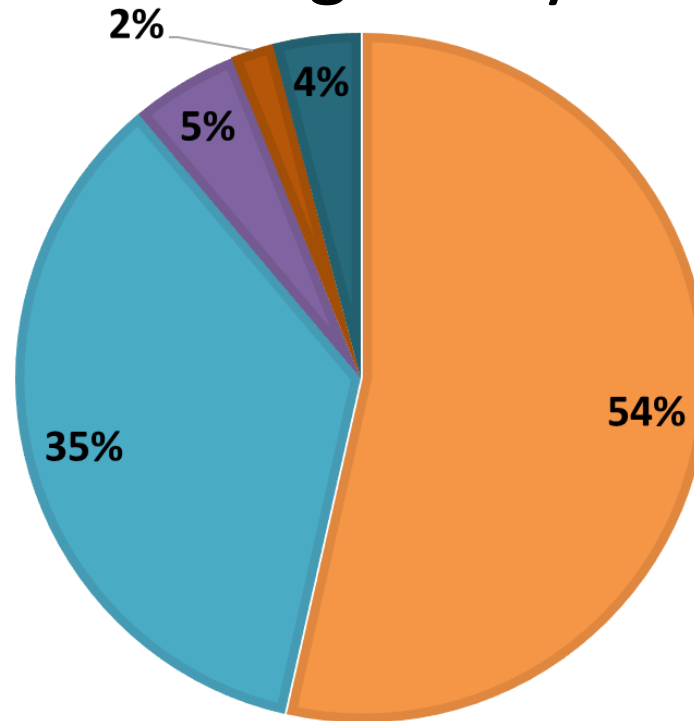
and many more.....

Global certified forest area

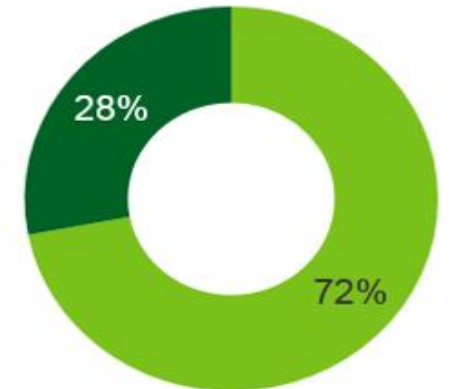
525 million hectares of forests globally certified



11% of the world's forests are certified



North America Europe Asia Central and South America Oceania



28% of the world's industrial roundwood supply is certified

However, **89%** of the world's forests are still at **uncertified**

Data as of September 2019

Benefits of Certification

Standard Development and Certification is an emerging global movement that supports:

- sustainable development
- economic growth
- trade
- livelihoods
- value chains
- consumer protection

While enhancing;

- competitiveness
- fostering technological development
- meeting the requirements of health, safety, and environmental conservation.

Benefits of Forest Certification

Environmental	Social	Management & Economic
No use of banned Chemical Pesticides	Emphasis on occupational health and safety	Third Party, Market Driven
No negative impact on environment	Ensures social equity and livelihood opportunities to locals	Regular staff training
Management of High Conservation Values (HCVs)	Ensures legal labour wages and facilities	Regular (Annual) monitoring of management activities
Safe collection and disposal of toxic waste	Supports development of forest dwellers and communities	Ensures legality and economic viability
Controlling off-site regeneration of exotic species	Capacity building for women	control of illegal harvesting and wildlife crime
Preserves water catchment and water bodies	Respect for rights of tribals, local communities and forest workers	Potential access to new markets
Protection of hill sides and slopes from erosion	Compliance with ratified ILO Conventions	Brand recognition, preference and value addition due to use of certification logo

Forest Certification Initiatives in India

- MoEF constituted a Committee under chairmanship of Dr Maharaj Muthoo, an international expert on certification
- The Committee in its report recommended various measures to promote forest certification in India.
- An important recommendation was to have an internationally benchmarked and India specific certification scheme.
- NCCF, a non-profit organisation, registered as a society has developed the Indian scheme of Forest Certification

Status of Forest Certification

Globally over 525 million ha (11%) of forest area certified* and 52,143 CoC certificates *

India*:

- **1.02 million** ha certified
- **12 FM** certificates issued till date
 - ✓ State Forest Corporations
 - ✓ Farm forestry initiatives
 - ✓ Rubber plantations
 - ✓ Bamboo Plantations
- **665 Chain of Custody** certificates
 - ✓ Pulp & Paper Industries
 - ✓ Wood and wood based industries (plywood, furniture, MDF, handicraft, etc.)
 - ✓ Printings and Packaging's
 - ✓ Saw Mills

*Area certified under both FSC and PEFC Certification schemes

Certified Areas in India

Organisation	State	Area (ha.)	Type
Uttar Pradesh Forest Corporation (UPFC)	Uttar Pradesh	4,50,000	Government owned forests comprising 41 territorial and social forestry divisions
M.P. Rajya Van Vikas Nigam	Madhya Pradesh	1,02,785	Government owned plantation forest in 02 forest divisions
Tripura Forest development and Plantation Corporation	Tripura	7027	Government owned Rubber Plantations in 03 forest divisions
ITC PSPD	Telangana	37089	Privately owned Group/SLIMF certification
International Papers APPM	Andhra Pradesh	33636	Privately owned Group/SLIMF certification
JK Paper Mills	Odisha	4217	Privately owned Group/SLIMF certification
SARA (West Coast Paper Mills)	Karnataka	6862	Privately owned Group/SLIMF certification
New Ambadi Estate Pvt Ltd	Tamil Nadu	688	Privately owned Rubber Plantation
Tamil Nadu Paper Limited	Tamil Nadu	3131.28	Privately owned Group/SLIMF certification
Bhamaragarh Forest Division, Maharashtra	Maharashtra	3,67,732	Government owned Natural Forest
Kasu Brahmananda Reddy National Park, Hyderabad	Telangana	143	Government owned Protected Area
Patneswari Agri. Co-Operative Ltd. (PACL) (BILT Sewa Unit)	Odisha	2304	Privately owned Group/SLIMF certification
New Ambadi Estate	Tamil Nadu	688	Privately owned Rubber Plantation
Loke Vaniki Kisan Samiti	Madhya Pradesh	175	Privately owned Group/SLIMF certification
Total area certified		1,022,824	(Validity of red once above expired)
Area with valid certificates		650,958	

NCCF: not-for-profit organization established in 2015



- NCCF is the only Member of PEFC Council for India
- NCCF is a Member of IUCN
- NCCF has got Observer status of UNCCD after CoP14

Journey of NCCF: Certification in India

2015

- NCCF came into existence as a non-profit society

2015-18

- NCCF Forest Management Certification Standard development by a multi-stakeholder Group

2018

- NCCF FM Standard launched in presence of Secretary, MoEF&CC and Director General of Forest
- NCCF Sensitisation Workshops pan India with State Forest Departments

2019

- NCCF FM Certification Scheme received **PEFC endorsement** giving it international recognition
- NCCF Sensitisation Workshops pan India with State Forest Departments
- DGF's DO letter to States to take up Forest Certification

2020

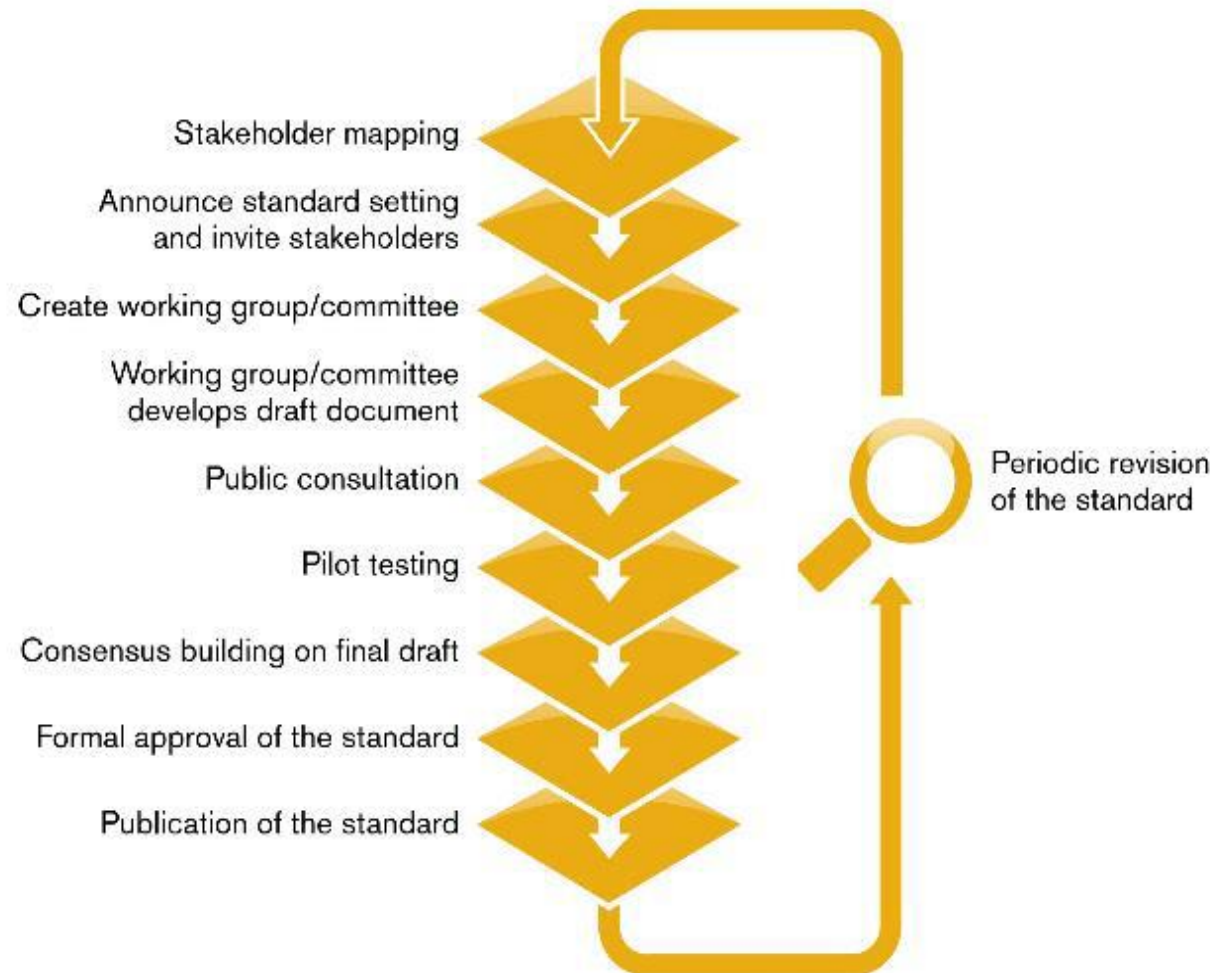
- Tenders and certifications using NCCF FM Certification Scheme
- UPFC becomes first organisation with 41 divisions covering 4.5 lakh ha.

Standard Setting Process/Procedure

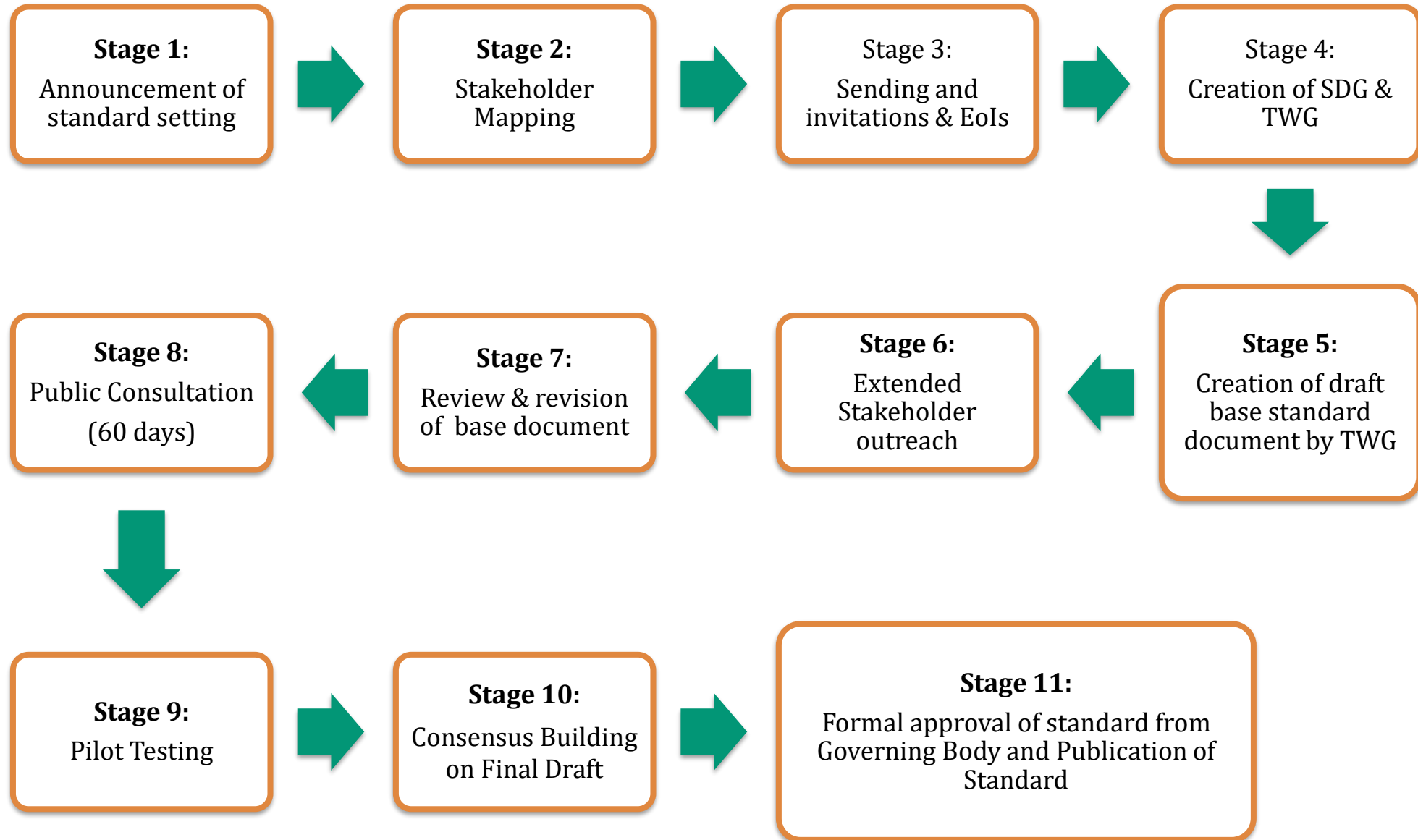
Standard development takes place using an open, transparent, consultative and consensus-based process that includes a broad range of national stakeholders.

It is based on a standard setting document developed by the Standardizing Body following the international Benchmark Standards.

The steps involved are:



Standard Development Process of NCCF



NCCF's Sustainability Standards Development

Forest Management Certification Standard (*launched and endorsed by PEFC*)

Trees Outside Forest Certification Standard (*ready for launch*)

Non Wood Forest Produce Certification Standard (*In Progress*)

Protected Areas and Wetlands Certification Standard (*In Progress*)

Quality Planting Material Certification Standard (*In Progress*)

Ecotourism Certification Standard (*In Progress*)

Biofuel and Biomass Certification Standard (*In Progress*)

Development of Carbon Registry-India (*In Progress*)

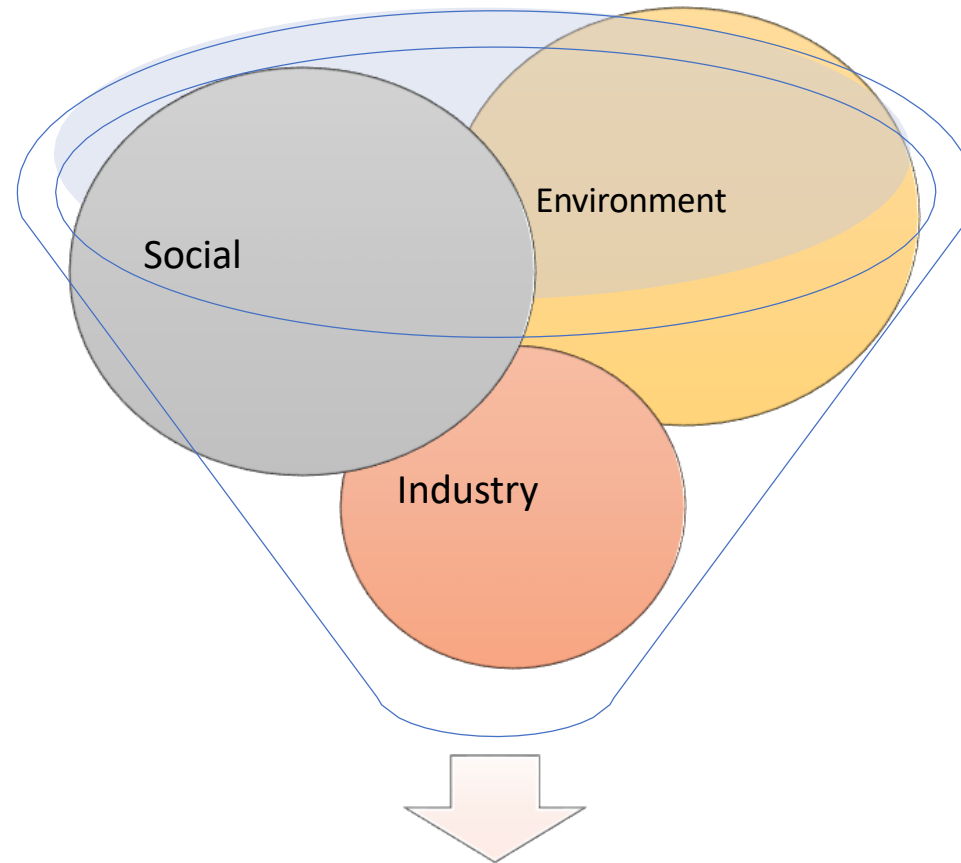
NCCF Stakeholders

Social

- BWI
- STADD
- Forest officers in individual capacity
- Development Alternatives
- Satpuda Foundation
- TRIFED
- Uthaan Trust

Industry and association

- ITC PSPD
- CII
- EPCH
- Greenply
- Century Plywood
- IPRITI
- IPMA
- QCI
- EPCH
- TNPL
- CBs



Environment

- ICFRE
- IIFM
- WWF
- IUCN
- WTI
- WII
- TNC – India
- TERI
- TRAFFIC
- ICRAF
- CAFRI
- INBAR
- GIZ

Ministries

- MoEFCC
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
- Ministry of Commerce
- Ministry of Textiles

NCCF Stakeholders

and many more..

NCCF: Managing PEFC Administration in India

- Managing PEFC Administration in India

PEFC Council Member

- NCCF became the member of PEFC Council in 2015
- NCCF is 40th member of PEFC Council
- PEFC has 53 national members, with 46 endorsed national certification systems



Current Status of NCCF-PEFC Certifications

Forest Management (1 Certificate)

- Uttar Pradesh Forest Corporation; 41 Divisions; 4.5 lakh ha.

Chain of Custody (31 Certificates)

- Pulp & Paper, Packaging, Furniture, Textile, etc.

Few Names:

- Durian Industries Ltd.
- Birla Cellulosic (A Unit of Grasim Industries Ltd)
- Eximcorp India Pvt Ltd
- Hindustan Pencils
- BILT Graphic Paper Products Limited
- Huhtamaki Foodservice Packaging India Pvt. Ltd.
- Welspun India Limited

Components of a Credible Certification System

A credible certification system relies upon three separate functions, performed by independent organisations:

Standard Setting

process of defining certification requirements in collaboration with stakeholders (Eg: NCCF)

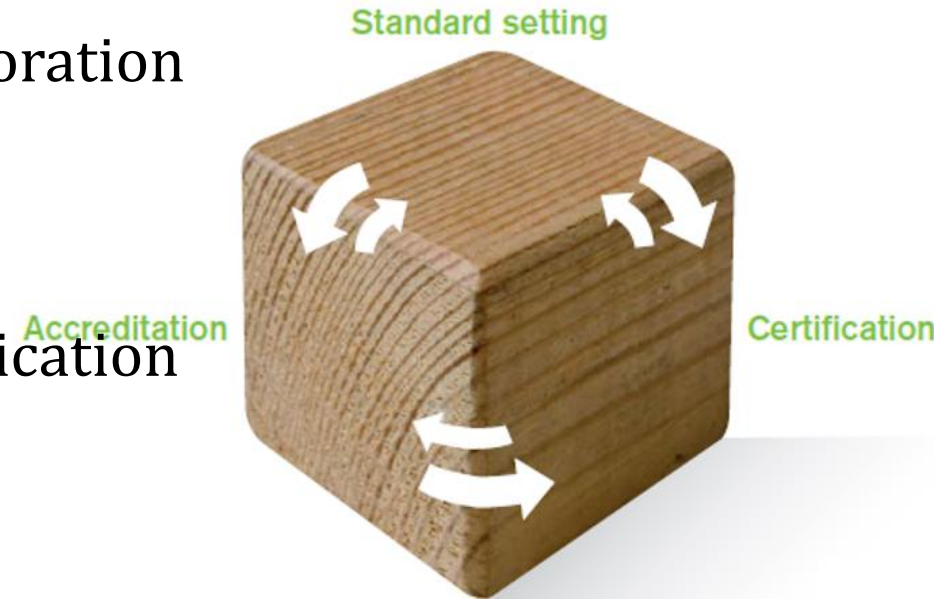
Certification

process of checking whether an organization fulfills certification requirements; carried out by Certification Bodies

Accreditation

process of assessing competence of CBs; carried out by an Accreditation Body.

[For India: National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB)]



Challenges using International Generic Standards

- Generic nature of present standards not suitable to diverse legal and administrative framework, social, cultural and geographical conditions of forests in different States
- Unsuitable in view of diversity of forest types and variability of FM in India
- International Standards imply higher costs

Advantages of a Domestic Scheme

- Standard developed is with respect to Indian context and conditions
- Driven by national stakeholders
- Open, transparent and independent
- Local standard incorporating global best practices
- Nationally adaptive and accepted
- Internationally Endorsed
- Economical (domestic auditors and other aspects)
- Promote and facilitate national and international trade
- Integration of local needs and expectations

NCCF-PEFC FM Standard

Themes	Description
Theme A	Legality and Land Tenure
Theme B	Written Forest Management Plan and its implementation and periodic review
Theme C	Impact of forest management activities in the social, economic and environmental spheres.
Theme D	Economic viability of forest management operations
Theme E	Socially responsible forest management, social and community rights and relations
Theme F	Ecological integrity and health of forests– conservation and management

Themes – 6

Principles – 14

Criteria – 59

Indicators – 239

NCCF FM Standard Incorporates

- Full conformance with all applicable laws and regulations
- Conformance with ratified ILO Conventions
- No use of WHO banned pesticides
- Respect, and upholding of workers' rights and wages
- Health and safety issues
- Clear demarcation of land boundaries and maps
- Regular trainings of staff and workers
- Stakeholder engagement in forest management operations
- Continuous improvement in management
- Unbiased independent 3rd Party monitoring and reporting to enable improvement
- Assessment of environmental impacts to plan remedial measures
- Mitigation of negative impacts on environment and society
- Adherence to social and environmental safeguards
- Traceability and tracking measures to verify source of product; eliminates illegal sourcing

Synergy between NCCF-FM Certification Standard & National Working Plan Code 2014

NCCF FM Standard incorporates all aspects and components of WP in Principles, Criteria and Indicators.

Additionally it provides for:

- Brand Image : Global recognition
- Periodic monitoring, evaluation and assessment by Independent third party
- Compliance to internationally benchmarked forest management practices
- Compliance to International Laws, Treaties and Agreements
- Ensures active engagement of Stakeholders in planning, implementation monitoring and evaluation
- Incorporates components of welfare, health and safety of people, labour and staff
- Added thrust on forest hydrology, biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation
- Value addition, exploring new products and markets

References: NCCF FM Certification Standard

- ✓ Guidelines of United Nations Forum on Forests : Implementing Non Legally Binding Instruments on Forests in India
- ✓ Bhopal India Process : Criteria and Indicators (IIFM)
- ✓ National Working Plan Code 2014 (NCCF-FM Certification Standard has synergy with it)
- ✓ National Forest Policy 1988
- ✓ Indian Laws and acts such as Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006, Biological Diversity Act 2002, National Forest Policy 1988, Forest Conservation Act 1980, Wildlife Protection Act 1972, Indian Forest Act 1927 and many more
- ✓ PEFC Sustainable Forest Management – Requirements PEFC – ST 1003:2010
- ✓ MTCC Criteria & Indicators for Forest Management Certifications
- ✓ SFI Sustainability Forest Management Standard
- ✓ FSC International Generic Indicators FSC-STD-60-004 V1-0 EN
- ✓ ITTO Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Forest Management of Natural Tropical Forests
- ✓ NCCF's Standard Setting Policy
- ✓ ILO's Declaration of Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work 1998
- ✓ WWF High Conservation Value Toolkit Edition 1 (December 2003)

CERTIFICATE OF ENDORSEMENT



This is to certify that the

NCCF FOREST CERTIFICATION SCHEME

submitted by the PEFC National Governing Body
member in India

NETWORK FOR CERTIFICATION AND CONSERVATION OF FORESTS

was verified as meeting the PEFC Sustainability
Benchmarks and subsequently endorsed by
the PEFC Council General Assembly
on **27 February 2019**.



This endorsement is subject to ongoing PEFC Council membership,
continued compliance with the PEFC Sustainability Benchmarks and
timely fulfilment of the endorsement milestones. Any revision of the
system has to be submitted to the PEFC Council for assessment.

Peter Latham, OBE,
Chairman

Ben Gunneberg,
Secretary General

Twitter Remarks on Certification by Former Environment Minister



Dr. Harsh Vardhan  @drharshvardhan · Feb 9

GreenGoodDeed_134



Buy furniture made from certified wood only. Buying furniture made from certified wood assures that the wood is obtained from sustainably managed forests and doesn't negatively affect biodiversity. @moefcc @UNEnvironment



The advertisement features a white header with the text "GREEN GOOD DEEDS" in a black box. On the left is the logo of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and on the right is the Green Good Deeds logo. The main body of the ad has a dark background with a close-up of hands holding a piece of wood. The text "Buy furniture made from certified wood" is written in large white font, and "Reduce the negative impact on forests and biodiversity" is written in yellow font below it.

Advisory from MoEF&CC to State Forest Departments on Forest Certification

- ✓ Forest Certification, an eligible activity for funding under CAMPA (Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018 refer)
- ✓ Director General of Forests, has written to all State Forest Departments to initiate forest certification in some divisions, having reasonable economic activity, like extraction of timber, NWFP and bamboo etc.

He has suggested:

- *Forest certification is voluntary, non-regulatory and facilitative tool to promote SFM*
- *Includes forest monitoring, tracing and labelling of timber and non-timber forest products*
- *Certification brings in enhanced credibility to our forest governance with international recognition and improves market acceptability of our forest products*
- *Forest Certification helps in reducing illegalities in import and export of wood products and strengthens compliances to international conventions*
- *Accounts for social, environmental and economic well-being of workers and local communities with transparency and inclusiveness*

MoEF&CC vide letter dated 11th December 2019 requested states to report progress on Forest Certification.

CAF Rules 2018 promotes Forest Certification

Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules, 2018 mentions:

“Forest certification and development of certification standards as eligible activities for utilising State Compensatory Afforestation Funds. {5(3)(k) of CAF Rules 2018}”

This gives a good opportunity to the states for using forest certification as a tool for:

- Improvement of forest management and conservation practices, as per global benchmarks, including third party certification
- Branding, labelling and tracking of certified wood and wood products
- Promoting trade of certified wood and wood products-gradual elimination of illegal sources
- Good opportunity and financial support to State Governments for undertaking Forest Certification

Forestry Projects under Externally Aided Funding through JICA, UNDP, World Bank, GIZ, USAID, DFID, etc. are trying to promote certification

NCCF Organized Certification Workshops in States



Punjab



Madhya Pradesh



Assam



Sikkim



Karnataka



Chhattisgarh



Tripura



Uttarakhand



Haryana

NCCF FM Certification – In Pipeline

1. Ludhiana Forest Division, Punjab
- 2.1 Forest Division, Andaman & Nicobar
- 3.1 Forest Division, Jharkhand
- 4.1 Forest Division, Uttarakhand
- 5.1 Forest Division, Assam
- 6.1 Forest Division, Maharashtra
7. Multiple Forest Divisions, Sikkim

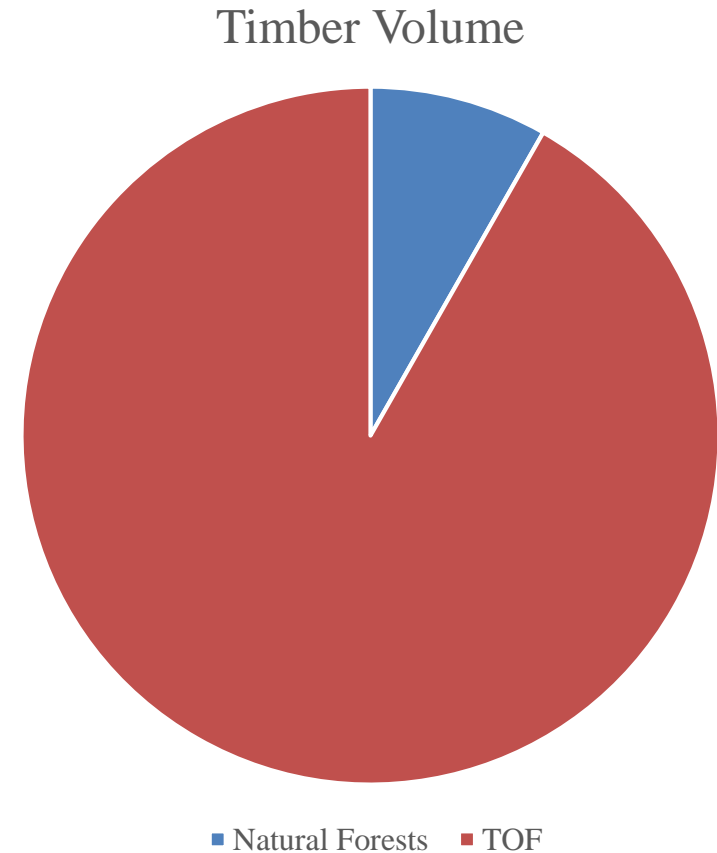
Certification issued for NCCF FM Certification

1. 41 Forest Divisions in Uttar Pradesh
2. Tripura has initiated certification of 2 divisions
3. Karnataka has initiated certification of 1 division

Trees outside Forests (ToF)

85% of wood and wood products are coming from ToF in India.

- *All trees growing outside recorded forest areas” are defined as trees outside forests (ToF)*
- Recorded forests includes “reserve”, “protected’ or ‘unclassified forest’
- ToF can occur in form of block, linear and scattered stratum in urban or rural landscape
- Ownership generally private, community or government.



Potential production of timber from ToF is estimated to be 74 million m³ while it is about 3 million m³ from natural forests (recorded forests).

NCCF ToF Certification Scheme

- NCCF has developed a certification scheme for Trees outside Forest (ToF), first of its kind not only in India but anywhere in the world
- This is intended to cover certification of agroforestry plantations, urban trees and forests, scattered trees in farmland and homesteads, trees along roads, canals, railway lines and in orchards and gardens.
- This Standard has been developed in consultation with diverse stakeholders including the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**.

NCCF Trees outside Forests (ToF) Certification

- The scheme will bring much-needed recognition to wood and timber produced by farmers
- Ensure better markets and price premium for their produce
- Augment availability of certified wood and wood based raw materials to the industries
- Large scale adoption of certification will contribute to government's resolve to double farmers income
- Benefits of ToF Certification :
 - adoption of best management practices for raising ToF
 - increasing tree cover
 - accelerating supply of certified raw material
 - tap the global market and fetch commensurate price

NCCF ToF Standard

Simplified version of NCCF-FM Certification Standard

Themes	Description
Theme A	Legality Compliance with Legal Requirements
Theme B	Management Plan and Practices
Theme C	Health and Vitality of ToF Resources
Theme D	Maintenance and enhancement of productive functions
Theme E	Socio-Economic Responsibility
Theme F	Conservation and Environmental Safeguards

Themes – 6



Criteria – 28 (16)



Indicators – 98 (51)



Who is pushing for Certification?

Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare

Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Ministry of Textile



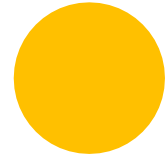
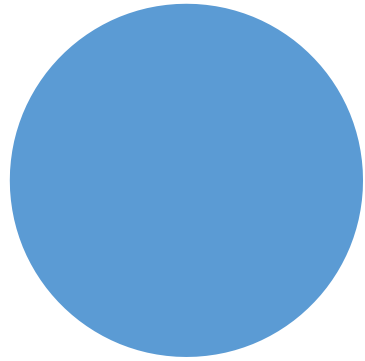
Accreditation

NCCF signed a MoU with the National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB), for providing '**Provisional Recognition**' to Certification Bodies for NCCF FM Scheme covering the Forest Management and Chain of Custody Certification



Benefits to CBs on Association with NCCF

- Business prospects through certification against NCCF-PEFC Schemes
- NCCF is PEFC NGB from India
- CBs can take NCCF's membership
- CBs from India can be regularly updated about PEFC developments & updates
- Participate in NCCF Standard Development Activities as auditors in Pilot Testing
- Participate in NCCF and PEFC Standard Revisions; present India's perspectives
- Partner NCCF in promotions, sensitization and capacity building workshops
- Partner NCCF in liaising with government departments to change their procurement policies
- Partner NCCF in promoting sustainability in India and SE Asia
- Partner NCCF in Green Skill Development Programs of MoEF&CC



Business Prospects for Certification Bodies

Business Prospects for Certification Bodies

1. NCCF FM Certification Scheme
2. Increasing CoC Certifications
3. Upcoming Schemes of NCCF
4. NCCF and CBs can carry out online discussion forums; digital marketing of certification ; tie-ups with existing certified clientele in India, etc.
5. Creating videos and documentaries and highlighting at public forums

Potential income projection from FM (2020-2025)

Evaluation Audit Cost : INR 12-15/ha/audit

Surveillance Audit Cost: INR 8-10/ha/audit

Total area under Forests: 71.22 mha

Assuming production area to be 10% of available forest area: 7.12 mha

Estimated target area under FM certification in 5 years: **3.75 mha (52%)**

Potential Scope of around 50 Forest Divisions (with an avg area of 75,000 ha)

S. No.	Year	No. of Forest Divisions	Area for 1 division (ha)	Audits (EA + SA)	Potential Income
1	2020-21	10	75,000	10	90L to 1.13 CR
2	2021-22	10 + 10	75,000	10+10	1.50 to 1.88 CR
3	2022-23	10 + 20	75,000	10 + 20	2.10 to 2.63 CR
4	2023-24	10 + 30	75,000	10 + 30	2.70 to 3.37 CR
5	2024-25	10 + 40	75,000	10 + 40	3.33 to 4.13 CR

Potential for FM certified forest area in next 5 years : 5-10 mha

Potential for NCCF ToF certified material : 35 cubic million/annually

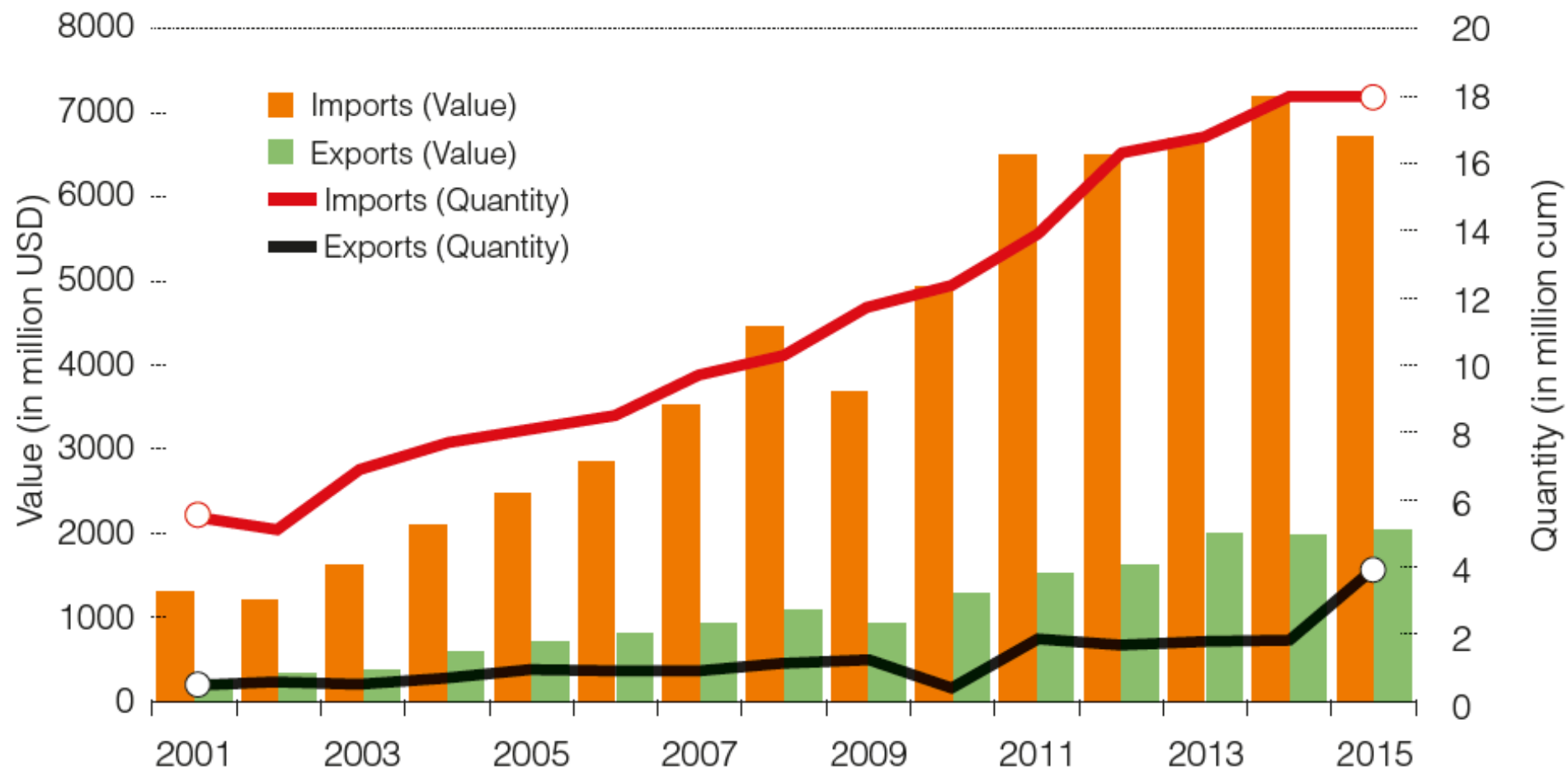
Business Prospects for Certification Bodies

2. Increasing CoC Certifications

- a. Dual Certification (FSC and PEFC)
- b. Increase in demand of certified material for international MNCs (based in India)
- c. Benefit of PEFC Mutual Recognition to clients
- d. Increasing demand for certified forest and tree based products in sectors:
 - Pulp and Paper
 - Packaging
 - Furniture and Handicraft
 - Fashion
 - Construction and Infrastructure

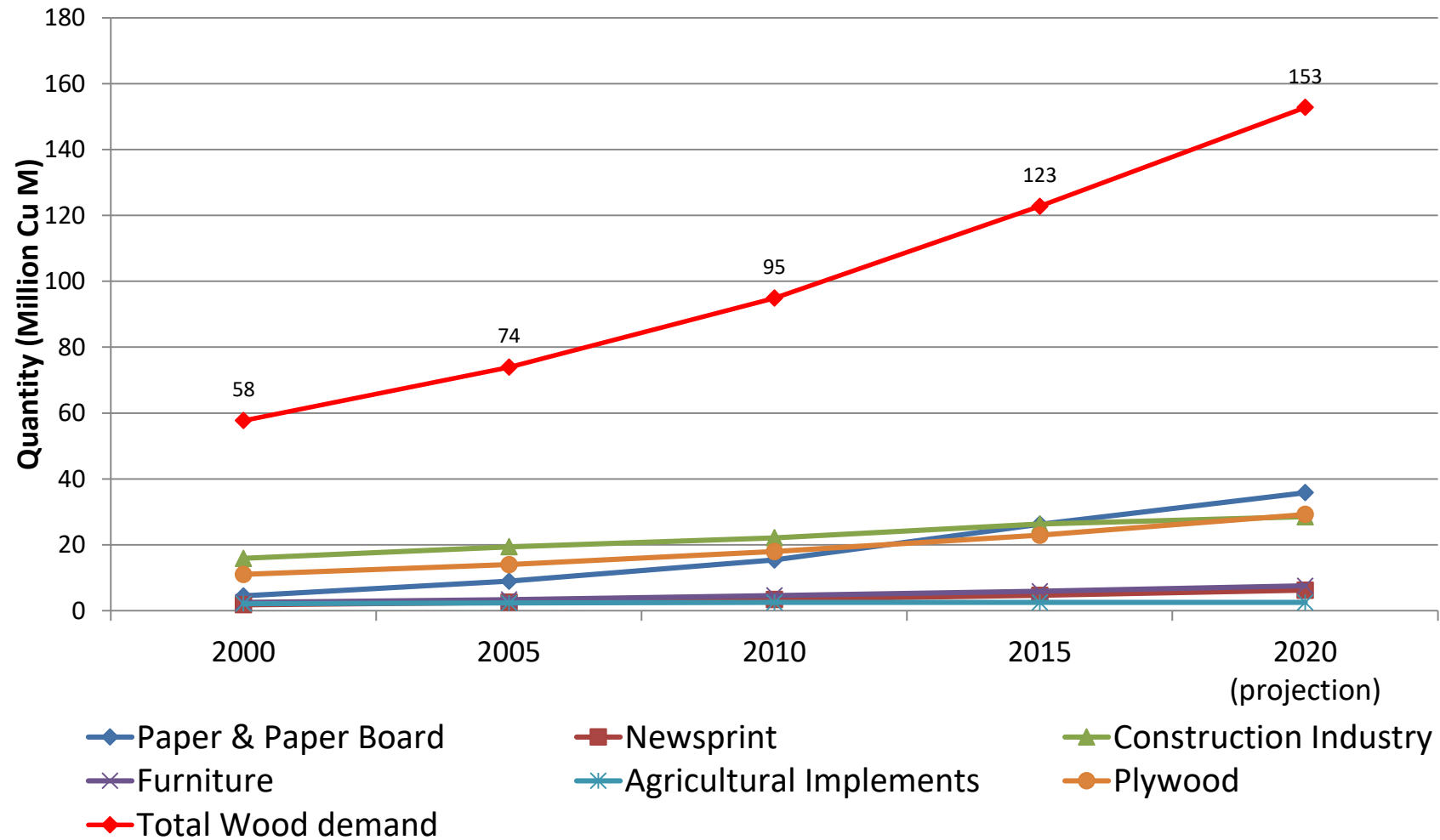
The logo for H&M, featuring the letters 'H&M' in a stylized, red, cursive font.The DTTO logo, featuring the letters 'DTTO' in a bold, red, sans-serif font.The Walmart logo, featuring the word 'Walmart' in a blue, sans-serif font, followed by a yellow six-pointed starburst symbol.

Trends of Timber Trade in India



Source: International Trade Center/UN COMTRADE, 2016

Rising demand for Wood and Wood based Products: India



Embrace certification not only for exports but also to promote domestic timber market



- Timber imports to India: USD 441 mn
- Furniture imports to India: USD 602 mn
- Furniture exports from India: USD 807 mn
- Employment potential: more than 11.29 million employees by 2022*
- India is a global timber importing country as well as furniture exporting country
- India's furniture clusters are currently operating at 25-30% capacity due to less raw material

Value chains needs to be strengthened to increase availability of timber in logistics, infrastructure etc.

Brands who included PEFC in their procurement policies



Waitrose



WOODPECKER
NATURALLY INSPIRED FLOORING



GLOBAL TIMBER.



APRIL

sappi



Forestry company

L'ORÉAL



MARKS &
SPENCER
LONDON

Kellogg's

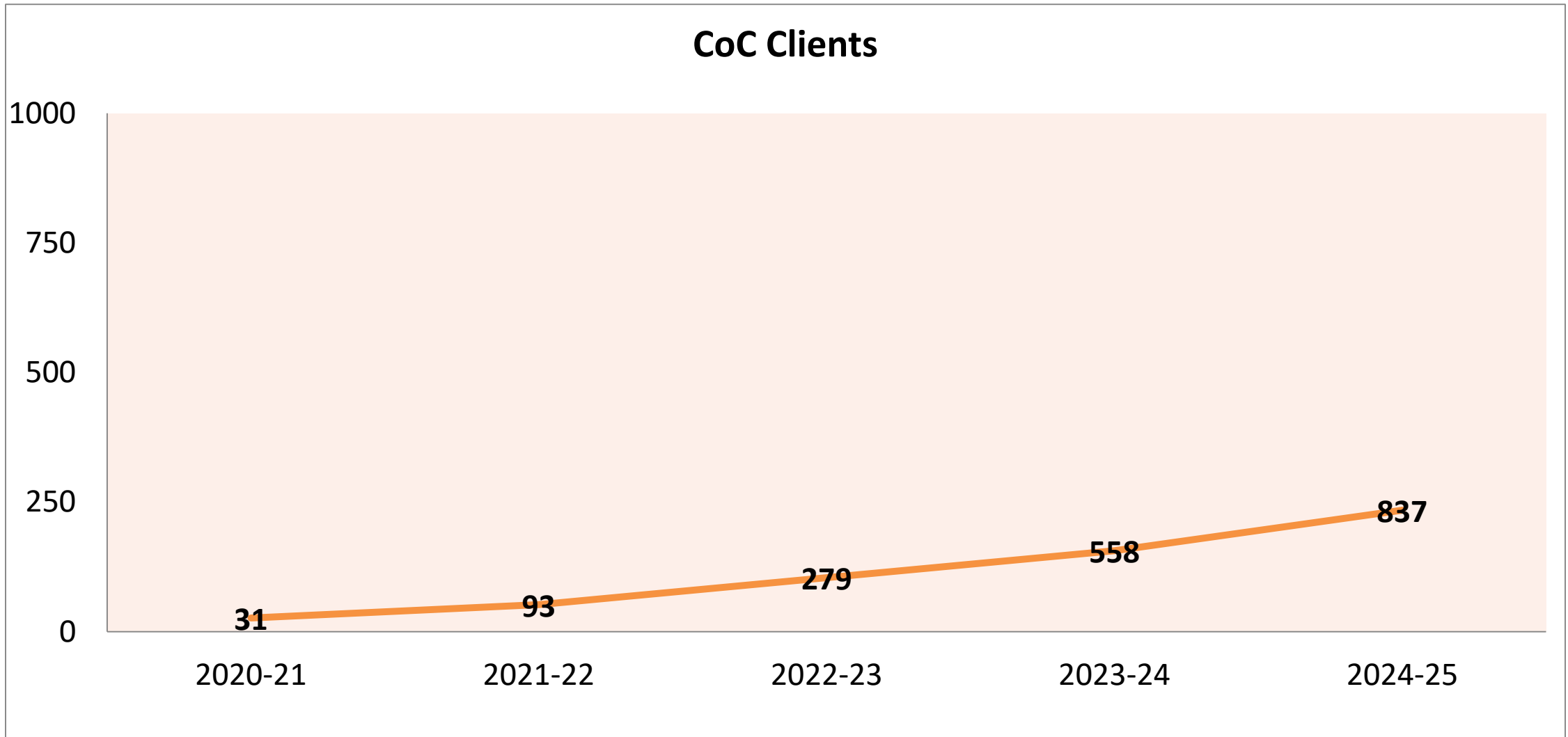


nobililia[®]
LUXURY GERMAN KITCHENS BY SQUARE

And many many more!

NCCF-PEFC CoC Certificates in India

CoC Clients



Potential for NCCF-PEFC CoC certificates can be **1000+**

Business Prospects for Certification Bodies

3. Upcoming Schemes of NCCF

- Trees outside Forests
- Non-Wood Forest Produce
- Protected Areas and Wetlands

Empanelment as a Validation and Verification Body for Carbon Registry-India

Potential income projection for CBs from NCCF TOF Scheme (2020-25)

Evaluation Audit Cost : INR 6.00-7.50/ha

Surveillance Audit Cost: INR 4.00-5.00/ha

Estimated area under Agroforestry: 11.54 to 25.32 mha

Estimated avg ToF area that can be under ToF certification : 9.2 mha

Estimated target area under ToF certification in 5 years: **5,06,250 ha (5.50%)**

S. No.	Year	Area for under TOF certification (ha)	Potential Income
1	2020-21	1,00,000.00	6.00 to 7.50 L
2	2021-22	1,50,000.00	7.00 to 8.75 L
3	2022-23	2,25,000.00	10.50 to 13.12 L
4	2023-24	3,37,500.00	15.75 to 19.68 L
5	2024-25	5,06,250.00	23.62 to 29.53 L

Non Wood Forest Produce

One of India's largest **unorganized sector** providing livelihood for app. about 275 million people.

- Collection of NWFPs is a source of livelihoods for tribals
- Contributes about 20-40% towards their family income
- NWFP sector has an estimated **annual turnover of more than Rs.6,000 crores.**
- NWFPs account for about 68% of export in forest sector
- Traditionally forest management is focused largely on timber
- Increasing demand of certified NWFP products

Why NWFP Certification Standard ?

- Currently **no exclusive functional** internationally recognised NWFP certification schemes in country
 - To ensure **benefit sharing** with forest dwellers, local communities and others involved in collection of NWFPs
 - To evolve **tracking and traceability** mechanism
 - Certification would promote **ease of trade and facilitate international market linkage** while ensuring sustainable trade practices
 - Huge potential for NWFPs but **no sustainability** adherence systems or standard for certification
 - **Sustainable commercial use** of NWFP resources
- 

PAWs Certification Standard

Scope

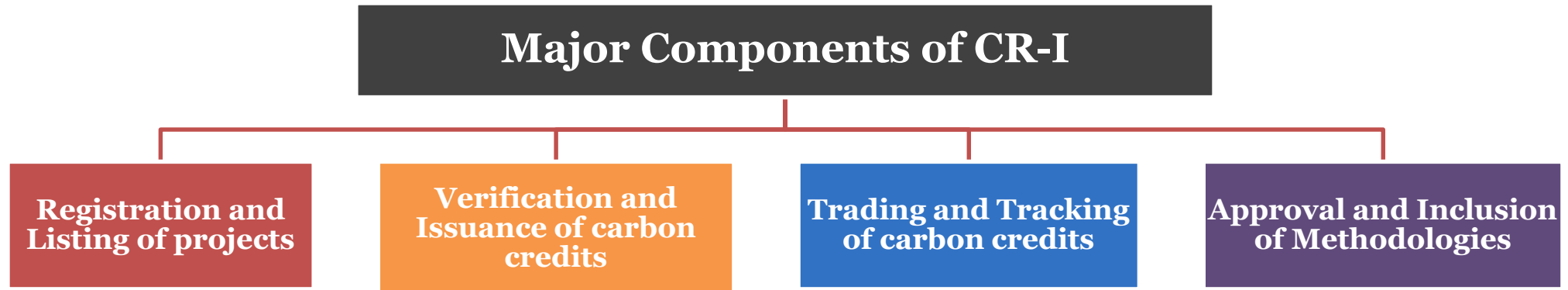
- i) Certification Priority for Conservation
- ii) Project Assessment

Primarily covering themes:

- Performance and Management assessment of Conservation Area
- Health Assessment of Conservation Area
- Identification of Ecosystem Services in Conservation Area
- Feasibility Assessment of Projects for External Funding

Introduction: Carbon Registry-India

Voluntary market-based carbon offset mechanism Carbon Credit – Marketable Carbon Unit (MCU)



Geographical Scope

- **Projects** (Project activities and Programme of Activities) located within India, or anywhere globally.
- **New methodologies/tools** by legal entities located in India, or anywhere globally.

Sectoral Scope

- Same as for UNFCCC CDM, including AFOLU.
- Includes 6 GHGs of Convention: CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, HFCs, PFCs, SF₆

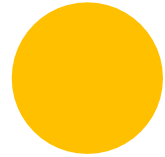
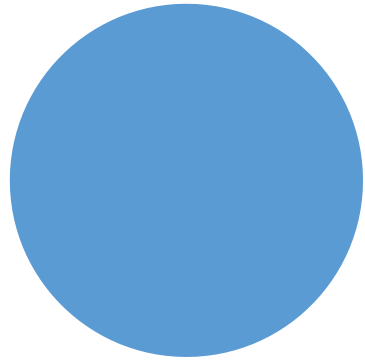
VVBs required at following stages

- Project – Validation of Project Design and Verification of Monitoring of Projects
- Methodology – Assessment of new methodologies

Eligibility Criteria for VVB Empanelment

Criterion	Eligibility Criterion
Criterion 1	a) Accredited as DOE by UNFCCC for CDM for validation and/or verification in applicable sectoral scope
Criterion 2	a) Listed as Active VVB by VCS for validation and/or verification in applicable sectoral scope
Criterion 3	a) Accredited for ISO 14065 by a national accreditation body which is a member of International Accreditation Forum for GHG quantification assessment in applicable sectoral scope b) Competent sectoral experts for applicable sectoral scope

Type of Methodology	Methodology Eligibility Criterion
Non-AFOLU	a) Empaneled as a VVB with the registry and Empaneled as per applicable sectoral scope of proposed methodology b) Collectively completed 15 successful validation and/or methodology evaluation under other GHG programmes such as CDM,VCS, GS, etc.
AFOLU	a) Empaneled as a VVB with the registry and Empaneled as per applicable sectoral scope of proposed methodology b) VVB shall employ an AFOLU expert having more than 5 years experience c) VVB shall have collectively completed 10 successful validations and/or methodology evaluations under other GHG programmes such as CDM, VCS, GS, etc.,



**Competencies involved for
personnel involved in
Certification**



1. Governance
setting

2. Standard

**Components of
NCCF-FM Certification
Scheme**

3. Administrative/
Secretariat

4. Certification
process

Governance

For decision making and institutional support for governing the FM Certification Scheme

Governing Body

Approve the recommendation of the Technical Working Group (TWG)

**Technical Working
Group**

Standard development and subsequent revision

Secretariat

Coordination and Handling the administration of Certification process

**Dispute Resolution
Committee**

Handling Complaint Redressal mechanism

Working Committee

Training and Capacity Development needs

**Certification and
Advisory Group**

Certification and Accreditation related matters

Available on NCCF Website

[Standard Setting](#)

[Chain of Custody Standard](#)

[Forest Management Certification Standard](#)

[Group Certification Standard](#)

Scheme Documentation

[Certification and Accreditation Requirements](#)

[Administrative Procedures](#)

[Complaint and Appeal Mechanism](#)

[Logo Usage and Labelling](#)

Operationalisation Documents for FM Scheme

Standard	Version
NCCF National Forest Management Certification Standard	NCCF – STD- FM- 01/2017
Accreditation and Certification Requirements for the CBs under NCCF FM Certification Scheme	NCCF -STD- ACR- 01 /2017
Trademark/Logo Usage Standard to be used by CBs (PEFC and NCCF)	PEFC Logo Usage Rules - Requirements (PEFC ST 2001:2008, Second Edition)
	Issuance of PEFC Logo Use Licenses by the NCCF (LG: 01/2016)
	NCCF -STD- LOGO- 01 /2017
PEFC Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products - Requirements	PEFC ST 2002:2013
Group Certification Standard	NCCF -STD- GM- 01 /2017
Procedure for PEFC Notification of Certification Bodies Operating Forest Management System and Chain of Custody Certification	NCCF -STD- NCB- 01 /2017
Guidance and Advisory note to be used by CBs for interpretation of NCCF FM Standard	

Contents



Accreditation and Certification Requirements for the CBs under NCCF FM Certification Scheme

NCCF -STD- ACR- 01 /2017

1. Scope
2. Normative References
3. Terms and Definitions
4. Role of NCCF, CB and NABCB
5. General Requirements
6. Structural Requirements
7. Resource Requirements
8. Management Requirements System
9. Supplementary Requirements
10. Process Requirements

Requirements for FM Auditors

Educational and professional experience:

- Tertiary education (college or university qualification) in forestry.
- Five (5) years of professional experience in the forest sector
- Successful completion of IRCA-registered or equivalent ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 19011
- Successful completion of auditor training *of FM at NCCF
- Participation in audit
 - a. As observer in one evaluation audit
 - b. As observer in one surveillance audits
 - c. As Auditor under supervision of CB's approved Lead Auditor
- For maintaining the qualification of auditor; the CB shall ensure that auditor participated in two (2) on site audits every year

*NCCF will provide **provisional approval to the Auditors having experience and training completed for any other Forest Management Certification Scheme** operating in the Country. This is applicable until NCCF starts its Standard Training Program for Auditors. Once operated all the auditors will be required to undergo mandatory NCCF Training to continue their auditor status for NCCF FM Scheme*

Performance Review

- The CB shall provide evidence of annual monitoring of auditors applying methods such as audit witnessing, reviewing audit reports or client organisations' feedback, etc. based on the frequency of their usage and the level of risk linked to their activities.
- CB shall review the competence of its personnel in the light of their performance in order to identify training needs.
- The auditors shall be witnessed onsite at least once in 3 years.

Audit Team

- Audit team shall be comprised of by auditor(s) fulfilling the requirements.
- In some cases, technical experts may be required to support the required auditor competency in a particular technical area by providing appropriate technical expertise.

Audit team selection and assignment

- CB shall have documented procedures for selecting and appointing the audit team, including audit team leader.
- Translators used in the audit shall be independent from the client organization. In cases non-independent translators are not available the names of translators and their links with the client organization shall be included in the audit report.
- An audit team shall always include at minimum:
 - a qualified Lead auditor
 - technical expert
 - social and local expert (if required)

Determination of audit time by a CB

- a. the requirements of the FM Standard(s)
- b. size and complexity of the client organisation's operation, geographical and natural conditions
- c. any outsourcing of any activities included in the scope of FM standard
- d. the results of any prior audits including those of client organisation's management systems
- e. number of sites and multi-site considerations

Note: Audit days can only be decreased on case to case basis

Forest Area (ha)	Number of audit days On-site
< 1000	1 to 2
1,001 - 5,000	2 to 4
5,001- 10,000	4 to 8
10,001 - 25,000	8 to 12
25,001 - 75,000	12 to 16
75,001- 150,000	16 to 18
1,50,001 - 3,00,000	18 to 22
3,00,001 - 6,00,000	22 to 26
6,00,001-10,00,000	26 to 32
>10,00,000	32 to 40

Accreditations accepted by the NCCF for FM

NCCF requires that forest management certification shall be carried out by certification bodies who are accredited by **National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB)** (a member signatory of the IAF Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) for product certification).

The **scope of the accreditation shall explicitly cover the NCCF FM Standard** in its valid version and/or with reference to any future changes and amendments adopted by the NCCF and presented at the NCCF official website (www.nccf.in).

The FM certificates issued by the NABCB accredited Certification Body (and its affiliates) shall bear the (NABCB) accreditation body logo/symbol.

Requirements for CoC Auditors

Based on:

Requirements for CBs operating Certification against the PEFC International Chain of Custody Standard

Note: *For the issuance of PEFC CoC Certificates, CBs are required to refer PEFC 2003. NCCF does not set additional, scheme specific requirements for CBs intending to operate in CoC certification.*

Accreditations for CoC

Accreditations accepted by the PEFC Council

Accreditation Bodies signatories of Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) for product certification of IAF or IAF's Regional Accreditation Groups such as European co-operation for Accreditation (EA), Interamerican Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC), Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (PAC) and Southern African Development Community in Accreditation (SADCA). Like NABCB in India

The scope of the accreditation shall explicitly cover the PEFC chain of custody standard (PEFC ST 2002, Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products – Requirements) in its valid version and/or with reference to any future changes and amendments adopted by the PEFC Council and presented at the PEFC Council official website www.pefc.org.

The scope of accreditation shall also explicitly state ISO/IEC 17065, this document and other requirements against which the certification body has been assessed.

Notification and Fee for Certification Bodies

NCCF notifies CBs for performing NCCF-FM Certification audits

NCCF notification requires CBs to pay PEFC Notification Fee and PEFC Logo Fee (to be collected from Certificate holder)

NCCF procedures notification to certification bodies and fee policy available on website.

In order to ensure the independence of certification bodies, NCCF notification conditions decided by the NCCF cover:

- a. administrative conditions (e.g. communication of the CB with the NCCF Council, transfer of information, etc.)
- b. financial conditions (fees imposed on certified entities)
- c. compliance with requirements for certification bodies verified through accreditation as described in this standard.

Tariffs of Notification Fee of NCCF: FM

Forest Type	Rates per hectare (INR)
Protection and Conservation Purposes	0.65
Community Forest	0.85
Productive Purposes: Plantations, etc.	1.00

Note: The above per hectare fee do not includes per certificate and Logo and Trademark fee.

Tariffs of Notification Fee of NCCF: CoC

Class	Turnover of the PEFC Certified Organization (INR)	Fee for Manufacturer (INR)	Fee for Trader (INR)
1	Under 50,00,000	Nil	Nil
2	50,00,000 to 1,00,00,000 (1 cr)	7,000	4,000
3	1,00,00,000 to 5,00,00,000	17,000	7,500
4	5,00,00,000 to 10,00,00,000	28,000	10,500
5	10,00,00,000 to 25,00,00,000	42,000	16,000
6	25,00,00,000 to 50,00,00,000	57,000	21,000
7	50,00,00,000 to 100,00,00,000	80,000	42,000
8	100,00,00,000 to 250,00,00,000	1,00,000	60,000
9	250,00,00,000 to 500,00,00,000	1,20,000	80,000
10	500,00,00,000 to 1000,00,00,000	2,40,000	1,40,000
11	Above 1000,00,00,000	3,60,000	2,80,000

NCCF FM Standard Training Program for Auditors

- **Successfully conducted NCCFFM Auditor Training in December 2019**



- More FM Trainings planned in 2020:
 - July
 - December
- Upcoming Training Programmes:
 - NCCF PEFC CoC Training (Dates will be announced shortly)
 - Series of webinars on:
 - Forest Management
 - Trees outside Forests
 - And many more

Chain of Custody Auditor Training



PEFC

Chain of Custody
Auditor Training

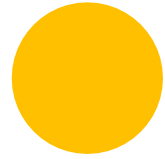
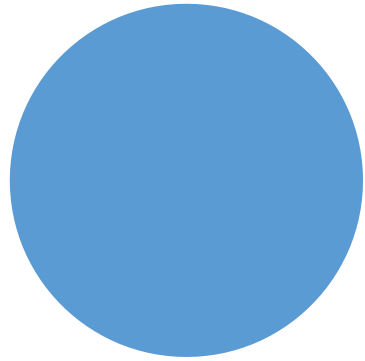
*PEFC International and NCCF
organize PEFC CoC Auditor
Training in India*

Online Training
Dates will be announced soon



Current Status of Accreditation & Certification

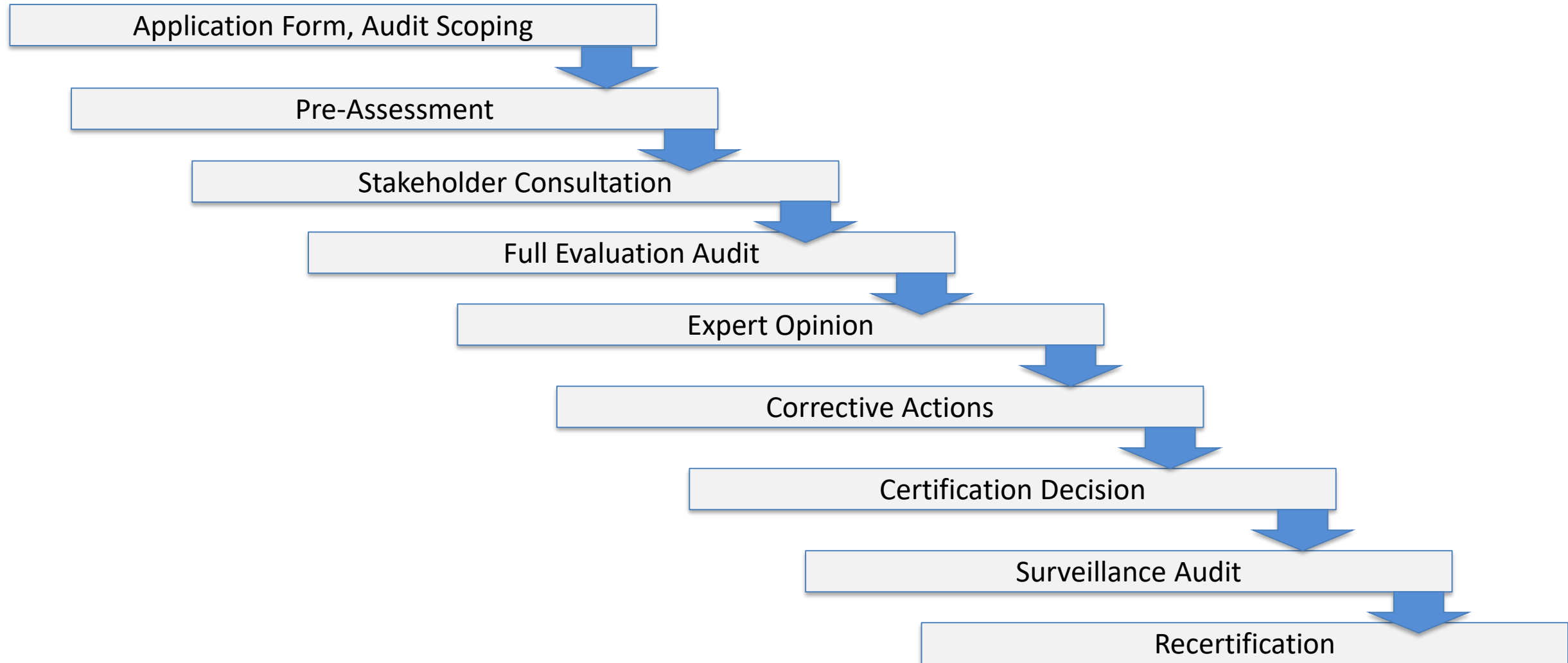
- 7 CBs notified for PEFC CoC
- NABCB offering FM & CoC Accreditation
- 2 CBs notified under NCCF FM:
 - GICIA India Pvt Ltd
 - CG CERT
 - 4-5 of CBs have enquired or in process to apply for FM Accreditation
- 1 Client issued NCCF-PEFC FM Certificate
 - Uttar Pradesh Forest Corporation; 41 Divisions; 4.5 lakh ha.
- We will soon be coming out with process for Provisional Approval of CBs for NCCF ToF Scheme



Certification Process



Forest Certification Process : Step by Step



Audit Scoping for Forest Certification

The three type of FM Certificates available to organizations are- **Single-FMU type ; Multi-FMU type & Group Forest/Plantation Management Certification.**

Type of Certificate	Attributes	Remarks
Single- FMU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Management Entity (FME) manages and controls all forest management operations of a single Forest Management Unit (FMU) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Forest Division – owning and managing entire area in a Forest Division • Single working plan & administrative unit • E.g. Bhamragarh Forest Division
Multi-FMU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • large forest management entity or enterprise that is managing multiple FMUs under the same management objectives • easier and comparatively cheaper for large enterprises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Corporation managing multiple Corporation divisions. • Multiple working plans or multiple administrative units • E.g. CCF – Managing various Forest Divisions
Group Certification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certification of a Group Managing entity (e.g. Forest Corporation) managing various group members (e.g. Forest Divisions managed by Forest Department) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Corporation certifying various Forest divisions with shared responsibilities. • Additional requirements of NCCF group certification standard to follow

Pre-Assessment

Technical meeting, Selection of sites, Audit planning, Gap analysis, Preparatory Communications



Stakeholder Consultation

Consultation with various stakeholders; CB shall inform NCCF at least 45 days; NCCF shall release a **30 days** stakeholder announcement via NCCF Website



Full Evaluation Audit

Preparatory Communications and Document Review; Technical Meeting; Field Visits



Reporting

Convey evaluation results to applicant, peer reviewer, certification decision-making entity, stakeholders, and NCCF

Submit Draft Report to client within **45 days** of audit for review

Client to submit confirmation to CB on Draft Report within **30 days** of submission

Final Report to client within **75 days** of date of audit.

Non-Conformities and Corrective Action Requests

Recording all conformities and non conformities against requirements of NCCF-FM Standard; Major & Minor Nonconformities; Observations; orrective Action Requests (CARs) raised



Certification Decision

Decision by CB after review of Audit Report; by competent Technical Reviewer; 5 years Certificate Validity; NCCF/PEFC Logo Usage



Surveillance Audit

Surveillance audits at least once a year



Re-Certification

Re-Certification before current certificate expires and after completion of a new certification contract



Special Audits

CB can carry out short-notice and unannounced audits, if required



Suspending, withdrawing or reducing scope of certification

CB shall conform with requirements of ISO/IEC 17065; CB shall advise NCCF in writing;

Sample Category and number of management units to be evaluated

Sample category	Size Class (ha)- (X)	Main evaluation	Surveillance	Re-evaluation
Category A Management Units (State Government Forest/ JFMCs/VFCs)	>15,000	$S = X$	$S = 0.7 * X$	$S = 0.7 * X$
	1,000-15,000	$S = 0.4 * X$	$S = 0.2 * X$	$S = 0.3 * X$
Category B Management Units (Famers/Individuals/Community)	100-1,000	$S = 0.8 * \sqrt{X}$	$S = 0.6 * \sqrt{X}$	$S = 0.6 * \sqrt{X}$
	Less than 100	$S = 0.6 * \sqrt{X}$	$S = 0.3 * \sqrt{X}$	$S = 0.4 * \sqrt{X}$

- **S** is the management units that must be evaluated and must be rounded to the upper whole number to determine the number of units to be sampled.
- **X** is the total number of the management units in a set of categories.

Selection of a Certification Body

Application Form - Interested Forest owners → download copy of Application form NCCF website and submit it to sfm@nccf.in

Inviting proposals from Eligible Certification Bodies (CB)

Option 1:

NCCF to share list of accredited CBs and SFD calls for Technical and Financial Bids

Option 2:

SFD/SFC request NCCF to invite Proposals from eligible CBs → NCCF forms a CB selection panel with member from SFD/SFC, National Accreditation Board CB (NABCB) → panel selects the CB and transfers all communications and documents to SFD/SFC

Option 3 (Nomination Basis):

Option used & recommended by NCCF only when a few accredited, credible, experienced and expert CBs available to conduct NCCF-FM Certification. Under this option, State Forest Department/State Forest Corporation can directly engage a credible and accredited CB.

Thank you!!

Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests (NCCF)
website: www.nccf.in

