



Proceedings of the Online Workshop on
“NCCF-FM Certification Standard”

State Level Sensitization Workshop for Maharashtra Forest Department, Government of Maharashtra

Date: 23rd July 2020, Thursday | Time: 1500 to 1700 hrs (Indian Standard Time)



BACKGROUND

NCCF (www.nccf.in) is a network of experts, professionals and stakeholders actively engaged in diverse conservation activities including, development of India specific and globally benchmarked sustainability certification standards for various constituents of our natural resource base as its core working area. It is also proactive in policy advocacy, training and capacity building and multi-stakeholder engagement. NCCF is a member of IUCN and has got Observer Status in UNCCD, as a Civil Society Organization.

A committee constituted by the Ministry of Environment & Forest, GOI, for forest certification had strongly recommended that India should have its own scheme of certification. There has therefore been a felt need in India to have an indigenous scheme of forest certification with international benchmarking. NCCF came into existence as a Society in 2015 and took up the work of developing the country specific and globally aligned certification standard for India through a multi-stakeholder group formed following the UN norms of standard setting process, called the Standard Development Group (SDG) for NCCF Forest Management Certification Standard. The standard developed relies upon the outcomes of the Bhopal India Process of the IIFM and takes into consideration the international best practices in certification while is also in sink with objectives of National Forest policy and provisions of the National Working Plan Code 2014.

NCCF's Certification Standard for Forest Management has been endorsed by the globally recognized certification organization, the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), giving it an international recognition. The standard scheme is being used by many states for certification of forest management.

NCCF is working in active collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the State Forest Departments, Indian Council of Forest Research and Education, Indian Institute of Forest Management, Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, ITC, Quality Council of India, National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies, The International Centre for Research in Agroforestry, International Center for Tropical Agriculture, International Union for Conservation of Nature, The International Centre for

Integrated Mountain Development, Central Agroforestry Research Institute, Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India, Global Green Growth Institute, GICIA, Wildlife Institute of India, World Wide Fund for Nature India, World Bank, Japan International Cooperation Agency, Food and Agriculture Organization , United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and many more.

NCCF has also developed a certification scheme for Trees outside Forest (ToF), the first of its kind not only in India but anywhere in the world, that 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. NCCF is also developing standards for non-wood forest produce, protected areas and wetlands, quality planting material, ecotourism, biomass & biofuels and land degradation neutrality. NCCF is also developing a Carbon Registry-India a carbon offset market mechanism comprising of GHG emissions reduction and removal enhancement projects and associated methodologies.

Please note: Annexure 1 presents the detailed schedule for the webinar.

For More Information contact:

Mr. A.K. Srivastava

Former member IFS

Director General

Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests

711, 7th Floor, Matrix Tower,

Sector 132, Noida 201304

Tel: 0120- 6758611/6758614 (o)

Email: <dg@nccf.in>

Website: www.nccf.in

Personal Email<aksmoef@gmail.com>

WELCOME ADDRESS



Mr A.K. Srivastava, Director General, NCCF welcomed the Chief Guest and participants and presented briefly the objectives and activities of NCCF and how certification helps in promoting sustainability, trade and various social and economic benefits.

In his brief presentation Mr. Srivastava mentioned that certification is an emerging global movement that supports sustainable development; economic growth; trade; livelihoods; value chains and consumer protection; while enhancing; competitiveness and fostering technological development and fully meeting the requirements of; health, safety, and environmental conservation. He stated that forest certification is a tool used to assess the quality and contemporariness of the management practices against the predefined norms of a Standard. He also mentioned that certification acknowledges a country's dedication to responsible forest management and its efforts to maintain a sustainable supply of forest products and services from healthy, diverse, and productive ecosystems. He emphasized that application of NCCF's India specific, yet internationally benchmarked certification standard could be of great value in conserving our rich forests and enhancing and biodiversity.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS



Mr Praveen Srivastava, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Production & Management), Government of Maharashtra in his introductory remarks, highlighted the issues related to absence of certification on raw material and products obtained from the forests and the need for forest certification. He thanked NCCF for arranging this online workshop for Forest Department of Maharashtra.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS



Inaugurating the workshop, **Dr. N. Rambabu**, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Government of Maharashtra expressed that while forest certification of few divisions of Maharashtra, having economic activities like extraction of timber and bamboo is being internally deliberated upon, and it is essential to fully understand the advantages, cost, processes and modalities of certification to decide an action plan for certification.

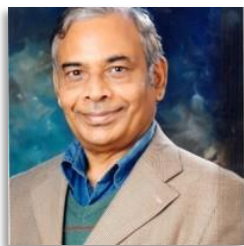
The workshop was **attended by 74 delegates** including officers of **the Forest Department, Forest Corporation, Wildlife Wing, Biodiversity Board, representatives of Certification Bodies, industry and trade**. It was intended to sensitize the professional foresters and stakeholders about the environmental, economic and social advantages of certification and the modalities for taking up certification with the larger objective of promoting sustainable management of forests.

Presentation Sessions conducted by distinguished Panelists on various aspects of Certification



Mr. AK Bansal, Lead Forest Management Auditor (Ex Addl. DG Forests, MoEF&CC; Chairperson, NCCF-NWFP Standard Development Group), gave a detailed Introduction to Forest Certification. He highlighted the policy implications, contribution of forestry sector to country's GDP and ways to increase this, benefits of forest certification, components of a credible certification system, global forest certification schemes, forest certification initiative and the way forward for certification in India, particularly in Maharashtra.

In his presentation he mentioned that the situation of approved working plans in Maharashtra is slightly better than the global and national average proportion of forest area covered under approved working plans. It was highlighted that forest certification is voluntary, and is done by independent Certification Bodies who are accredited by NABCB - the India's National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies and involves assessment of the quality of forest management based upon internationally benchmarked Standards (including India specific NCCF-FM Standard) comprising of Principles, Criteria, Indicators and Verifiers. Maharashtra has an advantage due to production of quality Teak, Shisham and other species for which there is increasing demand of certified timber.



Mr. Avani K. Varma, (Ex PCCF & HoFF, Karnataka; Chairperson, NCCF FM Standard Development Group), presented the NCCF Forest Management Certification Standard. Mr. Varma, in his presentation stated the need & advantages of a domestic scheme of forest certification, standard setting process of NCCF-PEFC-FM Certification Standard, synergy between NCCF-FM Certification Standard & National Working Plan Code 2014, themes, principles, criteria and indicators of NCCF-PEFC FM Standard and market demand for certified woods in India.



Ms. Taruna, Lead Forest Management Auditor, GIPL, gave the presentation on modalities for taking up NCCF FM Certification. She dwelt upon the roles of Standard Scheme Owner (NCCF), and Certification Bodies and described the steps for initiating forest certification, detailed procedure for forest certification, scope of audit etc. and status, findings and impacts of NCCF-PEFC FM certification in some Indian states.



Mr. Suneel Pandey, Secretary, NCCF (Vice President, Paperboards and Specialty Papers Division, ITC Ltd., India) presented the Industry Perspective of Forest Certification. He highlighted on how forest certification works, how can certification act as a tool for linking consumers and producers, industrial trend towards certification, trends of timber trade in India, potential to embrace certification for exports as well as for domestic timber market, market demand for certification, industry case study: ITC Ltd. and how can the demand for certified wood material be addressed.

The presentations were followed by a question and answer session

Presentations were followed by a lively interaction between the participants and panelists wherein participants were able to achieve enhanced understanding of the advantages of certification, NCCF Forest Certification Standard and the modalities of taking up certification

Mr. Sameer Chhapra, President, Maharashtra Timber Importers Association stated that certification might not help reduce import in India as other crucial factors like transportation cost and infrastructure are also involved. He mentioned that while Chain of Custody (CoC) Certification is very important, it is equally *important* that each and every component after the delivery has to be CoC certified. Mr. Chhapra also raised concern about banning the use of pesticides mentioning that despite certifying the growers will have to use few pesticides or else it would hamper their sales around the world.

Mr. AK Bansal clarified on this note that ban on pesticide usage in FM Standard is in context of managing the forest, and is not related use in phyto-sanitary measures. With respect to CoC certification, Mr. Bansal and **Mr Avani K Varma** responded that CoC is part of NCCF FM standard and covers delivery from forests/farms to the depots.

Dr. N. Rambabu, PCCF & HoFF, Maharashtra inquired about cost per hectare and time required for certifying 14 divisions.

Mr Avani K Varma explained that the average cost might vary from 5-10 Rs. per hectare depending on the extent and type of forest area. As far as days are concerned, pre-assessment requires 3 days, 5-6 days for hand holding meeting and the first report is finalized in 45 days. Detailed process and time is mentioned in **Ms Taruna's** presentation on Modalities of Forest Certification.

CCF, Nagpur wanted to know the road map to get forest area managed under PESA act and CFR certified. **Mr. Avani K. Varma** responded that the entity responsible for managing these forests could get the area certified with hand holding by forest department. Forest department would have to clear the concept of FMU and FME. **Mr AK Bansal** added that CFR should have proper management plan provided under FRA for certification among other requirements.

Several participants wanted to know the advantages of Forest Certification on value of the products, to which **Mr AK Bansal** responded that price depends upon demand and supply; however more than price, the systematic improvement and productivity of the certified area has also to be valued.

Mr. Vijay from Maharashtra Timber Federation mentioned that certification should be kept as optional and if cost of certification is borne by forest department, it would be a welcome step.

CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. Praveen Srivastava, PCCF (Production & Management) agreed with all the queries and appreciated the way they were addressed. He observed that the forest department would like to start certification with those areas which are hassle free, well managed and have huge timber demand, thereafter forest area under PESA and CFR would be considered. He also mentioned that certainly cost burden would not be shifted to the purchaser; some percentage of the revenue can be earmarked for certification process, which will be decided in due course after studying the cost and benefits.

Mr. Srivastava thanked NCCF for organizing the workshop and all the participants for attending.

Dr. N. Rambabu thanked NCCF and his colleagues, specially **Mr. Praveen Srivastava** for organizing workshop. He agreed that certification can definitely enhance the values of our forest and Maharashtra Forest Department will surely take benefits of forest certification.

Dr. Devendra Pandey (Ex DG, FSI, Chairperson, NCCF ToF Standard Development Group), in his closing remarks, summarized the proceedings and explained the synergy between Working Plan based Sustainable Forest Management and certification, and how certification is gaining importance worldwide. He thanked all the participants for joining the workshop.

Mr. A.K. Srivastava, DG, NCCF and Ms. Upasna Singh, moderator of the sessions thanked the Chief Guest, officers of Maharashtra Forest Departments and all officers for sparing their precious time and participating at the workshop.

The participants appreciated the quality of presentations and the professional inputs on certification received by them and expressed keen interest in attending more such NCCF events in the future.

[Click here](#) to view the recorded session of the workshop



ANNEXURE 1: Agenda**Online Workshop on Forest Certification for Maharashtra Forest Department****Organized by****Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests (NCCF)**

www.nccf.in

Thursday, 23rd July 2020 | Time: 1500 to 1700 IST

Time (IST)	Agenda	Panelist
11:00-11:10 hrs	Welcome Address	Mr AK Srivastava, Director General, NCCF
11:10-11:20 hrs	Introductory Remarks	Mr Praveen Srivastava, IFS, PCCF (Production & Management), Government of Maharashtra
11:20-11:30 hrs	Inaugural Address	Dr N. Rambabu, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forest & HoFF, Government of Maharashtra
11:30-11:45 hrs	Introducing Forest Certification	Mr AK Bansal, Lead Forest Management Auditor (ex Addl. DG, MoEF&CC; Chairperson, NCCF NWFP Standard Development Group)
11:45-12:00 hrs	NCCF Forest Management Certification Standard (PEFC endorsed)	Mr Avani K Varma (ex PCCF&HoFF, Karnataka; Chairperson, NCCF FM Standard Development Group)
12:00-12:10 hrs	Modalities and Procedures for taking up Certification (A case study of GIPL)	Ms. Taruna, Lead Forest Management Auditor, Green Initiatives Certification and Inspection Agency India Pvt Ltd
12:10-12:25 hrs	Industry Perspective of Forest Certification	Mr. Suneel Pandey, Secretary, NCCF (Vice President, Paperboards and Specialty Papers Division, ITC Ltd., India)
12:25-12:55 hrs	Question & Answer Session	Distinguished Panelists
12:55-13:00 hrs	Closing remarks	Dr. Devendra Pandey (ex DG, FSI, Chairperson, NCCF ToF Standard Development Group)

Workshop on Forest Certification for Maharashtra Forest Department

23 July 2020

About NCCF



A.K. Srivastava
Director General, NCCF



NCCF

CONSERVE • CARE • CERTIFY

Extremely grateful to Dr Rambaboo, PCCF & HOFF for chairing the online workshop on Forest Certification for Maharashtra Forest Department.

Thanks also to Mr Praveen Srivastava, PCCF (Production & Management) for this important initiative.

Acknowledge the presence of senior officers of Forest Department in this workshop :

PCCFs Shri G. Saiprakash, Shri Nitin Kakodkar, Shri M. K. Rao, Dr. D.K. Tyagi, Shri Jeet Singh

Addl PCCFs Shri N. Vasudevan, Shri T.K. Choube, APCCF, Shri S. G. Tembhurnikar, Shri N.Mohan Karnat, and Shri Virendra Tiwari

CCFs, CFs, DCFs attending this workshop

Also, welcome representatives of CBs, Industry and Timber Trade

- We are deeply concerned and impacted by the COVID 19 outbreak
- While wishing you full safety and good health, appreciate the sincerity, dedication and commitment of our forest fraternity in protecting and sustainably managing our forest resources.
- The workshop is intended to sensitize the professional foresters and stakeholders about the environmental, economic and social advantages of certification and the modalities of taking up certification.

Time (IST)	AGENDA
1500-1510 hrs	<p style="text-align: center;">Welcome Address by Mr AK Srivastava, Director General, NCCF</p>
1510-1520 hrs	<p style="text-align: center;">Introductory Remarks by Mr Praveen Srivastava, IFS, PCCF (Production& Management), Government of Maharashtra</p>
1520-1530 hrs	<p style="text-align: center;">Inaugural Address by Dr N. Rambabu, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forest & HoFF, Government of Maharashtra</p>
1530-1545 hrs	<p style="text-align: center;">Introducing Forest Certification by Mr AK Bansal, Lead Forest Management Auditor (ex Addl. DG, MoEF&CC; Chairperson, NCCF NWFP Standard Development Group)</p>
1545-1600 hrs	<p style="text-align: center;">NCCF Forest Management Certification Standard (PEFC endorsed) by Mr Avani K Varma (ex PCCF&HoFF, Karnataka; Chairperson, NCCF FM Standard Development Group)</p>
1600-1610 hrs	<p style="text-align: center;">Modalities and Procedures for taking up Certification (A case study of GIPL) by Ms Taruna, Lead Forest Management Auditor, Green Initiatives Certification and Inspection Agency India Pvt Ltd</p>
1610-1625 hrs	<p style="text-align: center;">Industry Perspective of Forest Certification by Mr Suneel Pandey, Secretary, NCCF (Vice President, Paperboards and Specialty Papers Division, ITC Ltd., India)</p>
1625-1655 hrs	<p style="text-align: center;">Question & Answer Session</p>
1655-1700 hrs	<p style="text-align: center;">Closing remarks by Dr Devendra Pandey (ex DG, FSI, Chairperson, NCCF ToF Standard Development Group)</p>

About NCCF

A network of professionals, experts and stakeholders; NCCF was registered as a Society 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

NCCF-PEFC Forest Management Certification Standard

- This is the only Indian Scheme of forest certification in India
- Developed by NCCF through a multistakeholder standard development group
- Standard has been endorsed by the PEFC, giving it an international recognition
- This scheme is being used by many states for certification



NCCF Standard Development Groups (SDGs)

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

Standard Development Group(SDG) Chaired by Mr. AK Varma (ex PCCF&HoFF, Karnataka)

Trees Outside Forest Certification Standard (*Ready for Use*)

SDG Chaired by Dr. Devendra Pandey (ex DG, Forest Survey of India, ex PCCF&HoFF, Arunachal Pradesh)

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

SDG Chaired by Mr. AK Bansal (ex Addl. DG, MoEF&CC, GoI)

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

SDG Chaired by Dr. Jagdish Kishwan (ex PCCF&HoFF, J&K, DG, ICFRE, ADG, MoEF&CC)

Quality Planting Material Certification Standard (*In Progress*)

Chaired by Dr. Abhijit Ghose (ex PCCF&HoFF, Rajasthan)

NCCF Standard Development Groups (SDGs)

Ecotourism Certification Standard (*In Progress*)

SDG Chaired by Mr. AK Varma

Biofuel and Biomass Certification Standard (*In Progress*)

SDG Chaired by Dr. R.R Rashmi (ex Special Secretary, MoEF&CC, GoI)

Carbon Registry-India (*In Progress*)

SDG Chaired by Dr. Jagdish Kishwan

Land Degradation Neutrality Certification Standard (*Just initiated*)

SDG Chaired by Dr. Devendra Pandey

Safeboards Standard (*Just initiated*)

SDG Chaired by Mr. AK Goyal (ex Special Secretary to the Government of India)

Few words about Certification

Certification is an emerging global movement that supports sustainable development; economic growth; trade; livelihoods; value chains and consumer protection;

while enhancing;

Competitiveness and Fostering technological development

and fully meeting the requirements of;

Health, Safety, and Environmental Conservation.

Certification.....

- Forest Certification is a tool used to assess the quality and contemporariness of the management practices against the predefined norms of a Standard.
- Certification acknowledges a country's dedication to responsible forest management and its efforts to maintain a sustainable supply of forest products and services from healthy, diverse, and productive ecosystems.
- Application of NCCF's India specific, yet internationally benchmarked certification standard could be of great value in conserving and enhancing our rich forests and biodiversity.

Thank you

Webinar on Forest Certification

Forest Certification -An Introduction

Maharashtra State Forest Department

Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests

Date: 23rd July 2020

Arun K. Bansal, Lead Forest Management Auditor

Former Addl. DG Forests, India

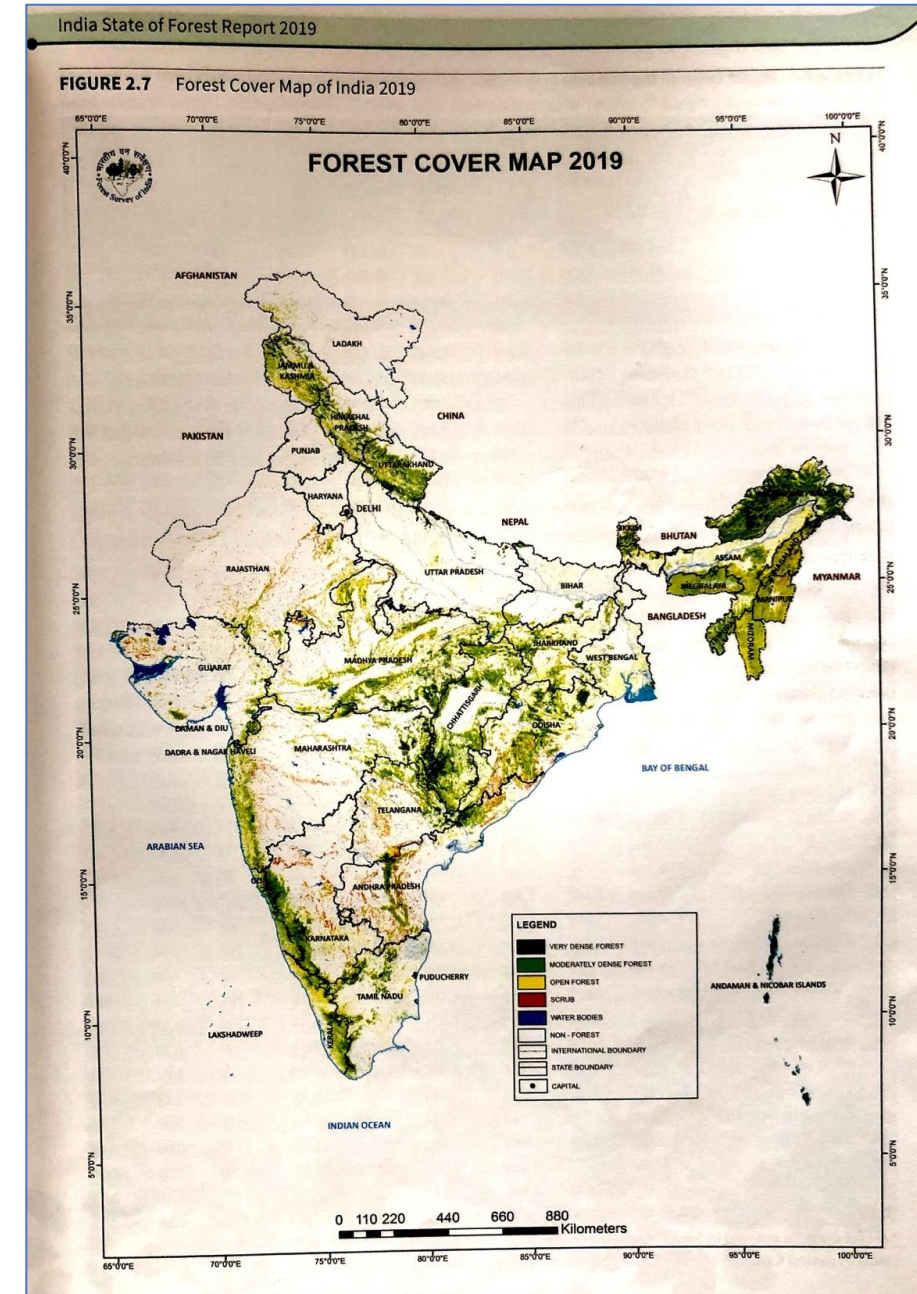
Chairperson, NCCF-PCA WG

Chairperson, NCCF-NWFP SDG



India's Forest Wealth

- ✓ 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 & Tree Cover = 80.72 Mha (24.56% of GA)
- ✓ FFV 1.73 lakh of the total 6.5 Lakh villages
- ✓ **Protected Areas Network** 868 PAs spread over 16.5 Mha (5.02 % of GA) NPs, WLS, Conservation & Community Reserves
- ✓ **Maharashtra**
 - ✓ 2nd largest RFA, 5th largest FTC
 - ✓ **76% FA under Approved Working Plans (65% India)**
 - ✓ PA ~15% of RFA
 - ✓ FRA IR – 1lakh ha, CR – 10 Lakh ha. (**CFR -7 lakh ha.**)



Forests and GDP

Use of Natural Resources/Environmental costs not considered in GDP computations

- ✓ **Forests in GDP - 2.6% in 1950s ; 1.7% in 2010**
- ✓ **Reasons for low contribution:**
 - Accounting method – Ecosystem Services?
 - Conservation oriented management practices
 - Low productivity of forests;
 - Unrecorded production
 - Higher growth of economy in other sectors
 - Import tariffs facilitating imports of wood & wood products
- ✓ **How to increase contribution:**
 - Improve management & accounting
 - Increasing productivity of forests
 - Correct valuation of forest products & ecosystem services
 - Promoting domestic wood-based industries
 - **Using Forest Certification as a improvement tool**



Goods and Services from Forests

- Food supplements, MAP
- Fresh Water
- Wood, bamboo & other fibre
- Fodder/Fuel



Provisioning Services

Regulating Services

Ecosystem Services from Forests



- Climate Regulation
- Water Purification
- Biological Control
- Pollination
- Air Quality Regulation
- Waste Assimilation

- Nutrient Cycling
- Soil Formation
- Primary Production



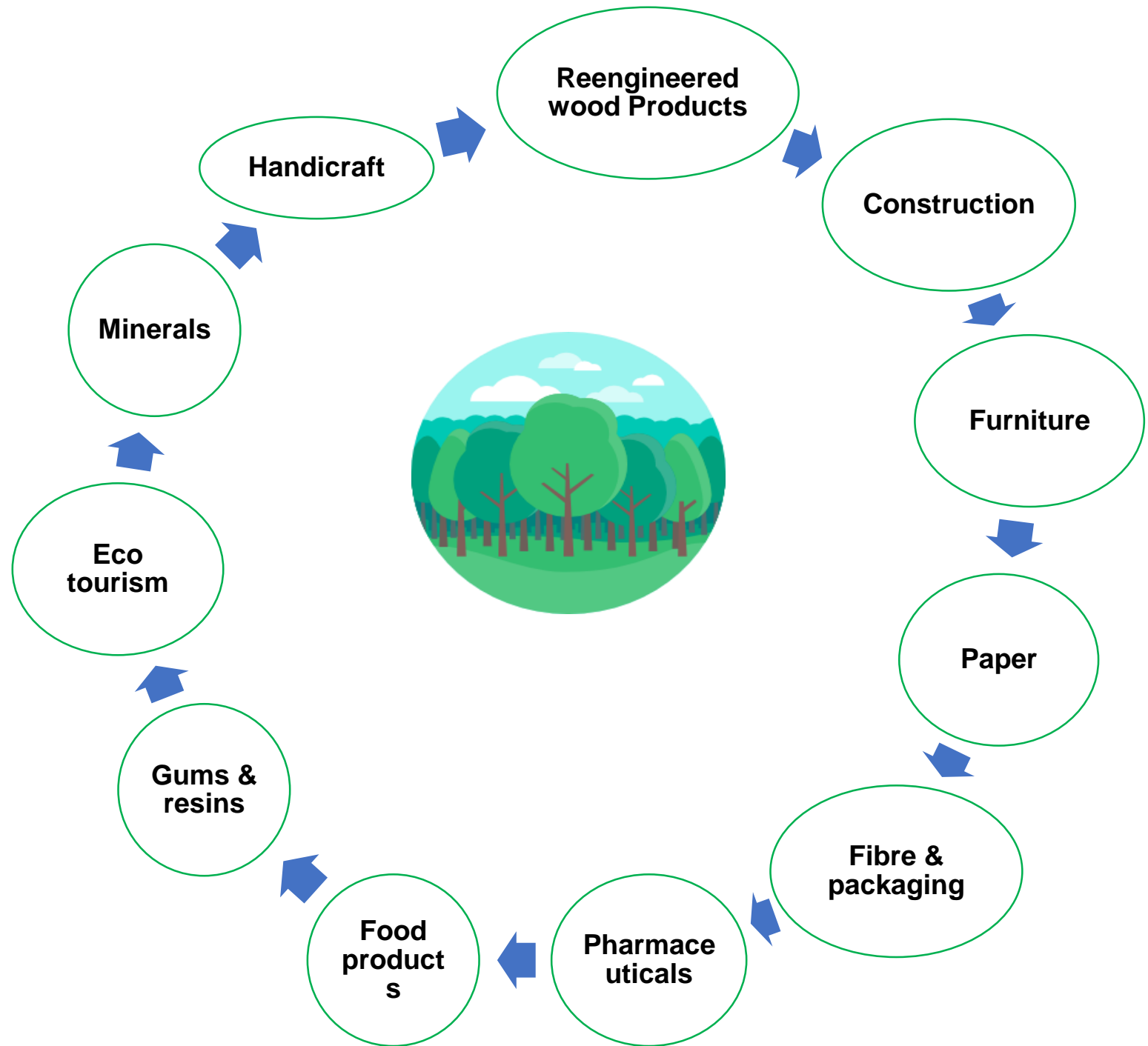
Supporting Services

Cultural Services



- Aesthetic
- Spiritual
- Educational
- Recreational

Forests contributing to Industrial Growth

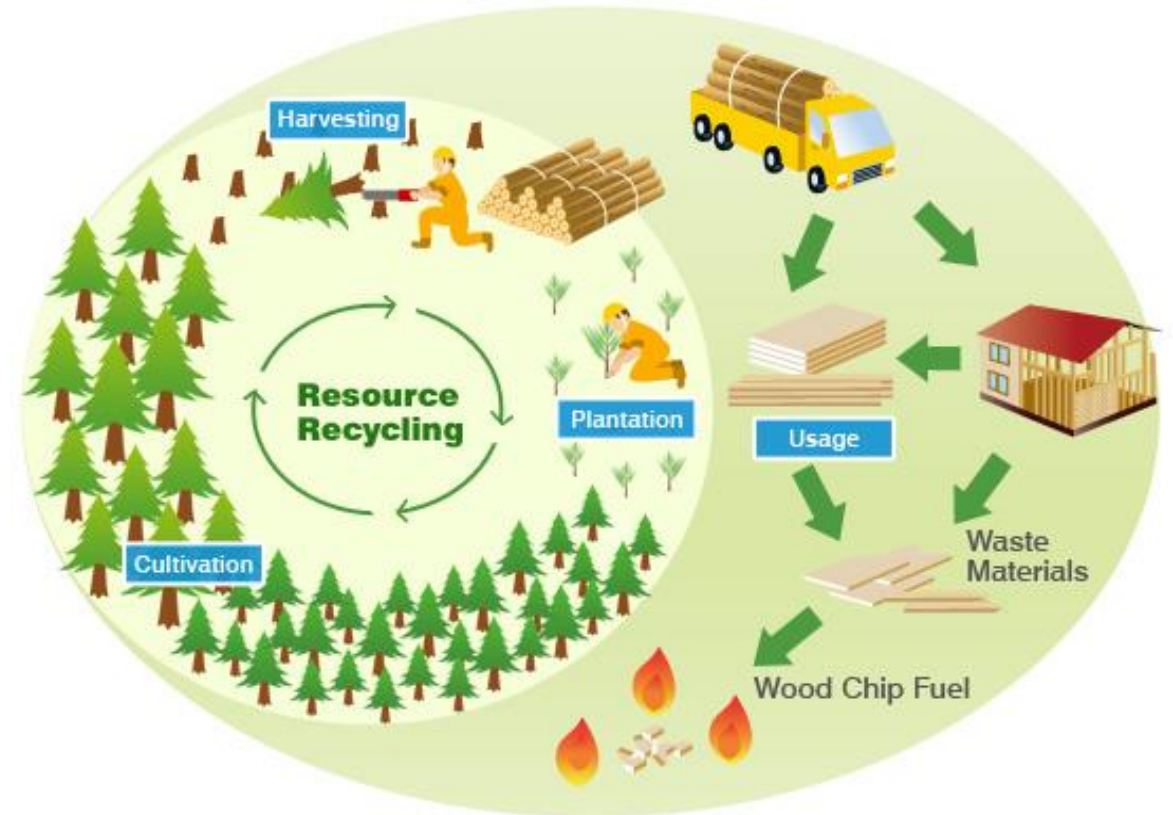


Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)

SFM: management of forests on principles of Sustainable Development; 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

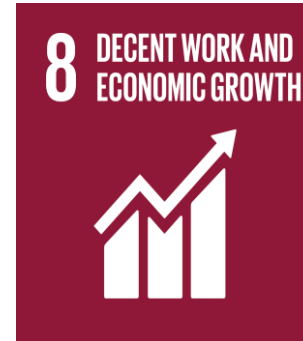


“National Working Plan Code 2014” promotes sustainable management of forests and biodiversity

Role of SFM in meeting India's International Commitments

- ✓ **Sustainable Development Goals:** 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 CO₂ eq. by 2030 through additional forest and tree cover
- ✓ **Bonn Challenge** restoring 21 Mha of degraded and deforested land by 2030
(enhanced to 26 Mha by Hon'ble Prime Minister during COP14 of UNCCD, New Delhi, 2019)

SFM contributing to SDGs



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”

SDGs - call for action by all countries to promote prosperity while protecting the planet.



Indicator 15.2.1 Progress towards SFM

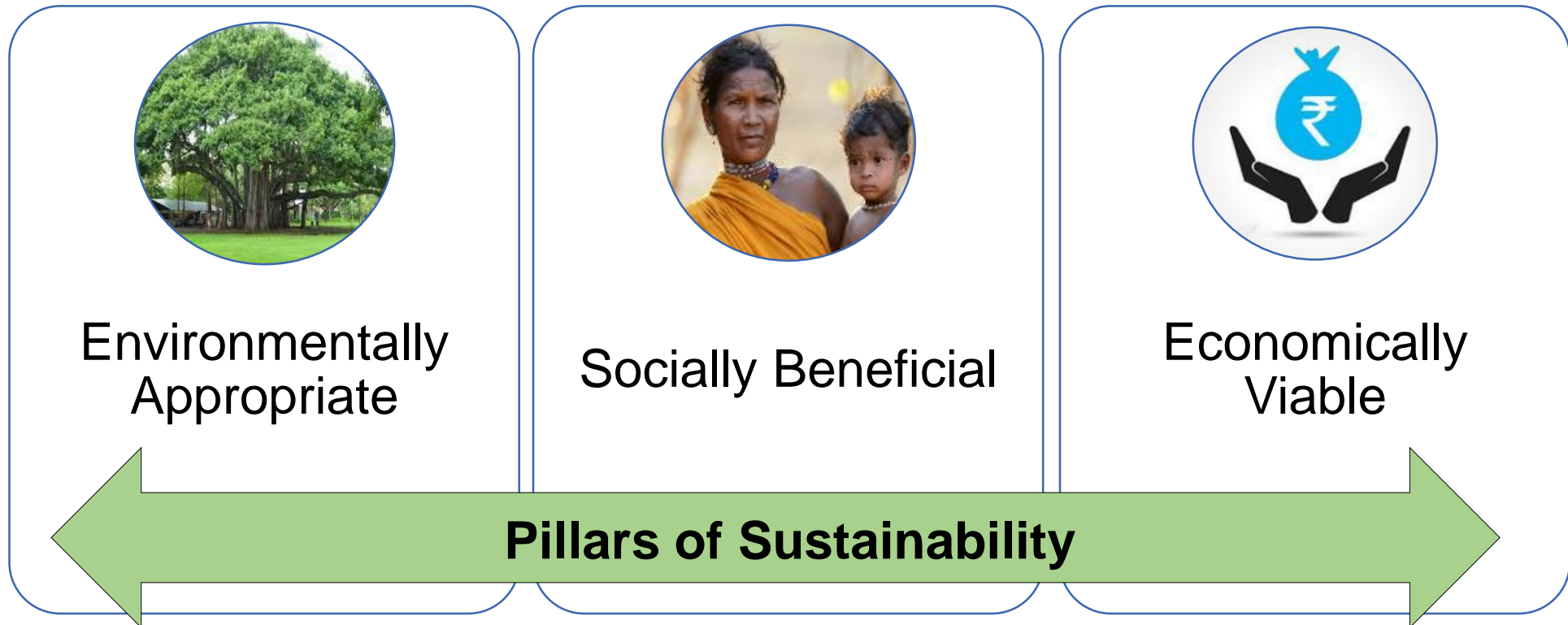
Sub indicators:

Forest area under long term Management Plan
Forest area certified

...

Certification: A Tool for Sustainable Forest Management

Forest Certification: “A voluntary process whereby an *independent third party* assesses *quality of forest management* and production against a set of requirements – *standards* predetermined by a certification organization”



Components of a Credible Certification System

A credible certification system has **three distinct functions**, performed by independent organizations

Standard Setting: [Scheme – FSC, NCCF-PEFC]

Multi-stakeholder process –
defining certification requirements (P C I v)

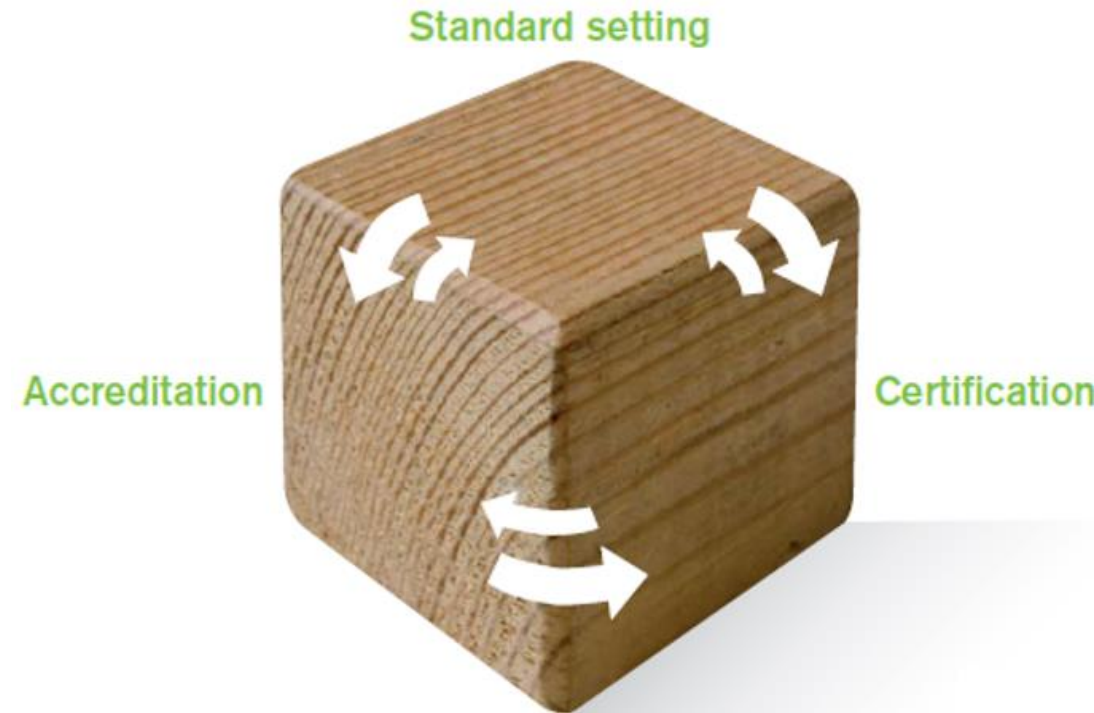
Certification:

Checking fulfilling “standard” requirements;
by Certification Bodies

Accreditation:

Assessing the competence of CBs;
by an independent Accreditation Body

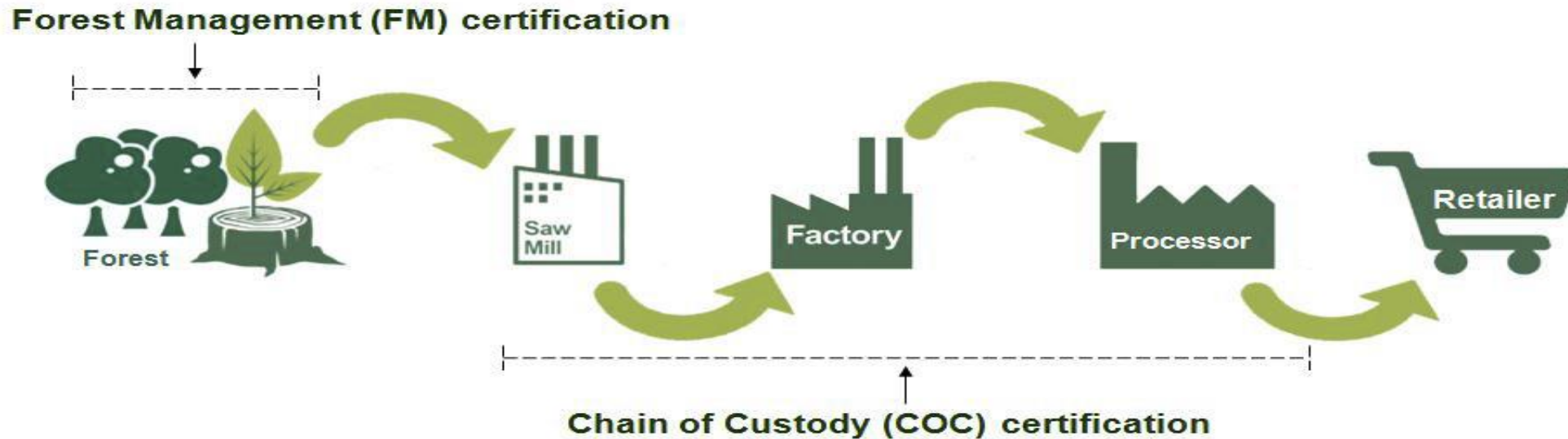
[For India: National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies]



Forest Certification system

A: Forest Management Unit (FMU) certification

Process leading to issuance of Certificate by an accredited CB, which assesses forests as per the “standards” C I v – Owners, Managers, Right holders



B: Chain of Custody certification (CoC)

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

Forest – Primary & Secondary Manufacturers- Traders- Retailers

International demand for products from Responsibly Managed Forests

- ✓ Globally, about 13 million ha of natural forests are unsustainably logged every year
- ✓ Both producer and consumer countries can help ensure SFM

Two aspects of responsible trade management:

1. Demand Side:

- European Union Timber Regulation (EUTR)
- Forest Law Enforcement in Governance and Trade (EU-FLEGT), 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

Need for consumer awareness, people's movement and promoting use of certified products

Forest Certification Schemes: Worldwide Voluntary

Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

Standard setter and sets its own global standards

Standards are Governed by their own members

Fixed Principles and Criteria



Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)

Not a standard setter but mutually recognizes the National Schemes – endorsement process

Standards are governed by individual country's stakeholders

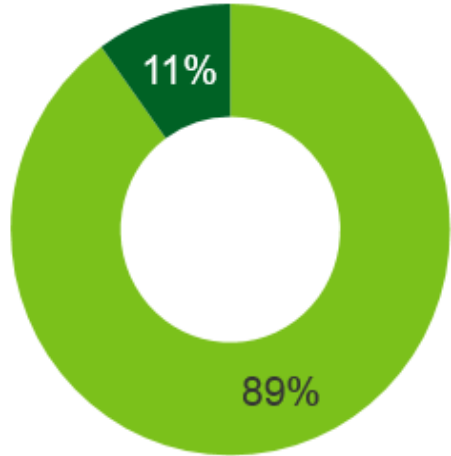
Has endorsed **46** National SFM Certification schemes
China, Malaysia, Thailand, USA, Canada, Indonesia etc.
and India

**NCCF is the member of PEFC for developing
(internationally benchmarked) SFM standard for India**

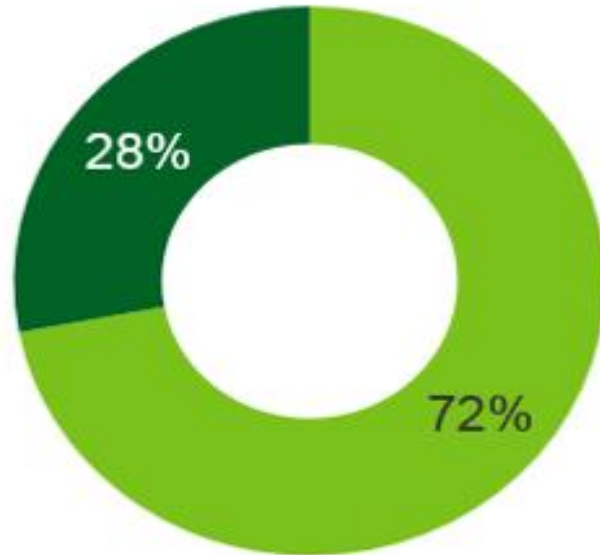


Forest Certification - Global Situation

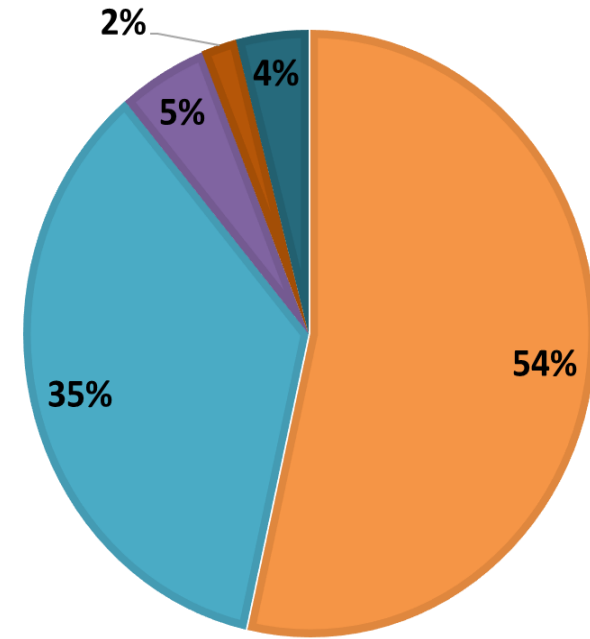
Globally, 525 million hectares (11%) of forests are certified



11% of the world's forest are certified



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



North America Europe Asia Central and South America Oceania

Data as of September 2019

Total Certified Areas in India

Organisation	State	Area (ha.)	Type
<i>Uttar Pradesh Forest Corporation (UPFC)</i>	<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>	<i>4,50,000</i>	<i>Government Forests comprising 41 Territorial and SF Divisions</i>
M.P. Rajya Van Vikas Nigam	Madhya Pradesh	1,02,785	Government Plantation Forest – 02 Forest Divisions
ITC PSPD	Telangana	37,089	Private Group/SLIMF certification
International Papers APPM	Andhra Pradesh	33,636	Private Group/SLIMF certification
JK Paper Mills	Odisha	4,217	Private Group/SLIMF certification
SARA (West Coast Paper Mills)	Karnataka	6,862	Private Group/SLIMF certification
New Ambadi Estate Pvt Ltd	Tamil Nadu	688	Private Rubber Plantation
Tamil Nadu Paper Limited	Tamil Nadu	3,131.28	Privately owned Group/SLIMF certification
Total area certified		6,38,408	
<i>Tripura Forest development and Plantation Corporation (NCCF FM certification in process)</i>	<i>Tripura</i>	<i>7027</i>	<i>Government owned Rubber Plantations</i>

Chain of Custody (31 Certificates)

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

Few Names of Industries:

- ✓ 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

Benefits of Forest Certification

Environmental	Social	Management & Economic
Pesticides etc. controlled use - No to WHO banned	Emphasis on occupational health and safety	Independent validation of / Improve implementation of Working Plan &
Safe collection and disposal of plastics, toxic wastes	Ensures social equity and livelihood opportunities to local communities incl. tribal and other forest dwellers	Regular (Annual) monitoring of key activities
Enhanced Management of Eco sensitive zones and High Conservation Value (HCV) Forests	Enhanced worker productivity amenities, for workers/legal wages	Focused Training and Capacity Building Managers / Front line Staff / Workers
Prevention of water, air and soil pollution	Capacity building for local communities and women	Brand recognition, preference and value addition due to use of certification logo
Preserves water catchment and water bodies	Compliance with internationally recognized labour laws	Potential access to new markets

Forest Certification Initiatives in India

- ✓ MoEF (2007) National Forest Certification Committee headed by Dr. Maharaj Muthoo, a veteran professional forester, and Forest Certification Expert
- ✓ The Committee recommended measures to promote forest certification in India.
- ✓ MOEF (2011-12) Initiated the process for establishment Indian Forest Certification Council but ...the idea was shelved after significant progress
- ✓ NCCF, a Network of professionals and experts, has developed an internationally benchmarked Indian Forest Certification Scheme endorsed by PEFC and launched in 2018.

CAF Rules 2018 {5(3)(k)} *Forest certification and development of certification standards* are eligible activities for utilizing State Compensatory Afforestation Funds.

May & December 2019 – DGF & Special Secretary, MOEF&CC has written to all SFDs to initiate forest certification in some divisions, having economic activities, like extraction of timber, NWFP and bamboo etc.

Forest Certification way forward

Certification is voluntary and needs promotion / facilitation

- ✓ Sensitizing the Forest Managers – tool for achieving SFM, systemic improvements, social & other benefits
- ✓ Awareness creation among key stakeholders including wood Product Industries
- ✓ Outreach to industrial houses using certified timber
 - Maharashtra is producing app. 90-95 '000 CUM timber annually including Teak, Shisham, Kendu.
 - Also sizable quantities of bamboo (many bamboo areas settled under CFR)
- ✓ Government need to give preference to certified wood products in public procurements - part of green initiatives

Thank You

Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests (NCCF)

Contact:

Mr A.K Bansal, IFS

+91 96504 58111

Email: bansalka@yahoo.in

pca.mail@nccf.in

Online Workshop on Forest Certification for Maharashtra Forest Department

23 July 2020

NCCF Forest Management Certification Standard (*PEFC endorsed*)

By:

Avani K Varma
(*ex* PCCF & HoFF, Karnataka)
Chairperson, NCCF FM Standard Development Group



Need & Advantages of a Domestic Scheme

- ✓ **International Standards** are of **Generic Nature**
- ✓ **International Standards** may imply higher costs (auditing, travel, logistics, etc.)

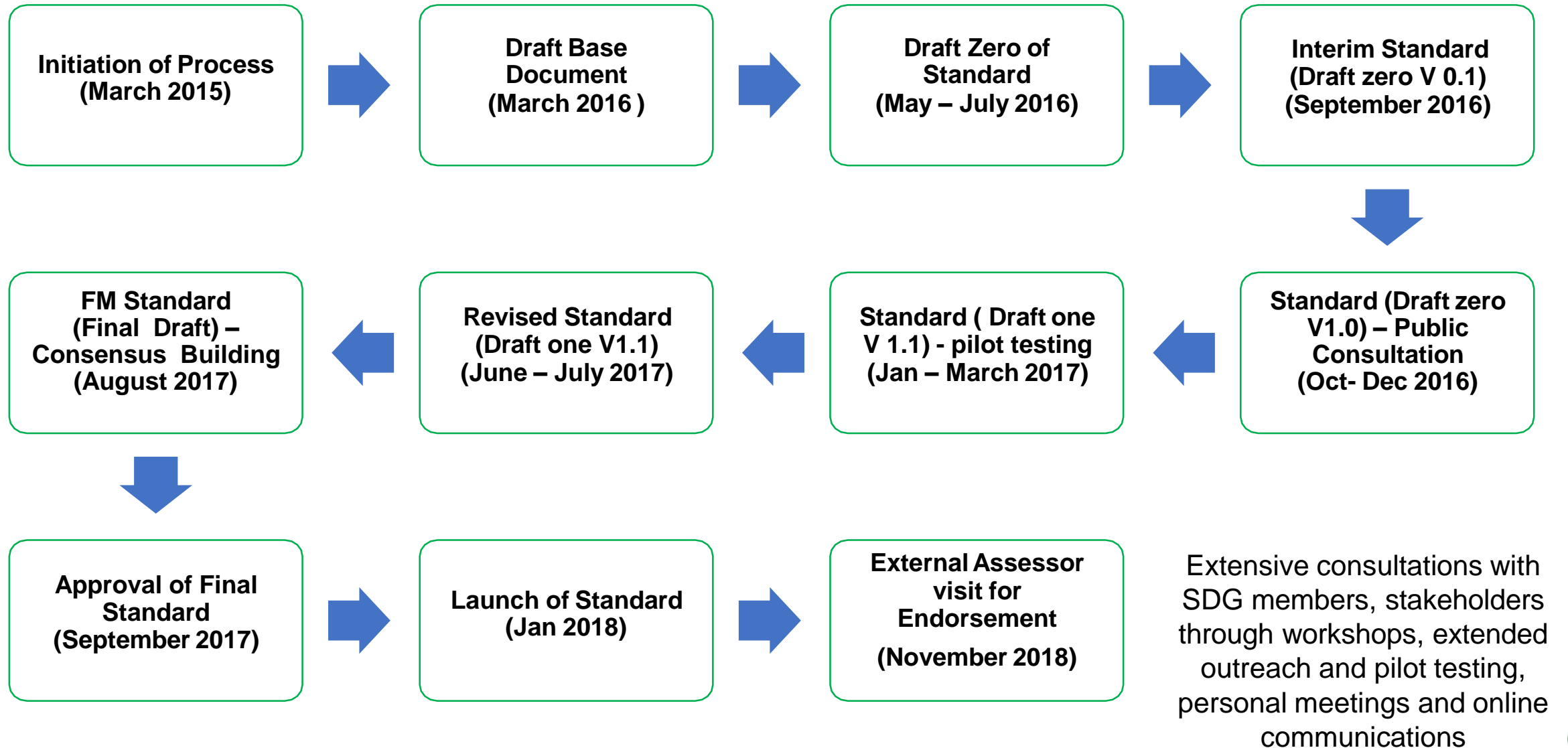
Indian Conditions:

- ✓ diverse **legal** and **administrative** frameworks of forest management
- ✓ diverse **social, cultural & geographical** conditions of forests in different States
- ✓ **diversity of forest types** and **variability** of FM in India

Need & 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**, yet incorporating **global best practices**
- ✓ Nationally **adaptive** and **accepted** (*periodic review & updation*)
- ✓ **Internationally Endorsed**
- ✓ **Economical** (e.g. domestic auditors, ease and flexibility in use)
- ✓ **Promote** and **facilitate** national and international **trade**
- ✓ Integration of **local needs** and expectations
- ✓ Pilot Tested in Indian Conditions
- ✓ Scheme cover **Minimum Wage** as per national context; World has started talking about **Living Wages**

Standard Setting Process of NCCF-PEFC-FM Certification Standard



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 fulfillment of the endorsement milestones. Any revision of the
system has to be submitted to the PEFC Council for assessment.

Handwritten signature of Peter Latham in blue ink.

Peter Latham, OBE,
Chairman

Handwritten signature of Ben Gunneberg in blue ink.

Ben Gunneberg,
Secretary General

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

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

NCCF FM Standard Incorporates

- ✓ Practicing sustainable forestry: needs for present and future generations
- ✓ **Health and productivity** of forests
- ✓ **Forest regeneration** after harvest
- ✓ Protecting forests from damaging agents (such as wildfire, diseases and invasive species)
- ✓ **Protecting water bodies, riparian areas**
- ✓ Maintaining **water quality**
- ✓ Protection and promote **biological diversity**
- ✓ Preserving **ecologically, geologically or culturally** important lands
- ✓ Spreading **awareness** of sustainable forestry practices
- ✓ **Providing ecosystem services**
- ✓ Involving **forests dependent communities**
- ✓ Recognizing, respecting **rights & traditions** of indigenous and tribal people
- ✓ Supporting advances in SFM through **scientific research**
- ✓ **Value addition** and exploring new products and markets
- ✓ **Documenting** audits and publishing the findings

NCCF-PEFC FM Standard

Theme	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-PEFC FM Standard (T&P)

Theme A: Legality and Land Tenure

Principle 1: Compliance to national, state and local laws and international treaties and regulations

Principle 2: Land Tenure, Rights and Responsibilities

Theme B: Forest Management Plan

Principle 3: Development and implementation of a Management Plan/Working Plan

Principle 4: Monitoring, Assessment and Review of management plan and its implementation

Theme C: Forest Management Impacts and Effects

Principle 5: Forest Management activities – Social, Economic and Environmental Impacts

Principle 6: Forests and Climate Change – contribution of forest management activities to climate change mitigation and adaptation, change in forest carbon inventories etc.

Theme D: Sustainable & Economic Utilization of Forest Resources

Principle 7: Inventory and sustainable harvest regimes for forest resources

Principle 8: Benefits from Forests

NCCF-PEFC FM Standard (T&P)

Theme E: Socially Responsible Forest Management – social and Community rights and relations

Principle 9: Community rights and relations – Forest management operations recognize the rights of local communities, forest dwellers and indigenous people/tribals and maintain and enhance their long term social and economic well-being.

Principle 10: Workers rights – including permanent, temporary and contract workers at all levels

Theme F: Ecological Integrity and Health of Forests – Conservation and Management

Principle 11: Ecology, biodiversity and Natural Resource Management – Conservation, Enhancement and Rehabilitation

Principle 12: Identification, Protection and Management of High Conservation Value Forests (HCVFs)/Special Sites for conservation

Principle 13: Forest ecosystem services – identifying, quantifying and valuation of both tangible and non-tangible ecosystem services

Principle 14: Biodiversity conservation – including measures for conservation and maintenance and rehabilitation of losses to biodiversity values arising out of management activities or occurring within the FME

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)

Market demand in India

- Demand for certified wood from users and exporters of products of sandalwood/rose wood/red sanders etc.
- Export of handicraft and wood makers of Chanpatna (near Bangalore), Jaipur, Saharanpur etc. due to legal requirement in Europe, USA and many other countries
- Bamboo artisans for export of their finished goods
- Ethical wood, legally procured wood
- Consumer (ethical and quality) preference in domestic market
- Paper Mills
- Timber users in building, housing, construction and infrastructure sector
- State Forestry departments as a management improvement system
- Positive impact on forest management and locals livelihood etc.

Thank You!!

Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests

Contact:

Mr Avani K Varma

Email: avivarma@yahoo.com

Email: info@nccf.in

NCCF-FM Certification Standard & National Working Plan Code 2014

NWPC Chapter	NCCF-PEFC FM (Covered) (as contents of NWPC)	NCCF-PEFC FM (Not Covered/NA)
General	Cover details about legality including national laws, rules, polices, etc.; forms the basis of Forest Certification	
Objectives & Other Essentials of Forest Management Planning	Objectives of Forest Management Planning; Biodiversity Conservation and Development; JFM; Community Forest Management; Fringe Forest Management; Water Resources Management; Soil and Water Conservation; Forest Health and Diseases; Forest Fires and Protection; Forests and Climate Change; Carbon Sequestration and Mitigation; REDD+; Application of Modern Technologies; Forest Inventory; Survey and Mapping; Growth Data and Carbon Sequestration	Linkage with National Forest Inventory; ToF
Organizational Structure	Covers details of all resources; will support in Forest Certification	
Inputs To WPO	Maps, Thematic Layers and Remote Sensing Satellite Imagery; Control Forms and Deviation Statements; Consultations with Local Stakeholders	Spatial Database in GIS; Compartment History; PWPR; Preparation of PWPR
Standing Consultative Committee & Preparation of Working Plan	Has no role viz-a-viz Forest Certification	

NCCF-FM Certification Standard & National Working Plan Code 2014

NWPC Chapter	NCCF-PEFC FM (Covered) (as contents of NWPC)	NCCF-PEFC FM (Not Covered/NA)
Survey and Assessment of Forest Resources	Examination of Territorial Units; Forest Resource Assessment; GS Estimation; Assessment of NTFPs (Including Maps); Biodiversity Assessment; Assessment of Regeneration Status; Plantation Survey & Assessment Assessment of Bamboo/Rattan; Soil Survey & Assessment; Socio-Economic Survey & Assessment Assessment of Wildlife Habitats and Species	Assessment of TOF
Writing Up The Plan	Has no role viz-a-viz Forest Certification	
Preparation of Maps	Availability of maps helps and has added benefits	
Compartment History	Compartment Description; Compartment Enumeration; Compartment Outturn; Harvesting of NTFPs Compartment History	-
Monitoring, Assessment & Reporting	Control Forms; Formats of Control Forms; Coupe Control Form; Felling Control Form; NTFP Control Form; Deviation Control Form	-

NCCF-FM Certification Standard & National Working Plan Code 2014

If an approved Working Plan based on NWPC 2014 is followed meticulously the following aspects will be automatically be taken care off:

- Compliance to National Laws, Rules, Polices
- Major aspects of environmental sustainability
- Scientific Forest Management
- Resources required for forest certification
- Monitoring & Review
- Resource Planning
- Sustainable Harvesting Regimes
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Silvicultural Aspects
- Survey & Inventorisation
- Maps & Boundary Demarcation
- Royalties, Taxes, Fee & Challans
- NISTAR & Community Rights

Aspects not covered under NWPC

- ✓ Aspects of International Conventions like CITES, ILO Conventions, CBD & other international conventions
- ✓ Gender equality
- ✓ Health and Safety of the employees and communities living adjacent to Forest area
- ✓ Tenure rights/legal and customary rights of indigenous/tribals
- ✓ Employment and training services to local communities & for staff
- ✓ EIA and SIA Report
- ✓ No use of WHO banned pesticides;
- ✓ Integrated Pest Management
- ✓ Waste disposal
- ✓ No Use of Genetically Modified Organisms
- ✓ High Conservation Value Forest - identification, management and monitoring
- ✓ Concept of Ecosystem Services
- ✓ An overall Risk Mitigation

Forest Certification can serve as an independent management review for the forest department similar to a financial audit



Online Workshop on Forest Certification for Maharashtra Forest Department

Modalities and Certification Procedure for NCCF Forest Management Certification Scheme - (*PEFC endorsed*)

Date:- 23rd July 2020

Presented by:- Ms Taruna, Lead Forest Management Auditor and SDG member, NCCF Forest Management Standard Development Group (SDG)

Who's Who?

NCCF

- Develop & Revise standards
- Lay guidelines for certification and auditing ; Auditor Trainings
- NCCF and NABCB assess auditors/CB performance

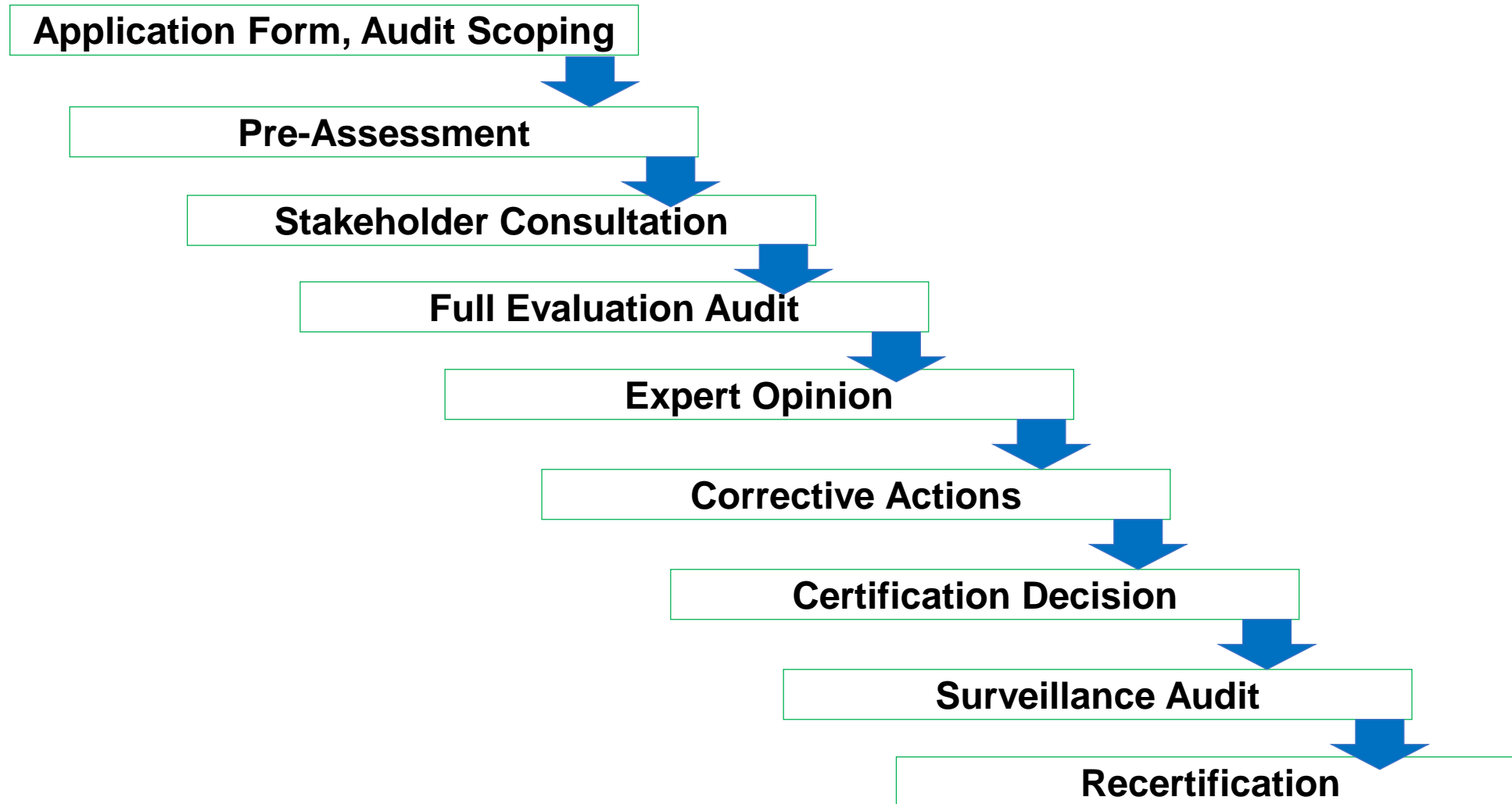
Certification Body

- Perform 3rd Party audit using NCCF FM standard
- issue certificate – 5ys validity and conducts annual audits to maintain certificate validity
- Accredited by National Accreditation Board for Certification Body (NABCB)

Steps for initiating Forest Certification

1. Identify Forest Divisions with approved working plan -: Industry relevant spp.
2. Inform NCCF and seek assistance where required
3. Selecting a Certification Body for Audit
 1. Tender Process
 2. One-off basis
4. NCCF to share draft Tender document detailing technical requirements for bidder/CB
5. State Forest Department and NCCF
 1. Publish Tender on website
 2. Circulate Tender documents among accredited CBs
6. Setting up CB selection committee – representation from NCCF & NABCB to evaluate technical proposal received
7. Awarding Tender

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

Certificate Type	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"> 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 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 – Report detailing areas of strength and weakness

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
- Visiting sites & locations – harvesting sites, new plantations, natural forest patches, ANR, nurseries, depots, water bodies, areas with conservation areas, JFMCs, primary processing unit. Wildlife corridors, tracking & tracing system for timber harvested, etc.
- Consultation with stakeholders, tribals, forest dwellers, workers, staff, etc.
- 5-6 days on field- depending upon NCCF audit man-days requirement as per forest area

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

- CB records all conformities and nonconformities against requirements of NCCF-FM Standard; Major & Minor Nonconformities; Observations; Corrective Action Requests (CARs) raised

Certification Decision

- Based on audit findings certification decision is taken; Certificate issued for 5 years Validity; NCCF/PEFC Logo Usage

Surveillance Audit

- CB conducts 4 annual surveillance audits to maintain certificate validity

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;

Select one: Major CAR Minor CAR Observation

FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU):

Deadline

- Pre-condition to certification/recertification
- 3 months from Issuance of Final Report
- 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation)
- Observation – response is optional
- Other deadline (specify):

NCCF Indicator:

2.1.2. The FMU boundaries shall be clearly demarcated in the field and distinctly marked on maps.

Non-Conformity: The audit team while visiting two Forest Divisions observed that fences of Sales Depot and nursery were damaged at many places, providing easy access to thieves and wild animals. Premises of both the Sales Depot and Nursery are located in the elephant corridor, and thus prone to damage by elephants and other wild animals. Incursion by wild animals especially elephants pose serious threat to the FME property and to the lives of staff working in the depot and nursery. Damage due to trampling of nursery seedlings by wild animals including elephants is common in the Nursery.

Corrective Action Request: The FME shall ensure that measures are in place and well taken to ensure that no illegal and unauthorized activities take place inside the FME’s operations and interfere with its management and protection objectives.

FME response
(including any evidence submitted)



Select one: Major CAR Minor CAR Observation

FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU):

Deadline

- Pre-condition to certification/recertification
 3 months from Issuance of Final Report
 12 months or next audit (surveillance or re-evaluation)
 Observation – response is optional
 Other deadline (specify):

NCCF Indicator:

8.3.3. The FME shall have written field guidelines for retention of harvest residue (lops and tops, limbs, slash etc.) as well as other biomass on site while considering economic, social and environmental factors (e.g. organic and nutrient value to future forests and the increased combustible fuel load build-up in forests).

Non-Conformity: The FME has not any written guidelines for the retention of the harvest residue.

Corrective Action Request): The FME shall have written guidelines for retention of harvest residue as well as other biomass on site.

FME response
(including any
evidence submitted)

GIPL review

Status of CAR:

- Closed
 Upgraded to Major
 Other decision (refer to description above)

Some Impact Findings & Status of Certification

- ✓ **UPFC** shown keen interest and got an area of 4.5 lakh ha in 41 forest divisions certified under **NCCF-PEFC FM Certification** recently. Now fetching benefits for levying 8-10% cess on certified products.
- ✓ **Tripura SFD** has also floated tenders and are reportedly negotiating with qualified CB.
- ✓ Tripura SFDC – certification of rubber plantations under process
- ✓ **Certification in India** has shown **positive impact** on management system improvement (e.g: UPFDC, Tripura and others in past)
- ✓ Certification has resulted in increase of revenue up to 8-10% as buyers are willing to pay for the certification brand
- ✓ Study in Indonesia has shown that a certified forest has 31% less air pollution and 5 % less deforestation.

Certificate for UPFC



CERTIFICATE



AWARDED TO

UTTAR PRADESH FOREST CORPORATION (UPFC)

Aranya Vikas Bhawan, 21/475, Indira Nagar, Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)

For compliance with NCCF-STD-01 Forest Management Certification Standard

CERTIFICATE CODE: GIPL-FM-0001

Valid from: 13 February 2020

Expiry Date: 12 February 2023

Scope of Certificate: This certificate covers 41 Forest Divisions (450400.31 ha) (Refer addendum for names)

Applicable standard(s): NCCF-STD-01 Forest Management Certification Standard

Products/Species: Refer addendum

This certificate itself does not constitute evidence that a product supplied by the certificate holder is NCCF FM certified. Products offered, shipped or sold by the certificate holder can only be considered by the scope of this certificate when the certification claim is clearly stated on sales and delivery documents and the validity of the certificate and list of products included in scope can be found and verified on website. The certificate shall remain the property of GICIA India Pvt. Ltd. and this certificate and all copies or reproductions of this certificate shall be returned to GICIA India Pvt. Ltd. immediately upon request.

Authorized Signatory

Gajendra Kishore, CEO

Validity of this certificate may be checked with GICIA India Pvt Ltd.
505, 5th Floor, Matrix Tower, B - 4, Sector - 132, Mohda - 201304 (U.P.), India
Phone: 0520- 6750611/12

1. Use Addendum to list the sites
2. This certificate is valid for a period of 5 years subject to successful completion of annual Surveillance audits after the initial certification



Thank You!!

Contact:

Ms Taruna

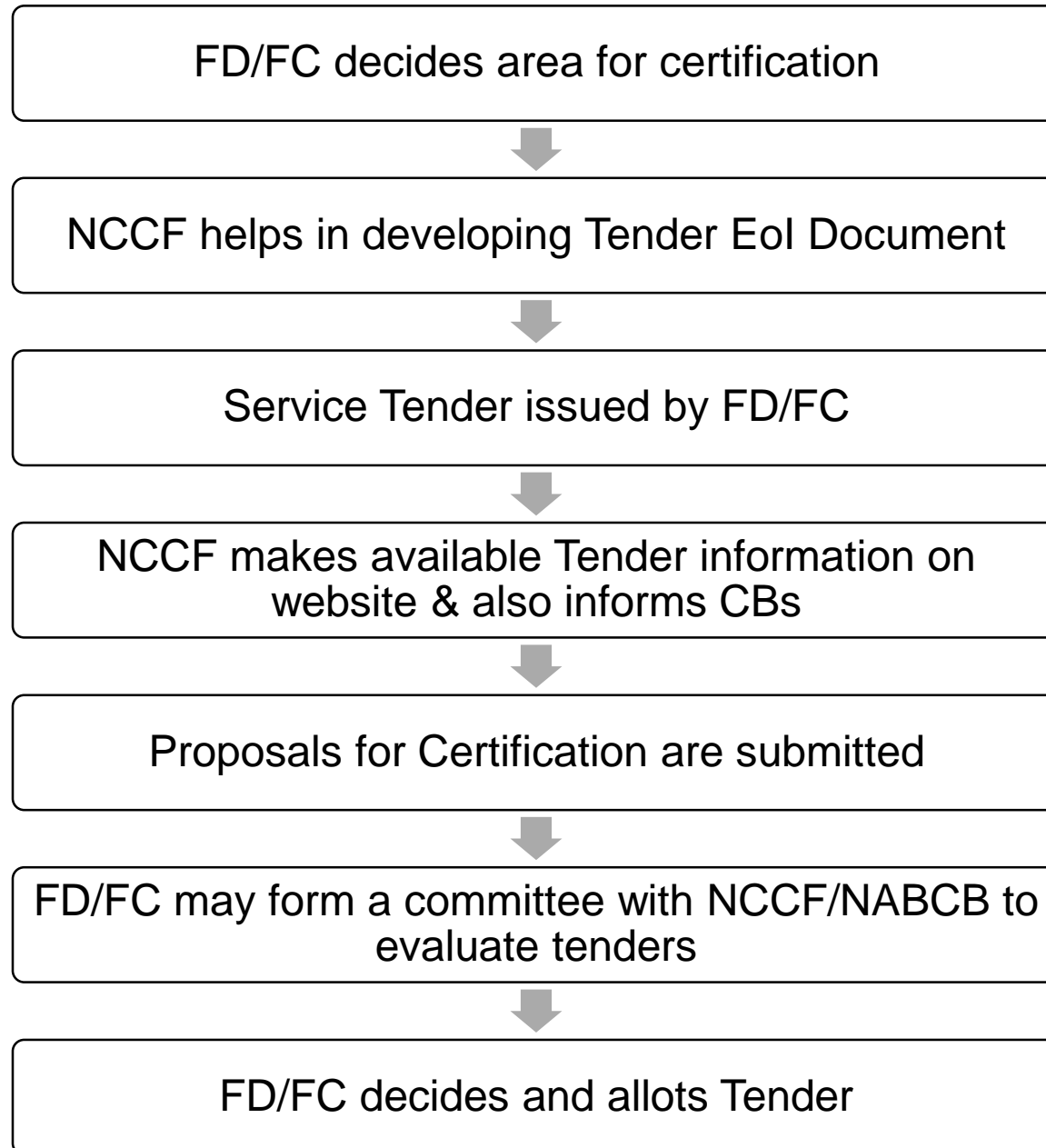
Email: taruna@gicia.org

Email: info@nccf.in

Modalities of NCCF-PEFC FM Certification

- ✓ Calling for **tender** from reputed accredited CBs: it is **procurement of services**
- ✓ Accreditation of CBs should be with NABCB as well as approved by NCCF
- ✓ Either only FM certificate or FM and CoC both could be opted together
- ✓ **Certificate validity will be for 5 years**
- ✓ After successful contractual signing and awarding of the work to a CB
- ✓ CB would take up **audit** as per mutually agreed time frame etc.
- ✓ CB considers **certain norms prescribed** by NCCF regarding **minimum number of audit man days, percentage sample areas to be covered**, activities to be seen and assessed etc. depending on extent of area to be covered
- ✓ NCCF keeps tab on audit qualities etc. of CBs apart from other mandatory regular checks and verification of internal management systems of the latter
- ✓ NCCF also conducts **auditors' training** regularly
- ✓ NCCF does hand holding of auditees wherever requested
- ✓ There are many other aspects which are matter of details

Tendering Process



Selection of a Certification Body

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.

Online Workshop on Forest Certification for Maharashtra Forest Department

23 July 2020

Industry Perspective of Forest Certification

By:

Suneel Pandey
Vice President,
Paperboards and Specialty Papers Division, ITC Ltd.,
Secretary, NCCF



NCCF

How Forest Certification Works

**Goal:
Forest Conservation**

Set of Rules (Standards):

***For Forest
***For Processors

To manage
rules

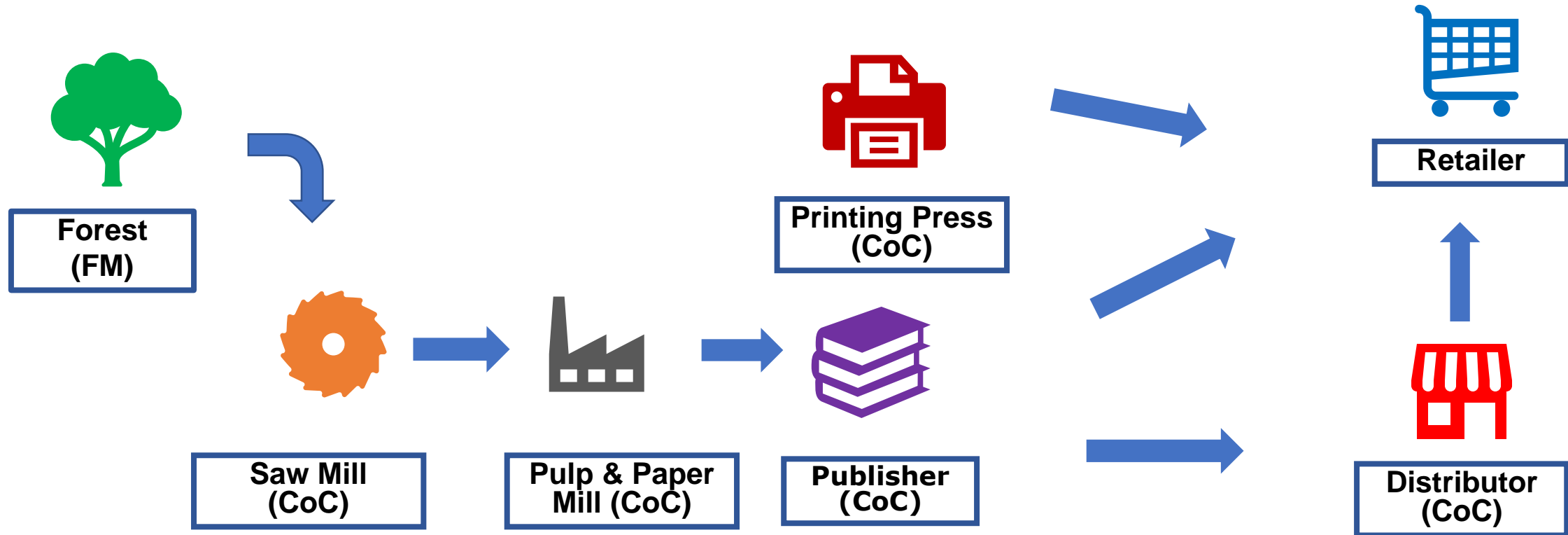
**Independent
Third party Certifier
(TPC)**

**Chain -of-Custody
(CoC)
for processors**

**Forest Management (FM) for
Forest/farm owners**

Forest Certification : A tool for linking consumers and producers

From forest to consumer, including all successive stages of processing, transformation, manufacturing and distribution



- ✓ Identify/certify well managed forests
- ✓ Establish linkages in the production chain
- ✓ Create recognizable label
- ✓ Enable consumers to support responsible practices

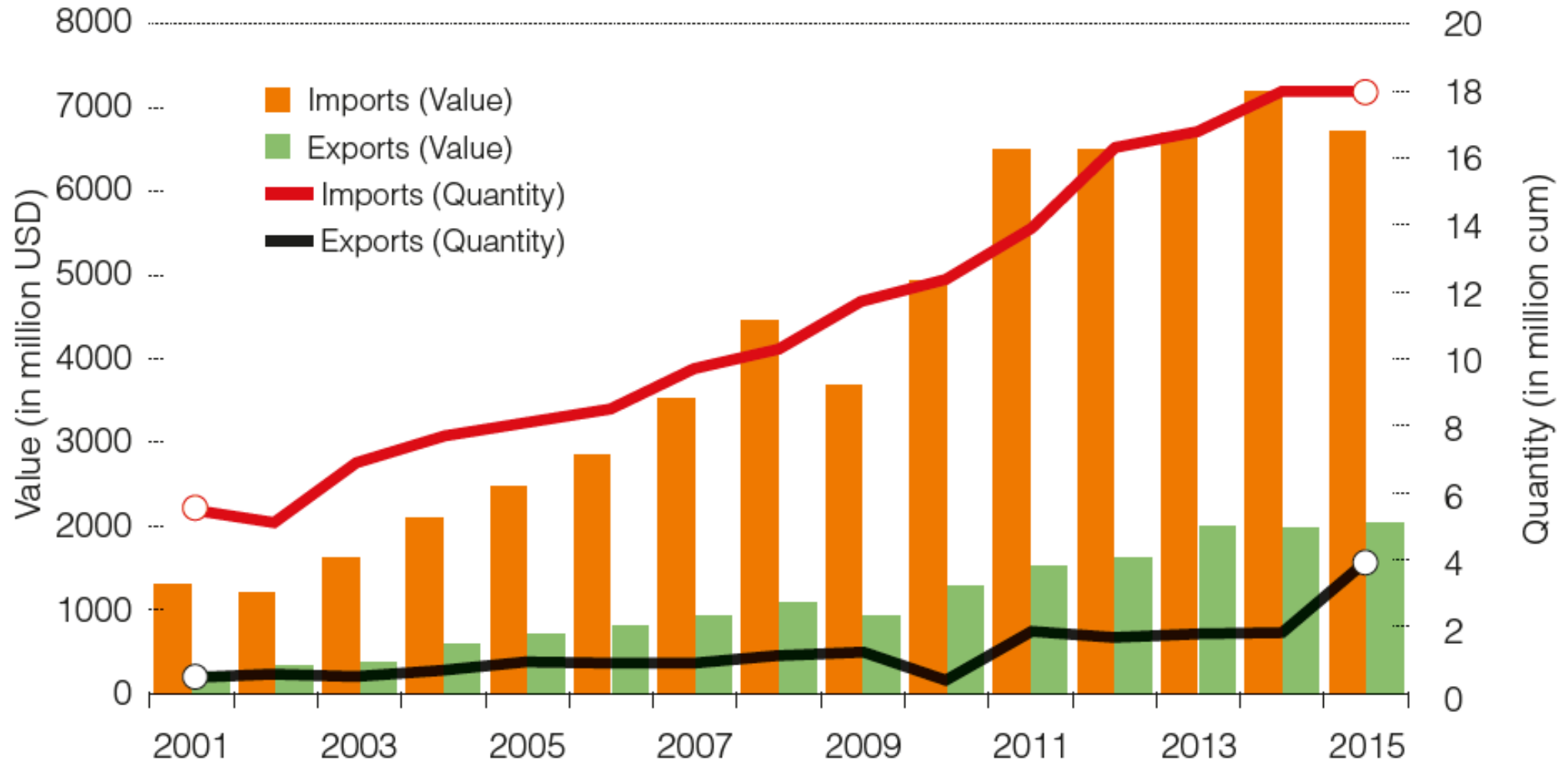
Industrial Trend towards Certification

- ✓ Increasing Y-o-Y demand for certified products
- ✓ Industries trying to source certified raw material
- ✓ Sustainability commitments of organisations
- ✓ Future sourcing plans to have increased raw material from sustainably procured, certified sources
- ✓ Industry is ready to support sustainably procured, certified raw material:
 - Financial, technical, technological, training & capacity building support
 - Buy back models, other PPP models

Challenges faced by Industries:

- ✓ Demand-Supply Gap in procuring certified raw material
- ✓ Pressure of sustainability tends to increase use certified raw material

Trends of Timber Trade in India



Source: International Trade Center/UN COMTRADE, 2016

Potential to embrace certification not only for exports but also for domestic timber market

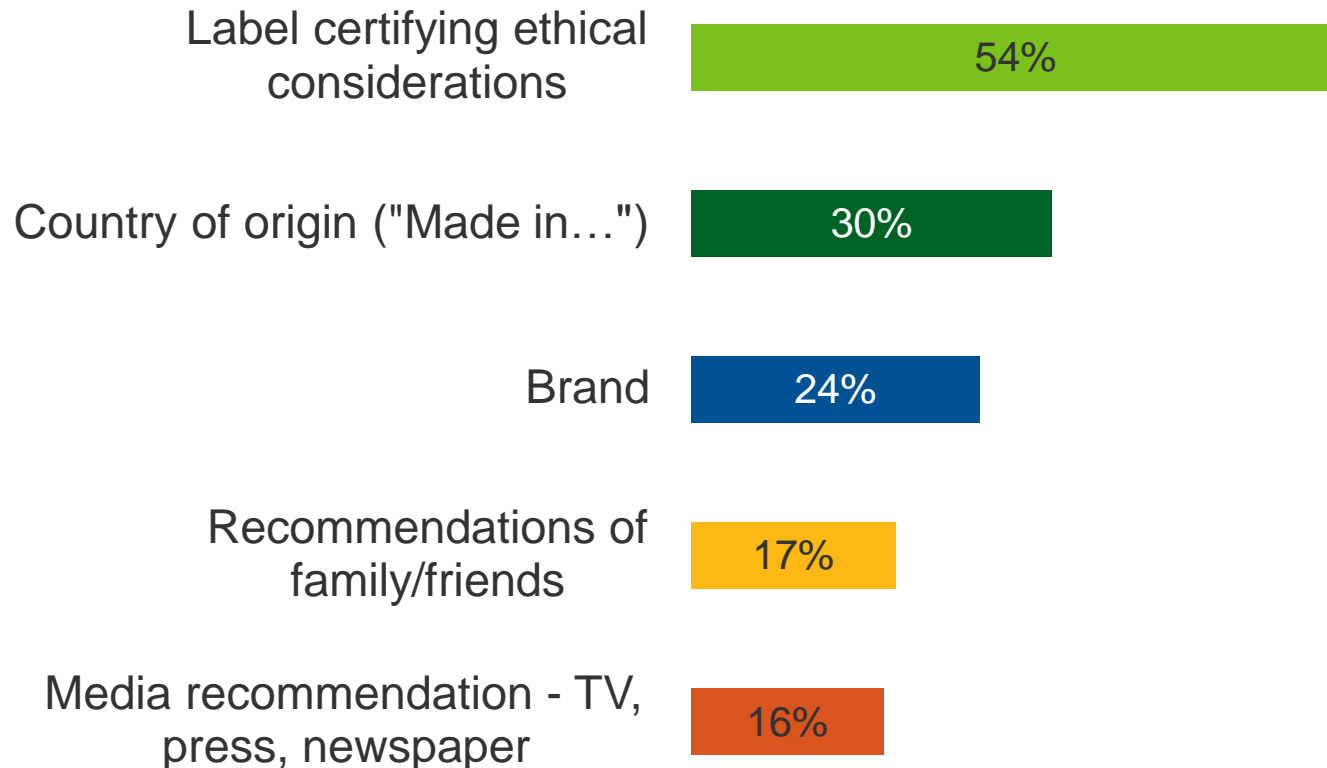


- ✓ **Timber imports to India:** USD 441 mn
- ✓ **Furniture imports to India:** USD 602 mn
- ✓ **Furniture exports from India:** USD 807 mn
- ✓ **Employment potential:** more than 11.29 million employees by 2022*
- ✓ India is a **global timber importing** country as well as **furniture exporting** country
- ✓ 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.

Market Demand: Consumers request certification

What reassures you most that environmental considerations have been taken into account?



Source: PEFC/GfK Global Consumer Survey (Nov 2014)



Industry Case Study : ITC Ltd.

- ✓ ITC Ltd. is committed towards SFM/responsible forestry
- ✓ **41000 ha** FM certified under group certification, 33500 farmers
- ✓ **~1 lac MT** FM certified wood
- ✓ **~15 lac** CW wood
- ✓ Major supply of paperboard for packaging, supplied to Tetrapak

Addressing the demand for certified wood material

✓ Identifying and addressing sector specific requirements:

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

✓ International MNCs/Retailers like **IKEA, Otto, H&M, Walmart, Target, Unilever,** etc. are searching for certified raw material in India

The logo for H&M, featuring the letters 'H&M' in a stylized, red, cursive font.The OTTO logo, featuring the word 'OTTO' in a bold, red, sans-serif font.The Unilever logo, featuring a blue crest with intricate floral patterns above the word 'Unilever' in a blue, serif font.The Walmart logo, featuring the word 'Walmart' in a blue, sans-serif font followed by a yellow six-pointed starburst symbol.

Way Forward

- ✓ Till now market was only for export which is only about 5-10%
- ✓ We need to further strengthen our export potential
- ✓ We need to create domestic market for certified products
- ✓ Domestic demand for certified material will increase
- ✓ Certification has to no longer be export oriented

Thank You!!

Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests

Contact:

Mr Suneel Pandey

Email: suneelrasra@gmail.com; secretary@nccf.in

Email: info@nccf.in