

Webinar on Forest Certification by NCCF

19 May 2020

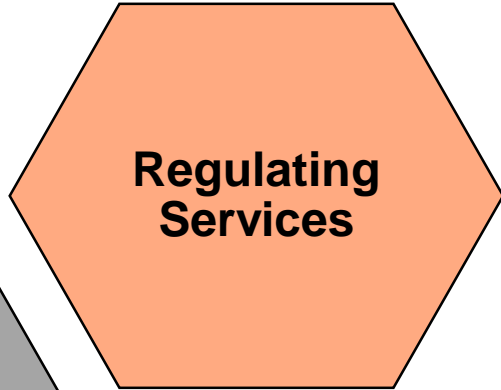
Governance and Management perspective of Forest Certification

By:

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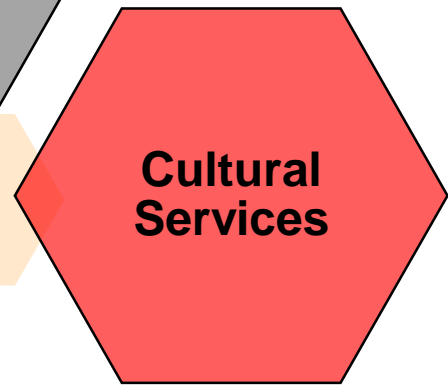
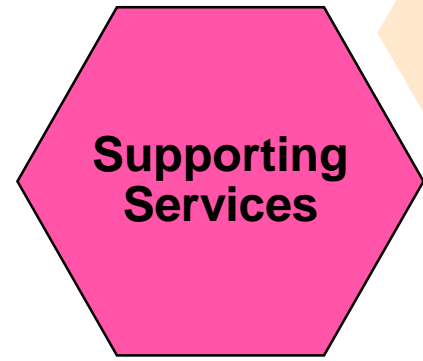


- Food
- Fresh Water
- Wood & Fibre
- Fuel



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

- Nutrient Cycling
- Soil Formation
- Primary Production



- Aesthetic
- Spiritual
- Educational
- Recreational

Management of Forests in India

- **Forests:** publicly owned under the Doctrine of Public Trust
- **Scientific management:** system of **10 year** working plans prepared by a specific branch of SFDs and approved by the GoI
- **WP prescriptions:** based on systematic assessment of forest resources, utilization of produces, past systems of management
- Include annual allowable cut of timber guided by the principles of sustained yield and SSOs so as to obtain regeneration
- **NWFPs not given required attention**
- **WP prescribes several forms: generally not maintained**
- **Revised NWP Code 2014: adoption??**
- All Forests not covered by working/management plans; globally only 50% of forest areas have management plans

New Provisions in Revised NWP Code 2014

- **Consultation with stakeholders:** local people's forum, JFMs, VPs
- **Assessment:** Forest Carbon, Biodiversity
- **Growing stock estimation: use of local volume tables**
- **Assessment of NWFP resources:**
 - **Resource Assessment:** including separate focus on **Bamboo and Rattan**
 - **Estimated production of NWFPs:** fruits, flowers, leaves, seeds, whole plants, bark, etc.
 - **Documenting extraction methods** (collection/harvesting)
 - **Seven step methodology** for NWFP management

New Provisions in Revised NWP Code 2014

- **Forest Health and Vitality:** regeneration, forest fire vulnerability mapping, productivity
- **Soil and water resources:** duration of water flow in rivers/streams, siltation, water bodies, wetlands
- **Social, economic, cultural and spiritual benefits:** labour welfare, sacred groves and other cultural sites
- **Budgetary allocations in previous plan**

Implementation of WPs

- Properly prepared and implemented FMS is designed to achieve **Sustainability**
- **No documented evidence** about sustainability of forests
- Even **managed forests** are in various stages of **degradation** due to multiple reasons
- General **deterioration in quality of WPs** preparation and implementation:
 - WP posting taken as **punishment**
 - Works **assigned to outside agencies** lack accountability
- Most SFDs **don't get required funds** and **other resources** for **effective management of forests**

Forest Certification a tool to achieve SFM

- **“Forest Certification”** can plug-in as a tool to gradually improve forest management:
- **Independent, third party & internationally benchmarked** and credible system
- **Objective criteria and measurable/verifiable indicator** based assessment of ground realities with documented evidence
- **Gap Analysis** with potential interventions
- Covers **environment-social-economic** aspects
- Can be used as a **results based financing tool**

NCCF FM Standard covers criteria:

- **Social Aspects:** various stakeholders (*affected persons, locals, workers, staff and managers*); payment of wages, work related field safety and health aspects; capacity and competence
- **Forest Management Aspects:** prescriptions in conformance of **National Working Plan Code**; status of regeneration, actual harvests, harvesting practices
- **Environmental Aspects:** long term environmental impact of the forest operations including: use of **WHO banned chemicals**, waste disposal
- **Economic aspects:** availability of required resources: human, financial, infrastructural, technological
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** actual implementation of monitoring protocols aiming at achievement of intended results
- **Evidence based “audit”** of actual implementation of planned processes and operations, adherence/conformance to applicable laws

**Effective implementation of properly prepared WP meets ~70%
of C&I for NCCF-FM Standard for Certification**

Governance Perspective

- Association of **stakeholders** in preparation of Working Plans
- **Social and Environment Impact assessment**
- Workers' & Work place **health and safety** measures
- **Payment of wages** to workers & employees (*temporary, contract workers, equal wages*)
- **Compliance** with national regulations and international conventions ratified by India
- Enhance **resource availability** (human, financial, infrastructural, technological)

Forest Management Perspective

- **Improvement in quality of WPs:** adherence to NWP Code, 2014 and timely preparation
- **Capacity building of staff and stakeholders:** revised NWP code, documentation, continual TNA assessment
- **Monitoring protocols**
- **Use of chemicals:** India & WHO banned
- **Controlled use of exotic species**
- **High Conservation Value Forests**
- **Maintaining Records and documents**
- **Climate Change Adaptation and Risk Mitigation**

UP & Tripura benefit form Forest Certification

- ✓ Increased coordination between FD & UPFC
- ✓ Higher sale price of certified raw material
- ✓ Improved stocking at timber depots
- ✓ Welfare of workers – at depots/fields – plantation/harvesting sites
- ✓ Mapping of linear areas - along road/Rly lines/canals
- ✓ Improvement in implementation of management practices
- ✓ Increased hiring
- ✓ Better regulation/documentation of use of chemicals & pesticides in nurseries
- ✓ Many species not being sold earlier have better market: use in furniture/toys
- ✓ Identification of gaps, training, documentation
- ✓ Increased transparency

Tripura Forest Development Corporation

- ✓ Preparation of a working plan
- ✓ Improvement in management practices
- ✓ Synchronization in management of rubber and bamboo
- ✓ Availability of certified rubber wood
- ✓ Development of manufacturing hub

Thank You!!

Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests

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