

## NCCF participates in CFC 2017

The 19<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Forestry Conference was held at Forest Research Institute, Dehradun, India from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2017. The major theme of the conference was “Forests for Prosperity and Posterity”. NCCF - PEFC were among the sponsors of the event. The 5 day four yearly event served as a key forum for nearly 700 participants from commonwealth countries, representing professional foresters, government agencies managing the forests, policy makers, corporate houses, PSUs, NGOs, leading forestry research and academic institutions on a single platform to discuss and deliberate on the emerging broader and new perspectives in managing the world’s forests, in view of the magnified global expectations towards the role of forests in addressing the sustainable development goals.

Shri. Vijai Sharma, IAS (retd), Chairman NCCF and ex Chief Information Commissioner of India and ex Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, attended the conference as a key note speaker in the plenary session of the CFC 2017 and chaired the technical session on the Forest Resource Assessment and Monitoring. In his key note address, he emphasised the need of strengthening partnerships amongst the Forest Departments, R & D institutions, industry, financial sector, farmer groups, certification agencies, Joint Forest Management committees and forest dwellers to achieve the goals of sustainable forest management. Further referring the existing and in process International Treaties like Bali action Plan and Kyoto Protocol, he added that agroforestry could be one of the keys to attaining sustainable development goals.



*Shri. Vijai Sharma, Chairman NCCF during the plenary session at CFC 2017*



NCCF actively participated in the technical and poster presentation sessions. Shri A.K.Srivastava, IFS (retd), Executive Director (Honorary), NCCF and ex Additional DG and Director General of Forests, presented his paper “Forest certification as a promotion tool for Sustainable Forest Management” and chaired the session on “Biodiversity, Forests and People”.

Mr Avani Kumar Varma, Chairman, SDG, FM Certification Standard, NCCF and ex PCCF and HoFF, Karnataka attended the CFC 2017 and contributed his ideas in the plenary and technical sessions. He also made a poster presentation on Forest Certification as a tool of SFM.



*Shri. Vijai Sharma, Chairman ,, Shri A K Varma, Chairman – SDG , SFM , Shri A K Srivastava, Executive Director NCCF and Mr. Richard, PEFC, participating at CFC 2017 sessions*



*Shri. Devender Pandey, Chairman, SDG, ToF and Mr. Richard, PEFC, participating at CFC 2017 sessions*

Mr. Devender Pandey, IFS (retd), Chairman of the Standard Development Group of the Trees Outside Forests, NCCF and ex Director General, Forest Survey of India and ex PCCF, chaired the session on the Contribution of Forests towards Sustainable Development Goals.

Mr. Richard Laity, Project and Development Consultant, PEFC attended the CFC 2017 as a nominee of PEFC, moderated the technical session on Sustainable Forest Management. Further, Mr. Richard stated “PEFC’s sponsorship of this auspicious 19<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Forestry Conference supported much needed forum to enable the exchange of ideas and future cooperation in the international forestry sector. It was an honor to be invited to moderate a session on Sustainable Forest Management which demonstrated the ubiquitous nature of sustainability. Speakers in the session covered a range of scales that are required for SFM: From the site level and the impacts of Silviculture for carbon storage; to the community or estate level to have appropriate technology for forest management decision making; and, at the global level the importance of continuing to shift to an ecological mind-set for reaching the sustainable development goals”

During CFC 2017, NCCF also availed the opportunity of holding a meeting with Dr Tony Simons, Director General, World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), Nairobi and Dr. Javed Rizvi , ICRAF India Office, on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2017, to explore the prospects of a collaborative arrangement between the ICRAF and NCCF on the areas of common interest. Mr. Vijai Sharma, , Dr. Devendra Pandey, , Mr. A.K.Srivastava, , Mr. Sachin Raj Jain, MD,SCS/GICIA/ Convener, NCCF and Dr. Richard Laity, were also present in the meeting. NCCF requested Dr. Simons to extend professional support to NCCF in developing the Certification standards for the Trees outside Forests (ToF) and nominate his representative on the Standard Development Group (SDG) of TOF. He assured full professional support of ICRAF to NCCF in this endeavor.

To participate and know more about the ongoing project of NCCF [www.nccf.in](http://www.nccf.in) or email us at [info@nccf.in](mailto:info@nccf.in)