

An aerial photograph of a vast, dense forest covering a hillside. The trees exhibit a variety of green shades, from vibrant lime greens to deep forest greens, with some brownish patches indicating dead or dormant trees. A white rectangular box with a thin border is centered horizontally across the middle of the image, containing the title text.

**Proceedings of the National Conference
on Forest Certification**

Invitation



Release of
**India's Internationally Benchmarked Certification Standard
for Forest Management**

and launch of

National Certification Scheme for Sustainable Forest Management

through
National Conference on Forest Certification

13th January 2018
New Delhi, India



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Introduction

Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests (NCCF) is a non-profit organisation, registered as a Society, to have a globally aligned certification program developed within India and addressing the concerns for sustainable management of forests and the plantations, while at the same time making the Indian wood and forest fiber based industry competent globally. It is an institutional mechanism to ensure collaborative & streamlined efforts to develop national standard for Forest Certification in India.

The NCCF has got support from the key forest based stakeholders such as the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) through its premier institutes like Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Indian Council for Forestry, Research and Education (ICFRE) and Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institutes (IPIRTI), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Export Promotions Council for Handicrafts (EPCH), ITC Ltd., Green Initiatives Certification & Inspection Agency(GICIA), Indian Paper Manufacturers Association (IPMA), Greenply, Dabur, Arya Vaidyasala, Kottakal , Paper and Plywood Industries and many more in furtherance of its objectives.

NCCF had initiated the process of developing country specific yet internationally benchmarked Standard for Sustainable Management of Forests in March 2015 and completed it by the end of December 2017.



Launch of NCCF and announcement of FM Certification Standard Development at International Conference on Forest Certification-Positioning India on 16 March 2015 at New Delhi



Meeting: 17 March 2015



Extended Stakeholder Consultation



Public Consultation Stage; Stakeholder Consultation Workshop



Pilot Testing, Nagaon, Assam

Various stages during NCCF FM Certification Standard Development

Inaugural Session

NCCF organised a National Conference of Forest Certification on 13th January 2018 at The Lalit, Connaught Place, New Delhi. The conference was inaugurated by Shri C.K. Mishra, Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) on 13th January 2018 at The Lalit, Connaught Place, New Delhi in presence of dignitaries on the dais Shri Siddhanta Das, Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, MoEF&CC, Shri Vijai Sharma, Chairman, NCCF, Shri A.K. Srivastava, Honorary Executive Director, NCCF, Dr Alka Bhargava, Joint Secretary (NRM), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Rakesh Kumar, Executive Director, Export Promotions Council for Handicrafts, Ministry of Textiles and Shri Suneel Pandey, Vice President, ITC and Secretary, NCCF. The conference was attended by the representatives from Central Ministries, State Forest Departments, Corporations, Biodiversity Boards, Professional foresters, Research and Academic Institutions, Universities, Industry, Industry Associations, International Organisations, Civil Society Organisations, Accreditation Body, Workers Bodies, Certification Bodies, representatives of print and electronic media.

Extending a warm welcome to the dignitaries and guests, **Shri A.K. Srivastava, Honorary Executive Director, NCCF** expressed gratitude to Shri C.K. Mishra, Secretary, MoEF&CC and Shri Siddhanta Das, Director General of Forests and Special Secretary for having agreed to NCCF's request to release India's country specific, yet Internationally Benchmarked Certification Standard for Forest Management, developed by NCCF, an emerging multi stakeholder organization, engaged in the task of developing standards



Shri AK Srivastava, Executive Director (Honorary), NCCF

for promotion of sustainable management of forests and policy advocacy on important conservation issues. He informed that this scheme of Forest Certification would help in achieving the objectives of international commitments and various national schemes such as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Intended

Nationally determined contributions (INDCs), United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), Green India Mission (GIM), Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) and National Afforestation Programme (NAP) etc. Forest certification acknowledges 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 said that NCCF's certification standard, being user friendly, will go a long way in conserving and enhancing our rich forests and the biodiversity. He acknowledged the great contribution of the multi-stakeholder Standard Development Group chaired by Shri Avani Kumar Varma, ex-PCCF & HoFF, Karnataka in developing the Standard for Forest Management Certification.”

Shri Vijai Sharma, Chairman, NCCF expressed happiness that NCCF was launching the national certification scheme for sustainable forest management in the presence of a very distinguished assembly of visionaries, specialists and knowledge partners. The text of his address is reproduced hereunder:-

“Friends our aim ultimately is to establish NCCF as a credible and highly regarded certification promoting institution and also to emerge as a well-recognised think tank assisting government and public entities in the area of sustaining forests, preserving bio-diversity, pre-empting desertification and combating climate change. And in this context this National conference will use the opportunity today to take stock of NCCF ongoing work and also identify future priorities.

I am conscious that NCCF’s- should I say scientific temper and very technologically sound methodological approach is extremely strong, and the reason for this is that we have stalwarts of forestry science and applications with us. All the bhabas, Sarabhais and hargobindkhurana’s off the forestry sector are associated with the NCCF. And yes that NCCF has completed its first phase of work Sustainable Forest under the leadership of Shri Avani Kumar Varma.

The prime mover of the work which remain will include Dr Devendra Pandey, Shri A.K Bansal, Dr Jagdish Kishwan all very senior colleagues of ours from the ministry, all internationally recognised all veterans in forest policy, planning and practice and equipped with the richest of the global exposure with the work callus and networking being variably coordinated by Shri A.K Srivastava, Shri Suneel Pandey and Shri Sachin Raj Jain.

The intellectual mainstay of NCCF is regard and organisational scaffolding, it comes from the fact that we are welded into the government, into the public, private apex groups, the joint forestry management committees all the knowledge partners and a very strong set of



Shri Vijai Sharma, Chairman, NCCF

young managers, researchers all co-ordinated by Ms Deepali Rautela.”

NCCF is about networking, about promoting partnerships to manage forests to enhance tree cover and in this wider world of developing equations we in the NCCF would like to be of greater utility to the government whether it is in respect of projects, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) projects, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) projects or even for monitoring CAMPA first fund utilisation and having worked dedicatedly in the government. Let me assure you that we in the NCCF are very well placed to catalyse and build synergies between state and non- state actors and whether on certifications and the conservation tool or related wider issues.

NCCF is well placed to take stock of our present knowledge and identify future work for sustaining our forests, preserving biodiversity and preventing desertification. To achieve our commitments for mitigation and adaptation to climate change in accordance with the decisions taken in Paris Agreement, to which India is a party, we have to take forestry beyond forests, through agroforestry, urban plantations, plantations by corporates, companies, communities and voluntary organizations.”

After the address of Shri Vijai Sharma, Chairman, a short film on NCCF’s Journey was presented highlighting the multi phased standard development process for SFM involving participation from the diverse set of stakeholders.

Address by Shri Rakesh Kumar, Executive Director, EPCH

The text of his address is reproduced hereunder:-

“EPCH is one of the major players for the development and support of the wood and wood based products ecosystem. The export of handicrafts during 2016-17 has been Rs 24,392 crore registering a growth of over 13% over the same period last year. However, the export of wooden handicrafts is approximately to the tune of around Rs 4000 crore having a share of around 16% in India’s total export of handicrafts. The demand for the wooden handicrafts is increasing both in overseas market as well as in India. The major importers of Indian wooden handicrafts are environmental conscious markets and & particularly the affluent countries like U.S, European Union, Australia, Canada, Japan, UAE and Switzerland.

Almost every state in India has a wooden handicraft cluster using variety of the wooden species such as Sheesham, Sandalwood or other local woods which are found close to the clusters. There are a wide range of international regulations governing timber and timber products trade the regulations like Lacey Act, European Union timber Act (EUTR), Illegal Logging Prohibition Act Australia and above all Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), regulating the trade flow of wood and wood products across countries thereby ensuring sustainability and legality.

The VRISKH scheme ensures legality and sustainability of trade, firewood and wood based handicraft products. I would like to thank the MOEF&CC for resolving the CITES related issues in trade of Shisham (*Dalbergia spp.*). He concluded with the remarks that in India various international certification programs have been operating in the field of the certification of the wood and wooden based products, however there was no indigenous scheme so far catering to this demand for certification and NCCF came forward and filled up this gap.



Shri Rakesh Kumar, Executive Director, EPCH

Dr Alka Bhargava, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

The text of her address is reproduced hereunder:-

“At the outset I would like to congratulate NCCF for the comprehensive exercise of formulating the certification standards for timber in India, which have been felt a long need. Representing Ministry of Agriculture, we would be looking very closely at the work being done on TOF and NWFPs.

TOF holds importance as about 51% of the country’s cultivable land is still rainfed and agroforestry is an important component of rainfed area development. The work of NCCF in developing standard for the Trees outside Forests (ToF) will be very useful in promoting integrated farming systems enabling the farmers to move towards agroforestry produce which is duly certified so that they get remunerative returns and give better products to the industry.



Dr Alka Bhargava, Joint Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

We are the nodal ministry for both agroforestry and National Bamboo Mission. A sub-mission on agroforestry has been launched which is one of the components of the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture, one of the eight missions in the National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC). In this sub-mission, pre-requisite for the states is to have exemption or relaxation of the transit rules for at least minimum 20 important trees species. Currently, 19 states have relaxed these transit rules and

14 states have been provided funds for agroforestry since last year. It is heartening to note that in 10 states, the nodal agencies are the Forest Departments. I would like to call upon the Forest Departments to work closely with the farmers.

Shri Siddhanta Das, Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEF&CC

“India has practiced scientific management of forests since 1864, built upon the principles of sustainability. Initially the forest management had primacy for timber extraction, but now there is paradigm shift to achieve sustainable ecosystems and sustained availability of ecosystem services and livelihoods of tribals and other forest dependent communities.



Shri Siddhanta Das, Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEF&CC

In the 1980s taking people as partners, switch over in forest administration took place from sustained yield management to sustainability of ecosystem services, apart from sustained supply of forest products till perpetuity. The trees inside the forest as well outside the forest will be an important player in achieving our national and International commitments, retaining moisture in the catchment and rise in water table and providing other ecosystem services. NCCF’s standard will go a long way in promoting sustainable management of forests. We have taken important first step and I see a paradigm shift in the forest management due to this intervention.”

Shri C.K. Mishra, Secretary, MoEF&CC

"I am privileged to be here. It's indeed a daunting task to present a point of view to an audience of experts in forestry, professionals from the field, research and academic institutions, NGOs and international organizations. But it would not be a bad idea to be a non-expert and try to see whether the expertise being displayed here is the most acceptable one.

What are you maintaining that pristine forest for, if nobody is getting to see it? Let us think it's not about letting go of what we have, it's actually at the end of the day about making what we get better.



Shri C.K. Mishra, Secretary, MoEF&CC

On this occasion I would really like to reflect upon some thoughts. One is the sustainable development which must be the core of our thought process. Second is the new perspective on the optimum utilisation of resources that is available in the forest of India. Third is the certification itself which is the proof of where you are. The assessment of what you are doing and the stamp of approval. And this is all very 3 critical issues and secondly it is about acceptability because any third party certification process is the only way of credible acceptability among all Stakeholders including global players.

Sustainable development and sustainable management of forest is very very critical which we broadly define is use and management of forest and forest resources and associated lands to meet social economic ecological cultural needs of the people. The forests are much

about just the protection of trees, it's about the eco-system, its about carbon sink, it's about people, livelihood, it's about industry, it's about the entire value chain that we create out of it. Unless we are able to connect these I don't think we'll be looking enriching forest in India. At times it's extremely valuable for a person who is part of forest to be passionate about the forest, to be very protective about the forest. But let us also understand that in our passion and protectionism we should not isolate others who are the part of this system.

What should worry us the most is the quality of the forest cover that we have in this country and that is where our focus must lie and I individually would be willing to ensure we get there. We are fortunate to have this resource 24% today and going forward may be more tomorrow. Director General spoke about agro-forestry, all this put together is a value chain which will lead and add to the country economy. Apart from everything else you are the custodians of the ecology of the country and if it does not add to the environment of the country we need to think and need to do things differently. The kind of job NCCF is doing particularly in the field of certification is something that we should look forward to because that is what will take us ultimately where we want to reach"

"What is very heartening to know that the Certification programme that is been designed by NCCF is a globally aligned Certification programme. So we are not in a standalone position where we will not be recognised globally because in today's world it's not about the boundaries, it's not about geography if you want to survive you have to be global. We would request NCCF to partner with the Ministry in taking forward its mandate of promoting sustainable management of forests"

Shri Suneel Pandey, Secretary, NCCF presented a vote of thanks to the dignitaries on the dais and distinguished participants, while highlighting that certification would fulfil the aspirations of industry for sustained supply of wood and wood based products and also ensure sustainable management of forests.



Stakeholders at National Conference on Forest Certification, 13 January 2018



Stakeholders at National Conference on Forest Certification, 13 January 2018

Key messages from the Inaugural Session

- There are two issues that are crucial in this era. The first being the issue of Sustainable Development which must be the core of our thought process and the second perspective being the optimum utilisation of resources available in the forests of India.
- It is increasingly recognised that timber is a very small produce of the forest. The forests should be measured by the carbon stocks. In a dense forest, more than 65% of carbon is stored in the soil and less than 35% in the timber. These high forests are being managed for conservation rather than production. There is a paradigm shift in management now to conserve the forest for increasing the carbon stock as a major forest produce rather than managing forests for timber.
- Our forests are growing at the rate of 35 million tonnes per year carbon stock wise. The base carbon being 7 billion tonnes and going by this rate India will be achieving about 1.9 billion tonnes by the year 2030. We will be falling short by 0.6 -1.1 billion tonnes and being responsible stakeholders, we need to set our goals on how to achieve this shortfall.
- Despite having such vast forests, timber and forest products to the tune of Rs 42,000 crore are being annually imported in the country to meet the domestic needs, thus there is a need for ban on import of timber. Punjab and Haryana are the two states that produce the major chunk of timber that is being used in the country. We are now focussing on wood and it is the only carbon neutral resource.
- The certification standard developed by NCCF is a globally aligned certification programme, thus we are in a strong position to get recognised globally.
- Third party certification process is the only way of credible acceptance among all stakeholders including global players. Assessment by a third party brings credibility to what all information and data is written and collected.
- The forest stakeholders are not limited to the forest environment only. We have to think of forestry beyond the forests, to say that it is about the eco-system, it is about the people, it is about the industry and it is about the entire value chain that we create out of it.
- Certification should appropriately reflect in the new National Forest Policy under formulation. The policy should clearly specify the significance and modalities of forest certification and how the incentives, budgetary and technical support is to be provided to make certification hit the road.
- Farmers still have a hesitation that planting trees adversely impacts the crop productivity. We have to educate the farmers about the appropriate agroforestry models and agronomic practices and sensitise them that crop productivity may actually be enhanced if proper trees are grown along with crops and that will fetch them supplementary income.
- Afforestation on farm bunds will promote climate resilient agriculture. With the tree species and cropping, the farmer can get more returns from the same plot of land and that contributes to meeting the objective of Doubling Farmers income by 2022.

- Medicinal plants is another important sector on account of growing requirement of herbal industry. These resources are consumed on a large scale, but are unsustainably harvested from the forests, which is not a good scenario. The industry primarily depends on the middlemen which may provide any kind of mixed bag of particular component, may be replacing some species with cheaper species, as the required species may not be easily found in the forest.
- Availability of certified quality planting material is critical to promote agroforestry and Bamboo Mission.
- Draft Model Contract Farming Act should be finalized and the arrangements for contract farming put in place with the objectives of providing buy back guarantee to the farmers. Another possible help that could be provided to farmers is giving them the positive cost benefit analysis of having trees on farmlands and providing them yield tables for agroforestry tree species for rational decision making.
- The farmers need to be provided with the best agronomic practices. Institutions like ICFRE and ICAR need to work closely on the ToF certification standards being developed by NCCF, so that farmers are better informed about the returns and benefits of adoption of Agroforestry. Industry should be encouraged as end user for promotion of agroforestry produce, value chain development, technology development and market information and move towards certification of Agroforestry produce.



Launch of NCCF FM Standard

(L→R): Shri AK Srivastava, Shri Vijai Sharma, Shri AK Varma, Dr Mahraj Muthoo, Shri CK Mishra, Shri Siddhanta Das, Dr Alka Bhargava, Shri Suneel Paney

Technical Session I: A Presentation on NCCF's FM Certification Standard and its benefits

In this session, NCCF's Forest Management Certification Standard was discussed and the stakeholders representing different categories presented their views and experiences. Shri Saibal Dasgupta, Additional Director General of Forests (FC) & Director General, Forest Survey of India chaired and moderated the session along with session co-chair Shri A M Singh, PCCF (CAMPA), Assam.

Presentation by Shri AK Varma, IFS (retd.) Chairman, Standard Development Group, SFM

Shri Varma presented the synopsis of the standard development process, highlighting the complexities in achieving this task. He acknowledged the participation of various stakeholders in this entire process and elaborated on the need and benefits of a Nation specific Forest Certification scheme which launched had just launched.

Following the presentation, representative stakeholders from the Standard Development

Group (SDG) shared their views and experiences the text of their addresses is reproduced hereunder:

1. Shri Suneel Pandey , ITC PSPD representing the Business and Industry sector

“State Forest Development Corporations and State Forest Departments have an immense scope of producing the certified products and sending to the market to get a premium value for their produce. The total supply of certified wood in India is less than 10% of the total demand. The cost of certification can easily be offset by the premium that can be charged for

certified produce. Not to forget the goodwill earned owing to higher level of social compliance and commitment to environment conservation.”

2. Shri Anil Jauhri, CEO-NABCB, representing the Accreditation Body

“I am reminded of 2006 when Ministry of Environment and Forests set up a National forest certification committee and had a series of meetings and a clear recommendation emerged various times I have felt frustrated that this movement had emerged that India needs its own certification standard and scheme. Today, I am delighted that NCCF has been able to create a system for forest certification that has been launched by the Secretary, MoEF&CC.”

3. Shri RC Khuntia, BWI, representing the forest workers and trade union

“I represent the workers and the indigenous people who are at the receiving end. I am happy and proud to be a part of this standard development system and would thank NCCF. I am sure that that the standard would take care of the interest of the forest workers and the indigenous people.”

4. Dr Manmohan Yadav, IIFM , representing the institution sector

“At the outset I would like to congratulate and appreciate NCCF and all the stakeholders represented in the Standard development group for this excellent work in bringing out India's Specific Forest Management Certification standards. I am confident that this standard has all the attributes of the internationally recognised standards. This standard and scheme now puts India in the league of

country's which have established their National Forest Certification schemes.

It would help make supply chains more transparent, will bring in better governance, help all the stakeholders get fair share in their economic benefits, will ensure conservation of the natural resources including within the forest, outside the forest not only timber but also non-timber, eco-system services and help the industry get a sustainable source of raw-material over a long term. It also meets the compliance requirements to get access in the foreign market, and provide access to the global market which are environmentally conscious and also provide opportunities for the green markets in the country."

5. Ms. Sarah Price, PEFC International providing the global certification scenario and the PEFC Endorsement process

"Representing PEFC International (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification) the world's largest certification system and a global alliance of national forest certification systems, it is remarkable to see the professional and systematic progress that NCCF has made over the last 3 years together with the stakeholders and partners in developing India specific standard. Working on a global level I know it's not an easy task to develop a national certification system, especially in a huge country like India."

Hearing everything today and the remarks made by the stakeholders about the rigorous process and the contents of standard development, I am very excited to observe that they are well aligned with the PEFC standards. The assessor or the consultant of PEFC will visit India to speak with NCCF and the stakeholders, to really understand

the process and to ensure the outcomes meet the stakeholders' expectations.

We as a global alliance have already been much benefitted from the participation of India in the PEFC council at the global level. We learned a lot from your vast experience here in the country on the management of forests and the trees outside forest on topics around innovation and how to make certification more efficient and more effective. And I think that these are some of the aspects we are looking forward to collaborate and learn together as well as we look to expand sustainable management around the world."

6. Shri AM Singh, PCCF, Assam Forest Department, professional forester

"I congratulate the NCCF for bringing all of us together under this roof when the country specific and internationally benchmarked forest certification standard has been launched. For me, it has been a nostalgic journey as I have been associated with this subject since 1999."



Speakers at the Technical Session I: Presentation on NCCF's FM Certification Standard and its benefits

Key messages from the Technical Session I

- Country Specific Forest Management certification standard has been a missing link in the dynamic and well managed forestry sector in India.
- Certification is a market requirement and provides benefits to all across the value chain
- Farmers and industry need to work in cohesion to reap the maximum incentives from certification.
- Certification brings in the legality and traceability of the produce, and maps the entire path the wood travels from its source to the end point. It is an audit system relevant for each stage the chain of custody.
- Worldwide, about 30% of trade issues are based on the standards and about 70% of the trade issues are on account of the conformity assessment.
- NABCB is ready to provide that instant support required for the international acceptance. We have an accreditation programme as per ISO Standard 17065 which has been referred to in the NCCF documents.
- NCCF will henceforth be amongst the 50 other national organisations of the respective countries that are leading forest certification in their countries.
- Now that the National Forest Certification System is completed, we would look forward to PEFC International for assessment and eventually the mutual recognition and international recognition of the India's certification scheme.
- PEFC Endorsement doesn't dictate or own how a national certification system runs but offers international recognition that the system has managed to meet the national expectation, simultaneously meeting the International recommendations and the expectations for sustainability.
- This is just the beginning, and more lies ahead in terms of the assessment, credibility and expansion of the role of NCCF in terms of certification for TOF, NWFPs, Protected Area and Wetlands, and the seeds and nurseries (quality seedlings).



Panelist at the Technical Session I

(L→R): Ms Sarah Price, Shri Suneel Pandey, Shri AK Varma, Shri Saibal Dasgupta, Shri AM Singh, Shri Anil Jauhri, Dr Manmohan Yadav, Shri RC Khuntia

Technical Session 2: Presentations by the Chairpersons of NCCF's other Certification Standard Development Group

The second session was dedicated to the other initiatives of NCCF for the development of sustainability standard for Trees outside forests (TOF), Non-Wood Forest Products (NWFPs) and Protected Areas and Wetlands (PAWs). The respective chairpersons presented the concept and status of their groups. Dr S.S. Negi, Vice Chairman, Uttarakhand Rural Migration Commission (ex- DGF & SS, MoEF&CC) chaired and moderated the session along with session co-chair Shri M.S. Negi, Additional Director General of Forests (WL), MoEF&CC.

Following the presentation, representative stakeholders from the Standard Development Group (SDG) shared their views and experiences the text of their addresses is reproduced hereunder:-

1. Dr Devendra Pandey, Chairperson for Trees outside Forests (TOF):

“Most of the timber is now coming from the trees outside the forest (ToF) for which we have currently no certification system. Currently the natural forests of the world are certified. There is no certification standards so far developed for the trees outside the forest. NCCF has initiated the process of developing standard for the ToF and we would ensure its global conformity.”



2. Shri A K Bansal, Chairperson, Non-Wood Forest Products (NWFPs)



“We have thousands of products coming out of the forest in the name of non-wood forest products and we are having a challenge prioritizing these. The NWFP products that are coming are covered in the provisioning services. Annual turnover of the NWFP sector, is roughly of the order of about Rs 6000 crores, maybe even more and about 68% of the export is from the non-wood forest products. We are not exporting timber, we are exporting timber products. There are substantial, commercial opportunities for non-wood forest products. NCCF has

initiated the process of developing standard for NWFPs and this is sought to be completed in a time frame of about one year.”

3. **Standard Development Group for the Protected Areas and Wetlands (PAWs)** is chaired by **Dr Jagdish Kishwan** [as he was travelling, **Shri Aditya Petwal**, **TWG member, PAWs** made a presentation on his behalf]. Excerpt of his address is reproduced hereunder:-



“India with just 2.4% of the global land area, has got 7-8% of the world’s biodiversity spread across different biogeographical areas and many of which are under stress of various anthropogenic pressures. So a logical question that can be put in front of the stakeholder and interest groups is whether the protected area are being managed in the desired way to conserve and manage the bio-diversity and to sustain the eco system services. NCCF has initiated the process of developing standards for the PAWs with the objective of having a generic, simple, useful, voluntarily certification system without undermining the significance of the existing policy and legislative frameworks.”

Key messages from the Technical Session 2

- Sustainability goes beyond the forests and the trees outside forests (TOF) are a major source of raw material and ensuring their sustainability and legality are crucial.
- Collection of NWFP is an important activity as large volumes are coming out of forests and cultivated areas. There is no verification of their source/origin and proper management of the resource is required.
- There is no organized market for the NWFPs and there is lack of data on many products coming out of the forests/cultivated lands. Up-scaling of the management of NWFP sector through appropriate certification arrangement is necessary. NCCF’s initiative to develop standard for certification of NWFPs is a positive step in this direction.
- We are aware of the different pressures on bio-diversity in the protected areas, the menace of invasive species, the over-dependence of the families on forests and several climatic and non-climatic pressures on the biodiversity. The PAWs standard will therefore focus majorly on the thematic areas of Health assessment, Performance and management effectiveness, Identification and prioritization of ecosystem services and Project feasibility assessment.



Panelist at the Technical Session II

(L→R): Shri Arun Kumar Bansal, Dr Devendra Pandey, Dr SS Negi, Shri MS Negi, Shri Aditya Petwal

Special remarks by Dr Mahraj Muthoo:
The text of his addresses is reproduced hereunder:-

“NCCF has come a long way in such a short time of its coming into existence. Launch of NCCF’s certification standard for forest management today is a historical moment. I would like to thank PEFC International for their consistent professional and financial support and expect that NCCF leadership will endeavour to get PEFC endorsement of its standard in a time frame of about 9 months from now.”



Dr Mahraj Muthoo at the conference

Felicitation of the SDG members and NCCF National Photography Contest Jury Members and Winners:

Shri Vijai Sharma, Dr Maharaja Muthoo, Shri A.K. Varma, Dr A.K. Singh, Shri R.B. Sinha and Dr Javed Rizvi felicitated the SDG member of the SFM group and the Photo Contest winners.



Felicitation Ceremony at the conference

The Way Forward

- NCCF has established itself well as a body of experts and as a think-tank in the area of sustainable development, biodiversity conservation and forestry through a focus on forest certification. NCCF's high-quality capabilities draw from its rich and diverse stakeholders, scientific temper and strong methodological approach based on rich national and international experience.
- The first phase of NCCF's work has been largely in the development of standards for sustainable forest management, for which wide consultations and pilot-testing was organized.
- NCCF is progressing well to formulate the standards for Trees outside Forests (TOF). If India has to achieve its Greening India goals and meet major requirement for wood and wood products in the country, it will come only from the trees on farms or agroforestry. This will also help in meeting our commitments of the INDCs.
- NCCF will accelerate the process of developing standards for the Protected Areas and Wetlands (PAWs) and for the Non-Wood Forest Products (NWFPs).
- Having worked within government dedicatedly on developmental priorities those contributing to NCCF's width of experience are well placed to build synergies between state and non-state entities taking into account the national priority of enhancing the income of the most vulnerable, fulfilment of their basic minimum needs and safeguarding of our environment.
- Government departments can utilize NCCF usefully in their forestry initiatives, implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, meeting the objectives under the UNFF process and carrying forward agroforestry. NCCF can provide technical advice on various dimensions of enhancing tree and forest cover, management of the protected areas, wetlands and the NWFPs and biodiversity conservation for the best results.
- Expanding agroforestry illustrates how good science is coming to help of small farmers increasingly affected by land degradation, climate change and pressures, both biotic and a-biotic. In India the agroforestry plantations contribute many times more industrial logs than from notified natural forests. Agroforestry promotes gender equality, access to affordable energy, while helping adaptation to climate change impacts, reversing desertification and halting biodiversity loss.
- We in NCCF are attuned to the changing nature of international debates and consensus building. We would like to make available our in-house knowledge on forest carbon accounting and implementation of the REDD+ initiatives to the state forest departments. REDD+ was given its contours by the specialists from various countries including from India and fortunately many of the are currently actively associated with NCCF. Committed forestry experts from India have provided critical knowledge to add to our understanding of forests combating climate change. Forestry initiatives are reflective of a new mood that wants to share understanding. Earlier, the forest agenda was impacted by knowledge gaps and uncertainties such as definitions of additionality and concerns about leakages and carbon sequestration assessments. NCCF has diligently kept itself updated with developments in this regard nationally and internationally.

Special Session: Stakeholder Consultation Meet Developing Trees Outside Forests Certification (ToF) Standard in India

A special session was hosted by NCCF, “Stakeholder Consultation Meet Developing Trees Outside Forests Certification (ToF) Standard in India” chaired by Dr Devendra Pandey, Chairman of the Standard Development Group (SDG) of ToF. The session was organised to provide a brief about ToF resources in India, the need and the importance of ToF certification and the challenges being faced in the development of the ToF Certification Standard.

The session was split into two sub-sessions. The first session had a panel discussion and by experts and the second session had PEFC International representative, present, “*approach & progress towards developing TOF certification*” and brief about the “*PEFC TOF Pilot Project: Views from Thailand Forest Certification Council (TFCC), Thailand*”. The brief highlights during the two session are present below:

SESSION I (3:45 PM to 5:15 PM)

- **Panel Discussion: “Promotion of Trees Outside Forests”**

- I. **Dr Alka Bhargava (Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare)**

- She focused on sustainability of domestic market needs first then only on export.
- There has to be a cost benefit analysis to identify the benefits and these should be demonstrated to the farmers.
- Certification has to be there at every stage from seed to planting stock.
- The farmers need to be educate more as with agroforestry the intermediated produce that can be harvested ahead of the tree, providing multiple benefits.



Panel Discussion, “Promotion of Trees Outside Forests”

(L→R): Dr Javed Rizvi, Dr Devendra Pandey, Dr Alka Bhargava, Shri Suneel Pandey

2. Shri R.B. Sinha (ICRAF, World Agroforestry Centre)

- TOF Certification will be ineffective if the cost of certification is not covered, it'll be a burden on the farmers.
- The standard has to be simple with minimum no of Criteria-Indicators.
- Emphasised on the need of forest nursery certification and quality planting material
- Provided the example of National Horticulture Board, if policies and schemes under it can be evolved for TOF so that the marketability of produce is enhanced.

3. Dr Javed Rizvi (ICRAF, World Agroforestry Centre)

- Expressed his views on the convergence between Agroforestry and Forestry for the benefit of both.
- Focus on agroforestry has to be increased as India being number one in it.
- The stakeholders involved in agroforestry aren't organized, Context is different,
- TOF certification has to be faster, locally oriented, involving less paper work, as the farmers don't have much resources
- Within the TOF Certification, seed/planting material/ certification is also crucial

Trees Outside Forests (TOF) - Challenges and Opportunities faced by Industries

Shri Suneel Pandey, Vice President, ITC

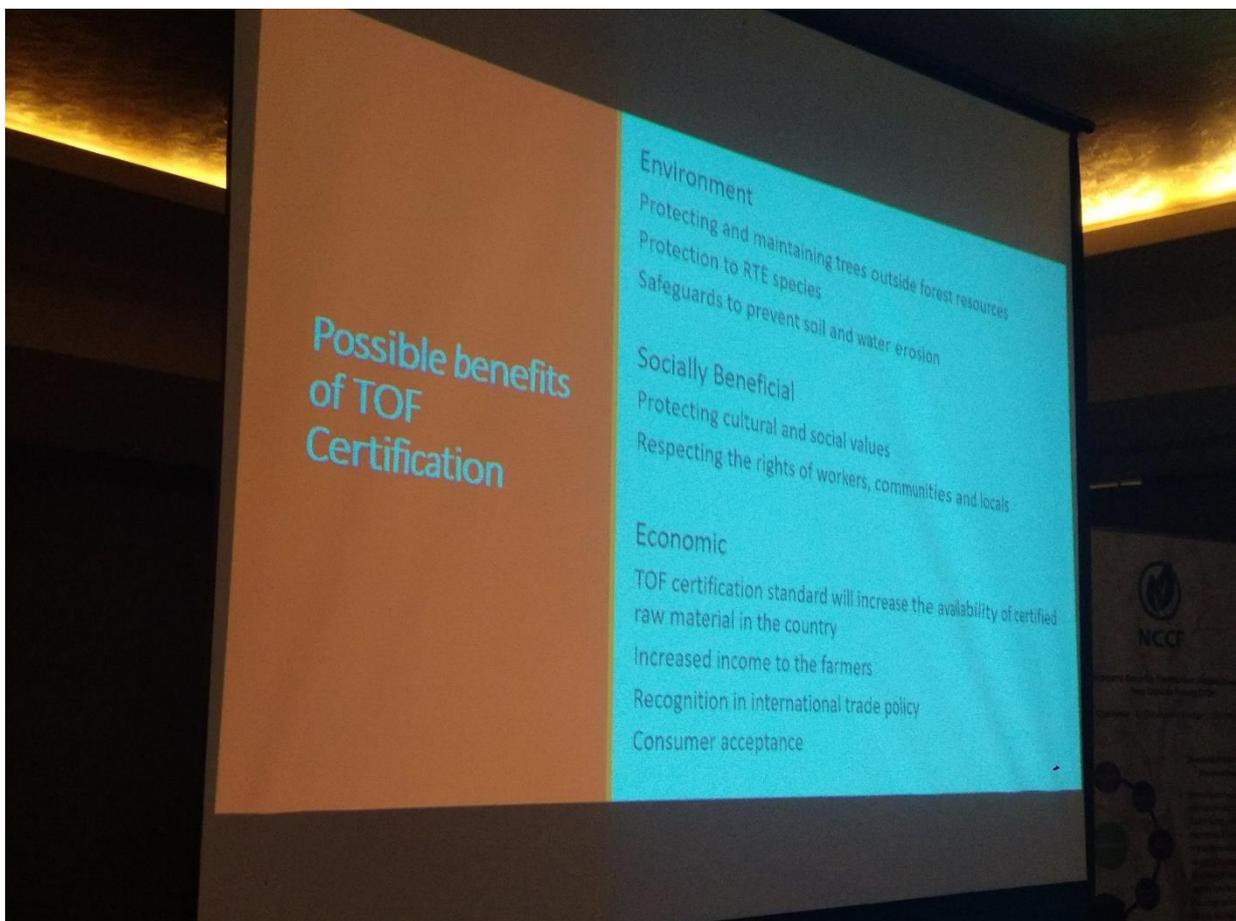
- Traditionally trees were only for subsistence and use by local industries
- But in 1988, with the government's policies wood-based industries started growing trees to meet their own raw material need as dependency on forest had to be reduced
- The species used by ITC include, Eucalyptus, Subabul, Casuarina, Poplar. Initially their productivity was at 4 ton/ha which later improved with clonal propagation to 4-5 times more.
- Currently TOF is catering a need of 45-47 million cubic meter wood to the industry. These are somewhat less organised plantations, where some technical inputs are going in, along with quality planting material, management practices to drive the growth.
- The growth of farm forestry in some States is on account of relaxed felling and transit rules and regimes. Still from Punjab to Tamil Nadu, the states have different farm forestry levels.
- The challenge being faced by certifying TOF is on the point of mixing of wood. How to address the wood managed under SFM be mixed with the TOF wood. Also how will this mixed wood be marked
- To reduce the burden on farmers for certification, the entire value chain originating from the farmer, industry, to the retailer, everyone has to play his desired role so that the entire value chain gets the benefits of certification.
- Technology is a major tool that is required to be used and farmer can put in information to further help on the assessment.
- The TOF Standard has not been done anywhere in the world thus we need to think out of the box carrying it forward. Also shared how ITC maintains and keeps a track of the traceability through its systems.

TOF Standard development process – Milestones achieved and way forward

Ms Taruna (Member TWG, TOF) explained rationale behind the TOF certification standard development, the structure of the TOF standard i.e. Themes, Criteria and Indicators, the standard development process, stakeholders involved and other relevant details. The themes were elaborated covering the essence contained in it. The six themes developed are as follows:

- Theme A: Legality- Compliance with legal requirements
- Theme B: Management Plan and Practises
- Theme C: Maintenance of health and vitality of ecosystems
- Theme D: Maintenance and enhancement of productive functions (wood and non-wood)
- Theme E: Socio-Economic Responsibility
- Theme F: Conservation and Environmental Safeguards

It was also informed that the zero draft will be soon put on Public Consultation on the NCCF website (www.nccf.in)



Presentation on TOF Standard development process

SESSION II (5:15 PM to 6:00 PM)

PEFC International: approach & progress towards developing TOF certification

- Ms Sarah Price, PEFC International shared the experiences of TOF on the international domain. She was able to relate the discussions and challenges at the international platform with the Indian context.
- She mentioned that too flexible standards reduce consumer trust and credibility.
- The points being raised in India are also raised elsewhere. TOF thus is a learning as we go ahead with similar pathways and struggles.
- PEFC began with TOF in 2013-14 and now with the pilots in Thailand, India where agroforestry is a major practice. It is also practiced in the Mediterranean Europe.
- However, awareness of TOF in other parts of the world is very little.
- PEFC is for certification of SFM practices and not timber. Also we aren't equipped to enter into agriculture standards, TOF is only for ensuring and maintaining the CoC.
- Currently 15 Requirements relevant for TOF have been identified and are listed under the SFM Standard as appendix and work is being carried out on the same.
- Few points on international benchmarking were :
 - a. PEFC is not in a position to certify non-forest areas at the moment
 - b. Currently there are no standards/documents for TOF certification
- *She also stated that PEFC is in the process of revising all their documents, their new SFM Standard is going to include **TOF in its appendix**. The requirements and the threshold and benchmarking will be maintained. The Task Force on TOF is already working and by November 2018, PEFC will have a clear stand on TOF.*

PEFC's TOF Pilot Projects: Views from Thailand Forest Certification Council (TFCC), Thailand

Shri Khitja Bonnsri, Thailand Forest Certification Council (TFCC) also shared the experiences and challenges being faced by TFCC in Thailand. Certification is very less in Thailand as of now and there is lack of knowledge on SFM as well. Several challenges are also being faced with TOF, with Group Certification, etc.



Stakeholders at the session

Discussion and Closing Remarks

Following comments/suggestions were made by the distinguished participants in the meeting:

1. *Shri Vijai Sharma (Chairman, NCCF)*
 - Standard cannot be rigid and has to be future oriented
2. *Shri AK Varma (Chairman, SFM-SDG,NCCF)*
 - Suggested to carry out a lot more pilot testing, more than that done for SFM Standard in the different agro-climatic zones in the country
 - Under TOF farmer should have incentives and minimum hassle during Forest certification.
3. *Shri RK Gupta (Additional Director, UPDASP)*
 - With TOF we should not only look from timber angle but also lay importance to other aspects , farmer and farmer income should be give emphasis
 - Activities like bee keeping, etc. should also be promoted
4. *Dr GA Klnhal (ex-Director, IIFM)*
 - TOF is present on farms, common lands, etc.
 - Suggested about a concept of carbon proportion, a ratio between, volatile carbon to fixed carbon i.e. farm carbon (volatile) + tree carbon (fixed)
 - Thus at village level carbon proportion can be used for funding for tree planting activities
5. *Shri Aditya Petwal (Coordinator, Leaders for Nature, IUCN)*
 - Shared his experiences of trees grown by corporates on wastelands.
 - Teak, Red Sanders, CITES listed species, Red list species are grown by many farmers especially small holders and face many challenges and hurdles
 - Sustainable management of species and certification are the need of the hour
6. *Shri Sudipto Chatterjee (Professor, TERI University)*
 - Expressed that as TOF is also about restoring forests, can the TOF Certification be used for land restored by the mining companies.
7. *Shri Pravin Patil (CEO, Himsacsha Inc.)*
 - Farm Forestry, Contract farming and more such models should be promoted
 - Enquired, as to how corporates can support farmers through TOF certification

Shri AK Srivastava (Executive Director (Honorary), NCCF) thanked the audience present, the panellists Ms Sarah Price and PEFC for their consistent support and the representative from Thailand Forest Certification Council.

NCCF-PEFC Photo Contest Winners 2017



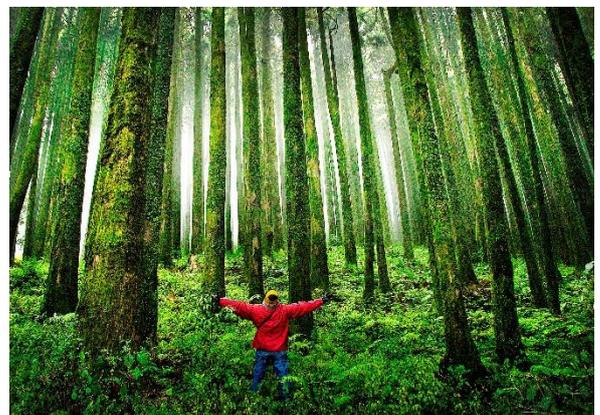
Tangled Trunks, Anuradha Marwah



Woodsy Fancy, Somenath Mukhopadhyay



Morning Mist, Sirsendu Gayen



Surrender to Green, Pranab Basak



Flying Tiger, Anudeep Agrawal

List of Attendees

S No	Name of the Person	Organisation
1	Shri A K Shukla	Government of Arunachal Pradesh
2	Shri A K Srivastava	NCCF
3	Ms Abhilasha Guleria	GICIA India Pvt Ltd
4	Shri Abhirup Sen	Bureau Veritas (India) Pvt. Ltd.
5	Shri Abhishek Naryal	GICIA India Pvt Ltd
6	Shri Aditya Petwal	IUCN
7	Shri Ajay K Lal	Department of Justice, GOI
8	Shri Ajay Kumar	Simbhaoli Power
9	Shri AK Goyal	
10	Shri AK Varma	NCCF
11	Shri Akhliesh Singh	IORA Ecological Solutions
12	Ms Alisha Gupta	GICIA India Pvt Ltd
13	Shri Ambarish C. Chaubrey	
14	Shri Amit Sahai	Ministry of Defence
15	Shri Anil Jauhari	QCI
16	Shri Ankur Nautiyal	GICIA India Pvt Ltd
17	Shri Anupam Joshi	World Bank
18	Ms Anushree Bhattacharjee	IUCN
19	Ms Anushree Shukla	IKEA Home Furnitures Company India
20	Shri Arun K Bansal	NCCF
21	Shri Asit Gopal	MP Forest
22	Shri Atul Jindal	Uttar Pradesh Forest Corporation
23	Ms Bhavika Aneja	MoEF&CC
24	Ms Bigsna Gill	TERI
25	Shri C B Ramkumar	GSTC
26	Shri C.B.Maurya	Jawaharlal Nehru University
27	Shri CA Shahnawaz Usmani	Usmani & Associates
28	Shri Chaturbhuj Behera	TFRI
29	Shri CK Mishra	MoEF&CC
30	Ms Deepali Rautela	NCCF
31	Shri Dharmendra Gupta	Department of Agriculture & Cooperation
32	Shri DP Sriranta	
33	Dr A K Singh	GICIA India Pvt Ltd
34	Dr Ajay Kumar Saxena	Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)
35	Dr AK Handa	CAFRI, Jhansi
36	Dr Alka Bhargava	Ministry of Agriculture
37	Dr Anil Kumar	
38	Dr Anjali Mohan	NR Management Consultants India Pvt. Ltd
39	Dr Bhavna Prasad	WWF
40	Dr Brij Raj Sharma	
41	Dr BVN Rao	Ministry of Agriculture & FW
42	Dr Debabrata Swain	MoEF&CC
43	Dr Devendra Pandey	NCCF
44	Dr Dilip Singh	Maharashtra State Biodiversity Board
45	Dr G.A. Kinhal	
46	Dr HS Gupta	Jharkhand SFDC

47	Dr I. V. Ramanuja Rao	Centre for Indian Bamboo Resource & Technology (CIBART)
48	Dr J.V. Sharma	TERI
49	Dr Javed Rizvi	World Agroforestry Center
50	Dr Kailash Chandra	Zological Society of India (ZSI)
51	Dr M.S. Khan	Top Associates for Growth
52	Dr Madhu Verma	IIFM
53	Dr Maharaj Muthoo	Roman Forum
	Dr Mamta Prakash	NEERI
54	Dr Manish Pande	Quality Council of India (QCI)
55	Manmohan Yadav	Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM)
56	Dr Navin Kumar	Landesa
57	Dr O.P Chaturvedi	ICAR-CAFRI Jhansi
58	Dr Poonam Pande	GIZ
59	Dr S. Rajesh	Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (Northern Region)
60	Dr S.K. Dhyani	ICAR-Natural Resource Management Division
61	Dr S.P. Yadav	Global Tiger Forum
62	Dr Saket Badola	WWF Traffic
63	Dr Salil Tewari	GB Pant University
64	Dr SS Negi	Uttrakhand Rural Migration Commission
65	Dr Sudipto Chatterjee	TERI School of Advanced Studies
66	Dr Surya Prakash	Jawaharlal Nehru University
67	Dr V.P. Tewari	Himalayan Forest Research Institute
68	Dr Yogesh Gokhale	TERI
69	Ms Eisha Krishn	Enviro Legal Defence Firm
70	Shri Ghan Shyam Pandey	Green Foundation Nepal
71	Ms Gitika Goswami	Development Alternatives
72	Shri Himanshu Shekhar	Yes Bank
73	Shri Hrishikesh Kashyap	Citizen First
74	Shri Jayesh Bhatia	NRMC
75	Shri Jitesh Kumar	MoEF&CC
76	Shri Jogindra Kumar	
77	Ms Jyotsna Sitling	Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship
78	Ms K Rathna	CIBART
79	Shri KH Devabrata Singh	NCCF
80	Shri Khitja Boonsri	Thailand Forest Certification Council
81	Shri Krishna Mishra	Panna Consultant
82	Ms Kriti Mukherjee	GICIA India Pvt Ltd
83	Shri Lakhwinder Singh	
84	Shri Mayukh Hajra	Development Alternatives
85	Ms Megha Gupta	GICIA India Pvt Ltd
86	Ms Megha Sharma	Krishi Jagran
87	Shri MP Sharma	Member Secretary
88	Shri Mudit Kumar Singh	Chhatisgarh State MFP COop & Marketing Federation
89	Shri Narendra Mohan	WWF
90	Shri Naveen Shah	Department of Forest J&K
91	Ms Nidhi Chauhan	
92	Shri OP Yadav	CG State Biodiversity Board
93	Shri P K Garg	Star Paper Mills Ltd.

94	Shri P. C. Joshi	University of Delhi
95	Shri Prabir Chaudhuri	MoEF&CC
96	Shri Pradeep Mohapatra	UDYAMA
97	Shri Pradeep Raj Karat	OFSDP
98	Shri Pramod Gupta	Wood Certification Private Limited
99	Shri Pravin Kumar Patel	Himsacsha Inc.
100	Shri Preet Pal Singh	Ministry of Defence
101	Ms Priyanka Choudhary	GICIA India Pvt Ltd
102	Shri Prodyut Bhattacharya	IP University
103	Shri PS Upadhyay	NH Consulting
104	Shri R K Gupta	UPDASP
105	Shri Rajesh Rawat	EPCH
106	Shri Ram Chandra Khuntia	BWI
107	Shri Rashid Y Naqash	Jammu & Kashmir Forest Department
108	Ms Ratna Maujan	Krishi Jagran
109	Shri RB Sinha	ICRAF
110	Shri Rishi Prakash	Aron Global
111	Ms Ritu Kkakar	EMPRI
112	Shri Rohit Pandit	IPMA
113	Shri S K Gulati	Hindustan Pencils
114	Shri S P Mishra	Star Paper Mills Ltd.
115	Shri S Sinha	Buddhist Times
116	Shri S. Sengupta	Capexil
117	Shri S.P. Singh	Indian Farm Forestry Development Cooperative Limited
118	Shri Sachin Raj	GICIA India Pvt Ltd/NCCF
119	Shri Saibal Dasgupta	MoEF&CC
120	Shri Sailesh Prasad	UP Forest Corporation
121	Ms Sangeeta Agarwal	KFW
122	Shri Sanjay Awasthi	Landesa
123	Shri Sanjay Srivastava	Maharishi Ayurveda Products Pvt Ltd
124	Shri Sanjeev Agrwal	Global Home Solutions
125	Ms Sarah Price	PEFC International
126	Ms Saumya Mathur	NR Management Consultants India Pvt. Ltd
127	Shri Saurabh	Delhi News 7
128	Shri Saurabh Gupta	Punjab Forest Department
129	Shri SBL Misra	Andhra Pradesh State Biodiversity Board
130	Ms Sharmishtha Shukla	Enviro Legal Defence Firm
131	Ms Shikha Singhal	GICIA India Pvt Ltd
132	Ms Shilpa	BKT Media Pvt Ltd
133	Shri Shovans Das	GICIA India Pvt Ltd
134	Shri Shreevathsa Jois H J	GICIA India Pvt Ltd
135	Shri Siddhanta Das	MoEF&CC
136	Shri Sidhant Sahebji	BKT Media Pvt Ltd
137	Shri Soumik Kundu	Intercooperation Social Development India
138	Shri Sudhanshu Arya	ICFA
139	Shri Sudhir Soni	TUV India Pvt Ltd
140	Shri Suneel Pandey	ITC Ltd.
141	Shri T.P. Subramony	INBAR
142	Ms Tanya Chhabra	NH Consulting

I43	Ms Taruna	GICIA India Pvt Ltd
I44	Shri Uday D.N	IPRITI
I45	Shri Umakant	Mizoram Forest Department
I46	Shri Varun Grover	NCCF
I47	Shri Vijai Sharma	NCCF
I48	Shri Vipin Kumar	NHPC Ltd
I49	Ms Vishakha Sharma	UA Consultant
I50	Shri VVS Sharma	True Times

Felicitation List

S No	Name of the Person	Organisation
1	Shri Aditya Petwal	IUCN
2	Shri Ajay Yadav	Ministry of Commerce & Industry
3	Shri AK Bansal	NCCF
4	Shri AK Varma	NCCF
5	Shri Akhilesh Singh	IORA Ecological Solutions Pvt. Ltd
6	Shri AM Singh	Department of Environment and Forests, Government of Assam
7	Shri Ambarish Choubey	
8	Shri Amit Anand	Carbon Check
9	Shri Anil Jauhri	National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies
10	Shri AK Srivastava	NCCF
11	Shri Ashish Mishra	Director, Ministry of Commerce
12	Shri BH Patel	Patel Wood Syndicate
13	Shri CK Mishra	Secretary , MoEF&CC
14	Ms Deepali Rautela	NCCF
15	Shri DN Datta	You & I Foundation
16	Dr Alka Bhargava	Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer Welfare
17	Dr Devendra Pandey	NCCF
18	Dr GA Kinhal	
19	Dr IVR Rao	CIBART
20	Dr Jagdish Kishwan	NCCF
21	Dr Javed Rizvi	World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)
22	Dr Manish Pande	Quality Council of India
23	Dr Manmohan Yadav	Indian Institute of Forest Management
24	Dr N Ravi	Institute of Wood Science and Technology
25	Dr Rajiv Pandey	Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education
26	Dr SC Gairola	Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education
27	Dr SK Panigarhi	IISD
28	Dr SS Negi	Uttrakhand Rural Migration Commission
29	Dr Yogeshwar Misra	Tropical Forest Research Institute
30	Shri Girish Kumar Agarwal	Sankalp International
31	Shri JK Jain	Greenply
32	Shri Jyotirmay Jena	WWF India
33	Ms K Rathna	CIBART
34	Shri KH Devbrat	Sunpolo
35	Shri Manu Jose Mattam	
36	Shri MS Negi	ADG Wildlife, MoEF&CC
37	Shri Philip Tapsall	
38	Shri PK Garg	Star Papers
39	Shri Pranab Bora	WWF India
40	Shri Pravir Deshmukh	CII
41	Shri Rakesh Kumar	EPCH
42	Shri RB Sinha	World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)
43	Shri RC Khuntia	
44	Ms Rebecca Aranha	Better Cotton Initiative
45	Shri RK Kalita	Rain Forest Research Institute
46	Shri Saibal Dasgupta	ADG Forests & Director General, FSI
47	Ms Sarah Price	PEFC International

48	Shri Siddhanta Das	DGF & SS, MoEF&CC
49	Shri SK Pattnaik	Secretary , MoA
50	Shri Sudhanshu Pandey	JS, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
51	Dr Sudipto Chatterjee	TERI Univeristy
52	Dr Surender Kumar	IWST Director
53	Shri Sushil Sehgal	
54	Ms Taruna	GICIA India Pvt. Ltd
55	Shri TP Ahulwalia	
56	Shri Vijai Sharma	NCCF
57	Department of Forests & Wildlife Preservation, Government of Punjab	
58	Forest and Environment Department, Government of Meghalaya	
59	Hoshangabad Forest Division, Madhya Pradesh Forest Department	
60	Jharkhand Forest Department	
61	Karnataka Forest Department	
62	Kerala Forest Department	
63	Odisha State Forest Department	
64	Odisha Forest Development Corporation Ltd.	
65	Tamil Nadu Forest Department	
66	Uttar Pradesh Forest Department	
NCCF-PEFC Photo Contest 2017 Winners		
67	Ms Anuradha Marwah (First)	
68	Shri Somenath Mukhopadhyay (Second)	
69	Shri Sirsendu Gayen (Third)	
70	Shri Pranab Basak (Fourth)	
71	Shri Anudeep Agarwal (Fifth)	

Organisers

Core Team

1. Governing Body Members
2. NCCF Secretariat
 - a. Shri AK Srivastava
 - b. Shri Sachin Raj Jain
 - c. Shri Suneel Kumar Pandey
 - d. Ms Deepali Rautela
 - e. Shri Varun Grover
 - f. Shri Taruna

Support Team

1. Ms Neha Channa
2. Shri Ankur Nautiyal
3. Shri Shovans Das
4. Shri Shreevathsa Jois
5. Shri Ram Avtar Singh
6. Shri Shivam Sharma
7. Ms Rashi Rawat
8. Shri Prabhakar Panda
9. Ms Kriti Mukherjee
10. Ms Megha Gupta
11. Ms Abhilasha Guleria
12. Ms Sakshi Nehra
13. Ms Shikha Singhal
14. Ms Alisha Gupta
15. Shri Abhishek Naryal
16. Shri Chetan Aggarwal
17. Ms Gurmeet Anand
18. Ms Priyanka Rastogi
19. Shri Anup Singh Rawat

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