

# EXHIBITION @COP14 OF UNCCD

## ICFRE Research Efforts in Restoration of Degraded Lands and Combating Desertification

**Date: 02 to 13 September 2019**

**Venue: #42, Hall 5, India Expo Centre and Mart,  
Greater Noida, Delhi NCR**

Organiser:

**Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education**

(An Autonomous Body of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India)

Dehradun, India



United Nations  
Convention to Combat  
Desertification



The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) is an autonomous body of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India. Mission of the Council is to generate, advance and disseminate scientific knowledge and technologies for ecological security, improved productivity, livelihoods enhancement and sustainable use of forest resources through forestry research and education.

ICFRE mandated to undertake forestry research and carries out its forestry research programs through a network of nine Institutes including the world famous Forest Research Institute at Dehradun and five Centres spread across the various geographic zones in the country.

**ICFRE Exhibition in COP 14 of UNCCD** highlights its works in preparation of DPRs for rejuvenation of major rivers through forestry intervention, development of models for restoration of mined out areas, reclamation of sodic soil, sand dune stabilization, rehabilitation of saline land, cold desert afforestation and documentation of floristic diversity, development of agroforestry models to increase income of farmers, development and release of high yielding varieties and clones for productivity enhancement, Prakriti - scientist-student connect initiative and Green Skill Development to engage youth in productive forestry management operations.

### **Contribution in Forest Land Restoration**

The management tools and systems

developed by ICFRE continued to be the basis for forest management in India as well as South-East Asia. Some of the landmark contributions for sustainable management of forest are site-specific agroforestry models, Working Plan Code-2014, techniques & models developed for restoration of degraded forest lands, and release of varieties of forestry tree species for productivity enhancement.

ICFRE through its nine institutes and five research centers is addressing issue of restoration of degraded forest lands by developing suitable restoration models and environment management plans. Its institutes made significant contribution in developing restoration models for mined out areas (limestone, coal and rock phosphate), sodic soil, sand dune stabilization and rehabilitation of saline land. ICFRE institute at Shimla is engaged in documentation of biodiversity of cold desert areas of Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh. It has standardized the nursery and planting techniques of dominant multipurpose indigenous plant species of cold deserts such as Seabuckthorn, Russian Olive, Himalayan Pencil Cedar and Wild Rose etc.

ICFRE through its institutes is imparting trainings and capacity building on different aspects of sustainable forest management, nursery management, forest productivity and green skill development to different stakeholders. ICFRE through Forest Research Institute (Deemed to be University) is imparting forestry education by running PG and Ph.D. courses.

## **Forestry Interventions for Rejuvenation of Major Rivers**

ICFRE prepared a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the conservation of Ganga River through forestry interventions to facilitate the major goals of accomplishing Nirmal Dhara and Aviral Dhara under Namame Gange Programme. Activities proposed in the DPR will contribute towards the Green India Mission. Now ICFRE is preparing the DPRs for conservation of thirteen major rivers viz. Beas, Chenab, Jhelum, Ravi, Sutlej, Yamuna, Brahmaputra, Godavari, Mahanadi, Narmada, Krishna, Luni, and Cauvery through forestry interventions.

## **Experience in National Reporting to UNCCD Secretariat**

ICFRE had prepared the Fifth and Sixth National Reports to UNCCD Secretariat on behalf of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, in 2012 and 2014 respectively and submitted to UNCCD Secretariat through their online portal. Elucidation of the Fifth and Sixth National Reports were also prepared and published for sharing with multi-stakeholders.

## **Sustainable Land and Ecosystem Management (SLEM)**

ICFRE implemented GEF/ the World Bank funded project on 'Policy and Institutional Reform for Mainstreaming and Scaling-up of the Sustainable Land and Ecosystem Management' as a Technical Facilitation Organization under Sustainable Land and Ecosystem Management-Country Partnership programme (SLEM-CPP). ICFRE provided the technical support to the SLEM project partners located in

different parts of the country.

A SLEM Baseline Report and Monitoring and Evaluation Indicator Framework were prepared and published as a tool to monitor the outcomes of the SLEM approaches, policies and strategies at national, state and local level. A manual on SLEM Best Practices was also published which highlighted some best practices for further upscaling.

## **Ecosystem Services Improvement Project**

The World Bank funded Ecosystem Services Improvement Project (ESIP) is a follow up project of earlier SLEM project and ICFRE is implementing the components on forest carbon stocks measuring and monitoring - capacity-building, and scaling up SLEM Best Practices in the states of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.

A 'Roadmap for institutional and policy mainstreaming of SLEM in other sectors' has to be developed which shall provide the guidelines for achieving the Land Degradation Neutrality Targets, Sustainable Development Goals and NDC Goal of Forestry Sector. An online national reporting portal for capturing trends and status of key indicators on land degradation, desertification and drought shall also be developed.

## **National REDD+ Strategy**

ICFRE had prepared National REDD+ Strategy on behalf of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India which was released by the Hon'ble Minister, Environment, Forest and Climate Change on 30 August 2018. The strategy has highlighted detailed

framework for implementation of REDD+ activities in India for addressing the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and conservation as well as enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

### **Prakriti**

A scientist-student connect initiative was envisioned and accordingly ICFRE

entered in to MoUs with Kendriya Vidyalaya and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti in 2018. The concept is being implemented in the form of a programme named 'Prakriti' with the main objective to promote awareness about forests and environment among the school children across the country.

***For further details, please contact:***

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