

## **REDD+ Himalaya Project Dissemination Workshop held at Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education Hqs.**

REDD+ is now widely recognized as one of the climate change mitigation approach. Developing countries are in different stages of their REDD+ preparedness. REDD+ attracts highest attention in developing country like India where local communities have high dependency on forests for their livelihoods.

ICFRE in collaboration with International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Kathmandu (Nepal) jointly implemented 'Trans-boundary REDD+ Himalaya Project' from November 2015 to December 2018 which mainly focused on capacity buildings, technology sharing and knowledge dissemination on various aspects of REDD-plus in North-Eastern States of India for implementation of REDD-plus programmes. A REDD+ Himalaya Project Dissemination Workshop was organized at ICFRE, Dehradun on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

Speaking on the occasion Shri S.D. Sharma, Dy. Director General (Research), ICFRE in his welcomed addressed apprised about the objectives of the workshop. He also highlighted that although project focus was in Mizoram, however the project outcome also helped ICFRE to develop National REDD+ Strategy which was finally released by the Government of India.

Dr. R.S. Rawat, Scientist-in-Charge Biodiversity and Climate Change Division gave a detailed account of project activities undertaken during the project period. Among the main activities of REDD+ Himalaya were preparation of State REDD+ Action Plans for the state of Mizoram and Uttarakhand, study on the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and strategies to address the derivers, capacity building programmes and various income generation activities initiated for the local communities. A short documentary highlighting the project achievements was also released on the occasion.

Mr V.R.S. Rawat, Consultant at ICFRE gave presentation on National REDD+ Strategy recently released by the Ministry of the Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India. The strategy addresses drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and also gave a road map for enhancement of forest carbon stocks and achieving sustainable management of forests through REDD+ actions. The strategy proposes Green Skill Development programme for imparting forestry related specialised skill.

In accordance to UN requirements countries implementing REDD+ must prepare a Safeguard Information System that addresses governance, environmental and social safeguards. Dr. Sanjay Singh, Scientist, BCC Division presented a framework for developing a REDD+ Safeguard Information System when implementing REDD+ on ground. Participants had a brainstorming session on developing a Safeguard Information System. Existing policies, legislations and regulation that can form part of safeguard Information System were discussed. Dr. R.S. Rawat presented Vote of Thanks at the concluding session. Officers from ICFRE, FRI and other research organizations participated in the project dissemination workshop.



### Media Coverage of the Event

## ICFRE holds workshop on REDD



**PNS ■ DEHRADUN**

The land use based climate mitigation approach of 'Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation' (REDD) along with conservation of forest carbon stocks, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks collectively known as REDD plus is now widely recognised as one of the climate change mitigation approaches.

The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) in collaboration with International Centre for Integrated Mountain development (ICIMOD) of Nepal jointly implemented trans-boundary REDD-plus Himalayas project which mainly focused on capacity building, technology sharing and knowledge dissemination on REDD-

plus. A project dissemination workshop on REDD plus Himalaya was organised at ICFRE on Thursday.

Speaking on the occasion ICFRE deputy director general (Research) SD Sharma said that although the project focus was in Mizoram, the project outcome also helped ICFRE to develop national REDD plus strategy which was released by the Government of India.

Scientist in charge, biodiversity and climate change, RS Rawat gave a detailed account of project activities conducted during the project period. Among the main activities were preparation of State REDD action plan for the states of Mizoram and Uttarakhand, study on the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and strategies to address the drivers.

Rawat also highlighted

capacity building programmes and various income generation activities initiated for the local communities.

ICFRE consultant VRS Rawat gave a presentation on National REDD plus strategy recently released by the Ministry of the Environment, Forests and Climate Change. The strategy will be addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and also developing a road map for enhancement of forest carbon stocks and achieving sustainable management of forests through REDD plus actions.

The strategy will support empowerment of youth cadre as community foresters to lead the charge at the local level. Green skill development programme for imparting forestry related specialised skill will also be implemented.

He pointed out that REDD

plus attracts highest attention in developing country like India where local communities, forest dwelling tribal communities have high dependency on forests for their livelihoods.

ICFRE scientist Sanjay Singh presented a framework for developing a safeguard information system when implementing REDD plus on ground.

As per United Nations requirements countries implementing REDD plus must prepare a safeguard information system that addresses a set of governance, environmental and social safeguards.

Participants had a brainstorming session on developing a safeguard information system. Existing policies, legislations and regulation that can form part of safeguard information system were also discussed.

The Pioneer Chandigarh 28/12/2018

# रेड् प्लस हिमालय परियोजना पर कार्यशाला

उत्तर भारत लाइव ब्यूरो  
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देहरादून। भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद् तथा नेपाल स्थित अंतर्राष्ट्रीय एकीकृत पर्वतीय विकास केन्द्र द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से चलाई जा रही रेड् प्लस हिमालय परियोजना की विस्तार पर कार्यशाला सम्पन्न हुई। इस अवसर पर उप महानिदेशक एसडी शर्मा ने कहा कि जहां पर स्थानीय समुदाओं की वनों पर अत्यधिक निर्भरता है। रेड् प्लस कार्यक्रम कारगर सिद्ध हो सकते है। शर्मा ने बताया कि भावाअनुशिप भारत सरकार के लिए हाल ही में रेड् प्लस की रणनीति बनाई है जो कि शीघ्र ही संयुक्त राष्ट्र जलवायु परिवर्तन सचिवालयों को भेजी जाएगी।



वैज्ञानिक प्रभारी जैवविविधता एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन प्रभाग डा. आरएस रावत ने रेड् प्लस हिमालय परियोजना की गतिविधियों एवं उपलब्धियों पर प्रकाश डाला है इस अवसर पर रेड् प्लस हिमालय

परियोजना पर आधारित एक लघु चलचित्र का विमोचन किया गया। विशेषज्ञ सलाहकार वीआरएस रावत ने हाल ही में जारी राष्ट्रीय रेड् प्लस रणनीति पर प्रकाश डाला। उन्होने बताया कि यह राष्ट्रीय रणनीति रेड्

प्लस गतिविधियों के संचालन से वनाधारित हरित रोजगार के अतिरिक्त अवसर पैदा करेगी। वैज्ञानिक डा. संजय सिंह, ने रेड् प्लस कार्यक्रम के क्रियान्वयन पर सुरक्षा सूचना तंत्र के विकास पर प्रकाश डाला।

Uttar Bharat Live 28/12/2018

कवायद

## संयुक्त राष्ट्र जलवायु परिवर्तन सचिवालय को रिपोर्ट भेजने की तैयारी संयुक्त राष्ट्र को रिपोर्ट सौंपेगी आईसीएफआरई

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

देहरादून। जलवायु परिवर्तन को लेकर भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद् (आईसीएफआरई) ने नई रिपोर्ट तैयार की है, जिसे जल्द संयुक्त राष्ट्र जलवायु परिवर्तन सचिवालय को सौंपा जाएगा।

संयुक्त राष्ट्र जलवायु परिवर्तन कार्यक्रम के तहत वनों के कटान के चलते ग्रीन हाउस गैसों के उत्सर्जन और वनों के सतत् प्रबंधन से कार्बन

उत्सर्जन पर पड़ने वाले प्रभाव को लेकर बृहस्पतिवार को एक कार्यशाला का आयोजन आईसीएफआरई में किया गया। जिसमें रेड प्लस हिमालय परियोजना के बारे में चर्चा की। कार्यशाला का उद्घाटन करते हुए उप निदेशक एसडी शर्मा ने कहा कि जहां पर स्थानीय समुदायों की वनों पर अत्यधिक निर्भरता है वहां रेड प्लस जैसे कार्यक्रम कारगर साबित हो रहे हैं। आईसीएफआरई की ओर से रेड प्लस कार्यक्रम को लेकर रणनीति

बनाई है जो जल्द संयुक्त राष्ट्र जलवायु परिवर्तन सचिवालय को भेजी जाएगी। डा. आरएस रावत वैज्ञानिक प्रभारी, जैव विविधता एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन प्रभाग ने परियोजना की गतिविधियों एवं उपलब्धियों पर जानकारी दी। कार्यशाला में वैज्ञानिक डा. संजय सिंह, डॉ. आरएस रावत, सहायक महानिदेशक डा. शामिल कालिया, वन अनुसंधान संस्थान डॉ. एके पांडे आदि विशेषज्ञों ने संबोधित किया।

Amar Ujala, Dehradun 28/12/2018

# REDD+ Himalayas: Developing and Using Experience in Implementing REDD+ in Himalaya

## Project Dissemination Workshop 27 December 2018

### Evolution of REDD+ under United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in developing countries (REDD) was introduced in UNFCCC negotiations as a potential policy approach for climate change mitigation.

Later on with the inclusion of conservation and sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks, REDD is known as to as REDD+.



Key elements of REDD+

In Cancun, in 2010, Governments agreed to boost action to curb emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries with technological and financial support. Cancun Agreement encourages developing country Parties to contribute to mitigation actions in the forest sector by undertaking the following activities:

1. Reducing emissions from deforestation;
2. Reducing emissions from forest degradation;
3. Conservation of forest carbon stocks;
4. Sustainable management of forest &
5. Enhancement of forest carbon stocks

REDD+ is now widely recognized as financial incentive to the communities for their contribution in reducing greenhouse gas emissions from forests through reduction in deforestation & forest degradation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks through forest conservation and sustainable development of forests.

### REDD+ Opportunities to synergize between Mitigation and Adaptation

REDD+ is primarily a climate change mitigation effort. However, deforestation and forest degradation are accompanied by the loss of many ecosystem services and goods which provide a variety of income possibilities, material welfare, livelihoods, security, resilience and social wellbeing etc. These ecosystem services, and their continuous supply are becoming increasingly important in the context of adaptation to climate change. REDD+ programme and actions if implemented properly, has a potential to contribute towards mitigation and adaptation to climate change and at the same time can provide financial incentives to the participating communities. In Paris (Conference of Parties, 21 of UNFCCC), the parties recognized role of forests as carbon sink for mitigation of climate change. Article 5 of Paris Agreement encourages all Parties, developed and developing countries to take action to conserve and enhance emissions sinks and reservoirs, including forests. It also encourages countries to "take action to implement and support, including through results-based payments" REDD+ activities.



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Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

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## Scope of REDD+ Implementation in India

With nearly 200,000 villages classified as forest fringe villages in India inhabiting an estimated 350 million rural people constituting about 30% of India's population, there is obviously large dependence of communities on forest resources. About 30% of India's forests are being managed through more than 118,213 Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs).

There is ample scope and opportunities for integrating REDD+ initiative with the community controlled/managed forest and Joint Forest Management (JFM) programme of activities. JFM has enabled protection and regeneration of existing forests which will contribute in conservation of forests and also the carbon stocks. This approach matches with the objectives of REDD+ programmes. Promoting and integrating REDD+ actions in JFM activities to increase sequestration of carbon stock will meet both national objectives of climate change mitigation and international obligations as a responsive member of international community.

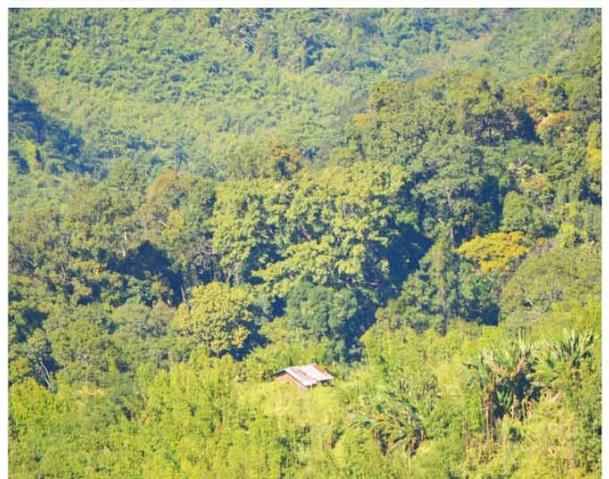
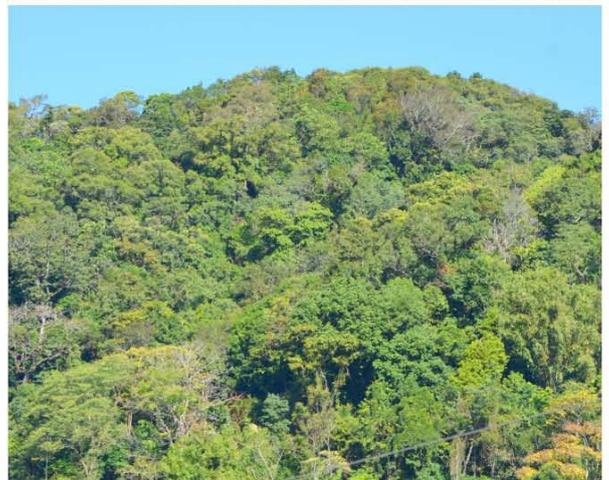
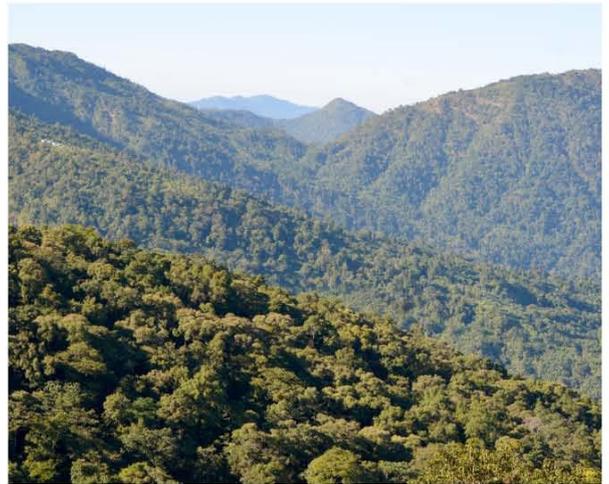
## India's Readiness for REDD+ Implementation

Financial support for REDD+ at bilateral and multilateral level led many countries to initiate REDD+ readiness programme and pilot projects at domestic level. Government of India is keen to start REDD+ at national level. National REDD+ Strategy (NRS) has been prepared by ICFRE on behalf of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and released by the Government of India in August 2018. A National Governing Council for REDD+ (NGC-REDD+) and National Designated Entity for REDD+ (NDE-REDD+) have been established at MoEFCC for implementation of NRS. Forest Reference Level (FRL) has been developed by Ministry & submitted to the UNFCCC.

The road map of actions that need to be for the REDD+ implementation in India is as follows:

- Capacity building programmes.
- Development of Monitoring Reporting and Verification (MRV) systems.
- Initiation of demonstration/pilot activities at sub national level.
- Quantification of REDD+ benefits, developing benefits sharing mechanism with REDD+ communities.
- Development of Safeguard Information System (SIS) for REDD+.
- Finance for REDD+ actions. Performance based payments for emission reduction.

India has joined UN-REDD Programme and will help in capacity building for REDD+ at national level. Few isolated REDD+ are underway in different parts of the country.



## REDD+ Himalaya: Developing and Using Experience in implementing REDD+ in the Himalaya

In 2015, ICIMOD-GIZ has initiated a programme on 'REDD+ Himalayas: Developing and using experience in implementing REDD+ in the Himalaya' to build the capacity of REDD+ focal points in transboundary landscapes of India, Nepal, Bhutan and Myanmar.

In Indian part, REDD+ Himalaya Project is implemented by ICFRE in collaboration with ICIMOD. REDD+ capacity building was focussed on North-Eastern part of the country under this project. The project assisted in developing and implementation of REDD+ projects on trainings, technology sharing and knowledge dissemination.

The overall goal of the project is to build the capacity of the REDD+ focal points for the development and implementation of National REDD+ Strategy or Action Plans, through conservation and sustainable management of forest.

### Project Outcomes are as follows:

- Stock Taking of REDD+ in India.
- Scoping of REDD+ in Kailash Sacred Landscape of India.
- Identification of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Mizoram.
- Strategy for addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Mizoram.
- REDD+ Working Group for North-Eastern States of India.
- Support for developing National REDD+ Strategy.
- State REDD+ Action Plan for Mizoram.
- State REDD+ Action Plan for Uttarakhand.
- Training Manual on REDD+ MRV.
- Capacity building of relevant stakeholders on different aspects of REDD+.
- Capacity building of local communities on REDD+ MRV.
- Estimation of biomass and carbon stocks of bamboo species through development of allometric equations.
- Strategy for high conservation networks and biodiversity indicators to be used for REDD+ implementation in the state of Mizoram.
- Implementation of REDD+: Roles and responsibilities at centre and state level.
- Mainstreaming of REDD+ activities in to management plan.
- Feasibility for identification, adoption and developing of appropriate technology for improved cook stove, solar energy, agroforestry and livestock management in Mizoram.
- Manual of suitable REDD+ species of Mizoram.
- Model project design document: REDD+ Pilot Project, District Mamit in Mizoram.
- Alternation income generation activities through: introduction of solar dryer, cooking and powdering unit for turmeric, and establishment of shaded coffee demonstration plantations in the project villages of Mamit District of Mizoram.
- Establishment of Bamboo demonstration plot for at Aizwal (Mizoram).

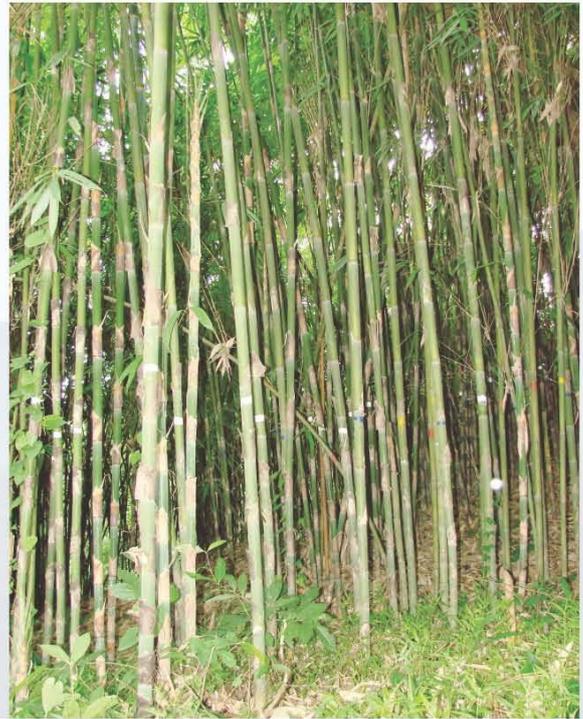


The project will endeavor to develop a REDD+ pilot project for Mamit district of Mizoram and to get financial incentives for the participating communities through Green Climate Fund or voluntary carbon market.

## Way Forward

It is planned to continue the REDD+ Himalaya Project in its second phase with following activities:

- Identification of state specific drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in other Indian Himalayan states.
- Preparation of SRAPs for other Indian Himalayan States (HP, J&K, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Meghalaya, Tripura, Nagaland and Manipur).
- Strengthening of State REDD+ Cells in the Indian Himalayan States through building their capacities for implementation of National REDD+ Strategy.
- Capacity buildings cum awareness of stakeholders of the other Himalayan States on different aspects of REDD+ including gender mainstreaming in REDD+ implementation.
- Maintenance of shaded coffee plantations.



## Non Carbon Benefits: Multiple Benefits from REDD+



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