

Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi

Proceedings of the meeting on DPR preparation for rejuvenation for Mahanadi river through forestry interventions held on 14th October, 2019 with the DDG (Research), ICFRE, Dehradun

An evaluation and review meeting on DPR preparation for Rejuvenation of Mahanadi river through Forestry Interventions was held 14th October, 2019 that was presided over by Dr. S. D. Sharma, DDG (Research) & Director (IC), ICFRE, Dehradun. He was formally welcomed by Dr. Yogeshwar Mishra, GCR, IFP, Ranchi. The meeting was attended by Dr. Sharad Tiwari, Scientist-F & GIS Coordinator, Dr. Animesh Sinha, Scientist-E, Sh. Sanjeev Kumar, Scientist-D, Dr. P. K. Das, Scientist-D & Nodal Officer, Sh. Aditya Kumar, Scientist-D, Ms. R. S. Kujur, Scientist-C, Sh. S. N. Mishra, CTO, Sh. Rajeev Ranjan, T.O and all JRFs of the project.

The meeting commenced with the DDG's brief on the procedure to be followed for carrying out the work alongwith referring the DPR of Ganga river. He asked the scientists to study the Ganga DPR thoroughly to get hints about the kind of data to be collected from field. The following queries were raised by him:

1. Whether any changes/suggestions/recommendations received from stakeholders regarding the buffer zone of 5 Km for main river and 2 Km for major tributaries?
 - ✓ The DDG was informed that there was no suggestion for change in the buffer zone. The suggested areas for buffer zones of 5 Km for main river and 2 Km for major tributaries were unanimously agreed upon in all inception and stakeholder meetings of all the 5 states and placed in the proceedings of the inception workshops organized by IFP, Ranchi at Bhubaneswar and Raipur.

2. Whether the GIS maps were procured?
 - ✓ Dr. S. Tiwari, GIS Coordinator of the project replied that the GIS maps have been procured alongwith soil and density maps. Further, Dr. Tiwari intimated that buffer area of riverscape at beat and range level will be procured within 1-2 days.

3. Whether data portal and web portal were developed?

- ✓ Dr. Tiwari replied that development of data and web portals will be done in due course.

4. Whether experts/anchors to write the chapters of the DPR hired?

- ✓ Dr. Y. Mishra replied that advertisement for experts/anchors for writing of chapters of DPR is under progress and very soon it will be published. Dr. Mishra informed that a workshop will be organized in the month of October 2019 to understand the forestry intervention practices affecting river flow, which will also help to identify the experts/anchors who can contribute in DPR writing.

Queries were raised by the GIS coordinator and Nodal Officer regarding the DPR. Answering to the queries Dr. Sharma, DDG (Research) suggested:

- Calculation of the total area (in hectares) where the interventions are to be done including the 5 Km and 2 Km buffer zones of main river and major tributaries respectively.
- GIS intervention is required to assess the buffer zone for the rivers and also to assess the priority areas via GIS maps for each forest division.
- Forest division boundaries in all 5 states to be clearly demarcated on maps.
- The forest, agricultural, urban and protected areas should be identified and assessed for data collection that are the source of information.
- The recommendations of the DPR should suggest plantation models for minimum 5 hectares of area where the land is available and 1-2 hectares of plantation on limited land area or rugged landscape.
- Nodal Officers in all states to be contacted to identify resource persons for providing the data of other interventions like agriculture, urban and for protected areas.
- Exotic species to be avoided while formulating plantation models.
- Forestry intervention proposals/models should include agroforestry models, shelterbelts, medicinal plants, bund plantations etc. Proposals/models in the urban landscape can include bio-filtration and bio-remediation models. Sewage treatment proposals/models should not be included in the DPR as ICFRE does not have the expertise.

- Data portal developed should function so as to derive Total cost for Total area covered under particular model under a particular land use for all the states. It should be able to process huge amount of data pertaining to financial calculations for various models under different landuse systems.
- Web portal should be developed to share information among all ICFRE institutes that could include literature; the activities/meetings/surveys being carried out alongwith the photos. (riversdpr.icfre.org)
- Chapter wise experts or anchors could be hired to write the DPR.
- The proceedings of all inception/stakeholders' meetings to be a part of Annexure in the DPR.

Talking about the way the DPR is to be written, the DDG said that the DPR would be written in 2 volumes with an Executive Summary for the river Mahanadi. One volume would refer to the chapters containing secondary information derived from different literature, forest working plans, websites and other references etc and the methodology. The second volume would reflect the proposed scientific models as per land use systems, i.e, forests, agricultural landscape, urban landscape and protected areas and proposed forestry interventions for the priority areas. The Executive summary of the DPR should reflect the summary of both the volumes.

Dr. Sharad Tiwari, Scientist-F & GIS Coordinator made the presentation on DPR Mahanadi and explained the achievements made so far. The DDG praised the achievements made but reminded the house to stick to the deadlines as the project concluding date is fast approaching.

At the end of the meeting, following points were summarized by Dr. Yogeshwar Mishra, GCR, IFP, Ranchi:

1. Detailed total area (in hectares) to be identified.
2. Nodal Officers in all states to be contacted to identify resource persons for other interventions like agriculture, urban and for protected areas.
3. Chapter wise experts or resource persons to be hired for report writing.

The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks proposed by Dr. Y. Mishra, GCR, IFP, Ranchi.



Dr. S. D. Sharma, DDG (Research), ICFRE, Dehradun presiding over the meeting on DPR preparation for Rejuvenation of Mahanadi river through Forestry Interventions



Dr. S. D. Sharma, DDG (Research) explaining the procedure and answering queries for DPR preparation



Dr. S. Tiwari, Scientist-F & GIS Coordinator presenting the work done and achievements of DPR preparation