Interim Report on

National Workshop cum Training Programme of National Stakeholders for creating Awareness on Non-legally binding instrument (Forest Instrument) on all types of forests

12-14 December, 2012 New Delhi

Supported by Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations

Organized by

Ministry of Environment and Forests
Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi – 110003
in collaboration with
Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun-248006

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I. Introduction

The Ministry of Environment & Forests along with Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy, Dehradun organized a "National Workshop cum Training Programme of National Stakeholders for creating Awareness on Non-legally binding instrument (Forest Instrument) on all types of forest" during 12-14th December, 2012 in Samrat Hotel, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi. The workshop was attended by 91 officers and experts belonging to different State Forest Departments, Ministries of Government of India, National level Forestry Institutions, Non-Government Organizations and other institutions.

The workshop aimed to Strengthen National Reporting in support of the Implementation of the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests, hereinafter referred to as the forest instrument, and was conducted with financial support from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The objective of the workshop was to strengthen the capacity of National stakeholders mainly the State Forest Departments & National Level Forestry Intuitions in reporting to the Forum on progress made in the implementation of the forest instrument at UNFF. To this end, the workshop focused on enhancing their understanding of the forest instrument and of the importance of its implementation at the country level. It also provided an opportunity for the FAO representative to receive feedback on the template for reporting on progress in the implementation of the forest instrument and the achievement of its Global Objectives on Forests by India.

Participants found the workshop very helpful in demonstrating the importance of the forest instrument and the benefits that it could generate for their states and the country. The workshop exercises were also helpful in clarifying for them the steps and actions that need to be taken to operationalize the forest instrument. It is expected that the national report will help country identify more clearly key implementation gaps and priority needs, which bilateral and multi-lateral donors could take into account in the

implementation of their international sustainable forest management (SFM) technical cooperation strategies.

There was general consensus on acceptance for the national level reporting format (template) prepared by the UNFF as a good tool for assessing progress in the implementation of the forest instrument and the achievement of its four Global Objectives on Forests.

Most of the participants desired that such a capacity building exercise needs to be conducted at regional level across the country and also stressed the importance of receiving financial assistance, as is the case with other multilateral environmental agreements, for the preparation of future national reports. The workshop participants strongly proposed that a recommendation be presented to UNFF requesting financial support from donors for the preparation of national reports to be submitted in future sessions of the forum.

II. Background

The adoption of the forest instrument by the United Nations General Assembly (A/Res/62/98) in September 2007 reinforced the global commitment to sustainable forest management (SFM) as the overarching principle for forest policy at both the national and international levels, and outlined future priorities in the form of the four Global Objectives on Forest (GOFs):

Global objective 1

Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation;

Global objective 2

Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest dependent people;

Global objective 3

Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products derived from sustainably managed forests;

Global objective 4

Reverse the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management and mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management.

It is understood that monitoring and assessing progress towards implementation of the forest instrument and achieving its Global Objectives on Forests are critical components of the work of the UNFF. Countries have been requested to submit voluntary national progress reports as part of their regular reporting to the Forum. The Forum's 8-year

(2007-2015) Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) specifically states that "Each session will have as a main task the discussion on the achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests and the implementation of the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests". The successful implementation of the forest instrument requires improved national reporting by countries to help assess progress, identify needs, and to promote a more effective sharing of experiences and best practices.

III. Objective

The main objective of the workshop was to create awareness and build capacity among the wide range of national level stakeholders within the country for effective reporting on progress in the implementation of the **Forest Instrument**. The workshop also aimed to assess the current situation of the country with respect to the national policies and measures of the instrument to create a baseline and to identify priority actions to strengthen the national forest programmes.

IV. Venue and dates

The workshop was held at the Samrat Hotel, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi from 12-14 December 2012. The workshop programme is attached as **Appendix-I**.

V. Participants

The Ministry of Environment & Forests alongwith Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy, Dehradun organized the "National Workshop cum Training Programme of National Stakeholders for creating Awareness on Non-legally binding instrument (Forest Instrument) on all types of forest" during 12-14th December, 2012 in Samrat Hotel, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi. The workshop was attended by 91 officers and experts belonging to different State Forest Departments, Ministries of Government of India, National level Forestry Institutions, Non-Government Organizations and other institutions. The list of participants is attached as Appendix-II.

VI. Organization of the workshop

The workshop consisted of six capacity-building sessions as reflected in the programme contained in Appendix 1. The topics dealt in these sessions were (1) Introduction to the workshop and the forest instrument, (2) India's National Policies and Legal Framework, (3) Why should countries implement the Forest Instrument? (4) Status of Implementation of NLBI in India, (5) Monitoring and evaluation of the progress in the Forest Instrument, (6) Reporting on the Implementation of the Forest Instrument. This was followed by a final session on conclusions and follow-up. The sub-themes dealt in each of the sessions are provided in the workshop program. The sessions 3 and 5 involved presentations, group exercises and interactive discussions on the reports emanating from the group exercises. To assist the participants in their deliberations, several documents were provided for their consideration, which are listed in **Appendix-III**.

VII. Opening of the workshop

The workshop was initiated with the inaugural session participated by Mr. R.K. Goel, Director, IGNFA who delivered the keynote address; Mr. Subhash Chandra, DIG (FP), MoEF, who delivered the welcome address, Mr. Ewald Rametsteiner, Head, Forest Policy, FAO, who gave opening remarks, Mr. Anoop Badhawa, IGF, MoEF, who also give his opening remarks, Dr. Alok Saxena, Addl. Director, IGNFA presented vote of thanks. The session was coordinated by Dr. Mohit Gera, Add. Professor, IGNFA, who acted as Workshop Coordinator for the workshop.

A. Session 1: Introduction to the forest instrument

Session 1: Introduction to NLBI

This Session was chaired by Mr. Jagdish Kishwan, Ex- ADGF, MoEF. The session began with a presentation by Mr. Subhash Chandra, DIG (FP), MoEF on background, purpose and objectives of the workshop. He highlighted importance of NLBI and its relevance to India and thrown light on Sustainable Forest Management and Global Forestry Objectives and role of forests in achieving MDGs. He stressed that forestry has cross-sectoral context and linkages which need to be strengthened so that forestry sector can fulfill its due role in national development including MDGs. This was followed by presentation from Mr. Gondo, UNFF consultant, provided a historical background on the evolution of forest policy since the UNCED in Rio in 1992. In addition, he also explained the functions of the UNFF, the purpose and principles of the forest instrument, and its component actions at the national and international levels.

On the goal of getting participants to systematically understand the forest instrument, Mr. Gondo explained group exercises that built on the experiences and progress towards SFM of the participating states. The participants were divided into six groups after the session for undertaking group exercises (**Appendix-IV**). During the discussion all participants responded that their NFPs are linked to the national policies and measures of the forest instrument. For most of the national policies and measures contained in paragraph 6 of the forest instrument, there is action and progress by the country.

The copies of presentations of all participants are attached as **Appendix-V** in the order workshop programme.

B. Session 2: India's National Policies and Legal Framework

This Session was chaired by Mr. A. K. Bansal, Ex- ADGF, MoEF. Two presentations and one panel discussion constituted the session. The first presentation was made on National Forest Policy of India and NLBI by Dr. Rekha Pai, IGF, MoEF, and second one was on Forests and Climate Change by Mr. Jagdish Kishwan, Retd. ADGF, MoEF. It was followed by the panel discussion on forest laws, enforcement & judicial activism by Dr. J.V. Sharma, Sr. Fellow, TERI.

In her presentation, Dr. Rekha Pai spoke on evolution of NLBI and position of India's policy and legal framework which are suitable for its implementation. The elements of constitutional provisions like 42nd Amendment of 1976, Article 48-A and 51-A(G) of constitution, Forest Policy of 1988 and Environment Policy of 2006, which are in line with respect to NLBI for its implementation. She also spoke on current scenario of management of India's forests, weaknesses in monitoring and reporting systems and inadequacy in financial resources, technology and capacity for implementation of NLBI in India.

Mr. Jagdish Kishwan spoke on role of forests in mitigation and adaptation to climate change and discussed about the outcomes of COP 16, COP 17 and recently concluded COP 18 alongwith the various challenges in policy, institutional and technical matters related to implementing the REDD+ in India. He also elaborated on the strategy for implementing of REDD+ in India with respect to policy, institutional and technical matters. He also informed that no specific reporting is required with respect to NLBI for contribution of forests in mitigation, adaptation and impact of climate change on forest.

Dr. J. V. Sharma presented on the regulatory framework for the implementation of NLBI in India. He discussed about the strong legal regime viz. Indian Forest Act-1927, Forest Conservation Act-1980, Wildlife Protection Act-1972, Biological Diversity Act-2002, and Forest Right Act-2006 which is already in place to implement NLBI in India. He also talked on matter of judicial activism in forestry sector and discussed few relevant cases therein. He also pointed out various gaps in Indian legal and policy framework.

C. Session 3: Why should countries implement the forest instrument?

This Session was chaired initially by Mr. A. K. Srivastava, DGF, MoEF & later on by Sh. R.K. Goel, Director, IGNFA. While introducing this session, Mr. Peter Gondo spoke on the topic of why to implement the forest Instrument and discussed the various aspect of it which are needed for the countries to better manage their forests. He elaborated the comprehensive nature of NLBI which encompasses all types of forests and covers all aspect of SFM.

Mr Gondo also conducted two group exercises, viz.,

- 1. Relating existing national forestry development framework to the NLBI policies and measures and
- 2. Stakeholder analysis, aiming to impart practical knowledge of implementing NLBI. Later, Mr Gondo also dealt with the issue of how to implement the forest instrument and suggested approaches to implementing the NLBI in India.

Mr. Gondo explained how the forest instrument provides a framework for guiding and strengthening the implementation of national forest programmes (NFPs) as well as promoting the integration of forestry programmes into development plans at national and sub-national levels. In a second exercise on the relevance of the forest instrument to India, participants, who were divided into three exercise groups, identified the following benefits that could be gained through the implementation of the forest instrument:

- providing opportunities to address public policy regarding land use planning and the landscape approach to sustainable forest management,
- providing greater international and national visibility to forest issues and their relevance to other instruments,
- promoting the direct and indirect importance of forests,
- fostering and strengthening cooperation across forest-related sectors and their stakeholders.
- engaging more effectively local and indigenous communities in SFM,
- promoting capacity-building for achieving sustainable forest management,
- focusing multi-sectoral coordination through efforts to achieve the Global Objectives on Forests,
- standardizing information that can be utilized by a variety of stakeholders and
- strengthening data and information for different forest-related processes.

Group Exercise-I

From the first group exercise the participants identified the following prioritized actions for moving forward in implementation of forest instrument. All the participants were divided into six different regional groups (A-F) covering the whole country.

	Policies &	Measure (Table 3.2	s ranked of the U	by differ NFF form	ent Regio at)	ns
RANK			GROU			
	A	В	С	D	Е	F
1	9	2	9	14	9	14
2	15	20	11	3	11	15
3	11	22	21	9	7	18
4	5	23	22	18	10	23
5	18	7	8	15	24	9

Group Exercise-II

Based on the outcome of the second exercise, viz., 3.2, the participants ranked the policies and measures for developing an action plan for implementing the top five priorities.

Table 2: Action plan

Policies and Measures	Supported by Groups
9	A,D,E
11	A,E

18	C,F
23	B,F
14	В
15	С
22	В

In the ensuing exercise, participants were requested to identify the important stakeholders who need to be informed of, and participate in, the implementation of the forest instrument. In addition participants were asked to identify or suggest the awareness raising strategies and methods that could be employed to reach the identified stakeholders. The workshop exercise groups identified several stakeholders that should be engaged in the implementation of the instrument. Key stakeholders identified by some of the participants included the judiciary, customs departments, local and indigenous communities, and local organizations.

Regarding strategies for reaching stakeholders, public awareness and education were underlined as particularly important for engaging stakeholder support and participation in the implementation of the forest instrument. All stakeholders should be encouraged to understand that through the forest instrument we have moved from policy-making to the operationalization of SFM policies at the country level and that their participation is crucial.

The presentations made in the workshop by country professionals highlighted the measures already existing in varying degrees and make action plan for identifying and filling the gaps in information and implementation by engaging suitable stakeholders. In this exercise, the participants were exposed to various policies and measures under NLBI and to relate them with the existing situation in the country.

The experts recommended the development of a communication strategy targeting all forest stakeholders using various communication tools such as discussion groups, capacity building, workshops and seminars at the local and regional levels; and the production of brochures and newspapers, including in indigenous languages. They recommended that a dissemination strategy for reaching out to local communities be prepared, including in native languages.

It was noted that many important stakeholders are outside the forest sector, such as legislators, judicial officials, financial institutions and law enforcement.

D. Session 4: Status of Implementation of NLBI in India

This Session was chaired by Mr. A. K. Wahal, DG FSI. The session began with presentation by Mr Subhash Chandra, DIG (GP), MoEF, on present status, gaps in information and need for strengthening data sharing. It was followed by the presentations by the national stakeholders.

Dr. Rekha Pai discussed the policies and measures for forest protection placed under SFM and relate them with NLBI. She also elaborated on various issues related to the protection of forests from damage. She categorically discussed important protection related issues like forest fires, encroachments, grazing, illegal felling, poaching, unsustainable harvest, invasive species and trans-boundary issues which are causing havoc to forest protection. She stressed on the need for checking them, to strengthen SFM in India.

Dr Subhash Ashutosh, Prof. IGNFA, dealt on the monitoring, assessment and reporting of indicators/parameters of sustainable forest management and their status in India. He explained the seven thematic elements of SFM. He discussed the various works being carried out by FSI for national and state level monitoring & assessment of India's forest. In this regard, he gave an overview of wall-to-wall forest cover mapping being carried out biannually, national wide forest inventory work for assessment of many parameters like carbon and biodiversity, shifting cultivation affected areas and near real time detection of forest fires. He also gave an overview of India's reporting to GFRA 2010 and NATCOM (2003 & 2009).

Mr. Ajay Kumar Lal, Executive Director, Mid Himalayan Watershed Development Project, Solan, H.P, delivered his presentation on the need for capacity building for international trade in forest products. He focused on many challenges faced in international trade of forestry. He suggested that the opportunities like Liberalized WTO Regime, Forest Carbon Markets, Higher degree of Market Transparencies, Improved access to quantitative and qualitative analysis and Patent Regime available in India's context can be helpful in fighting the challenges. He also suggested some action points relevant to the issue.

Dr. P.P. Bhojvaid, Director, FRI, presented different aspect of forestry research for sustainable forest management and articulated the initiatives taken by ICFRE in this area and suggested measures for paradigm shift to focused management of forest. He stressed on the need of balancing the pressure of development and conservation on forest for its sustainable management. He also shared his ideas of conservation forests, restoration forests, production forests and advocates for enhanced people, community, and industry involvement in forest management practices. He also discussed issues like Payment of Environmental Services, Opportunities and challenges in Climate Change and Forests, Policy matters and JFM to CFM, pertaining to focuses management of forest resources in India.

Dr. R.C. Dhiman, WIMCO, talked about the role played by private sector for SFM and discussed some relevant projects undertaken by private sector in Agroforestry sector. He discussed the areas of forestry in which private players are being involved currently as well as various mechanism tried for involving them in forest management.

Mr. Rajiv Bhartari, CCF, Ecotourism, Uttarakhand state shared the experiences in Ecotourism with respect to SFM and presented the relevant issues and concerns along with strategy and activities of the State in Ecotourism sector. He presented the opportunities and threats to the ecotourism and conceptualized the sustainable development of tourism. He shared his view on the regulatory and legal constraints faced by ecotourism in context of India. He also elaborated the experiences of Uttarakhand Tourism Department on ecotourism promotion, capacity building, and tourism destination development for ecotourism growth.

Dr. Mohit Gera, Addl. Professor, IGNFA spoke on importance of the Goods and Services from the forests and their relevance to Non-legally binding instrument. He also highlighted the scope for payment for ecosystem services in India and emphasized that these payments on local, regional and international levels are important for achieving sustainable forest management in the country.

Mr. Atul Jindal, Project Director, M&E, JICA Project, U.P. covered the role of externally aided projects in financing sustainable forest management and spoke about current Indian scenario with respect to various EAP undergoing in the country. He put the details of ongoing projects under financial assistance from various funding agencies and discussed about them. The impact of EAP onsustainable forest management, sustainable NWFP management, sustainable livelihood and forest certification was also shared by him. He elaborately discussed the issue of sustainability in EAP and presented the initiatives taken for ensuring it. He finally presented the principles and purposes of NLBI in light of the achievements of EAPs.

These presentation helped participants to appreciate status of various policies and programmes within the country and correlate them with NLBI. The presentations also helped in pointing out gaps in reporting requirements in relation to NLBI.

E. Session 5: Monitoring and evaluation of the progress in forest instrument

This Session was chaired by Mr. Peter Gondo, FAO Consultant. The fifth session addressed approaches to monitoring and evaluating the status of implementation of the forest instrument. Mr. Gondo delivered the various issues related to monitoring and implementation of NLBI by pin pointing the why, what and how aspects of monitoring and presented the third group exercise of the workshop on developing a performance monitoring plan for the FI. It was followed by the group presentations and discussions.

In his introduction of the session, Mr. Gondo stressed that systematic evidence is needed for effectively assessing progress. He explained the importance of first establishing baseline information. Decisions need to be taken on what to monitor in order to focus more sharply the monitoring and evaluation process and avoid an assessment that is too broad, as well as on the frequency of data and information collection and the determination of specific indicators to be utilized. As much as possible, monitoring needs to be linked to other relevant on-going processes. Mr. Gondo also underlined the importance of getting feedback on the data and information collected and analyzed to determine its usefulness for stakeholders.

The principal reasons for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the forest instrument are to:

- 1. assess progress and effectiveness of implementation through systematic collection of data and information,
- 2. gain better understanding of enablers and challenges,
- 3. identify strengths, weaknesses and gaps,
- 4. pinpoint areas needing urgent attention,
- 5. provide a basis for future planning and decision-making,
- 6. identify resources needed, and
- 7. develop a baseline for reporting on forestry activities and achievements.

Group Exercise-III

The participants were asked to develop a performance monitoring plan. This was third group exercise that built on the action plan developed during the last session which allowed participants to develop indicators of achievement, identify the specific parameters to be measured or monitored, frequency of monitoring and who will be responsible. The results are presented as a table shown below:

Table 3: Performance monitoring plan

Group	Policy measure	***	Indicators	Main data	Method and frequency of data collection	Responsibl e/by whom	Method and frequency of data analysis	Responsible /by whom
		i) ii)	Policy documents & government orders. Actual increase in outlay	i) Government orders & Policy document ii) Budget allotment iii) Actual collection	3 months trend analysis 3 months	SFDs SFDs	3 months trend analysis 3 months	
Group A	9	iii) iv)	Cess Private	iv) Actual investment	Annual Annual	SFDs SFDs	Annual Annual	-
		v)	Investment Ploughing back of revenue	v) Percent of revenue ploughed back.	Annual	SFDs	Annual	
Group B	22	i) ii) iii)	Training Courses Personnel trained Gainful employment received.	Number Number Number	Annual	SFD SFRI & Training institutions	Annual	SFD SFRI & Training institutions
Group C	15	i) ii) iii)	Grazing	i) Forest density ii) Energy substitutes iii) Technology based monitoring	Field reports Questionnaire Field reports	Cell in SFD SFDs	Experts in SFDs	SFDs

Group D	14	i) Revision of Legislation ii) No. of offence (convictions) iii) No. of correspondences iv) Transparency & Governance	i) Report ii) Number iii) Number iv) Report	Monthly, Quarterly & other periodic reports.	DCF/CF	Monthly, Quarterly & other periodic reports.	SFDs
Group E	11	i) No. of sectors ii) C-sequestration iii) Funds received iv) Cross-sectoral disputes	-	-	Nodal officers of SFDs and IG (FP)	Half yearly	PCCF/ DGF
Group F	18	i) Budget ii) Manpower iii) No. of training & capacity building programs conducted	Funds allotted Number Number	Financial & other Quarterly reports	SFDs	Financial & other Quarterly reports	SFDs

The working groups then looked at possible indicators for monitoring and evaluating progress in the implementation of the forest instrument, bearing in mind the action plans that they had prepared during session three. The groups provided their views on the data and information to be collected, on the periodicity of its collection and on the budgetary requirements for monitoring and assessment. Each exercise group reported its conclusions to the whole workshop.

Mr. Gondo indicated that the issue of indicators for assessing progress in the implementation of the instrument would be addressed more specifically during session five. However, he stressed that for improved monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the instrument, the countries need to engage their central statistical offices.

F. Session 6: Reporting on the Implementation of Forest Instrument

This Session was chaired by Mr. Ewald Rametsteiner, Head Forest Policy, FAO. The session was introduced with the presentation on the topic of reporting on the implementation of NLBI by Mr. Ewald Rametsteiner, Head, Forest Policy, FAO. India's Report to 10th session of UNFF by Mr. Subhash Chandra, DIG (FP), MoEF was the second talk of the session. Mr. Subhash Chandra spoke of the country reports of previous sessions and the difference in approach in the present one which is quite comprehensive and has cross sectoral inputs especially with regard to achieving MDGs especially poverty alleviation, reduction of hunger, employment and other goals where forestry sector can play an important role and also Global Forestry Objectives. He emphasized the need of creating a uniform data base to collect information from various stakeholders and also the need to build capacities of institutions and officials. With a Discussion on Information gaps, weaknesses and way forward, the session came to its end.

G. Final session: Conclusions and Follow up:

The final session was chaired by Shri A.K. Bansal Former ADG, Forest Conservation of MoEF. Mr Ewald informed about the willingness of FAO in supporting technical programmes of Member countries. He assured of technical support of FAO in efforts in this direction. Mr. Ewald Rametsteiner, Head Forest Policy, FAO remarked that both India and FAO sides are interested in having long-term partnership in technical collaboration and building capacity of institutions and professionals. Mr. Ewald, FAO showed keen interest in supporting regional workshops and other programmes. He requested to provide appropriate proposals for regional workshops, as soon as possible, as the activities should be implemented in the first half of this year, if funded under the NLBI project.

Mr. Subhash Chandra, DIG (FP), MoEF suggested to prepare simple formats for collection of essential data from different Ministries and Departments at National and State levels. There is a need to have one Nodal Point / officer in all concerned Departments / Institutions to collect, compile and shared data required to be regularly maintained and updated for implementation of NLBI.

Shri J. V. Sharma, Sr. Fellow TERI highlighted the role of NGOs and communities in sustainable forest management and plan to engage them in planning, implementation and monitoring. The capacity building of the communities is needed and given priority. Dr. Alok Saxena, summed up the discussion and highlighted role of training institutions like IGNFA in creating awareness and building capacities of forestry personnel on Forest instrument.

Shri A.K. Bansal, the Chairman of the Session highlighted important role of NLBI in integrating forestry with overall development of the country and spoke of creating a NATCOM like institutional system for data collection. He said that FAO has professional expertise and India would benefit in working together on regular basis. India can collaborate on scientific and technical matters in FAO supported programmes to enhance learnings and keeping pace with development across the globe. In this context, he also suggested that Indian forestry institutions which have developed considerable scientific and professional capacity which can be utilized by FAO in regional and global forestry programmes especially on sustainable management and processing of forest products including NTFPs and developing linkages with external markets for enhancing livelihood opportunities of forest dependent communities.

H. Closing Session:

The closing Session of the Workshop was attended by Mr. R.K. Goel, Director, IGNFA, Mr. A.K. Srivastava, DGF & SS (In charge), MoEF and Mr. Subhash Chandra, (DIG FP). Mr. A.K. Srivastava mentioned that though there are adequate measures and policies at National as well as State level, which incorporate the most of the objectives of NLBI in one or other formats but still there is a gap which needs to be indentified and addressed adequately for implementing the NLBI. He spoke about the need to consider a review of the forest policy to see what elements of NLBI are required to be included there in the policy. He informed the participants that UN General Assembly has passed a resolution

for declaring 21st March as International Day of Forests. He mentioned that the Implementation of NLBI will be useful in climate change adaptation and mitigation apart from supporting to achieve the goals MDGs goals and thereby improving the livelihood and food security of forests dependent communities. He urged for continued technical cooperation between FAO and India in forestry sector. He said that regional workshops should be organized for creating awareness, improved way of data collection and sharing between all stakeholder agencies as well as for better reporting on implementation of NLBI.

Shri R. K. Goel, Director, IGNFA mentioned that India has a history of scientific management of forests for the last 150 years and there is need to strengthen linkages of forestry sector with other sectors like rural development, agriculture, horticulture, tribal welfare, energy, urban development, education etc. for addressing the challenges of poverty eradication, employment and ensuring food and water security and mitigation and adaptation of climate change. The National Mission for Green India is also a new greening initiative based on landscape approach. He expressed the hope that workshop has immensely benefited the participants from State Forest departments who are implementing various national forestry programmes and other stakeholder departments from the discussion and outcome of the Workshop and will be able to forge collaborative partnerships to further the implementation of sustainable forest management. He offered IGNFA's active role in training of foresters on implementation of NLBI.

Dr. Mohit Gera proposed vote of thanks particularly to FAO for the support in organizing the Workshop and expressed the hope that the participants had met their expectations from the Workshop and would continue be in touch with the Ministry and IGNFA on various issues of NLBI and guide the process in their organization. He conveyed thanks for all the participants from States and other Ministries & Departments, NGOs and Civil Society for making Workshop a success.

I. Key Recommendations:

- Organizing regularly National, Regional & State level workshops on NLBI and on specific themes of NLBI for awareness raising and capacity building of stakeholders. First it was decided to organize 4 Regional workshops. FAO to support such initiatives.
- 2. Creation of institutional mechanism for collection, compilation and management of forestry sector data especially of social sector including considering NATCOM like system for forestry data.
- 3. Integration/synthesis of other supporting formals like GFRA, NATCOM, CBD (obligations) etc.
- 4. Nomination of nodal officers for NLBI in stakeholder organizations/departments at National and State levels.
- 5. Capacity building of nodal officers and other key stakeholders by developing a module customized to the reporting requirements on implementation of Forest Instrument.
- 6. Developing appropriate formats for data collection, compilation and management and regular updating

- 7. Inclusion of training on NLBI in various training programmes of foresters and other stakeholders of various levels by designing appropriate training materials/modules.
- 8. Consider a session on NLBI in relevant in-service trainings of IFS officers.
- 9. Carrying out studies on socio- economic contribution and impact on livelihoods of forests including estimation/ valuation of such intangible benefits.









National Workshop cum Training Programme of National Stakeholders for creating Awareness on Non-legally binding instrument (Forest Instrument) on all types of forests

12-14 December 2012 Conference Hall, Hotel Samrat, New Delhi

Programme

Wednesday, 12 De	
09:00 - 10:00	Workshop Registration
10:00 - 11:00	Inaugural Session (Session Coordinator: Dr. Mohit Gera)
	Welcome address by Mr. Subhash Chandra, DIG (FP), MoEF
	Opening remarks by Mr. Ewald Rametsteiner, Head, Forest Policy, FAO
	Remarks by Mr. Anoop Badhawa, IGF, MoEF
	Keynote address by Mr. R.K. Goel, Director, IGNFA
	Vote of thanks by Dr. Alok Saxena, Addl. Director, IGNFA
11:00 – 11:20	Tea Break
11:20 – 13:30	Session 1: Introduction
	(Chair: Mr. Jagdish Kishwan, Ex- ADGF, MoEF)
	Participant's Introduction
	Background, purpose and objectives of the workshop by Mr. Subhash Chandra, DIG
	(FP), MoEF
	Introducing the non legally binding instrument on all types of forests (Forest Instrument)
	and Formation of Groups by Mr. Peter Gondo, FAO Consultant
	International arrangements on Forests by Dr. J.V. Sharma, Sr. Fellow, TERI
	Sustainable Forest Management – long term perspective by Dr. R.B.S. Rawat, PCCF Uttarakhand Forest Department
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch Break
14:30 – 16:00	Session 2: India's National Policies and Legal Framework
	(Chair: Mr. A.K. Bansal, Ex- ADGF, MoEF)
	National Forest Policy and NLBI by Dr. Rekha Pai, IGF, MoEF
	Forests and Climate Change by Mr. Jagdish Kishwan, Retd. ADGF, MoEF
	Forest laws, enforcement & judicial activism by Mr. G.N. Sinha, Addl. PCCF & Head
	Forest & Wildlife, Delhi / Dr. J.V. Sharma, Sr. Fellow, TERI
16:00 – 16:15	Tea Break
16:15 – 17:15	Session 3: Why should countries implement the Forest Instrument?
	(Chair: Mr. A.K. Srivastava, ADGF and I/C DGF & SS, MoEF)
	Why implement Forest Instrument? By Mr. Peter Gondo, FAO Consultant
	Group Working – I by Mr. Peter Gondo, FAO Consultant
Thursday, 13 Dece	mber 2. I am the state of the s
09:00 - 09:30	Recapitulation of the first day by Mr. Peter Gondo, FAO Consultant

09:30 - 11:00	Session 3 continue (Chair: Mr. R.K. Goel, Director, IGNFA)
	Suggested approaches to implementing the NLBI by Mr. Peter Gondo, FAO Consultant
	Group Working – II by Mr. Peter Gondo, FAO Consultant
11:00 – 11:15	Tea Break
11:15 – 13:30	Session 4: Status of Implementation of NLBI in India (Chair: Mr. A.K. Wahal, DG FSI, Co-Chair: Peter Gondo, FAO Consultant)
	Present status, gaps in information and strengthening data sharing by Mr. Subhash Chandra, DIG (FP), MoEF
	Presentations of the National Stakeholders:-
	Indigenous and local communities by Dr. B.M.S. Rathore, JS, MoEF
	Protection of Forests by Dr. Rekha Pai, IGF, MoEF
	Monitoring assessment and reporting by Dr. Subhash Ashutosh, Prof. IGNFA
	International Trade in Forest products by Mr. Ajay Kumar Lal, Executive Director, Mid Himalayan Watershed Development Project, Solan, H.P.
	Forestry Research for Sustainable Forest Management by Dr. P.P. Bhojvaid, Director, FRI
	Private sector and industry by Dr. R.C. Dhiman, WIMCO
	Ecotourism by Mr. Rajiv Bhartari, CCF, Ecotoursim, Uttarakhand
	Forest ecosystem services by Dr. Mohit Gera, Addl. Professor, IGNFA
	Financing Sustainable Forest Management by Mr. Atul Jindal, Project Director, M&E , JICA Project, U.P.
	Status at National and State level – panel discussion
	Dr. J.V. Sharma, Sr. Fellow, TERI, Mr. Peter Gondo, FAO Consultant & two representatives from states
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch Break
14:30 – 16:00	Session 4 continue (Chair: Mr. A.K. Wahal, DG FSI, Co-Chair: Peter Gondo, FAO Consultant)
16:00 – 16:15	Tea Break
16:15 – 17:15	Session 5: Monitoring and evaluation of the progress in the Forest Instrument by Mr. Peter Gondo, FAO Consultant
	Group Working – III by Mr. Peter Gondo, FAO Consultant
Friday, 14 December	
09:00 - 09:30	Recapitulation of the second day by Mr. Peter Gondo, FAO Consultant
09:30- 11:00	Session 5 continue
	Group presentations and discussion
11:00 – 11:15	Tea Break
11:15 – 13:30	Session 6: Reporting on the Implementation of the Forest Instrument (Chair: Mr. Ewald Rametsteiner, Head Forest Policy, FAO)
	Reporting on the Implementation of NLBI by Mr. Ewald Rametsteiner
	India's Report to 10 th session of UNFF by Mr. Subhash Chandra, DIG (FP), MoEF
	Discussion on Information gaps, weaknesses and way forward
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch Break
14:30 – 15:15	Final session: Conclusions and follow-up (Chair: Mr. A.K. Bansal, Ex- ADGF, MoEF)
	Mr. Ewald Rametsteiner, Head Forest Policy, FAO Dr. Alok Saxena, Addl. Director, IGNFA

* ***	Dr. J.V. Sharma, Sr. Fellow, TERI
	Mr. Subhash Chandra, DIG (FP), MoEF
15:15 – 16:00	Closing Session
	Mr. R.K. Goel, Director, IGNFA
	Mr. A.K. Srivastava, ADGF and I/C DGF & SS, MoEF
	Mr. Subhash Chandra, (DIG FP)
	Dr. Mohit Gera (Vote of thanks by Workshop Coordinator)
16:00	Tea

Appendix-II

National Workshop cum Training Programme of National Stakeholders for Creating Awareness on Non-legally binding instrument (Forest Instrument) on all types of Forests

12-14 December 2012, Hotel Samrat, New Delhi List of participants

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List of documents circulated to the participants

S. No.	No. Documents	
1.	Booklet on "Implementing Non-Legally Binding Instruments on Forests In India".	
2.	Reporting templates for National Report to the 10th session of the UNFF.	
3.	UN Resolution adopted by General Assembly 62/98 on NLBI on all types of forests.	
4.	Copy of the country National Report to 10th session of UNFF.	

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