

ITTO Diagnostic / Technical Mission to India

As a follow up of the preparatory meeting at Bhopal on 25.04.2006, the issues related to the ITTO Diagnostic / Technical Mission to India were further discussed on 3rd and 4th July, 2006. The participants were the Leader of the ITTO Diagnostic / Technical Mission to India and the National Focal Point for ITTO issues in India. The leader of the "ITTO Diagnostic/ Technical Mission to India" suggested the need to secure the help of knowledgeable counterparts, collaborators and consultants for ensuring a comprehensive and high quality National Status Report on Forests and Forestry in India. In addition it was pointed out that their expertise and insights could be drawn upon towards contributing and complementing comments, analyses and information during the mission's deliberations. It was also agreed that the National Status Report on Forests and Forestry in India should include in-depth analysis of topical and thematic forestry issues.

Mission leader emphasized the need for analysis, review and identification of factors which limit progress towards achieving Objectives 2000 and SFM and to indicate approaches and elements for overcoming these constraints-with comments, analyses and annexes on the National Forest Action Plan and the recent National Forest Commission report. Accordingly, the following were among those specifically noted for their expertise for the purpose: **Shri J.C. Kala, Shri. A.K. Mukherji, Dr. Ram Prasad, Dr. D.N. Tiwari, Mr. A.K. Bansal, Shri Ashwani Bhat, Dr. Bipin Behari, Shri B.K.P. Sinha, Mr. J.P.L. Srivastava, Mr. Pramod Kant, Prof. P.C. Kotwal, Dr. S.S. Negi, Dr. V.K. Bahuguna and Shri A. K. Joshi.**

The Preliminary report on sustainable forest management (and related tropical timber production, consumption and trade) were presented during the National Workshop organized by SU Division, Ministry of Environment and Forest, held at Amity Business School, NOIDA on 23rd September, 2006. Important thematic areas identified for financial support from International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and other donors.

Important Thematic/Thrust Areas for further strengthening the Sustainable Forest Management in India

(as an outcome of the National Workshop held at Amity on 23rd September, 2006)

1. Development of National Forestry Database Management System
 - Support for information technology.
2. Development of Forest Certification Mechanism in the country.
3. Institutionalization of Criteria and Indicators at the National level towards Sustainable Forest Management (SFM).

4. Strengthening of Research and Development to increase the productivity in forest areas.
5. Establishment of a National Forestry Policy Analysis Facility for speedy implementation of SFM.
6. Support for promoting Public-Private Panchayat Partnership (PPPP) in sustainable forestry development.
7. Development of Integrated Forest Fire Management System/Mechanism in the country.
8. Support for promoting high-tech/Clonal plantations in forest areas and private sectors.
9. Establishment of facility for research and development of Non-Timber Forest Products to address the issues of rural poverty and employment.
10. Training and Human Resource Development for implementation of SFM.
 - Promotion of traditional knowledge to provide livelihood opportunities to the tribals.
11. Capacity building for Regulating Timber Trade.
12. Establishment of forest extension centre, one in each District/Division in phased manner.
13. Support for strengthening the wood based industry, value addition and marketing etc.
14. Development of community based Sustainable Forest Management model for timber and NTFPs.
15. Development of comprehensive monitoring system for Sustainable Forest Management and the removal of impediments.
16. Development of code of conduct and processes for different sectors in forestry such as logging, sawmilling etc.
17. Support for bio-diversity research and conservation systems.
18. Support for strengthening VSS institutions.
19. Conservation and management of Mangroves.
