International Training on

Nature-based Solutions for Resilient Ecosystems and Societies

Venue:
Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Land Management
Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun, India

Duration:
27-31 January, 2025

Registration Link:
bit.ly/4dWFwRQ

ABOUT THE TRAINING

Over exploitation of bio-resources, lack of sustainable land use practices and restoration efforts are causing severe land degradation leading to ecological imbalance, biodiversity loss and negative consequences on local livelihoods. Such detrimental consequences warrant the identification of alternatives to cope with the irreversible changes in the Ecosystem. Owing to the diverse edapho-climatic conditions worldwide, the usage of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) could be one of the possible mitigation and adaptation options. The proposed training provides an opportunity to address the issue of land degradation, its impacts and the interconnectedness with desertification, drought and biodiversity conservation. Participants will explore successful models for land restoration through locally-led NbS, which have the potential to preserve natural biodiversity, increase livelihood and aid in achieving LDN targets. Through practical applications and case studies, participants will develop the expertise to make informed decisions and contribute to sustainable land management initiatives.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Understand the causes, impacts, and consequences of land degradation and evaluate the importance of sustainable land management for environmental sustainability, food security and livelihoods.
- Understand the concept, principle and practices of Nature-based Solutions to combat land degradation, desertification and drought.
- Explore effective Nature-based Solution for urban resilience and sustainable development.
- Analyse economics of Nature-based Solutions, governance and policy consideration to mitigate land degradation and promote ecosystem health and societal growth.
- Apply knowledge and skills through practical activities, case studies and collaborative projects to address real-world land management challenges and make informed decisions for sustainable land use

TARGET AUDIENCE

- Environmental and Land Management professionals working in the field of Land, Water and Natural Resource Management
- Policy makers, government officials, Land and natural resource managers
- Researchers and academicians working in the field of land management and conservation
- Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working on sustainable development
- Students and individuals interested in learning about sustainable land management and land degradation
- Professionals from line departments (Forest Department, Agriculture, Land Resources Department) and allied sectors engaged and working on land resource management

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

The language of instruction: English.

TRAINING DURATION

Five days (27th-31st January, 2025)

LOCATION

All training activities will be conducted at the Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Land Management, Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India. CoE-SLM is a nodal centre dedicated to advancing land rehabilitation, ecosystem restoration, and sustainable land practices at regional, national and international levels. Located in the scenic Doon Valley, it provides an ideal environment for environmental training and research. In late January, Dehradun experiences cool weather with daytime temperatures ranging from 12°C to 20°C and colder nights around 5°C. Clear skies are common and participants are advised to carry warm clothes for chilly mornings and evenings.

MODULE ASSESSMENT

The module will be assessed through a combination of quizzes and assignments. Participants will be required to demonstrate their understanding of the key principles and practices of land restoration though NbS.

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SCHEDULE CUM TRAINING MODULE

Day 1: Introduction to Land Degradation and Sustainable Land Management

Morning Session

- Inaugural Session
- Understanding Land Degradation: Causes, Impacts and effects on Ecosystems and Societies
- Land Degradation Neutrality: A Pathway to Sustainable Development Goals

Afternoon Session

- Sustainable Land Management (SLM) for ecological security, food security and livelihoods
- Group Discussion and Reflection

Day 2: Introduction to Nature-based Solutions (NbS)

Morning Session

- Nature-based Solutions: Concepts, Principles, and Applications
- Addressing land degradation, desertification and drought with NbS
- Implementing Nature-based Solutions: Practical Examples and Impact

Afternoon Session

- Case studies of successful NbS implementations
- Discussion on lessons learned and transferable practices

Day 3: Field visit

- Observe and assess local restoration projects and practical applications of Nature-based Solutions techniques covered in the training
- Guided tours of successful restoration sites, discussions with project implementers, and hands-on demonstrations as applicable

Day 4: Economics, Governance and Policy of NbS

Morning Session

- Economic Aspects of Nature-based Solutions: Cost-Benefit Analysis and Funding Mechanisms
- Governance and Policy Frameworks for Supporting Nature-based Solutions

Afternoon Session

- Evaluating and Formulating Policies for Nature-based Solutions

Day 5: Sharing Experiences and Reflecting on Learnings

Morning Session

- Experience sharing by the Participants related to land degradation and restoration
- Group Discussions, reflecting on key learnings and discussing potential improvements or innovations

Afternoon Session

- Closing Remarks and Valedictory Session

ABOUT CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE ON SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT ICFRE, DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND, INDIA

The Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Land Management (CoE-SLM), established at the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) in Dehradun, serves as a key platform for engaging stakeholders at international, national, and local levels to tackle land degradation issues, with the ultimate goal of achieving Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN). The foundation of CoE-SLM was announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, during the High-Level Segment of the 14th session of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in 2019. The Centre was officially inaugurated on May 20, 2023, by Hon'ble Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav at ICFRE, Dehradun, Uttarakhand. The Centre was established with the mission of providing technical support at both the national and sub-national levels in India, as well as to other developing countries that are parties to the UNCCD. Its vision is to promote sustainable land management (SLM) practices, contribute to the achievement of LDN and foster South-South Cooperation to tackle the pressing challenges of land degradation. CoE-SLM aims to harness the extensive research expertise, practical experience and vast outreach network of the ICFRE and its affiliated institutes. By doing so, the Centre seeks to build the capacity of a wide array of stakeholders, including policymakers, practitioners and local communities. Its core focus lies in enhancing knowledge sharing, promoting the adoption of SLM practices and scaling up effective solutions to address land degradation. Ultimately, the Centre strives to create resilient ecosystems, improve livelihoods, and support sustainable development goals at regional and global levels.

TRAINING FACILITATORS

Patron

Sh Vinay Kumar, IFS
Director, International Cooperation & CoE-SLM

Training Coordinators

Dr Rajesh Sharma, Scientist-G & Head
Forest Genetics
sharmar@icfre.org 0135-222-4332/4823

Dr Manish Kumar Singh, Scientist-E
Biodiversity Conservation
mksingh@icfre.org 7896131217

Dr Krishna Giri, Scientist-D
Soil Microbiology and Land Restoration
krishna.goswami87@gmail.com 8471937519

Dr Sanjay Singh, Scientist-E
Biodiversity Conservation
sanjaysingh83@gmail.com 8839937754

Sh Sanjeev Kumar, Scientist-E
Land Restoration and Management
san.forester@gmail.com 7909065526

Dr Hans Raj, Scientist-E
Forest Protection
hansraj@icfre.gov.in 7005846355

Dr Gaurav Mishra, Scientist-D
Soil Science and Land Restoration
gaurav.mishra215@gmail.com 8417938089

Dr Manoj Kumar, Scientist-D
RS-GIS
manunccd@gmail.com 8077413164

For further details, kindly reach out to:

Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Land Management
Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education
(An autonomous body of MoEF&CC, Govt. of India)
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun-248006, Uttarakhand, India
+91-135-222- 4331/4450 (O)
coe_slm@icfre.gov.in, icfrecoeslm@gmail.com