

Virtual Classroom-based Training Program
on
Eco-DRR: National Determined Contribution (NDC) to achieve National & International Commitments through Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR)

Through Zoom Platform

20th October 2023 (Time: 15:00 to 17:15 Hrs.)

Concept Note:

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) refers to the process of regaining ecological integrity and enhancing human well-being in deforested or degraded forest landscapes. It involves the restoration, conservation, and sustainable management of forests, aiming to restore their ecological functions, biodiversity, and associated ecosystem services.

FLR play a critical role in tackling climate change and provide a broad range of ecosystem services. Countries has to act on deforestation and forest degradation for enhancing sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases (Art-5, PA).

The Effective implementation of these FLR initiatives calls for establishing common understanding and coordinated implementation approaches on FLR. After joining the Bonn Challenge; India pledge to restore 21 mha of degraded and deforested land further raised to target of 26 mha by 2030. Moreover, India's NDC target mentions creation of an additional carbon sink of 2.5-3 billion tonnes of CO₂ equivalent from additional forest and tree cover until 2030.

To meet the committed NDC the major aspects of FLR may be:

1. Defining and identifying landscapes for FLR,
2. Establishing baseline & monitoring,
3. Stakeholders and institutional arrangements

Almost all Indian states have recorded an increase in degraded land in the past 15 years. As per Forest Survey of India report around 63 million hac. of deforested and degraded lands are available for afforestation and land reclamation in India.

Rapid urban and industrial development, deforestation, inadequate soil conservation, the cultivation of steep slopes and overgrazing have all had a devastating impact in the form of land degradation. A survey of NBSS & LUP reported around 16% of total geographical area (3129 hac.) of Gujarat is under degraded category. These can be streamlined with FLR targets to meet the NDC.

Districts having major degraded areas are Kachchh (4543 hac.) > Jamnagar (1405 hac.) > Banaskantha (1079 hac.) > Rajkot (1114) > Surendranagar (1041).

Efforts are being made by Concerned Departments for afforestation and land reclamation. To address this issues an interated approach may be formulated to prioritize the major areas identification for carbon sink creation.

Accordingly, native and non-wood products generating species may be prioritise to maintain the carbon sink. native and tribal community association with the particular forest area may be additional advantage to achieve this goal.

This activity will satisfy the localising SDG Goals 15,13,12 & 8 and long term carbon sink creation in Gujarat.

Keeping these views in mind Virtual Class Room Training Program is scheduled to conduct VC training pogram 20th Oct, 2023 with the following objectives

Objectives:

1. To Introduce the Concept of FLR and NDC
2. To Introduce about the National & International Commitment to achieve NDC
3. To Illustrate the cumulative efforts to achieve SDG Goals.

Target Audience for Proposed Online Training

S. No.	Department	Designation
1.	Forest and Environment Department	ACF, RFO,Forester and ground staff
2.	Agriculture Farmers Welfare & Co-operation Dept.	DAO,Dy. Dir. Agri., Agri. Ext. Officer, Agri. & Horti. Supervisor, Agri./ Horti. Assistant.

Resource Persons:

1. **Shri Ram Kumar**, Former PCCF, Forest & Env. Dept., GoG
2. **Shri R.D.Kamboj**, Former Director, GEER Foundation
3. **Shri B.J.Pathak**, Former APCCF, Forest & Env. Dept., GoG
4. **Dr. Sandeep Pandey**, Associate Prof. GIDM, Gandhinagar

Expected outcome:

This will increase the capabilities of employees to understand the importance to achieve the NDC and SDG Goals.