



# ICFRE Climate News

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## News from ICFRE

### Forests and Climate Change Division

Indian Council of  
Forestry Research and  
Education  
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**Workshop-cum-training programme on ‘Climate Change Adaption in the Himalayan Region’:** Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla organized a two days workshop-cum-training programme on “Climate Change Adaption in the Himalayan Region” on 3 to 4 October 2013 at Shimla. The workshop-cum-training programme was attended by various stakeholders.

**Training programme on ‘Climate Change and Carbon Mitigation’:** Forests and Climate Change Division, ICFRE had organized a one week training programme on ‘Climate Change and Carbon Mitigation’ from 21 to 25 October 2013 for the scientists and technologists working in Government sector. 27 scientists from different research organizations and universities participated in the training programme. The training programme was sponsored by Department of Science and Technology, Government of India under the ‘National Programme for Training of Scientists and Technologists working in Government Sector’.

**Expert Group Meeting on ‘Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts and Risks to Different forest types of South Asia’:** The Expert Group Meeting on Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts and Risks to different forest types of South Asia was jointly organized by SAARC Forestry Centre, Bhutan and Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat on 22-24 October 2013. The aim of the expert group meeting was to discuss climate change related issues with special reference of forest types of south Asia.

**Training programme on ‘Forest Ecosystems and Biodiversity, Climate Change: Vulnerabilities and Adaptation Strategies’:** Biodiversity Conservation Division, ICFRE had organized a one week training programme on ‘Forest Ecosystems and Biodiversity, Climate Change: Vulnerabilities and Adaptation Strategies’ from 21 to 25 October 2013 for the scientists and technologists working in Government sector. 25 scientists from different research organizations and universities participated in the training programme. The training programme was sponsored by Department of Science and Technology, Government of India under the ‘National Programme for Training of Scientists and Technologists working in Government Sector’.

**REDD+ Pilot Project in the Van Panchyats (Village Community Forests) of Uttarakhand:** Uttarakhand Forest Department, Government of Uttarakhand has approved a REDD+ Pilot Project in the Van Panchyats of Uttarakhand to ICFRE. A meeting of the officers/scientists of Forests and Climate Change Division, ICFRE was held on 28/12/2013 on modalities for executing the REDD plus pilot project in Uttarakhand.

**Meeting of the Technical Committee of Green India Mission:** Second meeting of the Technical Committee of Green India Mission held at Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi on 15 July 2013. Dr. R.S. Rawat, Scientist 'C', FCC Division, ICFRE participated in the meeting.

**Participation in the nineteenth session of the Conference of Parties (COP-19) and 39th Session of SBSTA/SBI (SBSTA/SBI 39) of UNFCCC:** Shri V.R.S. Rawat Scientist 'E' /Additional Director, FCC Division, ICFRE participated in the nineteenth session of the Conference of Parties (COP-19) and 39th Session of SBSTA/SBI (SBSTA/SBI 39) meetings of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Warsaw (Poland) from 11-22 November 2013 as a member of Government of India delegation.

**Participation in IPCC Green House Gas Inventory Workshop cum Training Programme:** Dr. R.S. Rawat, Scientist –C, Forests and Climate Change Division, ICFRE had participated in the three days training workshop on IPCC Green House Gas Inventory organized by Indian Institute of Management, Ahmadabad in association with IPCC National Green House Gas Inventory Programme Technical Support Unit, Japan at India Habitat Centre from 29-31 July 2013.

**Participation in “International Expert Group Meeting on Geospatial Information Systems for Multi-scale Forest Biomass Assessment and Monitoring in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region:** ICFRE Delegation comprises of Sh. Saibal Dasgupta, Deputy Director General (Extension), Dr. T.P. Singh, Assistant Director General (Forests and Climate Change)/ Project Director, SLEM Project and Dr. R.S. Rawat, Scientist 'C', Forests and Climate Change Division/ Technical Manager, SLEM Project participated in the International Expert Group Meeting on “Geospatial Information Systems for Multi-scale Forest Biomass Assessment and Monitoring in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region” at ICIMOD, Kathmandu, Nepal from 09 to 10 December 2013 and presentation on “Assessment of Above Ground Biomass and Soil Organic Carbon Stocks in Forests of India”. Was made by Sh. Saibal Dasgupta and Dr. T.P. Singh.

### **Lecture Delivered**

Dr. T.P. Singh, ADG (Forests and Climate Change), ICFRE delivered a lecture on ‘Introduction to Climate Change & Carbon Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies’ in the training programme on ‘Climate change and carbon mitigation’ on 21 October 2013 at ICFRE, Dehradun.

Sh. V.R.S. Rawat, Addl. Director, FCC Division, ICFRE delivered a lecture on ‘Climate Change and Carbon Mitigation through land use measures: Policy, Modalities and Institutions in India ’ in the training programme on ‘Climate change and carbon mitigation’ on 22 October 2013 at ICFRE, Dehradun.

Dr. G.S. Goraya, DDG (Research), ICFRE delivered a lecture on 'Impact of climate change on floral diversity in North-West Himalayas' in the training programme on 'Climate change and carbon mitigation' on 25 October 2013 at ICFRE, Dehradun.

Sh. V.R.S. Rawat, Addl. Director, FCC Division, ICFRE delivered a lecture on 'An overview of climate change, carbon trading International Standards' in the training programme on 'Carbon stock inventory' on 09 December 2013 at FSI, Dehradun.

Dr. T.P. Singh, ADG (Forests and Climate Change), ICFRE delivered a lecture on 'Biodiversity and climate change: challenges and opportunities and international negotiations' in the training programme on 'Forest Ecosystems and Biodiversity, Climate Change: Vulnerabilities and Adaptation Strategies' on 13 December 2013 at ICFRE, Dehradun.

### **Media Reporting**

**Need to develop ways to reduce carbon footprint:** Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh said that it is a need to develop ways and means to reduce our carbon footprint through technological innovation during dedicating to the nation public sector BHEL's Power Plant Piping Unit & Unit-II High Pressure Boiler Plant in this town near Tiruchirappalli. He also stated that the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission seeks to develop 20,000 mw of power generating capacity by the end of 13<sup>th</sup> Five Year plan, adding its success has the potential of enhancing India's energy security, and "contributing handsomely to our efforts to combat climate change (Source: <http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/need-to-develop-ways-to-reduce-carbon-footprint-pm/article4981608.ece>).

**Impact of climate change on forests requires early action:** FAO published "Climate Change Guidelines for Forest Managers" in September 2013 and stated that an early action and more investments are needed to respond to the threats of climate change on the world's forests. It will probably cost less to adjust forest management strategies immediately to the impacts of climate change than to react to the aftermath of climate-inflicted damage. Early action will also help to improve the livelihoods and food security of local communities. Decreased forest ecosystem services, especially water-cycle regulation, soil protection and the conservation of biodiversity, may affect millions of people in rural areas, who use forests for food, fuel, timber, medicines and income (Source: <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/196846/icode/>).

**Mean annual temperature in Himalayan region to rise by 2<sup>o</sup>C by 2030:** According to the study report prepared by the Uttarakhand Government, the mean annual temperature in the Himalayan region is likely to rise by up to two degrees by 2030 while the rainfall would also rise by 5 to 13 per cent in the next two decades. (Source: [http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2013-08-05/news/41093607\\_1\\_temperature-2-degrees-rainy-days](http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2013-08-05/news/41093607_1_temperature-2-degrees-rainy-days))

**Scientists predict ice-free Arctic by 2058:** Using a climate simulation tool (Coupled Model Inter Comparison Project Phase 5), a combined team of researchers from the US and China have projected that the Arctic may become ice-free for several months of the year, starting sometime during the years 2054 to 2058 (Source: <http://archive.indianexpress.com/news/scientists-predict-icefree-arctic-by-2058/1143038/>).

**Kerala Biodiversity Board plans climate change study:** The Kerala State Biodiversity Board has initiated steps for a study on climate change in the Western Ghats area as it is one of the world heritage sites of UNESCO. It is home to at least 325 globally threatened flora, fauna, bird, amphibian, reptile and fish species (Source: [http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/kerala-biodiversity-board-plans-climate-change-study-113080800546\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/kerala-biodiversity-board-plans-climate-change-study-113080800546_1.html)).

**North India among climate change impact hotspots:** A new study by an international team of researchers has suggested that north India is among the few regions identified as 'hotspots' vulnerable to extreme climate changes, which in turn could lead to a fall in agricultural production and severe ecosystem changes. The study, based on the computer simulations of future climate scenarios, was conducted by the international researchers from Germany and was published in the US journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (Source: <http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/newdelhi/north-India-among-climate-impact-hotspots/article1-1086703.aspx>).

## Past Events

**National conference on climate change:** The Fourth National Research Conference on Climate Change was held in Chennai on October 26 - 27, 2013. The conference was jointly organised by Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, Indian Institute of Science Bangalore and Centre for Science and Environment.

**Workshop on National Forest Monitoring Systems for REDD+:** The workshop was organized in Bangkok, Thailand from 15-17 October 2013 and more than 80 participants from the Asia-Pacific region participated in the workshop. The workshop was jointly organized by FAO/UN-REDD and the SilvaCarbon programme, financed by the US Forest Service, included presentations covering all aspects of NFMS as well as group work to discuss some of these topics in greater depth. Participants in the workshop stressed that REDD+ is not simply concerned with measuring the carbon stored in forests. It is also about finding ways to better manage our forests in the interests of all those whose livelihoods depend on them.

**Nineteenth session of the Conference of Parties (COP-19) and 39th Session of SBSTA/SBI (SBSTA/SBI 39) of UNFCCC:** Nineteenth session of the Conference of Parties (COP-19) and 39th Session of SBSTA/SBI (SBSTA/SBI 39) meetings of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was held in Warsaw (Poland) from 11-22 November 2013.

**India Climate Policy and Business Conclave 2013:** The India Climate Policy and Business Conclave was organised from September 18-20, 2013 at FICCI Federation House in New Delhi. The Conclave is India's flagship event in the carbon market space, organized by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry in partnership with the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India.

## Upcoming Events

**Regional workshop on nationally appropriate mitigation actions:** UNFCCC will organize regional workshop for the Asia-Pacific regions on nationally appropriate mitigation actions from 22 to 25 April 2014 at Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic

**International Climate Change Adaptation Conference:** Third International Climate Change Adaptation Conference - Adaptation Futures 2014 will be organized at Centro de Eventos do Ceara Fortaleza, Ceara, Brazil from 12 - 16 May 2014.

**Bonn Climate Conference:** UNFCCC will organize the fortieth sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 40) and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 40), as well as the June session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) will be held from 4-15 June 2014 in Bonn, Germany.

**Forests Asia Conference: Sustainable Landscapes for Green Growth in ASEAN:** This conference, organized by the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) as part of global celebration on the International Day of Forests, will discuss sustainable forest landscapes within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' (ASEAN) post-2015 sustainable development efforts. The conference will focus on governance, trade and investment in order to manage forests for green returns, climate change mitigation and adaptation, energy and low-carbon development, food security and nutrition. The conference will be held at Jakarta, Indonesia from 5-6 May 2014.

**MRV GHG Emissions Under Existing and Developing Carbon Pricing Mechanisms:** The World Bank's Partnership for Market Readiness and the Climate Knowledge and Innovation Community of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology are hosting a conference titled 'Monitoring, Reporting and Verifying GHG Emissions under Existing and Developing Carbon Pricing Mechanisms' on 3 June 2014 at Bonn, Germany. The event will present analysis of sub-national, national, and sector-based greenhouse gas (GHG) accounting frameworks.

## Relevant Publications

Banerjee, S.K. and Prakasam, U. (2013). Biomass carbon pool and soil organic carbon sequestration in *Tectona grandis* plantations. *Indian Forester*, 139 (9): 797-802.

CSO (2013). Statistics related to climate change – India. Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, Government of India, Central Statistical Office, New Delhi.

Khatun, K. (2013). Integrating national forestry initiatives in India with international climate change policy. *Climate Policy*, Vol. 13, No. 3, 384 –402.

Krishnaswamy, J., John, R. and Joseph, S. (2013). Consistent response of vegetation dynamics to recent climate change in tropical mountain regions. *Global Change Biology*. DOI: 10.1111/gcb.12362.

Negi, S. S. and Gupta, M. K (2013). Status of sequestered organic carbon in the soils under different vegetation covers. *Indian Forester*, 139 (7):571-575.

Rao, B.R.P., Rao, V.S., Prasad, K., Ramesh, M., Veeranjanyulu, D. and Rao, K.T. (2013). *Standing biomass and carbon stocks in trees outside forests of Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh, India. Indian Forester, 139 (12):1070-1074.*

Sharma, V. and Chaudhry, S. (2013). An overview of Indian forestry sector with REDD+ approach. *ISRN Forestry, 1-10.*

Singh, G. and Singh, K. (2013). Effects of aspects on diversity and soil carbon stock in a degraded forest of Aravalli in Rajasthan, India. *Indian Forester, 139 (12):1061-1069.*

Singh, T.P., Rawat, R.S., Rawat, V.R.S., Singh, R. and Velmurugan, A. (2013). Soil organic carbon stocks in forests of India. ICFRE, Dehradun.

Singh, U. (2013). Carbon capture and storage: an effective way to mitigate global warming. *Current Science, 105 (7): 914-922.*

Singh, T.P. and Rawat, R.S. (2013). Capacity building in climate change for forest stakeholders in India. *Indian Forester, 139 (11):1034-1039.*

Dasgupta, S., Singh, T.P. and Rawat, R.S. (2013). "Assessment of Above Ground Biomass and Soil Organic Carbon Stocks in Forests of India". In Proceedings of International Expert Group Meeting on Geospatial Information Systems for Multi-scale Forest Biomass Assessment and Monitoring in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region. ICIMOD, Kathmandu, Nepal held on 09 to 10 December 2013.

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