



International Training on **INTEGRATED STRATEGIES TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION AND LAND DEGRADATION**

Duration: 9-13 December, 2024

Venue: ICFRE-AFRI, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India



Registration Link: <https://rb.gy/kj3qa9>

Deadline: 5 October 2024



About the Training

Desertification, affecting nearly one-third of the world's land, poses severe environmental and socio-economic challenges, including land degradation, reduced agricultural productivity, and increased poverty. The "International Training on Integrated Strategies to Combat Desertification and Land Degradation" at ICFRE-Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur, Rajasthan aims to address these issues by equipping participants with sustainable land management skills. Through an integrated approach involving scientific research, policy development and community engagement, the training seeks to empower global efforts to halt and reverse desertification and land degradation, fostering resilient ecosystems and sustainable livelihoods in arid and semi-arid regions.

Learning Objectives

- To equip participants with an interdisciplinary understanding of desertification and land degradation and strategies to combat it.
- To apply sustainable land management practices and restoration techniques to achieve land degradation neutrality.
- To enhance expertise and contribute to global desertification and land degradation mitigation efforts.

Target Groups

- Environmental scientists, land management experts, and practitioners working in arid and semi-arid regions.
- Policy Makers and Government officials involved in creating and implementing policies related to land management, desertification, and environmental sustainability.
- Representatives from non-governmental organizations, development agencies and research institutions as well as post-graduate students specializing in environmental science or natural resource management.

Patrons

- Sh. Vinay Kumar, IFS, Director, CoE-SLM
- Dr. Rajesh Sharma, Head, CoE-SLM

Training Directors

- Dr. Tarun Kant, Director, ICFRE-AFRI
- Dr. Hans Raj, Scientist-E, CoE-SLM

Course Coordinators

- Sh. Sanjeev Kumar, Scientist-E, CoE-SLM
- Dr. Sanjay Singh, Scientist-E, CoE-SLM

Important Dates

- Registrations Open: 10th September 2024
- Registrations Closing: 5th October 2024

About the Venue

Jodhpur, the "Gateway to the Thar Desert," is a key center for desert research and land management due to its location at the edge of the Thar Desert. Known for its blue-painted buildings, historic Mehrangarh Fort, and vibrant markets, Jodhpur also enjoys mild and pleasant weather in December, with daytime temperatures between 15°C and 25°C (59°F to 77°F) and cooler nights. This makes it an ideal time for exploring the city and its attractions. As a hub for desert research, including the ICFRE-Arid Forest Research Institute (AFRI), Jodhpur is vital in addressing desertification and promoting sustainable land use.

Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Land Management, ICFRE, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

The Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Land Management (CoE-SLM) was established following the announcement made by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India during high-level segment of COP 14 of UNCCD. The Centre was inaugurated on 20th May 2023 with a vision to provide technical support at the national and sub-national levels in India and other developing countries that are party to UNCCD. The Centre aims to facilitate sustainable land management practices, to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) and foster global south-south cooperation to address land degradation issues. CoE-SLM aims to leverage the research, experience, knowledge, outreach and extension network of the ICFRE research institutes for capacity building of diverse stakeholders on various issues related to land degradation and upscaling of Sustainable Land Management practices.

ICFRE-Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur, Rajasthan

The Arid Forest Research Institute (AFRI) was established in 1988. It is a leading institute in forestry research, specializing in the arid and semi-arid ecosystems of western India. Operating under the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), AFRI focuses on biodiversity, afforestation, and climate change adaptation in the states of Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (UT). AFRI plays a vital role in environmental protection and forestry technology development by empowering local communities with Sustainable Land Management practices. Its research areas include biodiversity conservation, afforestation, genetic diversity assessment and genetic improvement, climate resilience, and the sustainable use of non-timber forest products. AFRI also conducts workshops, training, and outreach to equip various stakeholders with the latest scientific knowledge and best practices.

For more information, contact:

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International Training on Integrated Strategies to Combat Desertification and Land Degradation

9-13 December, 2024

ICFRE-AFRI, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India



Course Module

Day 1 Understanding Land Degradation and its Societal Impacts

- Land Degradation Neutrality for achieving Sustainable Development Goals
- Achieving Land Degradation Neutrality through Sustainable Land Management

Day 2 Integrating Socio-economic and Policy Aspect for Combating Desertification

- Global Status of Deserts and Arid Land in era of Climate Change
- Socio-Economic Considerations in Sustainable Land Management
- Policy and Governance for Effective Land Management
- Evaluating the Effectiveness of Land Management Interventions

Day 3 Combating Desertification and Controlling Desert Spread

- Stabilization of Sand Dunes: Success Stories
- Successful Strategies for Restoring Sodic and Saline Soils
- Effective Restoration Techniques for Mining-Affected Lands
- Application of RS-GIS Tools for Land Use Planning and Monitoring

Day 4 Field visit

- To observe local restoration projects and practical applications of techniques
- Guided tour of successful restoration sites, discussions with project implementers and hands-on demonstrations

Day 5 Sharing Experiences and Reflecting on Learnings

- Participant Presentations: Participants share their experiences, challenges and successes related to land degradation and restoration
- Group Discussions, reflecting on key learnings and discussing potential improvements or innovations

