



# REDD+ Working Group for North Eastern States of India & Identification of Organisations and Experts for REDD+



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On behalf of:



Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Nature Conservation  
and Nuclear Safety

of the Federal Republic of Germany



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY  
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

# REDD+ Working Groups for North-Eastern States of India & Identification of Organisations and Experts for REDD+

2018

**Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education**  
(An Autonomous Body of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India)  
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun – 248006 (INDIA)



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**Published by:**

Biodiversity and Climate Change Division  
Directorate of Research  
Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education  
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun – 248006 Uttarakhand), INDIA

**Authors:**

Dr. R.S. Rawat, Scientist Incharge, Biodiversity and Climate Change Division, ICFRE  
V.R.S. Rawat, Exert Consultant REDD+, Biodiversity and Climate Change Division, ICFRE

**Citation:** Rawat, R.S. and Rawat, V.R.S. (2018). REDD+ Working Group for North-Eastern States & Identification of organisations and experts for REDD+. Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun, INDIA.

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## Abbreviation Used

CSO	Civil Society Organisation
FRL	Forest Reference Level
HoFF	Head of Forest Force
ICFRE	Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education
ICIMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification
NFMS	National Forest Monitoring System
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PCCF	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
R&D	Research and Development
REDD+	Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks
RFRI	Rain Forest Research Institute
SIS	Safeguard Information System
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

# 1

## REDD+ Working Group for North-Eastern States of India

### 1.1 Background

REDD (reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries) and, role of conservation of forests, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks collectively known as REDD+ which is now widely accepted as climate change mitigation option under United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Paris Agreement on climate change has also re-affirmed the role of REDD+ actions to meet climate change mitigation goals at global level. Cancun Agreements agreed on following REDD+ activities to be undertaken by developing countries:

1. Reducing emissions from deforestation;
2. Reducing emissions from forest degradation;
3. Conservation of forest carbon stocks;
4. Sustainable management of forests and
5. Enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

In order to get financial incentives for REDD+, developing countries need to develop the following elements:

1. National REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan;
2. National Forest Reference Emission Level and/or Forest Reference Level;
3. Robust and transparent National Forest Monitoring System and
4. Safeguards Information System: A system for providing information on how the safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of REDD+ activities

Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) in collaboration with International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) has implemented a transboundary 'REDD+ Himalaya Project'. Under this project, capacity buildings of the relevant stakeholders on different aspects of REDD+ have been done mainly in North-Eastern states of India. This project has provided assistance for development and implementation of REDD+ actions, focussing on trainings, technology sharing and knowledge dissemination. Outcomes of the project are enhanced capacity for development and implementation of National REDD+ Strategy and State REDD+ Action Plans at each level (community, sub-national /state and national levels) and improved understanding of scientific knowledge for precise estimation of carbon stocks.

In order to initiate and scale up REDD+ actions in the North-Eastern states of India, it is required to form a 'REDD+ Platform' for providing guidance, knowledge sharing and support for implementation of REDD+ initiatives/ actions in these states. Accordingly, a REDD+ Working Group has been formed to facilitate REDD+ actions in North-Eastern states under the 'REDD+ Himalaya Project'.

## 1.2 Structure of REDD+ Working Group

The REDD+ Working Group shall consist of the following officers and technical experts:

1. Director, Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam) : Chair
2. Assistant Director General (Biodiversity and Climate Change), ICFRE : Member
3. Regional Director, Forest Survey of India (Eastern Region, Kolkata) : Member
4. Representative of PCCF & HoFF, Assam : Member
5. Representative of PCCF & HoFF, Arunachal Pradesh : Member
6. Representative of PCCF & HoFF, Manipur : Member
7. Representative of PCCF & HoFF, Meghalaya : Member
8. Representative of PCCF & HoFF, Mizoram : Member
9. Representative of PCCF & HoFF, Nagaland : Member
10. Representative of PCCF & HoFF, Sikkim : Member
11. Representative of PCCF & HoFF, Tripura : Member
12. Prof. B.K. Tewari, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong : Member
13. Representative from North-East based CSOs/NGOs : Member  
(Mr. Gautam Baruah, Balipara Foundation, Assam  
nominated by the Chair)
14. Representative of Community (Khasi Hills REDD+ pilot project) : Member  
(Mr. Tambor Lyngdoh, Mawphlang, East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya  
nominated by the Chair)
15. Scientist, RFRI, Jorhat (Assam) : Member Secretary  
(Dr. Dhrubjyoti Das, Scientist 'E' nominated by the Chair)

## 1.3 Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference of the REDD+ Working Group are as follows:

- Advise on technical and institutional supports for REDD+ readiness in North-eastern states of India
- Provide inputs from North-Eastern regions for formulation of State REDD+ Action Plan, safeguard information system (SIS), reference emission level/reference level and forest monitoring system
- Guidance for implementing National REDD+ Strategy at state level, and inputs for preparation of a road map for REDD+ preparedness
- Necessary guidelines for formation of REDD+ Cell in the North-eastern States along with its structure and terms of reference
- Provide inputs for development of REDD+ Learning Platform for exchange and sharing of knowledge
- Advise on REDD+ capacity building needs of stakeholders

- Explore the possibilities of REDD+ financing and guidance for development of REDD+ projects

#### **1.4 Secretariat of the REDD+ Working Group**

Secretariat of the Working Group has been established at Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam), and a web based link of REDD+ has been created in ICFRE website for sharing of knowledge products/ information relevant for REDD+ implementation in North-Eastern States of India in particular and country as a whole. Members of the Working Group are encouraged to share their views/ information on REDD+ so that the views are compiled for further documentation and dissemination. Periodic meeting of the working group shall be organised in conjunction with workshops/seminars and capacity building programmes.

##### **Contact details of REDD+ Working Group Secretariat:**

REDD+ Working Group Secretariat  
Rain Forest Research Institute  
P.O. Box No. 136, AT Road (East)  
Jorhat (Assam)  
Email ID: dir\_rfri@icfre.org  
Phone No. +91 376 2305101

##### **Contact details for sharing views and information on REDD+ at ICFRE:**

Biodiversity and Climate Change Division  
Directorate of Research  
Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education  
P.O. New Forest  
Dehradun – 248 006  
Email ID: adg\_bcc@icfre.org  
Phone No. +91 1352750296, 2224823, 2224803

### Glimpses of REDD+ Working Group meeting held at RFRI, Jorhat (Assam)



## 2

## Identification of Organisations and Experts for REDD+

Identification of R&D organisations, universities and experts for REDD+ MRV (Measurement, Reporting and Verification), FRL (Forest Reference Level), NFMS (National Forest Monitoring System) and SIS (Safeguard Information System) shall be supportive for initiating and implementing the REDD+ activities in the North-Eastern states of the country. In order to initiate and implement REDD+ activities, expert organisations and experts on REDD+ MRV, FRL, NFMS and SIS need to be identified for providing guidance, knowledge sharing, capacity buildings and technical support for implementation of REDD+ activities in the North-Eastern states of India. Accordingly, R&D organisations, universities and State Forest Departments have been identified for different components of REDD+ for facilitating the implementation of REDD+ activities:

### 2.1. Organisations Identified for Measurement, Reporting and Verification

1. Forest Survey of India, Dehradun and its zonal office (Eastern Zone, Kolkata)
2. Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun and its regional institute (Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat and Forest Research Centre for Bamboo and Rattan, Aizawl)
3. State Forest Departments (Research Wings) of Arunachal Pradesh (State Forest Research Institute), Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura
4. North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology (Department of Forestry), Nirjuli, Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh)
5. Nagaland University (Forest Science Department), Dimapur (Nagaland)
6. College of Horticulture and Forestry, Pasighat (Arunachal Pradesh)
7. Central Agricultural University, Imphal (Manipur)
8. Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Mizoram

### 2.2. Organisations Identified for Forest Reference Level

1. Forest Survey of India, Dehradun
2. Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun

### 2.3. Organisations Identified for Safeguard Information System

1. Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun and its regional institute (Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat and Forest Research Centre for Bamboo and Rattan, Aizawl)
2. State Forest Departments (Wildlife Wing) of Arunachal Pradesh (State Forest Research Institute), Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura

3. State Biodiversity Boards of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura
4. Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun
5. Botanical Survey of India and its zonal centres based at Dehradun, Sikkim, Shillong and Arunachal Pradesh
6. Zoological Survey of India and its zonal centre based at Dehradun and Shillong
7. GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development - Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim Units
8. Mizoram University (Social Science Department), Aizawl
9. North Eastern Hill University (School of Social Science), Shillong (Meghalaya)
10. Nagaland University (Social Science Department), Dimapur (Nagaland)

#### **2.4. Organisations Identified for REDD+ National Forest Monitoring System**

1. Forest Survey of India, Dehradun and its zonal office (Eastern Zone, Kolkata)
2. Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun and its regional institute (Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat)
3. State Forest Departments (Research Wings) of Arunachal Pradesh (State Forest Research Institute), Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura

Services of the individual experts on REDD+ MRV, FRL, SIS, NFMS of the above mentioned identified organisations shall be utilized for formation of working groups for implementation of the REDD+ initiatives in the North-Eastern States of the country.

## Acknowledgement

International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Kathmandu, Nepal

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Germany

Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, Germany

Forest Research Centre for Bamboo and Rattan (FRCBR), Aizawl, Mizoram

Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Mizoram

### Guidance and Support

Dr. Suresh Gairola, Director General, ICFRE

Mr. S.D. Sharma, Dy. Director General (Research), ICFRE

Dr. Bhaskar Singh Karky, Resource Economist and Programme Coordinator REDD+ Initiative, ICIMOD

Mr. Kai Windhorst, Chief Technical Advisor, GIZ

Dr. R.S.C. Jayaraj, Director, RFRI, Jorhat

Dr. Subhash Ashutosh, DG, FSI

Mr. Nabin Bhattarai, Research Associate, ICIMOD

### Layout & Design

Mr. Umang Thapa, BCC Division, ICFRE



