

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Seminar on

"Hill Agroforestry Systems in the Indian Himalayan Region"

February 7-8, 2014, Dehradun, India

BACKGROUND

Agroforestry, as a holistic and integrated land management system, has enormous potential for providing technological solutions to rural development issues and has special significance for people in hills, forest fringes and rural areas. Apart from meeting household requirements for fuel, timber, fruit and innumerable other NTFPs and lending economic support, diversified roles for agroforestry are also pertinent in the domain of environmental services, such as watershed and hydrological services, carbon sequestration, adaptation to and mitigation of effects of climate change.

Hills, as catchments of major river systems in the Indian Himalayan region, provide crucial hydrological support to food production in valleys and plains. Mountains are not only sites of beautiful landscapes and wildlife of tourism value, they are also abode of countless people whose needs and aspirations for ecological and economic well-being, require specific technological interventions. Hills are generally characterized by lower temperatures, good precipitation, high runoff, rough terrain, poor accessibility, small landholdings, limited economic activity, weak economy and large distances from industrial and commercial centres. Thus, hills have unique challenges. Unfortunately, hill ecosystems are often neglected in research and development programmes. In appreciation of the myriad direct and indirect, tangible and intangible gifts from the hills for economic and environmental security of the globe, it is imperative to strengthen actions for well-being of the hills and its inhabitants.

RELEVANCE

Agroforestry is an effective tool in the direction of economic and environmental security of hills as agriculture and animal husbandry are the main occupations of hill people and trees are the source of fuel, fodder, wood and non-wood forest produce of diverse kinds for livelihood. Diversification of crop, tree, medicinal plant and animal species holds the key to widen the choice for more remunerative and sustainable use of resources of the land owners – individuals, formal or informal groups or communities. Superior germplasm and better management practices need to be developed to increase the productivity of the system. Backward and forward linkages are to be strengthened for smooth integration of technology with livelihoods.

In order to understand and address the challenges in hill agroforestry systems, exchange ideas and experiences on innovative agroforestry solutions, identify and pick up leads and develop coordinated approach for comprehensive development of agroforestry in the hills, an “**Hill**

Agroforestry Systems in the Indian Himalayan Region" is being held in Forest Research Institute, Dehradun. The seminar will be of two days duration and is tentatively scheduled on **Feb 7-8, 2014**, as a prelude to the World Agroforestry Congress, New Delhi (Feb 10-14, 2014). Oral and poster presentations will be made. The seminar will specifically focus on land and product management issues in Indian Himalayan region, particularly in view of scarce land resources and limited technological options available to the people.

THEME OF SEMINAR: Improving Lives with Agroforestry

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

Oral presentations will be arranged in the following technical sessions:

1. Diversified land use options for hill agroforestry systems

- a. Integration of new and non-traditional options in agroforestry systems and practices, including bee culture, fishery and commercial crops etc.
- b. New agroforestry options for diversified land use
- c. Ecologically viable options for fragile and degraded sites

2. Technological solutions for productivity enhancement.

- a. Innovative cultural practices
- b. Genetic improvement
- c. Protection and conservation
- d. Utilization and value addition
- e. Integration of technology and traditional knowledge
- f. Policy issues related to agroforestry and felling & transportation of agroforestry produce
- g. Promoting organic farming products through agroforestry

3. Addressing livelihood, social and economic issues

- a. Social and livelihoods concerns and economic empowerment
- b. Management and institutional interventions including marketing linkages
- c. Gender equity and participation
- d. Redd+, adaptation to climate change and related aspects

PARTICIPATION

The seminar is expected to be attended by stakeholders involved in the value chain of agroforestry, viz. farmers, nursery growers, state forest departments, agriculture departments, researchers, NGOs, industry, traders and financial institutions.

HOST INSTITUTIONS

Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun (ICFRE)

ICFRE is an autonomous Council of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India, established to oversee, coordinate and manage forestry research and education at the national level. The Council is the apex body in the national forestry research system aiming at supporting holistic forestry research, education and extension related to all aspects of forestry. ICFRE has nine institutes and four centres located in different bio-geographical regions catering to the forestry research needs of the entire nation.

Forest Research Institute, Dehradun (FRI)

FRI is the oldest and largest institute of ICFRE. The institute started as Imperial Forest Research Institute in 1906 for organizing and leading forestry research activities in the Indian subcontinent, besides administering training to forest officers and forest rangers. Its history is synonymous with the evolution and development of scientific forestry not only in India, but in the entire region comprising south and south-east Asia.

LOCATION

Dehradun is the capital city of the State of Uttarakhand in north India and is located ca. 250 km north of India's capital New Delhi. Dehradun is renowned for its natural resources, publishing services, and for its prestigious educational institutions such as the Forest Research Institute, Indian Military Academy, Doon School, etc. Dehradun is famous for its picturesque landscape and pleasant climate and provides a gateway to the Himalayan mountains. It is well connected by air, road and railway network with important cities of India and is in close proximity to popular Himalayan tourist destinations.

Official Languages

English would be the official language for all technical sessions. All abstract papers and posters should be submitted in English only.

Conference Venue

Forest Research Institute, (Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education), P.O. New Forest, Dehradun, Uttarakhand - 248 006, India.

Boarding & Lodging

Participants must book accommodation on their own. The details of some important given below:

Hotel	Approx. distance from hotel to venue	Location	Contact details
4 star			
Hotel Pacific	30 minutes	Subhash Road, Dehradun	Phone No.: 91-135-2712355,56,77,88 Fax: 91-135-2714679 Email: reservations@pacifichoteldehradun.in Website: www.pacifichoteldehradun.in
Madhuban	30 minutes	Rajpur Road, Dehradun	Phone No.: 91-135-2749990-95 Fax: 91-135-2746496 Email: sm@hotelmadhuban.com info@hotelmadhuban.com Website: www.madhubanhotels.com
3 star			
Hotel Great Value	30 minutes	Rajpur Road, Dehradun	Phone No.: 91-135-2744086, 2744762-65 Fax: 91-135-2746058 Email: gvhotel@sancharnet.in, greatvaluehotel@gmail.com Website: www.greatvaluehotel.com
Hotel Aketa	30 minutes	Rajpur Road, Dehradun	Phone No.: 91-135-2743514, 2747928, 2744302 Fax: 91-135-2747928 Email: info@hotelaketadehradun.com Website: www.hotelaketadehradun.com
2 star			
Hotel President	30 minutes	Rajpur Road, Dehradun	Phone No.: 91-135-2657082, 2655783, 2657386, 2658883 Fax: 91-135-2658883, 2658210 Email: prestrav@sancharnet.in, prestrav@zyberway.com Website: www.hotelpresidentdehradun.com
Hotel LP Residency	5 minutes	Kaulagarh Road, Dehradun	Phone No.: 91-135-2752638 Fax: 91-135-2757222 Email: hotellpresidency_2009@rediffmail.com Website: www.hotellpresidency.com

Limited accommodation is also available at guest houses within the FRI campus. Kindly inform the organisers at the earliest for booking of the on-campus accommodation @1500 (including Breakfast) for general delegates and concessional rate of Rs. 500 (including Breakfast) for students in hostels.

KEY DATES (TENTATIVE):

Submission of registration fee	30 th Nov, 2013 (without late fee) 15 th Jan , 2014 (with late fee)
Receipt of abstracts	30 th Nov, 2013
Acceptance of abstract announcement	31 st Dec, 2013

REGISTRATION FEE:

Registration deadlines	Fee for delegates	Concessional Fee for students*
30 th Nov, 2013	₹5500	₹2000
15 th Jan , 2014	₹6000	₹2500
After 15 th Jan , 2014	₹6500	₹3000

*To avail the concessional rates, the student must produce a certificate from the Dean/authorized signatory of the university/college that he/she is a bonafide student of the concerned university/college.

Fee can be deposited through DD or electronic transfer in the name of Director, FRI (A/c No. 496902010087578, Union Bank of India, New Forest, Dehradun, IFSC code UBIN0549690, MICR code 248026003).

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

Deposit the fee in the account, download the registration form from the ICFRE website <http://www.icfre.org>, fill up the registration form and send the scanned signed copy of the registration form alongwith receipt of electronic fee transfer through email to hill_af_2014@icfre.org (cc: neelugera@icfre.org, kumard@icfre.org). Alternatively, the signed copy alongwith the Demand Draft may be sent by post to, Mrs. Neelu Gera, Assistant Director General (Panchayat and Human Dimensions), Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, P.O. New Forest, Dehradun.

WEATHER

The geographical location of Dehradun is mainly responsible for its ever-changing but pleasant weather. Dehradun has a sub-tropical climate with cold winters, warm and colourful springs, humid and hot summers and an extended monsoon. Since Dehradun is an inter-mountain valley and is positioned between altitudes of 2,300-3,300 ft (700-1000 m) above sea level and is surrounded by forests and mountains. Weather in February is cold with monthly average minimum and maximum temperatures ranging from 8 to 20 degrees Celsius. Occasional rains also occur during this month. Heavy woollens are recommended.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

Abstracts need to be submitted for poster as well as oral presentations. The following guidelines must be followed for submitting abstracts:

Title: Capital letters, bold, centred, Times New Roman 14

Author(s): Author name(s), organization, address, country, Email address, Times New Roman 12

Text: Abstracts must be, maximum 350 words, electronic format in MS-Word, Times New Roman 12, 1.5 space, margins 2.5 cm, without underline, without bolds, scientific names in italics, justified both sides, one space between paragraphs.

Key words: Three to seven, separated by commas

Abstracts must be submitted through email to hill_af_2014@icfre.org by 30th November, 2013

GUIDELINES FOR POSTER PRESENTATION

Authors should focus on the introduction, materials and methods, results, conclusions, recommendations (particularly for application of results to address problems in the field and theme of the seminar) and key references. A convenient poster size is 120 cm high x 80 cm wide. Participants will be responsible for installing their posters individually.

CONTACT

All inquiries concerning general information should be addressed to:

1. **Mrs. Neelu Gera**, Assistant Director General (Panchayat and Human Dimensions), Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun, (Uttarakhand), Pin 248 006. Ph. +91-135-2754882, -2224827, Fax: +91-0135-2754882, Email: neelugera@icfre.org
2. **Dr. Dinesh Kumar**, Scientist-E, Silviculture Division, Forest Research Institute, P.O. New Forest, Dehradun (Uttarakhand), Pin 248 006. Ph. +91-135-2224610, Fax: +91-135-2756865, Email: kumard@icfre.org

INSTITUTION WEBSITE: <http://www.icfre.gov.in>