



Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education
(An autonomous Body of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India)
P.O. New Forest, Dehra Dun – 248006

**Notice calling for EXPRESSION OF INTEREST for carrying out Studies for
Centre For Forest Policy Research**

ICFRE invites expression of interest from prospective Individuals/Organizations/NGOs for undertaking Policy Research Studies on 06 areas/topics. The Individuals/Organizations/NGOs may opt for one or more policy research studies based on their expertise and submit proposals. The details of Policy Research Studies on the 06 subjects alongwith format for submission of proposal, Terms of Reference (ToR) is available at ICFRE website www.icfre.org. The application in prescribed format should be accompanied with a Demand Draft for Rs. 500/- drawn in favor of Account Officer, Policy Research Studies, ICFRE and should be delivered at the address below **latest by 15.30 hrs on 30-11-2021**.

Assistant Director General (Education & RB)
Indian council of Forestry Research & Education,
P.O. New Forest, Dehra Dun - 248 006
Telephone: 2758348
E-mail : adg_edu@icfre.org



भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद्

(पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की एक स्वायत्त संस्था)

डाकघर – न्यू फारेस्ट, देहरादून – 248 006

सेंटर फॉर फॉरेस्ट पालिसी रिसर्च के लिए अध्ययन कराने हेतु रूचि की अभिव्यक्ति संबंधी सूचना

भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान संस्थान एवं शिक्षा परिषद्, देहरादून, 06 क्षेत्रों/विषयों पर नीति अनुसंधान अध्ययन करने के लिए व्यक्तियों/संगठनों/गैर-सरकारी संगठनों से रूचि की अभिव्यक्ति आमंत्रित करता है। व्यक्ति/संगठन/गैर-सरकारी संगठन अपनी विशेषज्ञता के आधार पर एक या एक से अधिक नीति अनुसंधान अध्ययन का विकल्प चुन सकते हैं और प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत कर सकते हैं। 06 क्षेत्रों/विषयों के लिए नीति अनुसंधान अध्ययन प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत करने हेतु प्रारूप, विचारार्थ विषय (ToR) भा0वा0अ0शि0प0 की वेबसाइट www.icfre.org पर उपलब्ध है। आवेदन प्रस्तुत करने हेतु प्रस्ताव निर्धारित प्रारूप में रु.500/- (रूपये पांच सौ मात्र) के डिमांड ड्राफ्ट के साथ Account Officer, Policy Research Studies, ICFRE के पक्ष में देय होना चाहिए जो कि दिनांक 30.11.2021 को अपराह्न 03:30 बजे तक निम्नवत पते पर भेजा जा सकता है :

सहायक महानिदेशक (शिक्षा एवं भर्ती बोर्ड)
भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद्
डाकघर – न्यू फारेस्ट, देहरादून – 248 006

दूरभाष: 0135-2758348

ई-मेल: adg_edu@icfre.org

Indian Council for Forestry Research and Education

Call for Proposal for Policy Research Studies from Individuals /Agencies/ Institutions/ Organizations/ NGOs.

The Centre for Forest Policy Research, Indian Council for Forestry Research & Education, Dehradun invites proposals from Individuals /agencies/ Institutions/ Organizations/ NGOs for undertaking forest policy research studies on the following topics :-

1.	<p>Issues in forest certification and certifying agencies</p> <p>Forest certification aims to ensure that forests are not only sustainably managed but also are properly valued at the same time. There is need to study the issues related to certification in light of the contemporary global and national scenario as well as from the point of view of government and other stakeholders including large, & small tree growers, industries, importers & exporters, etc. It is important to assess the importance of forest certification as an effective and efficient approach to achieve the objectives of poverty reduction, economic growth, rural development, conservation of biological diversity, security of biomass supply and SFM. Its consistency with many others existing instruments, such as laws, regulations, fiscal incentives, subsidies, guidelines, extension and training is also important for best outputs. Policy research is, therefore, needed on the subject in the Indian context with the broad objectives to analyze the policy process which can help the government to take informed decisions on the development of forest certification programmes in the country.</p> <p>Terms of reference</p> <p>(1) To analyze the existing forest certification models and suggest appropriate model for India.</p> <p>(2) To assess the impacts of the costs and benefits of certification on sustainable forest management, especially with respect to forest management, trade, supply and demand of certified forest products and access to certification for stakeholders.</p> <p>(3) To analyze the existing legal and policy instruments that support or discourage the use of forest certification instrument and suggest the options/means to link certification with other policy instruments for achieving sustainable forest management.</p>
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	<p>(4) To analyze the bottlenecks and changes required in the governance for realizing effective gains from forest certification.</p> <p>(5) To identify the sectors and suggest a roadmap for realizing the goals of sustainability, poverty alleviation and economic growth through forest certification.</p>
2.	<p>Study of grazing policies in different states and formulation of grazing policy guidelines for states</p> <p>The National Livestock Policy states that about 70 million rural households own livestock of atleast one species. Shortage of fodder is a major challenge not only for the livestock sector, but also the forests sector as forests are a major source of tree and grass fodder, most of it being the unrecorded removal. While the livestock population is increasing, the gap between the requirement and availability of fodder is also increasing primarily due to forest degradation, decreasing area under fodder cultivation and reduced availability of crop residues as fodder. The continuous shrinkage of common property resources is also leading to over exploitation of resources. The absence of a comprehensive grazing policy at national/state level has rendered the forests and pasture lands, including village commons and uncultivable wastes, open to degradation. Large chunks of such lands have experienced change in land-use, including, land-use change for urbanization, developmental projects, land grants, plantations, as well as bringing of such lands under irrigated cultivation. The absence of comprehensive grazing policy guidelines has also apparently encouraged unilateral implementation of animal husbandry policy that seek to increase the number of livestock without corresponding focus on developing fodder resources, leading to further degradation of the pastures and fodder resources.</p> <p>Terms of references</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To study the impact of grazing policies of centre/state and recommend best practices. 2. To suggest policy prescriptions to strengthen inter-sectoral linkages between forestry agriculture and animal husbandry. 3. Suggest mechanisms for conservation and development of fodder and pasture/grasslands in potential areas, viz, forests, culturable wastelands, community and other lands. 4. Suggest a framework for a comprehensive grazing (cum- fodder and pasture development) policy guidelines at national level in coherence with the National Forest Policy-1988, National Livestock Policy- 2013, Agroforestry policy and other related policies and guidelines.

5. To study the impact of the grazing ban in the protected areas.

3. Devising methodologies for periodical valuation and payment of ecosystem services

The concept of ecosystem services is important for understanding human-environment relationships and designing environmental policy interventions. The host of regulatory and buffering services provided by forests and other ecosystems in India are the backbone of the local and national economy. These ecosystems are influenced by various inter-sectoral policies, such as forests, agriculture, animal husbandry, rural development and land use. These policies, sometimes contradictory or overlapping, may lead to conflicts, faulty land use practices and resultant degradation. With the growing awareness of the crucial ecosystem services and their potential role in mitigating climate change-related impacts, future sectoral policies need to converge and focus on maintaining the integrity of these ecosystems so as to ensure sustained flow of goods and services. Unlike the conventional approaches to conservation, which are regulatory and top-down, PES is equity and incentive oriented. It, therefore, needs different policies to guide its operation.

Terms of Reference

- (1) To analyze the existing studies on Forest Ecosystem Services and examine them for their application at national/regional level.
- (2) To analyze the existing PES mechanisms as being operated in developed countries, such as US, UK & EU as well as developing countries like Mexico, Vietnam, Costa Rica, China, etc., and suggest comprehensive mechanisms and strategies for implementation of PES instrument in the country. Clues from various kinds of PES or similar mechanisms operational in India may also be included in the study.
- (3) To analyze the existing methodologies and recommend standard methodologies for valuation of forest ecosystem services, particularly regulating services, such as water quality & regulation, prevention of soil erosion, flood protection, Carbon sequestration, air quality improvement, pollination, biological control, etc.
- (4) To analyze the existing inter-sectoral policies for convergence and focus on maintaining the integrity of these ecosystems so as to ensure the flow of goods and services sustainably.
- (5) To develop a roadmap for to clearly incorporate the valuation of ecosystem goods and services and PES in the planning processes.

4.	Guidelines under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of privately owned forests for non forestry uses
<p>Deemed forests are owned privately by many individuals which vary in extent from small holdings to large areas. Even small patches of land because of being continuous with lands quality the criteria of deemed forests prescribed by Government of India. There is no separate policy for the bonafide usage/diversion of these lands and are governed by the FCA guidelines applicable to other cases. People allege that they are being punished,for the following reasons (i) There are many who have changed the land use before 1980 and have had benefits while those who have protected these forests till now are put to disadvantage (ii) Even if a portion of land has to be utilized for bona fide purposes like houses, alternate revenue land for compensatory afforestation has to be transferred to the Forest Department (iii) The cost of raising compensatory afforestation and the net present value (iv)The procedures for approval under this act both for stage (I) & stage (II) are very cumbersome .</p>	
Terms of Reference	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To assess the extent and size of individual land holding under the category of privately owned forests 2) Assess and analyze the demand of these individuals owning private deemed forests for bonafide/other uses 3) Analyse the provisions of the Forest (conservation) Act, 1980 which are in conflict with these land use requirements. 4) Analysis of the studies conducted earlier including the recommendations prescribed 5) Recommendations regarding the demands and proposed amendment of the acts/rules/procedures required for consideration of these land use requirements, if any. 6) To recommend the incentives to the forest owners keeping in view the practices in other countries and on par with the acquiring of other lands for public utility within the country. 	
5.	Public private partnerships in a broad perspective in forestry involving various sections of the society
<p>Public private partnerships have been successful in many areas like infrastructure development and the same is being advocated in some of the areas of the management of forests. The goals of the National Forest Policy in achieving the desired forest cover has shifted the focus to non forest lands. The factors like huge demand and supply gap for</p>	

wood and wood products, need for augmenting resources in the forestry sector, forest degradation, potential of the private players for contribution in forestry sector, livelihood opportunities and employment, etc., have necessitated the need for considering the public-private partnership in the forestry sector. Apart from the industrial sector which is emerging as promoter for tree cultivation for their industrial needs, the farmers and the communities are the other important stakeholders in such partnerships. The dimensions of PPP is required to be studied in a holistic manner regarding areas of partnership, terms and conditions of the contract , advantages and risks , etc .,

Terms of Reference

- (1) To assess the public private partnerships and contribution of various sections of the society in forestry sector.
- (2) To analyze the policies and instruments which aid/restrictive in the public private partnerships in the forestry sector.
- (3) To study the PPP models in a holistic manner on areas of partnership, terms and conditions of the contract , advantages and risks , etc.,
- (4) To suggest appropriate modes of partnerships for different forestry activities with various sections of society.
- (5) To suggest policy changes for promotion of public private partnerships in forestry sector.

6. Augmenting resources including innovative means of fund raising for achieving the targets enshrined in various policy documents. Review of the existing schemes and formulation of new ones with self financing capacity.

The Government of India in its Nationally Determined Commitments (NDC) to the UNFCCC committed to create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO2 equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030. Analysis of the present schemes and funding, gaps if any for achieving these targets are required to be done. The existing schemes presently implemented by the Government of India are also required to be reviewed to suggest additional schemes in the sectors not being addressed by the present ones, merging of the schemes or their revamping. The formulation of schemes with self financing capability also is required to be explored to augment the resources for achieving the national targets/goals.

Terms and Reference

- 1) To analyse the existing schemes by the Central and State Governments

	<p>implemented by MoEF & CC and other ministries and assess the contribution in creation of forest and tree cover along with the funding.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2) To recommend targets/contribution by each of the States/UTs in achieving the NDC targets. 3) To recommend additional schemes and revamping of existing schemes together with innovative fund raising to augment the implementation of the schemes. 4) To suggest schemes in the sectors not being addressed by the present ones wherever required. 5) To formulate schemes with self financing capability to augment the resources for achieving the national goals/targets.
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Eligibility criteria:

- 1) Recognized Universities/organizations/agencies/ NGOs and individuals are eligible.
- 2) The institutions/organizations/individuals should have necessary research expertise in concerned/related field.
- 3) All the research proposals should be submitted in the format prescribed at **Annexure I**.
- 4) In case of organizations, one principal investigator should be nominated by the institution, who should have previous work/research experience in the subject/related issues.
- 5) The proposal for each of the research project should be submitted separately.
- 6) One project investigator will be assigned only one project.
- 7) Only Indian nationals can be nominated/engaged as principal investigator and other team members.

Project period

- 1) The duration of the research projects shall ordinarily be for six months and will not exceed more than one year. The time period of the projects proposed should be adequately justified in the proposal.
- 2) The projects should be completed within the stipulated time and no extension shall ordinarily be granted, except in exceptional circumstances by DG, ICFRE.
- 3) Any extension of time period granted would be without any additional financial implications.

Approval of project proposals and release of funds

- 1) The ICFRE will evaluate the research proposals submitted with regard to the terms of reference, methodology, time frame, manpower requirement, budget the expertise of the principal investigator and others etc.
- 2) The recommendations made by ICFRE in the TOR, methodology, time frame, budget, manpower etc. will be incorporated in the project proposal.
- 3) The ICFRE may also invite the Project Investigator for presentation on the project wherever necessary. No TA/DA shall be paid for the visit.
- 4) The other terms and conditions prescribed by the ICFRE will be binding on the institution and Project investigator.
- 5) The institution/individual concerned will execute on agreement for executing the project prior to the commencement.
- 6) The funding for the project will include remuneration for the staff, travel, stationery and printing, contingency expenses, overhead expenses and any other items specified and approved by ICFRE.
- 7) The suggestions of ICFRE during the execution of the project at any stage will be incorporated.
- 8) The funds will be released in three installments. The first installment (30%) will be released after approval and signing of agreement with the institution/individual. The second installment (40%) will be released after the mid-term review and submission of required progress report and utilization certificate. The third and final installment (30%) will be released after the submission of the final report.
- 9) The taxes applicable from time to time will be debited from the payments made.
- 10) In case of organizations, the head of organization/institute shall be responsible for the disbursement and administration of the funds.

Submission of the proposals

- 1) The project proposal will be submitted in 2 hard copies in the prescribed format with all enclosures in an envelope marked "Call for project proposal, under Policy Research study (Name of the study) and sent to:

The Assistant Director General (Education and RB)
Directorate of Education,
Indian Council of Forest Research and Education,
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun – 248006

- 2) The research proposal should reach the ICFRE (HQ) in hard copy by 30-11-2021. The proposals received after the last date will not be considered.
- 3) For any queries /clarification, please contact:
The Assistant Director General (Education and RB)
Directorate of Education, ICFRE (HQ),
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun – 248006
Tel – 0135-222-4850, 0135-2758348 FAX – 2758571
e-mail: adg_edu@icfre.org

Submission of reports

- 1) The principal investigator will submit a quarterly progress report in the prescribed format.
- 2) Three copies of the final report will be submitted after the approval of the draft report by ICFRE. The final project report will include introduction, review of literature, objectives, methodology adapted, findings of the projects, results and discussion, recommendations, review of literature, photographs and executive summary along with other documents and annexures collected/analysed during the study.

Other conditions

- 1) The project work will not be diverted to another institution/individual.
- 2) The research report will be the property of ICFRE and no publication based on the study will be done without the prior approval of ICFRE.
- 3) All legal action shall be subject to the jurisdiction of Dehradun based courts only.
- 4) ICFRE reserves the right to terminate the research project and the grant at any stage during the study if adequate progress has not been made or funds are not utilized properly.
- 5) In case of termination of project due to inadequate progress, non-completion within time frame, non adherence of any conditions prescribed, the organization/individual is liable to refund the entire amount granted along with interest.

Format for submission of proposal

1. Title of Policy Research Study:

2. Details of the organization/Individual:
 - Name:
 - Address:
 - City:
 - Pin code:
 - State:
 - Phone No. (Landline & mobile):
 - Email:

3. Details of the principal Investigator(s) (designated by organizations and individual applicants. The details of other co investigator/members , if any, also to be given):
 - i. Name:
 - ii. Designation:
 - iii. Age:
 - iv. Gender:
 - v. Address: (i) Permanent
(ii) official/ mailing
 - vi. Phone No. (Landline & mobile):
 - vii. Email:
 - viii. Qualifications :
 - ix. Research works in the subject/related subjects in the last 10 years :
 - x. Papers Published :
 - xi. Current assignments :

4. Details of the Co-PIs/members, if any (All details as in sl.no 4 to be given)

5. Duration (in months) of proposed study (from the date of the release of first installment):

6. Research Proposal :

The research proposal will include the following chapters

- (i) Introduction/Background (2 pages)
- (ii) Review of Literature (in 3-4 pages)
- (iii) Objectives/ToR of the research study
- (iv) Detailed methodology
- (v) Time schedule of activities
- (vi) Budget estimate with justification

Items	Budget (Quarter wise) (in Rupees)				
	1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter	Total
1. Salaries/wages/remuneration					
2. Travel					
3. Other costs (Please specify and provide justification)					
Total					

7. Summary
