

<p><i>NON-LEGALLY BINDING INSTRUMENT ON ALL TYPES OF FORESTS</i></p> <p><i>VOLUNTARY SHARING OF INFORMATION ON PROGRESS</i></p> <p><i>Suggested Format</i></p>	Country: India		Date: 13 th April, 2009
	Name of official responsible for reply: Mrs. Ranjana Gupta, National Focal Point for UNFF matters		
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This form provides a simple format for voluntarily sharing of information on progress in 2007-08 / 2008-09 in implementing the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (NLBI) and the progress towards achieving the four Global Objectives on Forests.

You are kindly requested to provide, where possible, information relating to the following areas:

- Actions or measures taken at the national or international levels to implement the NLBI;
- Success stories and case-studies, if any;
- Major challenges/opportunities encountered in implementation;
- Suggested actions to enhance implementation.

This document is in three parts:

- A) Implementation of the NLBI
- B) Progress towards achieving the Global Objectives on Forests
- C) Conclusion

A. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NLBI

1. Raising awareness of sustainable management of forests and the NLBI itself is seen as an important component to facilitate implementation. Please provide information on measures taken aimed at introducing the NLBI to professionals and the general public:
 - a) Has the NLBI been introduced/recognized through any legal, policy or strategy document? If so, please provide a brief description.
 - (i) The basic principles elucidated in the NLBI are enshrined in the National Forest Policy, 1988 of the country and the forestry management practices in the country, which are governed by the institution of working plans / management plans are being fine-tuned, wherever required, for their implementation under the overall umbrella of Sustainable Forest Management principles.
 - (ii) The thrust of forestry programmes in the country, ever since adoption of National Forest Policy, 1988 has been on the involvement of local communities in the protection, afforestation and reforestation overall management of the forest areas including the protected area network.

(iii) The total forest and tree cover of the country has been assessed as 23.4% of the total geographic area. Forests are mostly managed for conservation and ecological security purposes. India's national Protected Area covers around 4.8 % of country's geographical area.

b) Has there been action taken to introduce the NLBI to the general public in the electronic, printed or any other media?

The forestry sector in India is mostly in the domain of Government sector and the forestry personnel involved in the management of the sector are trained in various aspects of forest management/ Sustainable Forest Management i.e. the basic principles that are elucidated in the NLBI.

c) Has the NLBI been translated into the official language(s) of your country? If so we would be grateful for receiving a translated copy.

No.

2. To help achieve its purpose the NLBI identified a range of national policies and measures as well as an array of actions related to international cooperation and means of implementation described in detail in paragraphs 6 and 7 of the NLBI. To facilitate reporting progress these have been amalgamated here into 13 thematic clusters – five of which are cross-cutting and the rest topical thematic clusters.

Cross-cutting Thematic Clusters		
Ref. Number	Cluster	NLBI Element
1A	A. Strengthening Political Commitment for SFM	6a, 6c, 6d, 6k, 6l, 7a, 7c
1B	B. Financing SFM	6h, 6i, 6m, 7a, 7b, 7c, 7d, 7e
1C	C. Capacity Building and Technology Transfer	6e, 6s, 6v, 7f, 7i, 7j, 7k, 7l, 7m
1D	D. Stakeholder Participation	6h, 6m, 6v, 6w, 6x, 6y, 7k
1E	E. Enhanced International Cooperation	7i, 7n, 7q, 7r, 7s
2. Topical Thematic Clusters		
2A	A. Forest Law Enforcement and Governance	6n, 7h, 7i, 7j
2B	B. International Trade in Forest Products	6j, 6x, 7g, 7h, 7i, 7j,
2C	C. Protection of Forests	6o, 6p, 6q
2D	D. Science and Research	6r, 6s, 7n, 7o, 7p
2E	E. Public Awareness and Education	6t, 6u, 6v, 7j
2F	F. Private Sector and Industry	6e, 6h, 6i, 6m, 6w, 6x, 7a, 7f, 7k, 7m
2G	G. Indigenous and Local Communities	6f, 6h, 6s, 6v, 6y, 7k
2H	H. Monitoring, assessment and reporting	6b, 6g, 8, 9

Details of elements within each cluster are in Appendix 1.

Please provide as much detail as possible of actions taken in 2007-08/2008-09 in relation to each of these clusters. A suggested format for submitting information on each cluster is provided below.

Where possible, an account of challenges and opportunities faced in the implementation, as well as any case studies/success stories, will be very helpful.

CLUSTER: 1A (Strengthening Political Commitment for SFM)	
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	
Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>)	Country has instruments at policy level, legal level as well as through national forest programmes as detailed below.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short description of each item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are adequate policy instruments such as : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Forest Policy 1988, - National Environment Policy, 2006; - Joint Forest Management resolution 1990, 2002, - National Forestry Action Plan 1999, - National Wildlife Action Plan 2002-16 • Legal Instruments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Indian Forest Act, 1927 - The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 - The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Biological Diversity Act, 2002 - The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 - The Air (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act, 1981 - The Water (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act, 1974, - The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. • Indian Forest Act, Forest Conservation Act, Wildlife (Protection) Act are for the effective conservation of Forests & wildlife resources in the country. • India has a National Forestry Action Plan & National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-16) which give policy direction for the management of the Forestry & wildlife sector. • As stipulated in the legislation and Action Plans, establishment of Reserved Forests & Protected Areas (PAs) form the core of India's conservation strategy. • India has national Schemes and Programmes for strengthening the effective management of Forests & wildlife resources. • Further, India has special programmes such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated Forest management, National Afforestation Programme, Project Tiger', 'Project Elephant', 'Project Snow Leopard', etc, which are aimed at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ recovery of critically endangered species and their habitats ▪ Improved protection of forests/ maintenance & extension of Forest & Tree Cover • India has recognized the need for integrating livelihood aspirations of local people living in and around the PAs, through various non-consumptive eco-development

	<p>programmes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India has also established a National Wildlife Crime Control Bureau in 2007 for combating wildlife crime in a focused manner. • India is signatory to several Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) on Forests & wildlife matters like CITES, CMS, IWC, CBD, ITTA etc.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time frame for implementation 	All the above institutional arrangements are under implementation in the country.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiences with implementation (if any) 	The institutional arrangements get strengthened with the gradual involvement of local communities in the management of forestry resources of the country.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future 	-

CLUSTER: 1B (Financing SFM)	
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functional needs for Forestry & wildlife management have been identified at the Central /State levels. • These have been articulated in the planning process also • For most of the conservation efforts in India, funds come largely from the Central and State Governments only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short description of each item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the national level, India has following major Schemes for extending financial support for the Forestry & wildlife sector. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated Forest Protection Scheme - National Afforestation Programme - 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats' - 'Project Tiger', and - 'Project Elephant'. • Similarly, India also has several Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) & sacred Groves which are conserved by the communities as a tradition/ practice or though customary law. • Central Government, in 2008 has decided to extend financial and technical support to such non-formal conservation initiatives as well, thus broadening the scope of conservation. • A range of strategies to mitigate wildlife-human conflicts including payment of compensation for losses suffered are being implemented

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the 2006 amendment to the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has provided for the creation of Conservation Foundations in the Tiger Reserves of the country with a mandate of supporting the PA management through independent revenue generation and recycling of the same. • The major impediment is the lack of capacity and resources to undertake the task of economic evaluation of environmental goods and services emanating from the forests & wildlife conservation particularly the PAs. • SFM Cell has been constituted in the MOEF, GOI to act as a Nodal body for policy matters at the Central Level. • All State Forest Departments have been asked to constitute SFM cells which would be headed by the Officer dealing with the Working Plan in the respective State / UTs Forest Departments. • National set of 8 criteria and 37 Indicators have been developed through multi-stakeholder consultative processes by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, to assess and monitor changes towards sustainability of forests. • National Set of C & I is also being pilot tested by MoEF expert teams in states covering wider area and forest types in the country. Further, different sets of C & I are being developed specifically for sustainable management of plantations, non-timber forest products by expert committees constituted by the Ministry • Team of experts also constituted to prepare a document namely “Revised Working Plan Code” incorporating the final draft Criteria & Indicator for SFM into the Working Plan Code. • Ministry constituted the ‘National Forest Certification Committee’ for the development of Certification Criteria, Certification Process and Accreditation Criteria & Process.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time frame for implementation 	<p>On going continuous process.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiences with implementation (if any) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is need for inventory including biomass inventory to take full benefit of funding under climate change alongwith monitoring of biomass inventory and productivity at regional and national level. Also need standard methodology for estimating the carbon pool, and for REDD alongwith: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - C&I on which the information to be observed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capacity building on methodology ▪ Strengthening of the involved institutions ▪ Importance of TOF resources for SFM • The response by green India mission addresses climate change and enhances SFM. Also convergence with other sectors needs to be institutionalized. NREGS can be fine tuned to meet specific forestry objectives.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implementation of C&I for SFM need additional financial support. There is need for greater International

	<p>Assistance in this regard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPP models can be adopted to grow trees outside forests. Involvement and encouragement of Industry in SFM and environment friendly technologies e.g. initiatives of CEE/ITC • Private financing is a strong case of building green mass outside forests
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CLUSTER: 1C (Capacity Building and Technology Transfer)	
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>) 	The country has considerable institutional arrangements in place in this theme cluster
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short description of each item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GOI has established Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education (ICFRE), Indian institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Wildlife Institute of India (WII) as premier training and research institutions in the field of Forestry, wildlife and PA management and has provided enabling governance system and functional autonomy to fulfill mandate. • ICFRE also does extension works & technology transfer to Pvt. Sector & Industry • Capacity Building in forestry/ Wildlife courses is done through IGNFA, DFE, ICFRE, IIFM, WII, Universities etc for a number of target groups not only from the forest/wildlife sector but also for policy makers, defence, customs, revenue, enforcement agencies, etc. • The WII has come up as an important regional training institution and its training programmes are being well received by the countries in South and South East Asia. The UNESCO and IUCN have also recognized WII as a regional partner institution. • Besides WII, the State Forest Departments are also implementing capacity building programmes either by setting up of their own training institutions or sponsoring their managers and frontline staff for training in other institutions. • Directorate of Forestry Education (DFE) also organizes a range of capacity building programmes for managers and frontline staff on forestry and wildlife management. • A number of innovative approaches and technologies are being planned and implemented for effective Forestry & wildlife management. • Modern tools and technologies viz. Remote Sensing and

	<p>GIS, Information Technology, Wildlife Forensics, Satellite Telemetry, Camera Traps, etc. are now being used for assessment and management of natural resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the institutional level, ICFRE/WII has had several collaborative / sponsored programmes with a large number of international agencies /organizations such as FAO, UNDP, UNESCO, IUCN, UNEP, UNITAR, USFWS, USFS, USNPS, NORAD, ICIMOD, etc. • The capacity developed at WII is being used by the countries of the region.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time frame for implementation 	On going process.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiences with implementation (if any) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More support is needed from international agencies for sponsoring candidates from the region to WII & other institutes and for customizing thematic courses as per training needs of these countries.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need to establish / expand the scope of regional collaboration.

CLUSTER: 1D (Stakeholder participation)	
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	
Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>)	Policy, legal as well as strategically oriented programmes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short description of each item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JFM Programmes are being implemented throughout the country • National support for JFM through <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -National Afforestation Programme (NAP) operated by the National Afforestation and Eco-development Board, with main objective of : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regeneration and eco-development ▪ Augmentation of availability of fuelwood, fodder and grasses ▪ Securing people's participation in planning and regeneration ▪ promote partnership concept ▪ Promote agroforestry and development of CPR ▪ Promotion of fuel saving devices • Integrated Forest Protection Scheme(Support JFM committees) <p>The NAP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched in 2002, the programme is being implemented

	<p>through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a twin institutional setup of Forest Development Agency at the forest division level(federations of the village level JFMCs) and - Joint Forest Management Committees at the village level. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government envisages universalisation of Joint Forest Management (JFM) in all the 1.73 lakhs forest fringe villages. As of now- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JFMCs have been constituted in an estimated 1.06 lakh villages out of which - about 30560 JFMCs are involved in the implementation of the NAP. - It is anticipated that the programme will, build the capacity of the FDAs and JFMCs as institutions and help us to move forward in the direction of SFM • Till February, 2009, 795 projects have been approved for implementation by 30560 Joint Forest Management Committees. • An amount of Rs. 1857.82 crore has been released for treating 1.54 million hectares. • Govt. of India has enacted ‘The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers(Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006’ for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - empowering the tribal communities on the use and access of forest resources - Implemented through Nodal Ministry of Tribal Affairs • Community involvement in all Forest Protection/conservation activities & ecotourism • Central Government is carrying out the Evaluation of FDA’s & Management Effectiveness Evaluation of Protected Areas in the country through independent experts using international protocols.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time frame for implementation 	<p>On-going long-term programmes with commitment and financial support from the Government.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiences with implementation (if any) 	<p>The programmes are suitably modified, time to time, based on the needs of the sector. The recent developments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure full and effective participation of local communities, in respect of their rights and recognition of their responsibilities in the management of existing and the establishment and management of new PAs, the Govt. of India through an amendment in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has included two new legal categories of PAs. These are (a) Conservation Reserve and (b) Community Reserve. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - So far, 43 Conservation Reserves and 4 Community Reserves have been established in the country. - Site-specific ecodevelopment programmes involving local communities and aimed at generating livelihoods for conservation are now initiated in almost all PAs of

	<p>the country</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support provided to Conservation Reserves, Community Reserves, Sacred Groves etc. • In 2008, Central Government has formulated a national wildlife Scheme –“Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats”, where various Community Conserved Areas have been brought under the ambit of conservation planning and support. • Similarly Integrated Forest Protection Scheme revised to expand the Scope of Forest Protection in specific areas including Sacred Groves, Unique vegetation & ecosystems
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is need for greater amount for compensation to people living in fringe areas as Wildlife causes damage to life and property. • Need for adoption of inclusive approach so as to ensure greater participation.

CLUSTER: 1E (Enhanced International Cooperation)	
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is ‘yes’ please proceed to the next question. If the answer is ‘no’ please provide reasons.	Yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>) 	Strategy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short description of each item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India is a party to the following Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) related to Forestry & wildlife conservation and is actively involved in its implementation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) - UNESCO -World Heritage Convention - Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS): - International Whaling Commission (IWC): - IUCN : World Conservation Union - CBD Convention on Biodiversity - ITTA International Tropical Timber Agreement • Besides India plays a proactive role as a member in UNFF, COFO, APFC INBAR(International network of Bamboo & Rattan) etc. • India is committed to take appropriate management steps for migratory species under the relevant international conventions to which it is a signatory. The important actions

	<p>taken during the last one-year is as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) on 20th February 2007 at Bangkok, for the conservation and management of marine turtles and their habitats. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accordingly, a National Marine Turtle Advisory Committee has been constituted on 25th November 2008 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (E&F). • India has signed a MoU with the CMS for the conservation and management of Dugongs and their habitats on 28th May 2008 at Bonn, Germany. • In addition, India has taken the following steps to improve co-ordination with neighbouring countries to check the cross border smuggling in wildlife: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - India has signed a Protocol with Republic of China for taking up joint measures to crack down illegal activities of poaching of tigers, smuggling and selling of tiger bones and their derivatives. - A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with Nepal to establish a Joint Task Force to check trafficking across the borders. • India has initiated a national consultative process for planning and establishing 'Transboundary PAs'. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Five TBPAs have been identified for enhancing regional cooperation with neighbouring countries out of the twenty-four PAs feature in the regional network of Transboundary PAs, under the IUCN framework for TBPAs.
• Time frame for implementation	Continuous long term arrangements.
• Experiences with implementation (if any)	-
• Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future	-

CLUSTER: 2A (Forest law Enforcement and Governance)	
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	
• Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>)	Policy, law and strategy.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short description of each item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance of Forests is through Instrument of Indian Forest Act(1927) which classified forests as Reserved Forests (RF) &, Protected Forests (PF) • Besides GOI has enacted enabling policy & legal Instruments for the protection & conservation of the Forests & Wild life • India has established a National Wildlife Crime Control Bureau in 2007 to combat illegal trade in wildlife and its derivatives. • National Biodiversity Action Plan has been prepared within the broad framework of NEP & Forest Policy • National Biodiversity Authority <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In pursuance to the CBD, India had enacted the Biological Diversity Act in 2002 following a widespread consultative process over a period of eight years. - The Biological Rules were notified thereafter in 2004. - The Act gives effect to the provisions of the CBD. - It also addresses access to biological resources and associated traditional knowledge to ensure equitable sharing of benefits arising out of their use to the country and its people, thereby contributing to achieving the third objective of the CBD. - The Act is to be implemented through a three-tiered institutional structure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), ▪ State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) and ▪ Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs). ▪ NBA has been set up in 2003. ▪ Twenty States have established SBBs, and BMCs are in the process of being set up in some States.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time frame for implementation 	Continuous long term process.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiences with implementation (if any) 	-
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future 	-

CLUSTER: 2B (International Trade in Forest Products)	
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type/source (is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?) 	Policy and strategy.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short description of each item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India is a party to the following Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) related to Forestry & wildlife conservation and is actively involved in its implementation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) - UNESCO -World Heritage Convention - Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS): - International Whaling Commission (IWC): - IUCN : World Conservation Union - CBD Convention on Biodiversity - ITTA International Tropical Timber Agreement • India is committed to take appropriate management steps for migratory species under the relevant international conventions to which it is a signatory. The important actions taken during the last one-year is as below: • India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) on 20th February 2007 at Bangkok, for the conservation and management of marine turtles and their habitats. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accordingly, a National Marine Turtle Advisory Committee has been constituted on 25th November 2008 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (E&F). • India has signed a MoU with the CMS for the conservation and management of Dugongs and their habitats on 28th May 2008 at Bonn, Germany. • In addition, India has taken the following steps to improve co-ordination with neighbouring countries to check the cross border smuggling in wildlife: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - India has signed a Protocol with Republic of China for taking up joint measures to crack down illegal activities of poaching of tigers, smuggling and selling of tiger bones and their derivatives. - A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with Nepal to establish a Joint Task Force to check trafficking across the borders. • India has initiated a national consultative process for planning and establishing 'Transboundary PAs'. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Five TBPAs have been identified for enhancing regional cooperation with neighbouring countries out of the twenty-four PAs feature in the regional network of Transboundary PAs, under the IUCN framework for TBPAs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time frame for implementation 	<p>On going process.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiences with implementation (if any) 	<p>-</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future 	<p>-</p>

CLUSTER: 2C (Protection of Forests)	
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	
Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>)	Policy, law as well as programmes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> India's national Protected Area covers around 4.8 % of country's geographical area. India currently has <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 99 National Parks, 515 Wildlife Sanctuaries, 43 Conservation Reserves and 4 Community Reserves Besides there are 37 Tiger Reserves and 26 Elephant Reserves. India has established a National Wildlife Crime Control Bureau in 2007 to combat illegal trade in wildlife and its derivatives. National Biodiversity Action Plan has been prepared within the broad framework of NEP & Forest Policy National Biodiversity Authority <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In pursuance to the CBD, India had enacted the Biological Diversity Act in 2002 following a widespread consultative process over a period of eight years. The Biological Rules were notified thereafter in 2004. The Act gives effect to the provisions of the CBD. It also addresses access to biological resources and associated traditional knowledge to ensure equitable sharing of benefits arising out of their use to the country and its people, thereby contributing to achieving the third objective of the CBD. The Act is to be implemented through a three-tiered institutional structure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) and Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs). NBA has been set up in 2003. Twenty States have established SBBs, and BMCs are in the process of being set up in some States. To ensure full and effective participation of local communities, in respect of their rights and recognition of their responsibilities in the management of existing and the establishment and management of new PAs, the Govt. of India through an amendment in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has included two new legal categories of PAs. These are (a) Conservation Reserve and (b) Community Reserve.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time frame for implementation 	Long term arrangements.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences with implementation (if any) 	-
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future 	-

CLUSTER: 2D (Science and Research)	
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	
Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>)	Policy, forest programme and strategy.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GOI has established Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education (ICFRE), Indian institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Wildlife Institute of India (WII) as premier training and research institutions in the field of Forestry, wildlife and PA management and has provided enabling governance system and functional autonomy to fulfill mandate. ICFRE also does extension works & technology transfer to Pvt Sector & Industry Capacity Building in forestry/ Wildlife courses is done through IGNFA, DFE, ICFRE, IIFM, WII, Universities etc for a number of target groups not only from the forest/wildlife sector but also for policy makers, defence, customs, revenue, enforcement agencies, etc. The WII has come up as an important regional training institution and its training programmes are being well received by the countries in South and South East Asia. The UNESCO and IUCN have also recognized WII as a regional partner institution. Besides WII, the State Forest Departments are also implementing capacity building programmes either by setting up of their own training institutions or sponsoring their managers and frontline staff for training in other institutions. Directorate of Forestry Education (DFE) also organizes a range of capacity building programmes for managers and frontline staff on forestry and wildlife management There are Scientific Instruments of Management of Forests i.e. Working Plans & PA Management Plans Modern tools and technologies viz. Remote Sensing and GIS, Information Technology, Wildlife Forensics, Satellite Telemetry, Camera Traps, etc. are now being used for assessment and management of natural resources. At the institutional level, ICFRE/WII has had several collaborative / sponsored programmes with a large number of international agencies /organizations such as FAO, UNDP, UNESCO, IUCN, UNEP, UNITAR, USFWS, USFS, USNPS, NORAD, ICIMOD, etc.
Time frame for implementation	On going long term programme.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences with implementation (if any) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More support is needed from international agencies for sponsoring candidates from the region to WII & other institutes and for customizing thematic courses as per training needs of these countries. There is a need to establish / expand the scope of regional collaboration.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future 	-

CLUSTER: 2E (Public Awareness and Education)	
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>) 	Strategies and programmes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of India is conscious of the need to strengthen communication, education and public awareness for enhancing the understanding and appreciation of the importance and benefit of Forests & wildlife resources. ICFRE, IIFM, WII are actively involved in Public Awareness and Education GOI / State Forest Departments also organize a number of nature education and other awareness programmes besides celebrating World Forestry Day, Earth Day, World Environment Day etc. Centre for Environment Education (CEE) plays an important role in this regard and organizes a range of programmes and activities to raise conservation awareness. A number of NGOs are also actively engaged in this pursuit. Several PAs have established 'Conservation Education / Interpretation Centres'. Govt. of India has recently introduced 'Environmental Education' in the school curriculum.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time frame for implementation 	On going long term programme.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences with implementation (if any) 	There is reasonable public and media awareness about the need for conservation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future 	-

CLUSTER: 2F (Private Sector and Industry)	
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>) 	Policy level
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The involvement of local communities in forestry sector management is being done through national programmes like "National Afforestation Programme" and through institutions of Forest Development Agencies and Joint Forest Management Committees. ICFRE also does extension works & technology transfer to Pvt Sector & Industry
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time frame for implementation 	On going long term programme.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences with implementation (if any) 	-
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future 	-

CLUSTER: 2G (Indigenous and Local Communities)	
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	
Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>)	Policy as well as programmes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Govt. of India has enacted 'The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006' for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> empowering the tribal communities on the use and access of forest resources JFM Programmes are being implemented throughout the country National support for JFM through <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Afforestation Programme (NAP) operated by the National Afforestation and Eco-development Board, with main objective of : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regeneration and eco-development

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Augmentation of availability of fuelwood, fodder and grasses ▪ Securing people's participation in planning and regeneration ▪ promote partnership concept ▪ Promote agroforestry and development of CPR ▪ Promotion of fuel saving devices <p>The NAP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched in 2002, the programme is being implemented through <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a twin institutional setup of Forest Development Agency at the forest division level(federations of the village level JFMCs) and - Joint Forest Management Committees at the village level. • Community involvement in all Forest Protection/conservation activities & ecotourism • To ensure full and effective participation of local communities, in respect of their rights and recognition of their responsibilities in the management of existing and the establishment and management of new PAs, the Govt. of India through an amendment in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has included two new legal categories of PAs. These are (a) Conservation Reserve and (b) Community Reserve. • So far, 43 Conservation Reserves and 4 Community Reserves have been established in the country. • Site-specific ecodevelopment programmes involving local communities and aimed at generating livelihoods for conservation are now initiated in almost all PAs of the country • Support provided to Conservation Reserves, Community Reserves, Sacred Groves etc.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time frame for implementation 	<p>On going long term programme.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiences with implementation (if any) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is need for greater amount for compensation to people living in fringe areas as Wildlife causes damage to life and property. • Need for adoption of inclusive approach so as to ensure greater participation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future 	<p>-</p>

CLUSTER: 2H (Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting)	
Has there been any action taken to implement the tasks identified within this cluster? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Please detail action taken including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	
Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>)	Programmes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2005-06, 28 Tiger Reserves in the country, covering an area of 37,761 km² were evaluated & final report was peer-reviewed by IUCN. Central Government has formalized the monitoring methodology and protocols for the 17 Tiger Range States and applied in the field in 2006-2007. Central Government is carrying out the Evaluation of FDA's & Management Effectiveness Evaluation of Protected Areas in the country through independent experts using international protocols. National set of 8 criteria and 37 Indicators have been developed through multi-stakeholder consultative processes by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, to assess and monitor changes towards sustainability of forests. National Set of C & I is also being pilot tested by MoEF expert teams in states covering wider area and forest types in the country. Further, different sets of C & I are being developed specifically for sustainable management of plantations, non-timber forest products by expert committees constituted by the Ministry Team of experts also constituted to prepare a document namely "Revised Working Plan Code" incorporating the final draft Criteria & Indicator for SFM into the Working Plan Code. Ministry constituted the 'National Forest Certification Committee' for the development of Certification Criteria, Certification Process and Accreditation Criteria & Process.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time frame for implementation 	On going long term approach.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences with implementation (if any) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is need for inventory including biomass inventory to take full benefit of funding under climate change alongwith monitoring of biomass inventory and productivity at regional and national level. Also need standard methodology for estimating the carbon pool, and for REDD alongwith: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> C&I on which the information to be observed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building on methodology Strengthening of the involved institutions Importance of TOF resources for SFM Also for the implementation of C&I for SFM need additional financial support.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future 	-

B. PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING GLOBAL OBJECTIVES ON FORESTS

The four Global Objectives are:

Global Objective 1: Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation.

Global Objective 2: Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest dependent people.

Global Objective 3: Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests.

Global Objective 4: Reverse the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management and mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management.

For each of them please provide information on progress, on the basis of the following table.

Global Objective 1: Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation.	
Has there been any action taken to implement this objective? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Action taken to achieve this objective including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	GOI committed to SFM - National Forest Policy 1988 lays emphasis on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> environmental stability & maintenance of ecological balance with active stakeholders' participation and benefit sharing & envisages that One third of total geographical area be under forest and tree cover , FSI does forest cover mapping on a biennial basis 10th State of Forest Report published in 2008 as State of Forest Report (SFR), 2005. -forest cover is 20.60% (677088 sq. km.) and trees outside forest 2.79 (91663 sq. km.) of total geographical area of the country
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/source (is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?) 	There are adequate policy, legal and institutional arrangements and forestry programmes in the country to contribute to the enunciated global objective.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item (general description, provisions relevant to the objective) 	(i) Adequacy of policy, legal and institutional framework in India <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy instruments such as : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Forest Policy 1988, National Environment Policy, 2006; Joint Forest management resolution 1990, 2002, National Forestry Action plan 1999, National Wildlife Action Plan 2002-16 Legal Instruments such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Indian Forest Act(1927) The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 The Forest (Conservation)Act, 1980 Biological Diversity Act 2002, The Environment (Protection)Act, 1986

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Air (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act, 1981 - The Water (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act, 1974, - The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Forest Act, Forest Conservation Act, Wildlife (Protection) Act, are for the effective conservation of Forests & wildlife resources in the country. • India has a National Forestry Action Plan & National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-16), which gives policy direction for the management of the Forestry & wildlife sector. • As stipulated in the legislation and Action Plans, establishment of Reserved Forests & Protected Areas (PAs) form the core of India's conservation strategy. • India has also established a National Wildlife Crime Control Bureau in 2007 for combating wildlife crime in a focused manner. • India is signatory to several Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) on Forests & wildlife matters like CITES, CMS, IWC, CBD, ITTA etc. <p>(ii) India has national Schemes and Programmes for strengthening the effective management of Forests & wildlife resources. These include special programmes such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated Forest management, National Afforestation Programme, Project Tiger', 'Project Elephant', 'Project Snow Leopard', etc, which are aimed at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ recovery of critically endangered species and their habitats ▪ Improved protection of forests/ maintenance & extension of Forest & Tree Cover <p>(iii) Adoption of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) as the key stone to cover forestry practices. With this approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SFM Cell has been constituted in the MOEF, GOI to act as a Nodal body for policy matters at the Central Level. • All State Forest Departments have been asked to constitute SFM cells which would be headed by the Officer dealing with the Working Plan in the respective State / UTs Forest Departments.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time frame for implementation 	The policy, law, programmes and strategy as detailed above indicate the long term commitment of the country.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiences with implementation (if any) 	-
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future 	-

<i>Global Objective 2: Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest dependent people.</i>	
Has there been any action taken to implement this objective? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Action taken to achieve this objective including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	'The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006' & JFM Rules provide for livelihoods of forest dependent people

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/source (is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?) 	<p>There are adequate policy, legal and institutional arrangements and forestry programmes in the country to contribute to the enunciated global objective.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item (general description, provisions relevant to the objective) 	<p>(i) The National Forest Policy, 1988, recognized the need of taking care of livelihood needs of the local communities in the task of ensuring long term ecological security of the country. In this endeavour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> India has recognized the need for integrating livelihood aspirations of local people living in and around the PAs, through various non-consumptive eco-development programmes. Site-specific eco-development programmes involving local communities and aimed at generating livelihoods for conservation are now initiated in almost all PAs of the country. Similarly, India also has several Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) & sacred Groves which are conserved by the communities as a tradition/ practice or though customary law. So far, 43 Conservation Reserves and 4 Community Reserves have been established in the country. Financial support is provided to Conservation Reserves, Community Reserves, Sacred Groves etc. Joint Forest Management (JFM) Programmes are being implemented throughout the country. National support for JFM is through:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Afforestation Programme operated by the National Afforestation and Eco-development Board, with main objective of : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regeneration and eco-development Augmentation of availability of fuelwood, fodder and grasses Securing people's participation in planning and regeneration promote partnership concept Promote agroforestry and development of CPR Promotion of fuel saving devices Integrated Forest Protection Scheme(Support JFM committes) <p>(ii) Govt. of India has enacted 'The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers(Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006' for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> empowering the tribal communities on the use and access of forest resources <p>(iii) National Biodiversity Action Plan has been prepared within the broad framework of National Environment Plan (NEP) & Forest Policy. In addition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In pursuance to the CBD, India had enacted the Biological Diversity Act in 2002 following a widespread consultative process over a period of eight years. The Act gives effect to the provisions of the CBD. The Biological Rules were notified thereafter in 2004. The Act addresses the issues of access to biological resources and associated traditional knowledge to ensure equitable sharing of benefits arising out of their use to the country and its people, thereby

	<p>contributing to achieving the third objective of the CBD.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Act is to be implemented through a three-tiered institutional structure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), ▪ State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) and ▪ Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs). ▪ NBA has been set up in 2003. ▪ Twenty States have established SBBs, and BMCs are in the process of being set up in some States.
• Time frame for implementation	On going long term country commitments
• Experiences with implementation (if any)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is need for greater amount for compensation to people living in fringe areas as Wildlife causes damage to life and property. • Need for adoption of inclusive approach so as to ensure greater participation.
• Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future	-

Global Objective 3: Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests.	
Has there been any action taken to implement this objective? If the answer is 'yes' please proceed to the next question. If the answer is 'no' please provide reasons.	Yes
Action taken to achieve this objective including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.	Instruments of Working Plans & Protected Area Plans are supported through GOI Schemes to increase area of sustainably managed forests.
• Type/source (<i>is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?</i>)	There are adequate policy, legal and institutional arrangements and forestry programmes in the country to contribute to the enunciated global objective.
• Short description of each item (<i>general description, provisions relevant to the objective</i>)	<p>(i) Continuous commitment to maintain/increase the protected areas network as indicated by the figures below:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India's national Protected Area covers around 4.8 % of country's geographical area. India currently has <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 99 National Parks, - 515 Wildlife Sanctuaries, - 43 Conservation Reserves and - 4 Community Reserves • Besides there are 37 Tiger Reserves and 26 Elephant Reserves. <p>(ii) Development of Criteria & Indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National set of 8 criteria and 37 Indicators have been developed through multi-stakeholder consultative processes by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, to assess and monitor changes towards sustainability of forests. • National Set of C & I is also being pilot tested by MoEF expert teams in states covering wider area and forest types in the country. Further, different sets of C & I are being developed specifically for sustainable management of plantations, non-timber forest products by expert committees constituted by the Ministry • Team of experts also constituted to prepare a document

	<p>namely “Revised Working Plan Code” incorporating the final draft Criteria & Indicator for SFM into the Working Plan Code.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry constituted the ‘National Forest Certification Committee’ for the development of Certification Criteria, Certification Process and Accreditation Criteria & Process.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time frame for implementation 	Ongoing long term commitment.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences with implementation (if any) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is need for inventory including biomass inventory to take full benefit of funding under climate change alongwith monitoring of biomass inventory and productivity at regional and national level. Also need standard methodology for estimating the carbon pool, and for REDD alongwith: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building on methodology Strengthening of the involved institutions Importance of TOF resources for SFM Also for the implementation of C&I for SFM need additional financial support.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future 	-

<p>Global Objective 4: Reverse the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management and mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management.</p>	
<p>Has there been any action taken to implement this objective? If the answer is ‘yes’ please proceed to the next question. If the answer is ‘no’ please provide reasons.</p>	Yes
<p>Action taken to achieve this objective including measures, policies, actions or specific goals established.</p>	Additional Financial resources are mobilised through integration of Schemes like NREGS & Externally aided projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type/source (is it a policy, law, national forest programme, strategy?) 	There are adequate policy, legal and institutional arrangements and forestry programmes in the country to contribute to the enunciated global objective.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short description of each item (general description, provisions relevant to the objective) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Functional needs for Forestry & wildlife management have been identified at the Central /State levels. These have been articulated in the planning process also. For most of the conservation efforts in India, funds come largely from the Central and State Governments. At the national level, India has following major Schemes for extending financial support for the Forestry & wildlife sector. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated Forest Protection Scheme National Afforestation Programme ‘Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats’ ‘Project Tiger’, and ‘Project Elephant’. The 2006 amendment to the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has provided for the creation of Conservation Foundations in the Tiger Reserves of the country with a mandate of supporting the PA management through independent revenue generation and recycling of the same.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time frame for implementation 	On going and Long term country commitments.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences with implementation (if any) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The major impediment is the lack of capacity and resources to undertake the task of economic evaluation of

	environmental goods and services emanating from the forests & wildlife conservation particularly the PAs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any other comments, including lessons learnt and options for the future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is need for greater International Assistance in this regard.

C. CONCLUSION

In this section, you may wish to provide:

- (a) An overall assessment of implementing the NLBI in your country;

Most of the thematic items included in the NLBI are covered by the existing policy framework, legal provisions, national forest programmes and strategies in this country ensuring the effective implementation of NLBI.

- (b) An analysis of lessons learned regarding implementation, highlighting examples of successful and less successful actions taken;

The adoption of new terminologies like Sustainable Forest Management may take time to seep in the system though the principles enshrined in it already exist in the ethos of forestry management practices in the country.

Due to commitment at the national level, the country came up with the policy adoptions in consonance with the international thinking including the recently launched National Action Plan on climate change.

- (c) A summary of future priorities and any problems that need to be addressed for further national-level implementation of the Instrument;

1B (Financing SFM), 1C (Capacity Building and Technology Transfer), 1D (Stakeholder Participation), 2B (International Trade in Forest Products), 2D (Science and Research), 2F (Private Sector and Industry) and 2H (Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting) are the future priority areas to further the national level implementation of NLBI.

- (d) Suggestions for actions that need to be taken to further enhance implementation of the NLBI.

The financial and institutional support, especially for capacity building, to establish SFM practices and criteria indicator system, from the international community is the key need.

- (e) Any other comments

Nil.
