

National Indicators for Desertification Land degradation and Drought (DLDD)

(Press Note: National Workshop on 28th January, 2014, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi)

Monitoring and evaluation through well chosen indicators is vital to understand dynamism of DLDD, designing programs and framing matching policies for executions of Sustainable Land and Ecosystem Management Projects (SLEM) in India. Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun under guidance of Ministry of Environment and Forests and support from Global Environmental Funding (GEF) is undertaking a project on SLEM and is working as the Technical Facilitation Organization (TFO) coordinating activities of six SLEM partners. One of the objectives of the SLEM-TFO was to develop National Indicator Framework. Accordingly, through in-house deliberations and two regional workshops at Hyderabad and Kolkata under SLEM project more than 80 impact and performance indicators were developed.

A national consultative workshop for finalization of these indicators was organized at India Habitat Center, New Delhi on 28th January, 2014. About 40 participants attended the workshop from line Ministries, R&D Institutions, SLEM-partners, UN funding agencies and Civil Society Organizations. The workshop was inaugurated by the Shri Susheel Kumar, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forest, New Delhi, Shri B.M.S. Rathore, Joint Secretary, MoEF, New Delhi, Shri Saibal Dasgupta, DDG (Extn.) and Dr. T.P. Singh, PD, SLEM, ICFRE, Dehradun were the other dignitaries present on the occasion.

The delegates were welcomed by Shri Saibal Dasgupta, DDG (Extn.) and a background of the workshop was given by Dr. T.P. Singh, PD, SLEM, ICFRE, Dehradun. Dr. Anupam Joshi from World Bank also expressed his opinion about the importance of the workshop. The thematic experts of Land Management, Biodiversity and Policy made detailed presentations of indicators in their respective areas, which was followed by discussions. The respondents gave their opinion in the scorecard sheets for further finalization.

The outcome of the workshop will help in monitoring the land management projects in the country, reporting to the UNCCD through PRAIS portal as well as

stakeholders at large through adoption of Best Practices to combat desertification, land degradation and drought. The workshop ended with vote of thanks by Dr. Anita Srivastava, Project Manager SLEM, ICFRE, Dehradun.





