

Deliverable 4

Stakeholder mapping pertaining to Uttar Pradesh TEEBAgriFood India

Background of Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh is one of the biggest states of India with over 5 agroclimatic zones. It is also known as the food bowl of India as it accounts for a major share of the rice and wheat production in the country. Fertilizer consumption in the state is among the highest in India. Intensive rice- wheat cropping has resulted in severe pressure on land, water and other natural resources. Ganga, a major river flows through this region. Over the years, it has become heavily polluted due to runoff from the use of fertilizers and other industrial waste. Under the project, five districts of the state along river Ganga are selected with diverse agroclimatic representation and crop types. The Government of India has decided to promote organic farming along Ganga, to reduce the pollution that flows from the agricultural lands into the river, through the schemes [PKVY](#) (Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana) and [NMCG](#) (National Mission for Clean Ganga).

Key Facts about Uttar Pradesh

1. **Population:** Population of Uttar Pradesh = 204 million. Most populous state of India, accounts for almost 20% of the total population of India, 1300 million.
2. **Size of Landholding:** The total number of land holdings are 22.45 million out of which 78.0% are marginal farmers (land holdings below 1.00 hectare), 14% small farmers (land holdings between 1.00-2.00 hectare) 8 % farmers hold land above 2 hectare.
3. **Total Food Production:** Food production in the state is 54.63 Million Tonnes, which is almost 20% of the total production of India, 284.95 Million tonnes.
4. **Major Crops of the state:**
Wheat and Sugar Cane
Wheat: Largest wheat producing state of India-> 32% of the total production in India (32.75 Million Tonnes out of 102.9 Million Tonnes of India)
Sugar Cane: 179.71 Million Tonnes out of 400.16 Million Tonnes total production of India (45% of total production in India).

Source: Pocket Book of Agricultural Statistics 2019¹

The results from the TEEB project in Uttar Pradesh is expected to inform the agriculture and food planning process in India by providing comprehensive, scientific evidence to support agriculture and food system policies, specifically in the context of organic farming and

¹ <https://Eands.Dacnet.Nic.In/PDF/Pocket%20Book%202019.Pdf>

agroforestry. The project will also align with the implementation of the National Agroforestry policy for which customized solutions are needed for different agroclimatic zones.

STAKEHOLDER MAPPING

Key Research Institution

ICAR-Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research, Uttar Pradesh

Director: Dr Azad Singh Panwar

IIFSR is an institute under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) which is an autonomous organisation under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. Formerly known as Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, it was established on July 1929 as a registered society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 in pursuance of the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. The ICAR has its headquarters at New Delhi.

The Council is the apex body for co-ordinating, guiding and managing research and education in agriculture including horticulture, fisheries and animal sciences in the entire country. With 101 ICAR institutes and 71 agricultural universities spread across the country this is one of the largest national agricultural systems in the world. The ICAR has played a major role in promoting excellence in higher education in agriculture. It is engaged in cutting edge areas of science and technology development and its scientists are internationally acknowledged in their fields.

The Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research (IIFSR) has its origin in the Stewart Scheme of Simple Fertilizer Trials on Cultivators' fields, which was initiated in 1952-53. In 1955-56, Model Agronomic Experiments Scheme was also added to the scheme. Both the schemes were further merged with All India Coordinated Agronomic Research Project (AICARP) in 1968 with two components viz. Model Agronomic Experiments and Simple Fertilizer Trials. To strengthen all aspects of research in cropping systems Project Directorate for Cropping Systems Research (PDCSR) was established at Modipuram (Meerut) in April 1989. This became Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research, Modipuram.

The mandate of the institute is as follows:

- To undertake basic and strategic research in integrated farming system on production technologies for improving productivity and resource use efficiencies.
- To develop efficient, economically viable and environmentally sustainable integrated farming system models for different farming situations.
- To undertake on-farm testing, verification and refinement of system-based farm production technologies.

- To undertake human resource development and capacity building in integrated farming system.
- To act as a repository of information on all aspects of farming systems research and development.
- To coordinate and monitor integrated farming systems research in the country.

Vision : Sustainable management of farm resources in integrated manner for achieving household food, nutritional and livelihood improvement.

Mission : Food, nutrition, livelihood and environment improvement of small and marginal farmers through integrated farming systems research approach.

State Government Stakeholders

Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Government of Uttar Pradesh

At the state level, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Government of Uttar Pradesh is the nodal agency for management. It implements central government schemes in close coordination with the central ministry as well as state level schemes. The department is headed by the Additional Chief Secretary. The TEEB AgriFood project has organized at least 2 meetings with representatives from this division.

Key focal Points:

1. Mr. Devesh Chaturvedi, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Government of Uttar Pradesh
2. Dr. R K Singh, Joint Director Agriculture, Krishi Bhawan, Lucknow , Uttar Pradesh

Federal Government Stakeholders

1. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) is one of the three constituent Departments of the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, the other two being Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries (DAHD&F) and Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE). This Department is headed by Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Minister and is assisted by three Ministers of State. The Secretary (AC&FW) is the administrative head of the Department. The Secretary is assisted by one Principal Adviser, five Additional Secretaries including One Financial Adviser, Agriculture Commissioner, 12 Joint Secretaries including Mission Director (National Horticulture Mission) & Mission Director (National Food Security Mission) Horticulture Commissioner Horticulture Advisor,

Economic Advisor and two Deputy Director Generals. In addition, Chairman of Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices (CACP) advises Department on pricing policies for selected agricultural crops.

The DAC&FW is organized into 27 divisions and has five attached Offices and twenty-one subordinate offices which are spread across the country for coordination with state level agencies and implementation of Central Sector Schemes in their respective fields.

Political Focal Point: Dr. Alka Bhargava Additional Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Transferred to Meghalaya in June 2021).

Key Schemes of the Ministry : PM Kisan is a priority scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, accounting for 56% of the total budget allocation, as can be seen in the pie chart below.

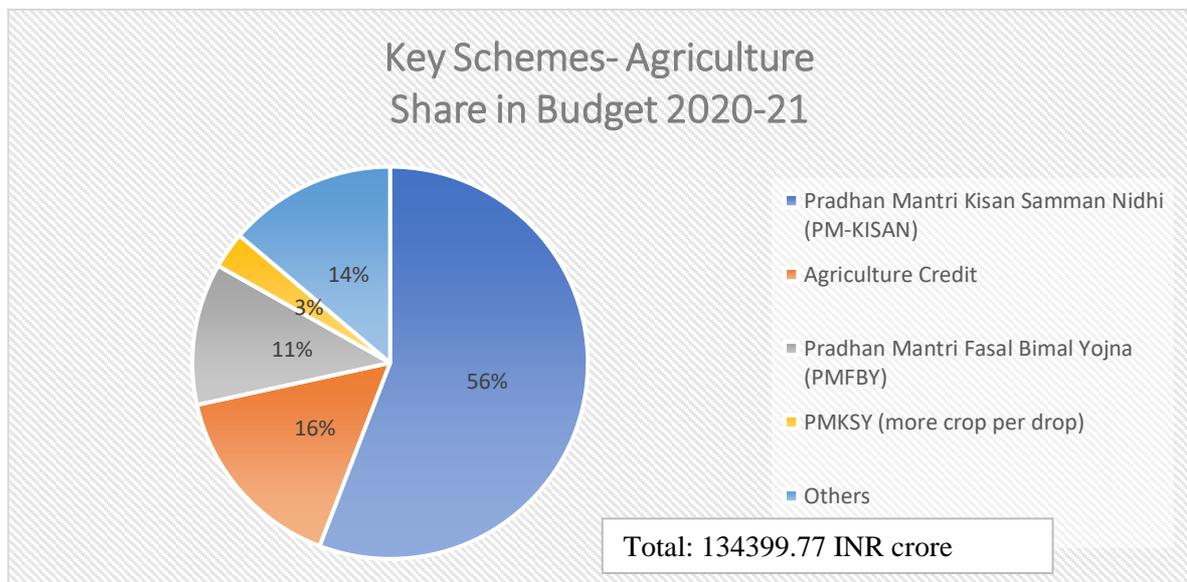


Figure : Key Schemes of MoAFW

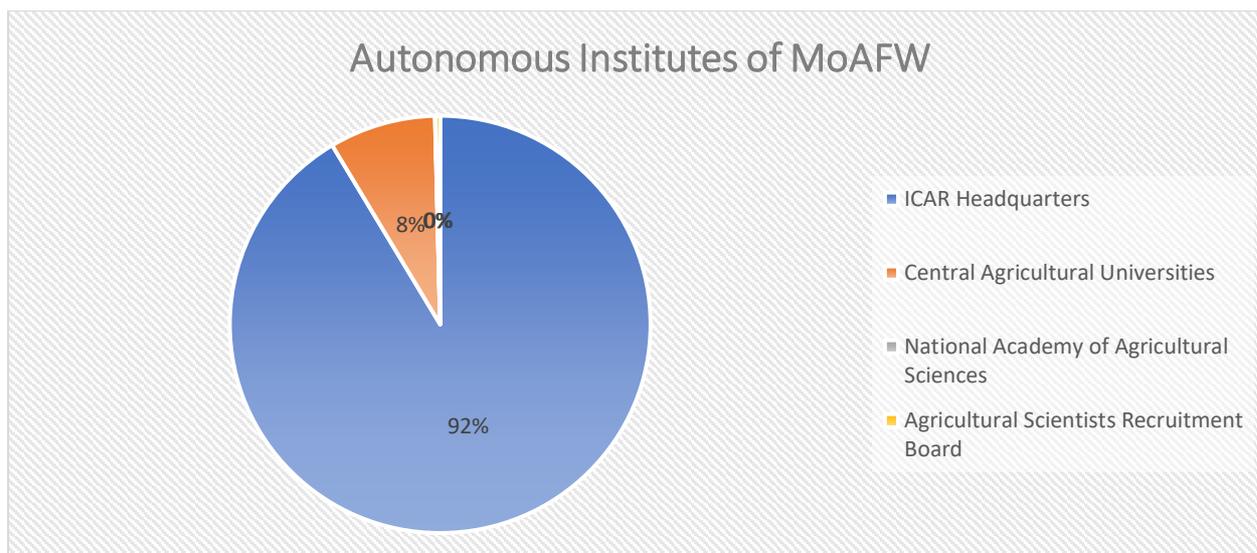


Figure : Autonomous Institutes of MoAFW (total : Rs. 5620 crore approx.)

2. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) is the nodal agency in the administrative structure of the Central Government for the planning, promotion, co-ordination and overseeing the implementation of India's environmental and forestry policies and programmes.

The Ministry also serves as the nodal agency in the country for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP), International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) and for the follow-up of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). The Ministry is also entrusted with issues relating to multilateral bodies such as the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), Global Environment Facility (GEF) and of regional bodies like Economic and Social Council for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP) and South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) on matters pertaining to the environment.

The broad objectives of the Ministry are:

- Conservation and survey of flora, fauna, forests and wildlife
- Prevention and control of pollution
- Afforestation and regeneration of degraded areas
- Protection of the environment and
- Ensuring the welfare of animals

These objectives are well supported by a set of legislative and regulatory measures, aimed at the preservation, conservation and protection of the environment. The following legislative measures guide the Ministry's work.

- The National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development, 1992
- National Forest Policy, 1988
- and the
- Policy Statement on Abatement of Pollution, 1992
- National Environment Policy, 2006

Political Focal Point at MoEFCC: Ms. Umadevi, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Key Schemes of the Ministry: Among the major schemes, with MoEFCC, Integrated Development of Wildlife habitat received the largest share in the total budget over three years, standing at slightly over 500 Rs INR Crore. However, in terms of the share in increase between 2018-19 and 2020-21, National Green India Mission witnessed the maximum increase among all schemes, an increase of 76 INR Crore.

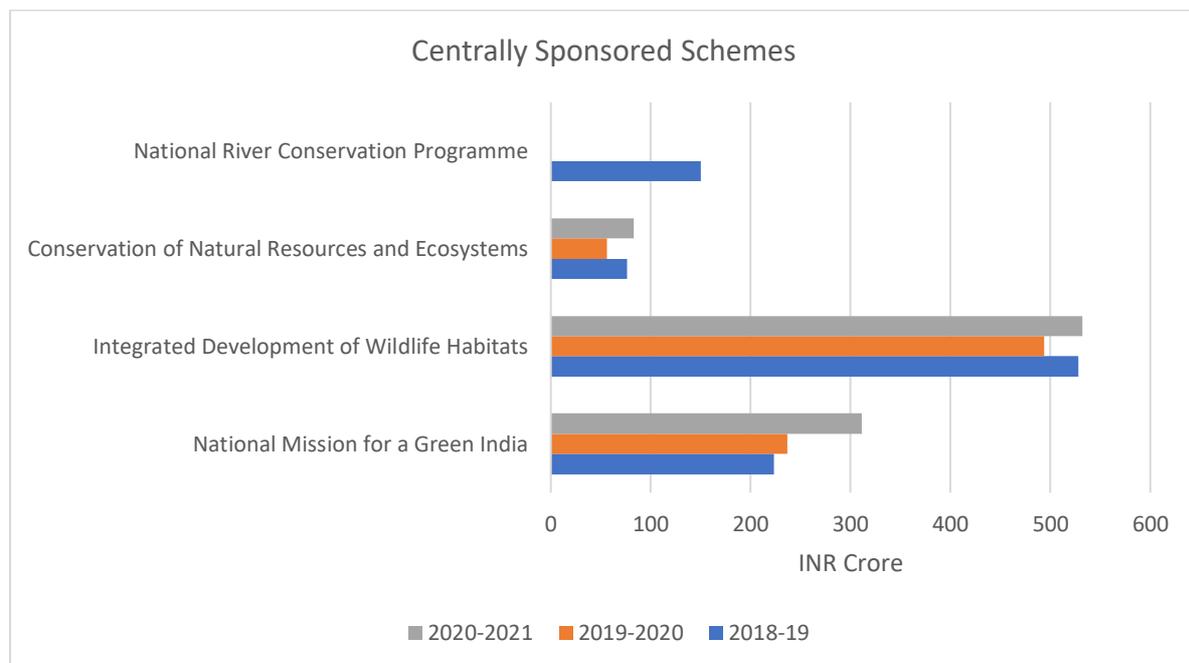


Figure: Key Schemes of Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change

Among the autonomous institutes under MoEFCC, weight of ICFRE was the highest, as can be seen from the budgetary allocation. Therefore, involvement of ICFRE in TEEB Agrifood will be beneficial.

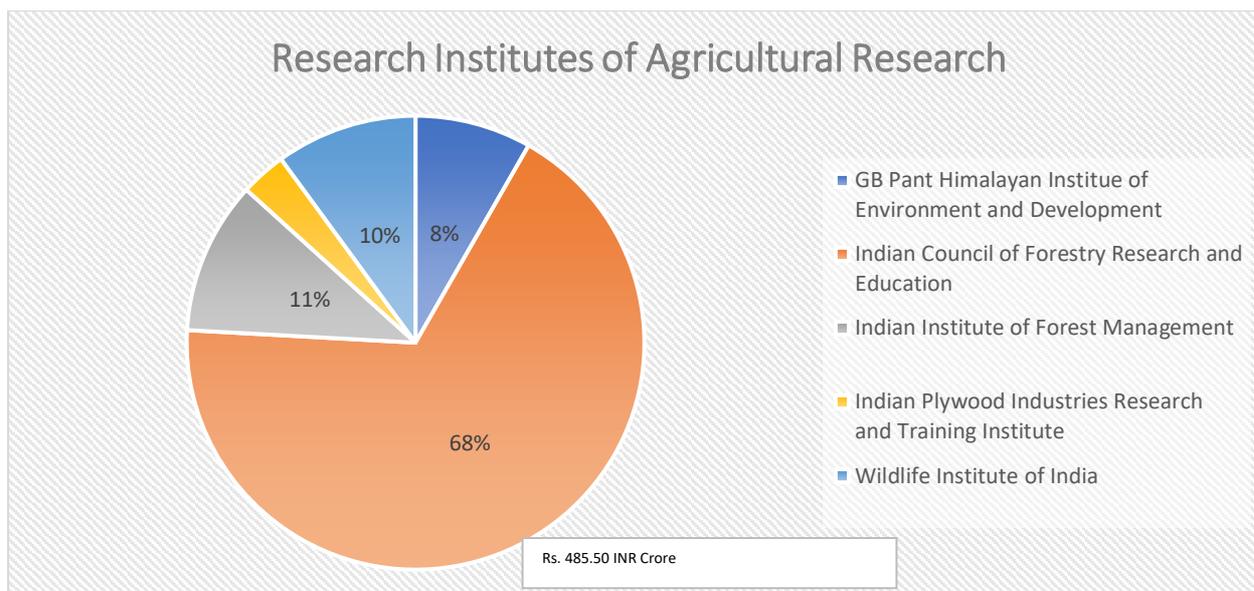


Figure Research institutes of MoEFCC. Share in budget

3. NITI Aayog

NITI Aayog is the central policy institution of India, under the leadership of Prime Minister of India. The NITI Aayog council comprises all the state [Chief Ministers](#), Lieutenant Governors of all UTs, and a vice-chairman nominated by the Prime Minister. In addition, temporary members are selected from leading universities and research institutions. These members include a chief executive officer, four ex-official members, and two part-time members.

NITI Aayog is developing itself as a State-of-the-art Resource Centre, with the necessary resources, knowledge and skills, that will enable it to act with speed, promote research and innovation, provide strategic policy vision for the government, and deal with contingent issues. NITI Aayog's entire gamut of activities can be divided into four main heads:

1. Design Policy & Programme Framework
2. Foster Cooperative Federalism
3. Monitoring & Evaluation
4. Think Tank and Knowledge & Innovation Hub

TEEB AgriFood has established connections with the Agriculture Division of NITI Aayog which plays a central role in all matters related to Agriculture, research and education in the country.

Focal Point: Dr. Neelam Patel, Senior Adviser and Dr Tanu Sethi, Sr Associate, NITI Aayog

4. National Biodiversity Authority

The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) was established by the Central Government in 2003 to implement India's Biological Diversity Act (2002). The NBA is a Statutory Body and it performs facilitative, regulatory and advisory functions for the Government of India on issues of conservation, sustainable use of biological resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources.

The Biological Diversity Act (2002) mandates implementation of the provisions of the Act through decentralized system with the NBA focusing on advising the Central Government on matters relating to the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of biological resources; and advising the State Governments in the selection of areas of biodiversity importance to be notified as heritage sites and measures for the management of such heritage sites.

The structure of NBA is as follows:

- At the state level, there are State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) which focus on advising the State Governments, subject to any guidelines issued by the Central Government, on matters relating to the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of biological resources.

- At the local level, there are Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) which are responsible for promoting conservation, sustainable use and documentation of biological diversity including preservation of habitats, conservation of land races, folk varieties and cultivars, domesticated stocks and breeds of animals and microorganisms and chronicling of knowledge relating to biological diversity.

The NBA with its headquarters in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India delivers its mandate through a structure that comprises of the Authority, Secretariat, SBBs, BMCs and Expert Committees. Since its establishment, NBA has supported creation of SBBs in 28 States, UT's and facilitated establishment of around 2,66,499 BMCs

Political Focal Point: Dr. VB Mathur, Chairman

5. Central Agroforestry Research Institution, CAFRI- ICAR

To conduct basic, strategic and applied research on agroforestry National Research Centre for Agroforestry (NRCAF) was established in the year 1988 at Jhansi. In December, 2014 NRCAF was upgraded as ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute (ICAR-CAFRI). Agroforestry has the potential to achieve sustainability in agriculture, while optimizing its productivity and mitigating climate change impact. The Institute has strengthened its research activities and

significant achievements of agroforestry research undertaken through the in house and external funded projects, network and inter-institutional collaboration, technology demonstrations and capacity building has paved the way for its recognition and upgradation.

Vision

To improve quality of life of rural people through integration of perennials on agriculture landscape for economic, environmental and social benefits.

Mission

Integration of woody perennials in the farming system to improve land productivity through conservation of soils, nutrients and biodiversity to augment natural resource conservation, restoration of ecological balance, alleviation of poverty and to mitigate risks of weather vagaries.

Mandate

- Develop sustainable agroforestry practices for farms, marginal land and wastelands in different agroclimatic zones of India
- Coordinate network research for identifying agroforestry technologies for inter-region.
- Training in agroforestry research for ecosystem analysis.

Transfer of agroforestry technology in various agro-climatic zones.

Focal Point: Dr. A. Arunachalam, Director

6. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce and Industry Government of India, (Trade Council)

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) was established by the Government of India under the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act passed by the Parliament in December, 1985. APEDA is mandated with the responsibility of export promotion and development of the following scheduled products:

- Fruits, Vegetables and their Products.
- Meat and Meat Products.
- Poultry and Poultry Products.
- Dairy Products.
- Confectionery, Biscuits and Bakery Products.
- Honey, Jaggery and Sugar Products.
- Cocoa and its products, chocolates of all kinds.
- Alcoholic and Non-Alcoholic Beverages.
- Cereal and Cereal Products.

- Groundnuts, Peanuts and Walnuts.
- Pickles, Papads and Chutneys.
- Guar Gum.
- Floriculture and Floriculture Products.
- Herbal and Medicinal Plants.

Focal Point: To be established as the project progresses

Other Institutions of Uttar Pradesh

7. Chandra Shekhar Azad University Of Agriculture & Technology, (Academic Institute)

The Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh is one of the premier institution of agricultural research and education in India. At present, there are eight college in the University, viz., College of Agriculture ,College of Forestry, College of Horticulture and Home Science at Kanpur and College Engineering & Technology,College of Dairy Technology and College of Fishries at Etawah,College of Agriculture at Lakheempur. The University caters to the needs of the farming community spread over 29 districts of six divisions of Uttar Pradesh.

Focal Point: Dr. Naushad Khan, Assistant Professor

8. Uttar Pradesh State Organic Certification Agency Government ², (Certification Institute)

This is the central certification agency under the state government of Uttar Pradesh. It will integral to rope in officials from this Agency as the project progresses.

Focal Point: To be established as the project progresses

9. National Centre Of Organic Farming³(Trade Council), Uttar Pradesh Centre

National Centre of Organic Farming is a nodal organization for promotion of organic farming under INM Division, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India under Soil Health Management component of National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). NCOF came into force in 2004, for implementing National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) along with its Regional Centres at Bengaluru, Bhubaneshwar, Imphal, Jabalpur, Nagpur and Panchkula.

Currently, National Centre of Organic Farming, Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh) and its 9 Regional Centres located at Bengaluru, Bhubaneshwar, Gandhinagar, Ghaziabad, Imphal, Jabalpur, Nagpur, Panchkula and Patna have the following role -

² <http://www.upsoca.org/contact.html>

³ <https://ncof.dacnet.nic.in/>

- Promotion of organic farming in the country through technical capacity building of all stakeholders including human resource development .
- Technology dissemination & strain supply.
- Statutory quality control of biofertilizers and organic fertilizers under the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO, 1985).
- Promotion of low cost Participatory Guarantee system-India (PGS-India) for organic certification.
- Promotion of production of quality organic and biological inputs by support for organic input production units under Capital Investment Back Ended Subsidy Scheme through NABARD.
- Awareness and publicity through print and electronic media.

Focal Point: To be established as the project progresses

10. AFC India Ltd. (formerly Agricultural Finance Corporation Ltd.),⁴ (Trade Council)

AFC India Ltd. (formerly Agricultural Finance Corporation Ltd.), is a multi-disciplinary cross-functional development organization providing consulting, advisory and implementation support for agriculture, rural development and other strategic socio-economic sectors in India.

Established in the year 1968, AFC in its five decades of operations, AFC has accomplished more than 6000 consulting assignments of diverse nature to clientele ranging from Government of India, State Governments, NABARD, Commercial Banks, Cooperative Banks, PSUs, Corporates, NGOs and multilateral agencies viz. World Bank, IFAD, ADB, EOI, FAO, UNDP etc. to name a few.

AFC has diversified into large scale grassroots level project implementation in areas such as organic farming, agriculture extension, agri-business development, watershed development, forestry, climate change, rural livelihood promotion, education, health & nutrition, training & capacity building, skilling and financial literacy.

AFC is serving the entire value chain of agriculture and rural development from policy advocacy to project implementation and management, training and capacity building to skill development in rural and semi-urban areas.

11. Organic India⁵ (Organic Food product chain)

Organic India is key manufacturer of Indian organic products in India and globally. It operates with the following principles:

⁴ <https://www.afcindia.org.in/documents/Organic-Farming-Project-in-Uttar-Pradesh.pdf>

⁵ <https://organicindiausa.com/>

- To deliver genuine organic foods and products to our consumers.
- To introduce a unique and successful business model that is committed to service and integrity, and benefits all.
- To support natural, sustainable, organic, agriculture practices that serve and protect Mother Nature.
- To support the livelihood and well-being of farmers and tribal wildcrafters across rural India.

In addition to the stakeholder mapping, the consultant also managed the agenda for a webinar being planned with the EU Delegation in India. The concept note, agenda, and invitation letters are attached.

Webinar 'Biodiversity means Climate'

Co-organized by EU Delegation in India and UNEP
Concept Note

Climate change and environmental degradation are existential threats that the world faces today. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) estimates with high confidence that global warming is likely to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052 if it continues to increase at the current rate. The Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services of IPBES (Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services) report indicated that a million species risk being lost if governments and other stakeholders take no action in the unsustainable depletion of our natural environment⁶. Biodiversity loss and the climate crisis are interdependent and they exacerbate each other. Addressing climate change without addressing biodiversity is therefore not possible.

To overcome these challenges, it is therefore important to take proactive steps for biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, seeking to realize synergies and co-benefits from planning and action

There are several policy examples that demonstrate how these synergies and cobenefits can be realized. Most major economies (EU, China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Canada and South Africa) have now committed to reaching "net-zero emissions" by 2050 or 2060. At the international level, the United Nations has announced 2021-2030 as the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. The Decade, a global call to action, will draw together political support, scientific research and financial muscle to massively scale up restoration from successful pilot initiatives to areas of millions of hectares. At the national level, Large scale landscape restoration efforts ("nature based solutions", NBS⁷) including the Indian CAMPA⁸ and Ecological Fiscal Transfers⁹ have been noted as good examples of low-carbon rescue & recovery measures.

There are also success stories on the ecosystem based adaption in the form of nature-based solutions which offer unique ways to achieve human well-being and tackle climate change . Often these solutions are cost-effective, simultaneously provide environmental, social and economic benefits and help build resilience into cities, landscapes and seascapes, through

⁶ IPBES Report,

https://ipbes.net/sites/default/files/202002/ipbes_global_assessment_report_summary_for_policymakers_en.pdf

⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/research-area/environment/nature-based-solutions_en

⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Compensatory_Afforestation_Fund_Act,_2016

⁹ <https://www.cgdev.org/publication/ecological-fiscal-transfers-and-sub-national-budgets-did-forest-based-fiscal-devolution>

locally adapted interventions. NBS have the potential for climate change adaptation and mitigation as well as biodiversity conservation.

In addition to these, measuring progress towards biodiversity and climate is equally important to map progress and move forward. In that respect, valuation of ecosystem services will be important to make nature's values visible and drive investment decisions. Valuation helps decision makers to recognize, demonstrate and capture the wide range of benefits provided by ecosystems and biodiversity, across sectors such as agriculture. Capturing value involves the introduction of mechanisms that incorporate the values of ecosystems into decision-making through incentives and price signals, such as payments for ecosystem services, reforming environmentally harmful subsidies or introducing tax breaks for conservation. Moving ahead, it would be necessary that the embedded economic value of biodiversity and ecosystem health are recognized in mainstream economic policy and markets in order to incentivize sustainable practices and investments in conservation, livelihood diversification and development of critical safety nets for the vulnerable.

This webinar is being jointly organized by European Union Delegation in India and UN Environment Programme, it will bring together stakeholders driven by the common goal of working towards conservation of biodiversity as well as adapting and mitigating the adverse impacts of climate change. As the central theme for World Environment Day this year is Biodiversity, the webinar will be used as a platform leading up to this year's celebration, for awareness on the need to look at Biodiversity and Climate in an integrated manner. The tentative programme is attached for your reference.

The event will also look at the potential and examples of such approaches in India, in terms of mitigation efficiency, but also in terms of co-benefits for adaptation, resilience and society at large.

Agenda

Webinar Biodiversity means Climate

4th August, Wednesday

3 pm to 5pm

		120 minutes
Welcome remarks	Dr. Salman Hussain, UNEP-TEEB Coordinator	10 minutes
Setting the context	Mr. Atul Bagai, Head, UNEP India Representative of EU	
I. Biodiversity and Climate: Policy Perspective Session		
Special Remarks	Mr. CK Mishra, Former Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (TBC)	10 minutes
Moderated Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms. BV Umadevi, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change- Forestry (TBC) 2. Dr. VB Mathur, Chairman, National Biodiversity Authority 3. Mr. Satya Tripathi, Secretary-General, Global Alliance for a Sustainable Planet 4. Dr. Vijay Kumar Thallam, Adviser, Government of Andhra Pradesh <p>Moderated panel discussion on policy challenges and opportunities for solutions that address the climate and biodiversity challenges Moderated by Mr Atul. Bagai</p>	25 minutes
Presentation	EUPI TEEB AgriFood <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Uttar Pradesh-Director, IIFSR 2. Uttarakhand-Director, GB Pant University of Agriculture and Technology 	15 minutes
Break		5 mins
II Biodiversity, Climate Change and Nature Based Solutions : Technical Session 1		
Moderated Discussion	<i>Biodiversity, climate change and agriculture</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. A Damodaran, IIM Bangalore 2. Dr. Madhu Verma, World Resources Institute 3. Dr. Indu K Murthy, CSTEP 	25 minutes

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Dr. Ravi Prabhu , CIFOR-ICRAF 5. Dr. Fitriani Ardiansyah, IDH-The Sustainable Trade Initiative <p>Moderated discussion on the role of nature based solutions and food systems transformation in addressing the climate and biodiversity crises Moderated by Dr. Salman Hussain</p>	
III Measuring progress towards biodiversity and climate targets in India : Technical Session 2		
Technical Session	<p><i>Accounting for climate and biodiversity</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Bram Edens, UNSD 2. Ms. P. Bhanumati, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation 3. Ms. Anshu Singh, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change 4. Dr. T.V. Ramachandra, Indian Institute of Science <p>Technical presentations on natural capital accounting in the areas of biodiversity and climate and then Q&A Moderated by Dr. Salman Hussain</p>	25 minutes
Conclusion and Way forward	Representative of EU	5 minutes

28th June 2021

Dear Mr. Mishra,

The UN Environment Programme and the European Union are co-organizing a webinar on the theme of biodiversity and climate to be held virtually on **4th August 2021**. This webinar will be an opportunity to discuss opportunities, challenges and new areas of work on biodiversity and climate with the objective to promote knowledge sharing and collaboration. The event will see participation from government, officials of United Nations and European Union agencies, research organizations, universities and civil society organizations in India.

Given your deep domain knowledge and leadership in this area, it is a pleasure to invite you as a keynote note speaker in the inaugural session.

The tentative programme is attached for your reference.

Day: 4th August

Day: Wednesday

Time : 3 to 5 pm IST

We look forward to hearing about your availability.

Yours sincerely,

(Atul Bagai)
Head, UNEP Country Office, India

Mr. CK Mishra
Former Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Government of India

28th June 2021

Dear Ms. Anshu Singh,

The UN Environment Programme and the European Union are co-organizing a webinar on the theme of biodiversity and climate to be held virtually on **4th August**. This webinar will be an opportunity to discuss opportunities, challenges and new areas of work on biodiversity and climate with the objective to promote knowledge sharing and collaboration. The event will see participation from government, officials of United Nations and European Union agencies, research organizations, universities and civil society organizations in India.

Given the notable work of your Ministry in this area, we would like to request you to speak in the third panel discussion on **“Measuring progress towards biodiversity and climate targets in India”**.

The tentative programme is attached for your reference.

Day: 4th August

Day: Wednesday

Time : 3 to 5 pm IST

We look forward to hearing about your availability.

Yours sincerely,

(Atul Bagai)
Head, UNEP Country Office, India

Ms. Anshu Singh
Deputy Director General (Statistics)
Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change
Government of India

28th June 2021

Dear Dr. Mathur,

The UN Environment Programme and the European Union are co-organizing a webinar on the theme of biodiversity and climate to be held virtually on 4th August 2021. This webinar will be an opportunity to discuss opportunities, challenges and new areas of work on biodiversity and climate with the objective to promote knowledge sharing and collaboration. The event will see participation from government, officials of United Nations and European Union agencies, research organizations, universities and civil society organizations in India.

Day: 4th August

Day: Wednesday

Time : 3 to 5 pm IST

Given the notable work of the National Biodiversity Authority of in this area, we would like to request you to speak in the first panel discussion on '**Policy Perspectives**'.

The tentative programme is attached for your reference.

We look forward to hearing about your availability.

Yours sincerely,

(Atul Bagai)
Head, UNEP Country Office, India

Dr. VB Mathur
Chairman, National Biodiversity Authority
Government of India

28th June 2021

Dear Dr. Shailaja Sharma,

The UN Environment Programme and the European Union are co-organizing a webinar on the theme of biodiversity and climate to be held virtually on 4th August 2021. This webinar will be an opportunity to discuss opportunities, challenges and new areas of work on biodiversity and climate with the objective to promote knowledge sharing and collaboration. The event will see participation from government, officials of United Nations and European Union agencies, research organizations, universities and civil society organizations in India.

Day: 4th August

Day: Wednesday

Time : 3 to 5 pm IST

Given the notable work of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation in the area of environment statistics, we would like to request you to **nominate an official** working in this area particularly on environment accounting for the third panel discussion on **"Measuring progress towards biodiversity and climate targets in India"**.

The tentative programme is attached for your reference.

The name and designation of the nominated official may be emailed to simi.thambi@un.org, william.speller@un.org.

We look forward to your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

(Atul Bagai)
Head, UNEP Country Office, India

Shailaja Sharama
Director General (Statistics)
Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
Government of India

28th June 2021

Dear Ms. Umadevi,

The UN Environment Programme and the European Union are co-organizing a webinar on the theme of biodiversity and climate to be held virtually on 4th August 2021. This webinar will be an opportunity to discuss opportunities, challenges and new areas of work on biodiversity and climate with the objective to promote knowledge sharing and collaboration. The event will see participation from government, officials of United Nations and European Union agencies, research organizations, universities and civil society organizations in India.

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Time : 3 to 5 pm IST

Given the notable work of your Ministry of in this area, we would like to request you to speak in the first panel discussion on '**Policy Perspectives**'.

The tentative programme is attached for your reference.

We look forward to hearing about your availability.

Yours sincerely,

(Atul Bagai)
Head, UNEP Country Office, India

Ms. BV Umadevi
Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Government of India