

No.NA-15/12/2020-NA
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(National Authority)
E-mail: adhoc-campa-mef@nic.in

Block No.3, 4th Floor
Hall No.1, CGO Complex
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
Dated the 13th May, 2022.

To,
The Principal Secretary,
Department of Forest and Environment,
Government of Kerala,
Thiruvananthapuram.

Sub: Annual Plan of Operation for the financial year 2022-23 of Kerala State CAMPA – regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to letter FC5-2938/2021 dated 28.12.2022 on the above-mentioned subject and to convey the approval of the Executive Committee of the National Authority under Section 15 (1) (i) of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Act, 2016 for the Annual Plan of Operation-Kerala (2022-23) at a total cost of ₹. **17.26 crore** [Rupees fifty crore twenty-six lakhs only] out of proposed outlay of ₹. **22.00 crore** as recommended by the State Steering Committee for carrying out approved activities during the current financial year from the “State Compensatory Afforestation Fund-Kerala” created under Section 4 of CAF Act, 2016.

2. The APO was discussed in the 16th meeting of the Executive Committee held on 06th April, 2022. The component wise approvals accorded by the 16th Executive Committees are as under:

Amount in Rs. Crores					
Sl. No	CAF Rules	Activity	Physical Target	Proposed outlay	Remarks
I Compensatory Afforestation Fund Part					
(i)	Mandatory works	Compensatory Afforestation (Creation/Preparatory works)	151.50 Ha	2.30	
(ii)		Compensatory Afforestation Works (Maintenance)	90.00 Ha	0.25	
		Subtotal		2.55	
II Net Present Value of Forest Land Fund Part					
A (Part-A – Activities under “Not less than 80%” of the NPV fund category)					
(i) Eco Restoration of monoculture plantations to natural forests					
1	5(2)(a),(b),(d), (f), (g) & (h)	Eco-restoration activities in monoculture plantations (Creation-by indigenous/misc. species/preparatory works)	336 Ha.	3.42	



Sl. No	CAF Rules	Activity	Physical Target	Proposed outlay	Remarks
2	5(2)(b),(d), (f), (g)&(h)	Eco-restoration activities in monoculture plantations (Maintenance)	499 Ha	2.26	
(ii)	5(2) (a)&(b)	Augmentation planting of mangroves along degraded mangrove forests	2000 Nos.	0.05	
(iii)	5(2)(d)	Protection of Research Plots and Seed Production Areas	20 ha	0.04	
(iv)	Strengthening Forest Protection and Anti-poaching Units				
1	5(2)(d)	Organising Joint Patrolling and Raids along inter-divisional and inter-state forest boundaries	434 Nos.	0.43	
2	5(2)(d)	Interior Camp shed maintenance	26 Nos.	0.13	
(v)	Improvement of wildlife habitat as prescribed in the approved wildlife management plan/working plan				
1	5(2)(h)	Maintenance of Vayal (marshy grasslands which are source of fodder for herbivores)	147.5 Ha	0.22	
2	5(2)(h)	Removal of Exotic Weeds	241 Ha	0.24	
3	5(2)(h)	Habitat Enrichment in degraded areas	26 Nos.	0.065	
4	5(2)(h)	Bird survey and conservation	50 Nos..	0.065	
5	5(2)(h)	Sea Turtle Conservation	1465 MM	0.10	Subject to submission of details of works & area
(vi)	Forest fire prevention and control operations				
1	5 (2) (f)	Engaging Fire Gangs through participatory forest management	26100 MM	1.95	
2	5 (2) (f)	Fire Awareness Campaigns	104 Nos.	0.20	
3	5 (2) (f)	Fire Fighting Equipments	93 Nos.	0.46	
4	5 (2) (f)	Creation of fire lines	924 km	1.62	
(vii)	Forest and Wildlife Protection				
1	5 (2) (g)	Soil and Moisture Conservation Digging/Desilting of Water Holes and Cleaning.	1110 M3+28 Nos.	0.45	
		Subtotal		11.70	
B	(Part-B – Activities under “Not more than 20 %” of the NPV fund category)				
(ix)	Better connectivity (Maintenance of roads including bridges, roads, communications)				
1	5(3)I	Maintenance of trek paths/patrolling routes	304.30 km	0.45	
1	5(3)(i)	Awareness Program	190 Nos.	0.19	

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Sl. No	CAF Rules	Activity	Physical Target	Proposed outlay	Remarks
	5(3)(h)	Monitoring and evaluation	State wide	0.40	
2	5(3)(i)	Conducting Nature Camps to School and College	43 Nos.	0.08	
3	5(4)(a)&(i)	Setting up of district permanent nursery	1 Nos.	0.65	
5	5(4)(b)&(d)	Spill over works (approved in previous APOs)	2 Nos.	0.21	
		Subtotal		1.98	
IV	Interest – Fund Part				
A	Part-A – Activities under “Not less than 60%” of the fund category				
(i)	6(a)(i),(ii),(iii) & (iv)	To offset the incremental cost of CA, penal CA, CAT plan, salary of CEO and staff etc.	As per APO	0.60	
1	6(b)	Procurement of Office stationary items	As per APO	0.01	
2	6(b)	Procurement of Laptops	4 Nos.	0.015	
3	6(b)	Procurement of Desktop computer system	4 Nos.	0.012	
4	6(b)	Procurement of computer printers & Photocopiers	2 Nos.	0.005	
5	6(b)	Procurement of Office Furniture	As per APO	0.025	
	6(b)	Hiring of vehicle for staff use	As per APO	0.10	
6	6(a)	Inspection & Evaluation (internal)	As per APO	0.05	
		Subtotal		0.82	
		GRAND TOTAL		17.26	

3. For the items of APO, which have been deferred, EC directed the State Authority to submit the following details to National Authority for consideration in the next EC meeting.

Sl. No	CAF Rules	Activity	Physical Target	Proposed outlay (in Rs. Crore)	Remarks
II	Net Present Value of Forest Land Fund Part				
A	(Part-A – Activities under “Not less than 80%” of the NPV fund category)				
(iv)	Strengthening Forest Protection and Anti-poaching Units				
3	5(2)(d)	Provision of field ration for interior camps	99 Nos.	0.32	Not Approved
4	5(2)(d)	Field survival kits and field equipments	-	0.16	
(vii)	Forest fire prevention and control operations				
	5 (2) (h)	Human Animal Conflict Mitigation		2.61	Deferred Details to be submitted

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Sl. No	CAF Rules	Activity	Physical Target	Proposed outlay (in Rs. Crore)	Remarks
(viii)	Forest and Wildlife Protection				
2	5 (2) (g)	Purchase of Habitat Monitoring Equipments	55 Nos.	0.12	Not Approved
B	(Part-B – Activities under “Not more than 20%” of the NPV fund category)				
(ix)	Better connectivity (Maintenance of roads including bridges, roads, communications)				
6	5(4)(b)	Purchase of Field vehicles (specially equipped) for rapid response team	5 Nos.	0.75	Not Approved
GRAND TOTAL				3.96	

4. **The approval is subject to the following conditions:**

- i. The approved activities shall be carried out as per Rule- 4 of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Rules, 2018 i.e. as per the provisions of the State Financial Rules or any such rules applicable from time to time in the State.
- ii. Utilization of State Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) shall be done in such a manner that at least 80% is used for afforestation, forest development and wildlife habitat improvement and up to a maximum 20% amount is to be used for infrastructure/capacity building related items.
- iii. All the records of CAMPA activities including amount sanctioned and expenditure incurred should be maintained by State CAMPA since its inception. The records should be properly maintained with Range, Division office and CEO State CAMPA in prescribed formats and placed on their websites.
- iv. The construction and maintenance of Rescue Centre should only be taken up after vetting of Central Zoo Authority (CZA) and when funds are not available from other sources.
- v. A website of the State CAMPA should be properly developed, if not done earlier. It should have all relevant data, information, plantation maps, KML files of other assets and photographs of various activities carried out under CAMPA. In respect of CA, plantations/ regeneration activities before and after photographs should be uploaded.
- vi. If required and approved by National Authority, casual engagement of local people or local labours may be hired to assist regular staff of State Forest Department for works for protection of forest and wildlife to be undertaken from State fund as per rule 5(3)(f).
- vii. Monitoring and evaluation of the works undertaken shall be the highest priority for the State Authorities. Executive Committee and Steering Committee of all the State/UT Authorities should ensure adequate measures for regular internal and third party monitoring and evaluation of CAMPA activities.
- viii. For third party monitoring, State should engage agencies, who are professionally/ technically competent and independently working. It should not be local NGOs/ organisations already working with the Forest Department or State Government.
- ix. The monitoring and evaluation report of the works done up to the year 2021-22 should be ready by September, 2022 and made available to National Authority. Similarly report on CAMPA activities taken up in 2022-23 must be made available in time by September 2023.




- x. A statement that the Annual Report, Annual accounts and the Audit Report together with a memorandum of action taken on recommendations contained therein has been laid in each house of the State legislature as per requirements of section 29 of the CAF Act 2016, shall be invariably submitted with the proposal for approval of the APO by the EC of NA.
- xi. Prior to implementation of approved APOs, the EC of the State Authority shall ensure that a certificate is available with them to the effect that the proposed activities are being taken up after due consultation with Gram Sabha and are as per provisions of FRA 2006. Activities proposed in forest areas are in consonance with approved working plan; and activities proposed in protected areas (PAs) are in consonance with approved Wildlife Management Plan. Whereas, activities proposed in forest fire prevention and control operations should be as per Integrated Fire Management Plan.
- xii. Soil and Moisture Conservation works should be carried out in an integrated manner from ridge to valley approach in degraded forests. This shall focus on rejuvenation of rivers and achievements should be placed as per the DPRs for 13 major rivers released by MoEF&CC recently. APOs in future should indicate the reference of DPRs being implemented. The data of afforestation, aided forest regeneration and efforts for increasing tree cover outside should be shared with FSI for continuous assessment of green cover and evaluation.
- xiii. The State /UTs Authorities should make a detail record and status of all the lands under protected areas/ forests below transmission lines and submit the status of their management to MoEF&CC.
- xiv. The State EC shall also ensure that there is no overlapping of activities / funding with other schemes and may provide a certificate to that effect.
- xv. Local and indigenous species, especially fruit and fodder species should be given preference in afforestation/ regeneration to be carried out; monoculture and planting of exotic species should be avoided.
- xvi. Compensating the loss of ecological services due to forest diversion for non-forestry purposes is the main objective of Compensatory Afforestation Fund. Regeneration and development of forests should, therefore, be given priority in degraded forests as well as non-forest lands. Also, priority should be accorded to labour intensive activities for regeneration and development of forests.
- xvii. The Executive Committee of the State shall also ensure that proposed activities have adequate forward and backward linkages and are being taken up as per prevailing approved minimum wage rate, schedule of rates, model estimates etc. The APOs that are sent to the National Authority for approval must be accompanied with rationale of activities proposed, information on approved minimum wage rate, schedule of rates, model estimates etc.
- xviii. There should not be any reduction in allocation for forestry sector in the regular State Budget due to flow of CAMPA funds to the states. In addition, the State Government shall also make timely and adequate budget provision as per approved APO and release money so that approved activities could be implemented in time. The tabular information on total proposed outlay of APO submitted by State/UT CAMPA, the funds approved by National Authority, the funds released by state Government and funds utilised during last year.
- xix. Works related to Eco-tourism and Eco-development should be taken up following relevant rules and guidelines after taking necessary approvals.
- xx. Purchase of vehicles is not permitted. Vehicles are to be hired as per approved APO. The repair/ maintenance of vehicles shall be limited to the vehicles purchased from the CAMPA funds previously.
- xxi. State Forest Departments to complete the demarcation and digitization of forest boundaries for protection of forests and plantation activities within six months.


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- xxii. IRO should also monitor and evaluate CAMPA activities. Sufficient budgetary provisions should be kept for monitoring by IRO, in the State APOs under monitoring head. IRO should submit the Monitoring and Evaluation reports within three to four months to National Authority.
- xxiii. The validity of APO (2022-23) shall expire on 31.03.2023. Further continuation of the incomplete activities shall be permissible only if they are included in the APO (2023-24) and are approved.
- xxiv. The final approval of APO (2022-23) shall be considered only after the State Government/UT Administration submits a compliance report as per the guidelines regarding utilization of unspent balance of the Ad-hoc CAMPA issued vide letter No.NA-15/1/2020-NA dated 15.07.2020 of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Yours faithfully,



(Siam Khan Muan Guite)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests
National Authority

Copy to :

1. PCCF(HoFF)-cum-Chairperson, the Executive Committee of the State CAMPA, Department of Forests, Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram .
2. Chief Executive Officer, West Bengal CAMPA, Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
3. Secretary, Department of Finance, Government of West Bengal, Kerala, Thiruvantapuram.
4. Secretary, Department of Planning, Government of Kerala, Thiruvanthapuram.
5. Accountant General, Kerala, Thiruvantahapuram.

Copy also forwarded through email to:

1. PPS to DGF&SS for kind information
2. Chief Executive Officer (National Authority), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi;
3. Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Kolkata;
4. Principal Director (Audit), Scientific Department, AGCR Building, New Delhi;
5. IFD/Sanction Folder/ Guard File;
6. NIC Cell with a request to upload the sanction order on the official website of MoEF&CC.


(Siam Khan Muan Guite)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests
National Authority