

File No. NA-15/30/2020-NA
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management & Planning Authority
(National Authority)
E-mail: adhoc-campa-mef@nic.in

Hall No.1, 4th Floor
Block No. 3, CGO Complex
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
Dated the 9th December 2022

To,
The PCCF-cum-ACS Forests,
Forests, Environment and Wildlife Management Department
Government of Sikkim
Forest Secretariat
Deorali - 737102
Gangtok, Sikkim

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

Sir,

With reference to the letter No.B-428/SCaS/F&ED/365 dated 30.06.2022 of Government of Sikkim on the above mentioned subject it is 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 mandatory and time bound activities of the Annual Plan of Operation – 2022-23 at a total cost of **Rs.10.44 crores** (Rupees ten crore and forty four lakh only).

2. During 18th EC meeting The Sikkim State Authority proposed outlay of **Rs.77.86 crores**. The Executive Committee approved outlay of **Rs. 59.38 crores** and **Rs. 17.99** crores were deferred.

3. During 20th meeting of Executive Committee the agenda item was, deliberated deferred activities and approved the APO of 2022-23 with financial outlay of **Rs.10.44 crore** and the remaining activities are not approved. The details of approved activities as per following component wise details.

S.No.	CAF rules	Activity	Financial Outlay (in cr.)	Approved Amount (in cr.)	Remarks
2. Activities as per Rule 5(2) of the CAF Rules 2018					
	5(2)(d)	River protection works for forest land from scouring by river Bakcha at Labi, Mangan, Sikkim	2.02	1.00	Approved for Rs. 1.00 crore out of 2.00 crore
		Brick Wall fencing of Forest Colony, Gangtok to protect forest property from encroachment	0.50	0.50	



S.No.	CAF rules	Activity	Financial Outlay (in cr.)	Approved Amount (in cr.)	Remarks
		Landslide treatment with vegetative and engineering measures at Kit Golai Khasmal, Chalamthang Pacheykhani GPU	0.75	0.50	Approved for Rs. 0.50 crore out of Rs.0.75 crore for Vegetative Measures
		Landslide treatment under Mangan district	1.50	1.00	Approved for Rs. 1.00 crore out of Rs.1.50 crore for Vegetative Measures
		Procurement of field kits for frontline staff of Territorial Sector	0.53	0.53	
		Maintenance and upgradation of eco-friendly foot path (in Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary) Soreng district	0.58	0.58	
		Supply of wood saving appliance in forest fringe villages			
	5(2)(l)	(a) Procurement of LPG connection with double barrel cylinder	0.02	0.02	Not approved
		(b) Procurement and distribution of Unnat-Chullah with accessories	0.01	0.01	Not approved
		Management of Biological diversity land biological resource			
	5(2)(m)	(a) Management and reclamation of degraded forest land into Nature Park/Biodiversity Park at Laboratory in North Sikkim (Phase II)	1.70	1.00	
		(b) Upgradation and management of Saramsa Garden, Ranipool, Gangtok, Sikkim	1.00	0.50	
		(c) River Rejuvenation Action Plan	1.90	0.70	
		(d) Management and upgradation of water park at Hee Gaon in West Sikkim by Wildlife Division	1.50	0.50	
		4. Activities as per Rule 6(a) of the CAF Rules, 2018			
		Others (Biodiversity Conservation & Management Plan) (Cost escalation)	0.01	0.10	Not approved
		Activities referred to in sub-rules (2) and (5) of rule 5			
	6(a)(vi)	3. Conservation, management and upgradation of 7 sisters water falls area at Phensang, North Sikkim	1.50	1.25	

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S.No.	CAF rules	Activity	Financial Outlay (in cr.)	Approved Amount (in cr.)	Remarks
		4. Conservation and upgradation of Kabi Lungchuk Sacred Groves at Kabi, Mangan District, Sikkim	1.50	1.25	
5. Activities as per Rule 6(b) of the CAF Rules, 2018					
	6(b)(vi)	Other activities for management of forest and wildlife including upgradation/improvement etc.			
		i. Upgradation and improvement of Government timber depot at Chuba, Gangtok District (Phase III)	1.00	1.00	Not approved
	6(b)(vi)	ii. Harvesting of medicinal plants from plantation sites of North & East districts on trial basis.	0.13	0.13	
	Mandatory Activities	iii. Others (Biodiversity Conservation Plan)	1.77	1.00	For Forest areas
		Grand Total Approved		10.44	
		Grand Total Not Approved		1.13	

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).

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- 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.


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- 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.
- 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 States/UTs CAMPA for completing the works approved in APO within the year and avoid any spill over for the next year. It is important to complete mandatory activities first and utilise the released funds for maintenance of CAMPA activities under NPV & Interest components before starting new activities.
- xxiv. The States/UTs Authority are proposing engagement of Casual labours for protection of Forests for the entire State. It clarified that such item can be considered only for around the forest areas where the land transfer has taken place and need special protection owing to the developmental activities.
- xxv. 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.
- xxvi. The States/UTs Authorities to work out details of funds available with the State CAMPA head-wise under CA/ CAT Plan/ Wildlife Mitigation Plan, NPV and interest components etc. after deducting the expenditure incurred and prepare Annual Plan of operation for next year based on funds available. Priority should be given to the mandatory activities including commitment on maintenance of previous years. Further



the States/UTs to make all possible efforts for sending APOs of 2023-24 well in time before 31.12.2022 for timely approval by the National Authority.

Yours faithfully


(Subhash Chandra)
Chief Executive Officer
National Authority

Copy to:

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Department of Forests, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok;
2. Chief Executive Officer, Sikkim CAMPA, Gangtok;
3. Principal Secretary, Department of Finance, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok;
4. Secretary, Department of Planning, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok;
5. Accountant General, Sikkim, Gangtok;

Copy also forwarded to:

1. PPS to DGF&SS, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for kind information
2. Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor, MOEF&CC, New Delhi
3. Mission Director, National Mission for Green India, MOEF&CC, New Delhi
4. Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), Integrated Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Kolkata IB – 198, Sector-III, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700106
5. IFD/Sanction Folder/ Guard File;
6. NIC Cell with a request to upload the sanction order on the official website of MoEF&CC.