

F.No. NA-15/30/2020-NA
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
(National Authority)

Hall No.1, 4th Floor
Block No. 3, CGO Complex
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
Dated the 10th August, 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.

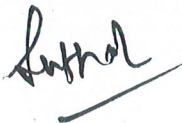
Sir

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.59.38 crores** (Rupees fifty nine crore and thirty eight lakh only) out of proposed outlay of Rs.77.86 crores for APO 2022-23 and Rs. 23.0382 crore (Rupees twenty-three crore and three lakhs eighty-two thousand) for Spill over liabilities of APO 2021-22 respectively, recommended by the State Steering Committee for carrying out approved activities during the current financial year from the “State Compensatory Afforestation Fund – Sikkim” created under Section 4 of CAF Act, 2016.

2. The APO was discussed in the 18th meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Authority held on 20th and 27th July, 2022. The component wise approval accorded by the 16th Executive Committee is as under:

Rs. in crore

S.No.	Activity	Physical Target (in ha.)	Financial Target	CAF Rules	Remarks
1. Site Specific Activities as per Section 6(a) of the CAF Act, 2016					
a.	Compensatory Afforestation (CA) Schemes	As per APO	5.14	Mandatory Activities	
b.	Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) Plan	As per APO	3.91		
c.	Integrated Wildlife Management Plan	As per APO	7.61		
Total Site Specific Activities			16.66		
2. Activities as per Rule 5(2) of the CAF Rules 2018					



a.	Aided Natural Regeneration				
	Aided Natural Regeneration and allied activities including protection, SMC etc. of <i>Shorea robusta</i> (Sal) through seed dibbling (1st yr. maintenance)	20 As per APO	0.01	5(2) (a)	
	Total Aided Natural Regeneration		0.01		
b.	Artificial Regeneration				
	(a) (i) Maintenance of nursery for production of seedlings for Artificial Regeneration	30 LA	0.30	5(2)(b)	
	(ii) Construction of poly carbonate green house/store room/manure pit at Baluwakhani nursery by Parks and Garden Division		0.50		
	b. Fodder Plantation	300 LA	0.67		
	i. Maintenance (1st yr.)	500 LA	0.27		
	ii. Maintenance (2nd yr.)	100 LA	0.05		
	c. Silvi-pastoral Development	200 LA	0.52		
	i. Maintenance (1st yr.)	100 LA	0.05		
	ii. Maintenance (2nd yr.)	100 LA	0.05		
	d. Avenue Plantation	35 LA	0.22		
	i. Maintenance (1st yr.)	30 LA	0.02		
	ii. Maintenance (2nd yr.)	30 LA	0.01		
	e. Bamboo Plantation (Large bamboo with Rhizome)				
	i. Maintenance (1st yr.)	200	0.07		
	f. Artificial Regeneration in thinning/clear felled areas of Cryptomeria plantation	30 LA	0.11		
	Total Artificial Regeneration		2.84		
c.	Silviculture Operation in forests				
	(a) Study to assess the present status of natural <i>Cycas pectinata</i> population in Sikkim focusing Kateng Reserve Forest in South Sikkim	As per APO	0.20	5(2)(c)	
	(b) Procurement of quality seedlings of fruit bearing plant /horticultural crops for distribution to villagers of fringe villages for alternate livelihood	As per APO	0.40		
	Total Silviculture Operation in forests		0.60		
d.	Protection of plantations and forests				
	a. Construction of Dry Stone Fencing	7 HA	0.79	5(2)(d)	
		13 LA	1.24		
	b. Construction of Catch Water Drain in different locations for soil conservation and protection of forests	1000 LA	0.47		

	c. Construction of CCM Wall in land slide in forest areas	1300 LA	0.73		
	d. Construction of Sausage Wall/Crate Wall in land slide areas	100 LA	0.04		
	e. Construction of DRSM Wall in land slide areas	2000 LA	0.46		
		500 HA	0.14		
	f. Protection by raising Agave Plantation along the forest boundary line	10 LA	0.03		
	g. River protection works for forest land from scouring by river Bakcha at Labi, Mangan, Sikkim	As per APO	2.00		Deferred as details were not clear
	h. Patrolling path for conservation and protection at Tamzey RF, North Sikkim	As per APO	1.00		
	i. Brick Wall-fencing of Forest Colony, Gangtok to protect forest property from encroachment	As per APO	0.50		Not approved
	j. Landslide treatment with vegetative and engineering measures at Kit GolaiKhasmal, Chalamthang, Pacheykhani GPU	As per APO	0.75		Not approved
	k. Protection of forest and plantation at Zoom RF from wild animals by Dry Stone Wall Fencing	4 LA	0.38		
	l. Landslide treatment with vegetative and engineering measures at Lower TuminKhasmal	As per APO	0.40		
	m. Construction of crate wall for protection of forest adjoining Rongli Bazar, Pakyong district	As per APO	0.70		
	n. Landslide treatment under Mangan district	As per APO	1.50		Not approved
	o. Construction of patrolling - cum - patrolling/inspection path at Lachung, North Sikkim	As per APO	0.40		
	p. Construction of semi permanent barriers for man and animal conflicts	As per APO	0.10		
	q. Procurement of field kits for frontline staffs of Territorial Sector	As per APO	0.53		Deferred as details were not clear
	r. Maintenance and upgradation of eco-friendly footpath (in Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary) Soreng district	As per APO	0.58		Not approved
	Total Protection of plantations and forests - Approved		6.88		
e.	Soil & Moisture Conservation in forests			5(2)(g)	

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	(a) Bally benching	49563 ha	0.25		
	Total Soil & Moisture Conservation in forests		0.25		
f.	Broom Grass Plantation	200 ha	0.39		
	a. Maintenance (1st yr.)	300 ha	0.16		
	ii. Maintenance (2nd yr.)	565 ha	0.17		
	Total Broom Grass Plantation		0.72		
g.	Improvement of wildlife habitat as provided in the approved wildlife management plan or working plan				
	a. Management of wildlife habitat of Khangchendzonga National Park (KNP)	As per APO	0.60	5(2)(i)	
	b. Management of wildlife habitat of Fambonglho Wildlife Sanctuary, East Range	As per APO	1.50		
	c. Management of wildlife habitat of Kyongnosla Alpine Sanctuary	As per APO	0.10		
	d. Management of wildlife habitat of Shingba Rhododendron Sanctuary, North Sikkim	As per APO	0.50		
	Total Improvement of wildlife habitat as provided in the approved wildlife management plan or working plan		2.7		
h.	Establishment, operation & maintenance of animal rescue centre and veterinary treatment facilities for wild animal				
	a. Maintenance of animal rescue Centre at HZP	As per APO	0.40	5(2)(k)	Approved subject to concurrence of CZA
	b. Improvement and upgradation of HZP	As per APO	1.00		Approved subject to concurrence of CZA
	c. Veterinary treatment of wild animals	As per APO	0.15		
	Total Establishment, operation & maintenance of animal rescue centre and veterinary treatment facilities for wild animal		1.55		
i.	Supply of wood saving appliance in forest fringe villages				
	(a) Procurement of LPG connection with double barrel cylinder	As per APO	0.02	5(2)(l)	Not approved

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	(b) Procurement and distribution of Unnat-Chullah with accessories	As per APO	0.01		Not approved
j.	Management of Biological diversity land biological resource	As per APO			
	(a) Management and reclamation of degraded forest land into Nature Park/Biodiversity Park at Labarbotey in North Sikkim (Phase II)	As per APO	1.70		Deferred as details were not clear
	(b) (i) Upgradation and management of biodiversity park at Rongnichu Water Garden (ii) Restoration of water bodies and river rejuvenation at Water Garden	As per APO	1.06		
	(c) Upgradation and management of Saramsa Garden, Ranipool, Gangtok, Sikkim	As per APO	1.00		Not approved
	(d) Restoration of tree orchid dispersed during diversion of forest land	As per APO	0.06	5(2)(m)	
	(e) River Rejuvenation Action Plan	As per APO	1.90		Deferred as details were not clear
	(f) Lake rejuvenation at Nagidara, Namchi district	As per APO	0.30		
	(g) Management and upgradation of water park at HeeGaon in West Sikkim by Wildlife Division	As per APO	1.50		Not approved
	(h) Study on movement pattern of Himalayan Black Bear in the last ten years	As per APO	0.25		
	(i) Plantation and creation of nursery in government school	As per APO	0.25		
	Total Management of Biological diversity land biological resource - Approved		1.92		
3. Activities as per Rule 5 (3) of the CAF Rules, 2018					
a.	Establishment, up-gradation and maintenance of modern nurseries and other planting stock production facilities for production of quality planting materials.	As per APO	0.05	5(3)(a)	
b.	Purchase and maintenance of equipment or devices used for wireless communication and information technology for the purpose of protection of forest and wildlife.	As per APO	0.05	5(3)(c)	

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c.	Construction/ upgradation of residential quarters/barrack of Head Forest Guard/Forest Guard and official building in forests for frontline staffs up to the rank of Range officers.	As per APO	5.32	5(3)(e)	
d.	Casual engagement of local people or labours to assist regular staff of State Forest Department for works protection of forest and wildlife.	As per APO	1.20	5(3)(f)	
e.	Independent concurrent monitoring and evaluation and third party monitoring of works undertaken from State Fund of various works undertaken from state fund.	As per APO	0.50	5(3)(h)	Approved for Rs. 50 lakhs out of Rs.75 lakh
Sub Total Rule 5 (3) - Approved			7.12		
4. Activities as per Rule 6(a) of the CAF Rules, 2018					
a.	Compensatory afforestation (Cost escalation)	As per APO	0.92	6(a)(i)	
b.	Catchment Area Treatment Plan for Hydro Electric Project (Cost escalation)	As per APO	2.79	6(a)(ii)	
c.	Integrated Wildlife Management Plan (Cost escalation)	As per APO	0.06	6(a)(iii)	
d.	Others (Biodiversity Conservation & Management Plan) (Cost escalation)	As per APO	0.10	6(a)(iii)	Not approved
e.	Salaries and Allowances of Members and Staff	As per APO	0.48	6(a)(iv)	
Sub Total Rule 6 (a)- Approved			4.25		
Activities referred to in sub-rules (2) and (5) of rule 5					
	1. Survey and demarcation of forests areas	As per APO	0.90	6(a)(vi)	
	2. Maintenance of World Heritage site (Khangchendzonga National Park)	As per APO	0.40		
	3. Conservation, management and upgradation of 7 sisters water falls area at Phensang, North Sikkim	As per APO	1.50		Not approved
	4. Conservation and upgradation of KabiLungchuk Sacred Groves at Kabi, Mangan District, Sikkim	As per APO	1.50		Not approved
	5. Management of wildlife habitat of Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary, West Sikkim	As per APO	2.50		
	6. Creation/augmentation of field protection camp at Rongong RF, Mangan district	As per APO	1.00		

	7. Construction, up-gradation and maintenance of inspection paths, forest roads in forest area, watch towers, check posts, timber depots	As per APO	0.95		
	8. Procurement of protective gears & equipment for safety of frontline staff combating human wildlife conflicts	As per APO	0.45		
	Sub Total Activities referred to in sub-rules (2) and (5) of rule 5 - Approved		6.20		
5. Activities as per Rule 6(b) of the CAF Rules, 2018					
(i)	Management of office establishment: -				
	a. Maintenance/strengthening of office of the State Authority	As per APO	0.40	6(b)(i)	
(ii)	Office equipment including computers and peripherals and its annual maintenance for State Authority	As per APO	0.10	6(b)(ii)	
(iii)	Hiring of staff cars for the use or the officers and officials of the State Authority	As per APO	0.03	6(b)(iii)	
(iv)	Other contingencies for management of the State Authority, with the approval of the State Authority				
	1. CAG Audit Fees	As per APO	0.04	6(b)(v)	Not approved
	2. POL/HSD and maintenance of vehicles & machineries of state authority offices	As per APO	0.20	6(b)(i)	Approved for Rs. 20 lakh out of Rs. 40 lakh
	3. Advertisement / publication / conference under State Authority	As per APO	0.20	6(b)(i)	
(vi)	Other activities for management of forest and wildlife including upgradation/ improvement etc.				
	a. Upgradation and improvement of Red Panda Camp and conservation zone in Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary and other activities for management of sanctuary	As per APO	2.20		
	b. Documentation and publication of book on the wetland birds of Sikkim (Pictorial Guide Book)	As per APO	0.20	6(b)(vi)	
	Creation of forest trails inside Fambonglho Wildlife Sanctuary for environment, education, livelihood generation and protection of the sanctuary (Phase 1)	As per APO	2.92		

Upgradation and improvement of government timber depot at Chuba, Gangtok District (Phase III)	As per APO	1.00		Not approved
Training and capacity building of frontline forest staff (Arms training/Refresher training)	As per APO	0.58		
Harvesting of medicinal plants from plantation sites of North & East districts on trial basis.	As per APO	0.13		Not approved
Management and upgradation of Amrit Mahautsav Green Park, Sangkhola, District Gangtok	As per APO	0.50		
Providing alternate right-of-way in vulnerable forest areas	As per APO	0.10		
Establishment and management of orchid rescue centre at Darap, Gyalshing District	As per APO	0.25		
Sub Total Rule 6(b) - Approved		7.68		
Others (Biodiversity Conservation Plan)	As per APO	1.77		Not approved
Grand Total of Approved Activities for APO 2022-23		59.38		

Spill-over liabilities of APO 2021-22 is as under:

S.No.	Activities	Spill-over liabilities of APO 2020-21 (in crore)
1	Compensatory Afforestation (CA) schemes	0.0041
2	Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) Plan	0.00
3	Integrated Wildlife Management Plan	0.00
4	Net Present Value	15.57
5	CAF Interest	7.4641
6	Others (Biodiversity Conservation Plan)	0.00
Total Spill-over liabilities of APO 2021-22		23.0382

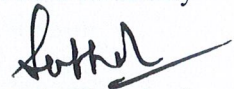
3. The approval is subject to the following conditions:-

- 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.
- 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



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


(Subhash Chandra)
Chief Executive Officer
National Authority