



GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
FORESTS AND ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
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Ref No. A-45/SCaS/F&ED/2022-23 494

Date: 13/12 /2025

To,

✓ The Chief Executive Officer,
National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management & Planning Authority,
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
Government of India,
3rd Floor, Supreme Court Metro Station Building,
New Delhi 110001.
Email: nationalcampa-moefcc@gov.in

Sub: Submission of Monitoring Mechanism adopted for Monitoring and Evaluation of CAMPA Activities in the State of Sikkim- reg.

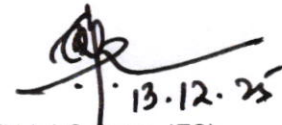
Ref: Letter No.NA-1/37/2022-NA Dated:24/10/2025

Sir,

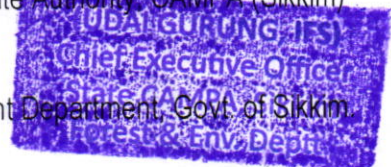
This is with reference to your letter dated 24/10/2025 on the subject cited above, please find attached herewith the desired information on Monitoring Mechanism adopted for Monitoring & Evaluation of CAMPA activities in respect of Sikkim.

Submitted for favour of your kind perusal and necessary action, please.

Yours faithfully,


13.12.25

(Udai Gurung, IFS)
Chief Executive Officer
State Authority: CAMPA (Sikkim)



Copy for kind information to:

1. The PCCF-cum-Pr.Secretary, Forest & Environment Department, Govt. of Sikkim.
2. Office copy.

Monitoring Mechanism adopted by Sikkim CAMPA

1. Introduction

The State CAMPA, Sikkim, has established a comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Mechanism to ensure the effective implementation, transparency, and accountability of activities funded under the Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF). This multi-tier system integrates field-based, institutional, third-party, and technology-enabled monitoring processes, consistent with the provisions of the **CAF Rules, 2018**, and the **guidelines of the National CAMPA Authority**.

The mechanism emphasizes performance-based monitoring and aims to strengthen the implementation of afforestation, biodiversity conservation, and ecological restoration activities across all divisions of the Forest and Environment Department.

2. Objectives of the Monitoring Mechanism

The Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism aims to:

- Ensure **transparency, accountability, and efficiency** in the utilization of CAMPA funds.
- Assess **physical and financial progress** of all approved activities.
- Evaluate **quality, sustainability, and effectiveness** of interventions.
- Identify **gaps, challenges, and best practices** to improve future planning and execution.

3. Institutional Framework and Monitoring Mechanisms Adopted


The Monitoring Mechanism adopted by the **State CAMPA, Sikkim**, comprises multiple levels of verification and evaluation, including institutional, technological, third-party, and fiscal monitoring.

(i) Internal Departmental Monitoring

- Conducted by officers from **ACF and above** level through regular field inspections, progress reviews, and verification visits.
- **DFOs and ACFs** monitor 100% of works; **Conservators/Directors** monitor 25-50%; **CCFs** monitor 25%; and **PCCF** also undertakes field verification during official tours.
- Monitoring reports, inspection notes, and plantation journals are mandatory before fund disbursal.
- The **CEO**, along with **Joint CEO** and **Deputy CEO**, carry out inspections across districts, forming three monitoring teams.

(ii) Third-Party Monitoring

- In line with **Rule 5(3)(h)** of the CAF Rules, 2018, independent third-party monitoring is mandatory for all CAMPA-funded activities.
- **M/s AFC India Ltd.** was engaged through a **Quality-cum-Cost Based Selection (QCBS)** process to evaluate CAMPA activities for FY **2017-18 to 2019-20**.
- The **MoU** was signed on **22nd January 2021**. Final reports for FY 2017-18 and 2019-20 have already been submitted to National CAMPA vide email dated 24th October 2024 and also the hard copy has already been handed over to National CAMPA.


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- **Ernst and Young LLP**, has been engaged for Monitoring and Evaluation of CAMPA activities for FY 2020–21 to 2024-2025. The fieldwork for this engagement is under progress.

(iii) Technological Monitoring

- CAMPA activities are monitored through the **e-Green Watch Portal** developed by **MoEF&CC**, integrating geo-tagged data, photographs, and plantation coordinates.
- Verification of activities is carried out by the **Forest Survey of India (FSI)** through remote sensing.
- Adoption of **GIS mapping, GPS tracking, and drone-based assessment** has significantly improved data accuracy, transparency, and coverage.

(iv) Statutory and Inter-Divisional Monitoring

- Monitoring teams at **Circle Level** conduct cross-verification of plantations in different divisions to ensure objectivity.
- Officers of the rank of **Additional Director and above** are required to inspect field sites before approving payments.
- Annual workshops and review meetings are organized for knowledge sharing and uniform implementation standards.

(v) Fiscal and Audit-Based Monitoring

- **CAG-empanelled auditors** conduct annual audits to ensure financial propriety and adherence to codal procedures.
- Audit observations are reviewed by the **State CAMPA Authority**, and corrective actions are taken accordingly.

4. Overview of the Multi-Level Monitoring Framework

Level	Monitoring Type	Agency / Authority Responsible
Level 1	On-ground Monitoring	Local Communities, JFMCs, EDCs, Forest Department
Level 2	Field Review (Random Sites)	Independent Third-Party Agency
Level 3	Remote Sensing / GIS-based Verification	Forest Survey of India (FSI)
Level 4	Intensive Monitoring (Pilot Areas)	JFMCs, Forest Department, Support Organizations
Fiscal Audit	Audit of Physical and Financial Progress	Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG) and Accountant General (AG)

5. Governing Office Orders and Guidelines

The implementation and monitoring of CAMPA activities in Sikkim are governed by the **Forest and Environment Department, Government of Sikkim**, as per the following key office directives:

(a) Office Order No. 14/Gos/F&ED/Secy Dated 21st June 2024

This order establishes standardized procedures for the **execution and monitoring of afforestation works** across the State. Key provisions include:

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- **Generation of Plantation UID:**

Each plantation activity is assigned a unique Plantation ID from the departmental database prior to seeking Technical Sanction, ensuring traceability and accountability.

- **Technical Sanction Proposal:**

Each proposal must contain details of site suitability, species selection, spacing, and layout as per prescribed formats.

- **Pre-Planting Operations (PPO):**

The first year is reserved for PPOs such as site preparation, soil conservation, and nursery development. Plantation is undertaken in the second year to ensure ecological and operational readiness.

- **Field Nursery Management:**

Site-specific nurseries are encouraged to ensure local species availability. The use of Muster Roll labour is discouraged to minimize long-term liabilities.

- **Protection of Natural Regeneration:**

Existing regeneration shall not be disturbed. Wildings may be transplanted with prior approval from officers of the rank of Additional Director or above.

(b) Office Order No. 766/ADM/FEWMD Dated 8th October 2015

This order mandates the use of a **uniform Plantation Journal** across all divisions under the **Sikkim Biodiversity Conservation and Forest Management Project (SBFP)** framework. It prescribes inspection norms as follows:

- **ACF:** 100% field inspection
- **DFO:** 75% inspection
- **Conservator:** 50% inspection


The Senior Officers of the Department also carry out monitoring as and when they visit the field. All inspections and reports must be submitted to the **State Authority (State CAMPA)** before the release of subsequent funds.

(c) Monitoring under CAF Rules, 2018

The *Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Rules, 2018* provide for strict monitoring to ensure transparent and effective utilisation of funds.

- **Rule 2(e)** defines *third-party monitoring* as evaluation by external, independent agencies having no conflict of interest, to assess whether desired environmental and social outcomes are achieved.
- **Rule 5(3)(h)** mandates *independent concurrent monitoring and third-party monitoring* of all works undertaken from the **State Fund**.
- Monitoring results are reported annually through **Form V** (National Authority) and **Form XI** (State Authority), which include sections for *e-Green Watch* outcomes and *third-party monitoring reports*.
- **Form XII** (Annual Plan of Operation) also requires inclusion of monitoring and evaluation details with photographs.

Monitoring under CAF Rules thus ensures accountability, transparency and proper utilisation of compensatory afforestation funds for ecological restoration.


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Chief Executive Officer
State CAMPA, Sikkim
Forest & Env. Deptt.