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भारत 2023 INDIA



Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Government of India

Salient Features of Working Plan Code 2023

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National Conference on Working Plan Code
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Sustainable Forest Management at the Core of India's Forestry Interventions



Evolution of Indian Forest Policy



1894

Prioritized **production of Timber**



1952

Focused on **Timber Production & Conservation**



1988

Emphasis on **conservation** of forests and **participatory forest management**

Working Plan

- Working plans have been in **existence since 1800s** and are **Long-term management plans** for forests and protected areas

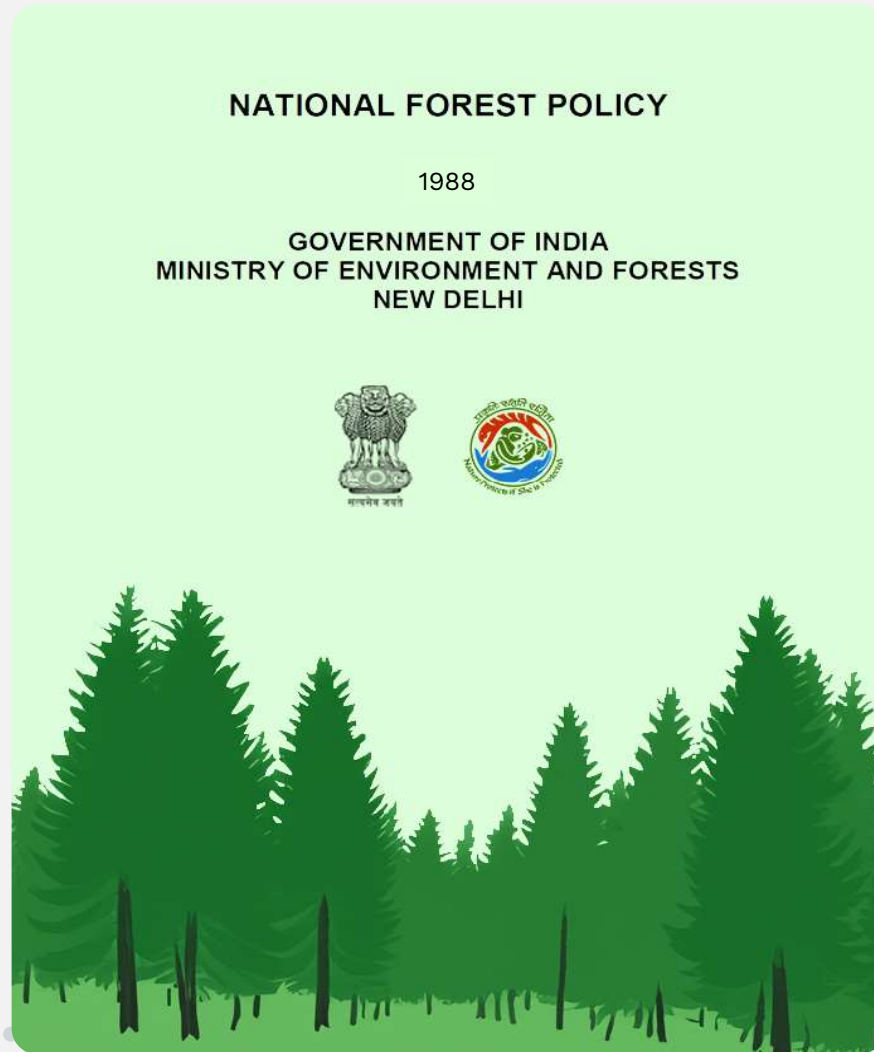
- Well set **established institutional system** exists for monitoring forests and wildlife on multiple levels

- Imbibes principles of **sustainable forest management**

- Working Plan is the **main instrument for forest management planning** and a tool for scientific management of forest.
- All forests are to be **sustainably managed** under the prescriptions of a working plan.
- **10-year** forest management plan



Working Plan; Main instrument for forest Management Planning



“

No forest should be permitted to be worked without an approved working plan by the Competent Authority.

”



Evolution Of Working Plan over the years



- 1837** Principles of working forests by U.V Munro
- 1856** Dr Dietrich Brandis, prepared 1st forest management plan
- 1884** Sir Wilhelm D Schlich initiated scientific approach preparation of working plan
- 1891** W.R.D'Arcy published 'Preparation of Forest Working-Plans in India
- 1906** FRI entrusted with checking of working plans
- After 1947** SFDs brought substantial area under scientific forest management
- 1988** National Forest Policy mandates management of forests with approved WP
- 2004** The Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) adopted National Working Plan code-2004
- 2014** National Working Plan code was amended
- 2023** National Working Plan code amended; inclusion of Indian Forest Management Standard



Essentials of Forest Management Planning



The essentials of sustainable management of forests are derived from scientific forest management in India and internationally evolving system of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management.

These include:





Working Plan Code 2023



Why WP Code Revision was Needed

NWPC-2014 is a very **long document**.

WP **formats** to be made **simpler and more practical**

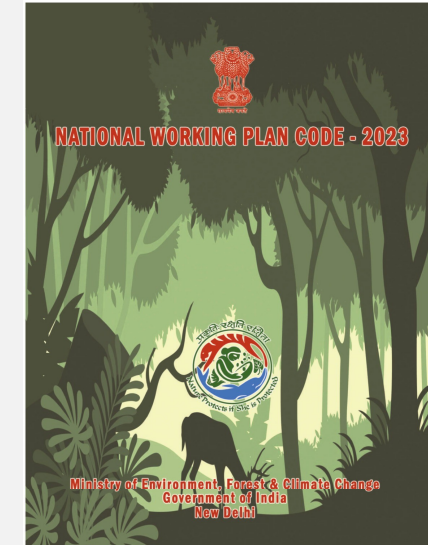
NWPC-2014 was **very rigid** and **did not have scope to incorporate regional** and state specific requirements.

Retrieval of data collected during WP preparation is **difficult** and suggested for **central database**.

Drafting Working Plan Code 2023

Committee Constituted by MoEFCC during

Wide stakeholder meetings
States, IROs, FSI, IIFM, NTCA, ICFRE etc.



National Working Plan Code 2023

Manual for preparation of WP

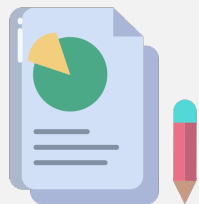
Indian Forest Management Standard



Salient Features of National Working Plan Code – 2023



Brief Document which **clearly lays down principles and procedures** for preparation and approval of WPs.



WP manual with detailed procedures, field exercises and illustrations.



Standard format for Preliminary Working Plan Report (**PWPR**)

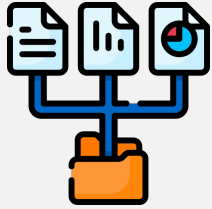


Uniformity in Data Collection by States;
Crisp qualitative and quantitative data and analysis





Salient Features of National Working Plan Code – 2023



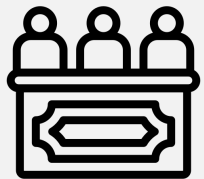
Continuous Forest Inventory (CFI); data collection and field surveys by Forest Divisions



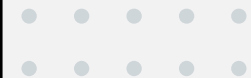
FSI: National Centralized database; National Forest Inventory by FSI; Geo spatial data to states; provide grid layers (5km x 5KM)



All India Tiger Estimation methodology throughout the Country; Non tiger range states



Guidance for State Level **Standing Consultative Committee & IROs**; **Check lists for approvals**; what to examine at each levels





Salient Features of National Working Plan Code – 2023



Mid-term evaluation of Working Plan implementation recommended



Scope for extension of period of Working Plan (on a case-to-case basis) for a maximum of 5 years.



Indian Forest Management Standards included for the first time



SFDs to conduct **Management effectiveness evaluation** on implementation of WP prescriptions.



Scope for framework for **Forest Certification** in future.



Indian Forest Management Standard (IFMS)



About Indian Forest Management Standard

Standards for **Sustainable Forest Management** codified in the Indian Forest Management Standard (IFMS).

Standards derived from **decades of scientific forest management** in India.

Standards in sync with **international criteria and indicators** for SFM.

Standard developed from the **Bhopal-India process**.

Indian Forest Management Standards specify **Criteria, Indicators & Verifiers**

Salient Features

8 Criteria, **69** Indicators and **248** Verifiers.

Each **criteria** has set of indicators that can be monitored over time.

Each **indicator** has verifiers which capture data or information for assessing its status over time.

SFDs can adapt these indicators and verifiers based on **specific situation/local needs**.

SFDs have option to engage specialised agency for data collection and analysis for evaluation



Implications of the Standards



- IFMS would facilitate SFDs to measure **effectiveness of the management practices** against prescriptions of WPs
- IFMS will provide the launching pad for initiating **Indian Forest & Wood Certification Scheme (IFWCS)**

**IFMS will effectively monitor
Sustainable Forest Management practices in
India**

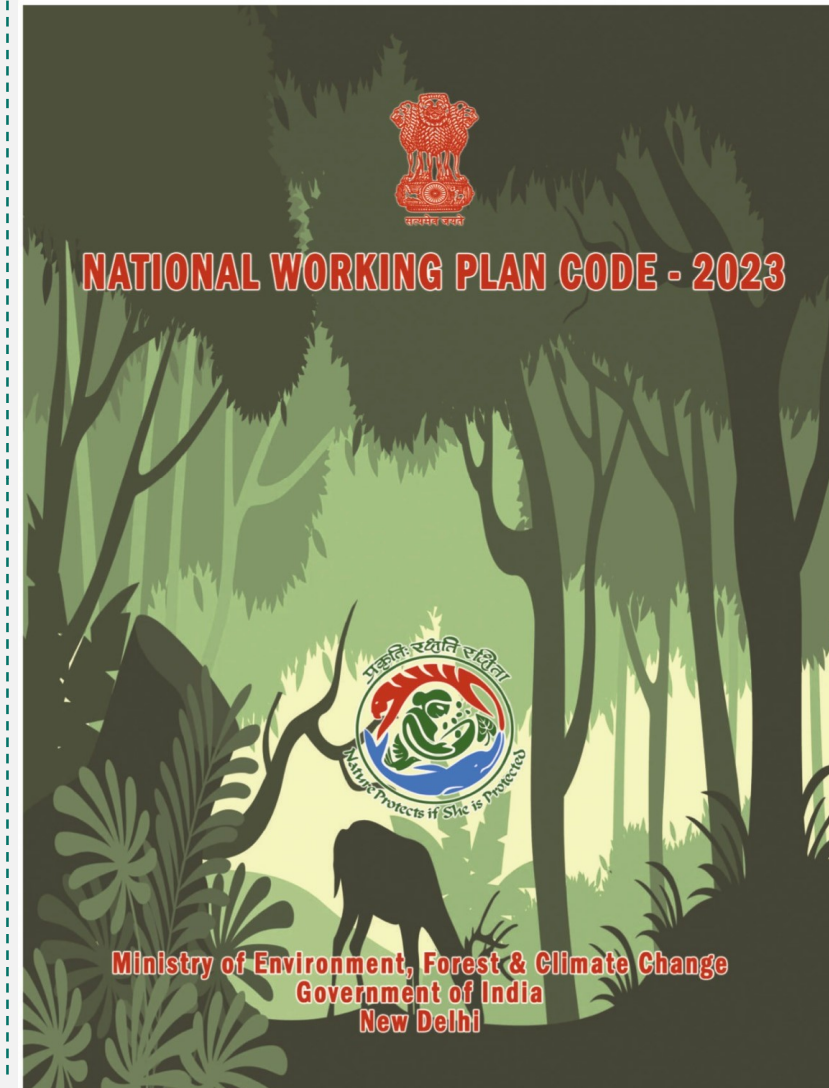




Outcomes and Action Points



- Communicate status report on number of forest divisions where WPs are not operational to Ministry; **15th Nov 2023**
- States to get the PWPRs approved for all divisions where WPs have expired, **31st December 2023**.
- States to complete the WP process for all such divisions by **December 2025**.
- Ministry may **withhold CSS funding, including NPV under CAMPA**; to **forest divisions without approved WP beyond 2025-26**.





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Thank You