

Pilot Testing of Criteria & Indicators for Sustainable Management of Natural Forests

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Sustainable management of forestry resources in India is of critical significance. While the current policy paradigms support and create enabling conditions for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM), continuous monitoring of progress towards SFM is imperative. Criteria and Indicators are now globally accepted as effective tools for achieving progress towards SFM. To enhance applicability of SFM at forest management unit level IIFM

successfully executed a research project with the cooperation of communities. Based on the experience and learning, the B-I process was revisited and communicated to MoEF for its institutionalisation in the country. MoEF has developed a draft set of C&I for the sustainable



management of natural forests in the country in the year 2008 on the line of Bhopal–India (B–I) Process and requested IIFM to field test. Accordingly two national task teams chaired by Shri A.K. Mukherji and Dr. Ram Prasad visited six states and reviewed the draft set of C&I. Based on the learning, the team has developed verifiers and norms for all the 8 criteria and 37 indicators and also institutional measures for its uniform implementation in the country.