



भारतीय वन्यजीव संस्थान  
Wildlife Institute of India



**ADVANCE YOUR  
ORGANIZATION  
TOWARDS THE  
GREEN AND  
SUSTAINABLE WAY  
THROUGH QUALITY  
EIA REPORTING**

# **MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY IN ENERGY SECTOR**



**TRAINING  
PROGRAMME**  
03-05 August, 2015



## COURSE BACKGROUND

Developments in energy sector (especially Hydropower) are essential components for economic growth that can have a significant bearing on the global economy. At the same time, energy security depends on healthy and diverse ecosystems. Forests, rivers, coastal lands, croplands deliver range of ecosystem services that support energy production and are also fundamental to human well-being. Hydropower accounts for the large majority of existing renewable power generation, and there is significant future potential to increase hydroelectricity supply, particularly in India. However, damming a river has the potential to impact the biodiversity of the source and upper reaches of a river, the flow regime, the functions of the tributaries, the mainstream aquatic habitats, wetland and floodplains vegetation, delta mangroves and coastal habitats, as well as the coastal and marine ecosystems in the vicinity of the river's discharge. In an ideal world, a sound solution to the energy crisis would not conflict with simultaneous efforts to promote the conservation agenda as both play an essential role in human development. Yet, experience reflects that biodiversity and ecosystem services are seldom factored into decisions on energy investments and are most often compromised.

Considering that no source of energy is truly green, the best development models are undoubtedly those that perceive the optimal complementarities between economic development and biodiversity conservation. Considerations of least impacts and possibly, even neutral impacts on biodiversity and other key elements of natural areas should guide the decisions about which energy options (bio-fuel, coal, hydropower, solar power or wind etc.) or combinations to promote. For the sustainability and acceptability of energy projects, it is equally important to consider sustainability of biodiversity resources and ecosystem services in the planning and implementation of developments in energy sector. Impact assessment is a widely acknowledged decision support and mainstreaming tool for promoting sustainable development. Mainstreaming biodiversity in impact assessments can offer the planning and decision support for encouraging green energy projects. The success of such efforts are linked to commitment of business groups; competence of EIA consultants; availability of best practice models; state of the art methodologies and informed decisions.

This course aims to encourage the corporate sector to think 'out-of-the-box' for evolving 'win-win' opportunities for both development and biodiversity and provide guidance on how to invest in sustainable green energy development plans for promoting responsible development. For EIA consultants it will help encourage developments that are environmentally benign and socially acceptable. It is aimed at providing an opportunity to become abreast with recent and practical mainstreaming tools for better integration of biodiversity in the field of impact assessment so that development proposals reflect a balance between conservation and economic profitability and have a far greater acceptability for environmental clearance.

**The course is open for professionals from energy sector (esp. hydropower), EIA consultants dealing with ecology and biodiversity disciplines in renewable energy sector and conservation communities involved in developing the conservation plans for hydropower plants.**



## SPECIAL FEATURES

- Meets NABET's requirement for EIA consultants in the functional area of Ecology and Biodiversity
- Draws from real life EIA cases studies
- Provide training kits with most recent learning resources including the best practice guidance manuals
- Designed to deliver interactive and multimedia enriched contents
- Encourage experiential learning



## COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Enhance the conceptual understanding of the need to mainstream biodiversity in developments in the energy sector
- Provide guidance on 'how to' approaches for biodiversity-inclusive impact assessments for harmonising conservation with development
- Help the course participants to review a range of mitigation options to address significant impacts on biodiversity,
- Promote the concepts of 'no net loss', 'ecological neutrality' and 'biodiversity offsets' that can support both energy development and biodiversity objectives.
- Explore the win-wins that can be devised in power projects when accounting for impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem functions.
- Explore innovative economic tools for adapting production to produce more biodiversity-friendly ways, including avoidance, mitigation and offsets;
- Share global experiences of successful biodiversity planning and mainstreaming the energy sector
- Introduce the concept of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Life Cycle Thinking
- Facilitate sharing and peer-based learning among IA professionals

## ABOUT COURSE FACULTY

The course would be taught by highly experienced and competent faculty and resource personnel who have been delivering such courses both in India and abroad for last three decades.

## COURSE CONTENT

- Overview of the challenges for biodiversity linked to setting up of hydropower projects, coal fired thermal plants and wind and solar energy harvesting projects;
- Biodiversity risks and the benefits of promoting biodiversity inclusive impact assessments for successful conservation outcomes of different energy development projects;
- EIA framework for mainstreaming biodiversity considerations in impact assessment and subsequent reporting

## LEARNING APPROACHES

- The training course will consist of a series of presentations and sharing of best practices by experienced instructors in the subject area. The training sessions will include formal presentations, participatory learning sessions, group exercises, video based case studies and experiential learning.

## KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Create a higher performance team in consulting firms for conducting quality EIAs
- Improve environmental stewardship and associated reputational benefits
- Imbibe that conservation of biodiversity is as important as creating energy and sustainability of environmental resources
- Prepare to protect ecosystems from unplanned growth and guide investments in managing ecosystems for responsible development

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Impact assessment professionals, Functional Area Experts
- Consulting firms
- Regulatory Institutions (such as SPCB, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority)
- Civil society organizations engaged in review of impacts of energy sectors on human wellbeing
- Biodiversity specialists engaged in designing conservation plans and in restoration of dam areas
- Decision Makers and Industry Professionals

This fully residential course will cover all costs related to lodging, boarding and training material that would be provided during the course but not the expenses for to and fro travel to Dehradun.

## COST OF THE COURSE:

₹ 36,500/ per participant



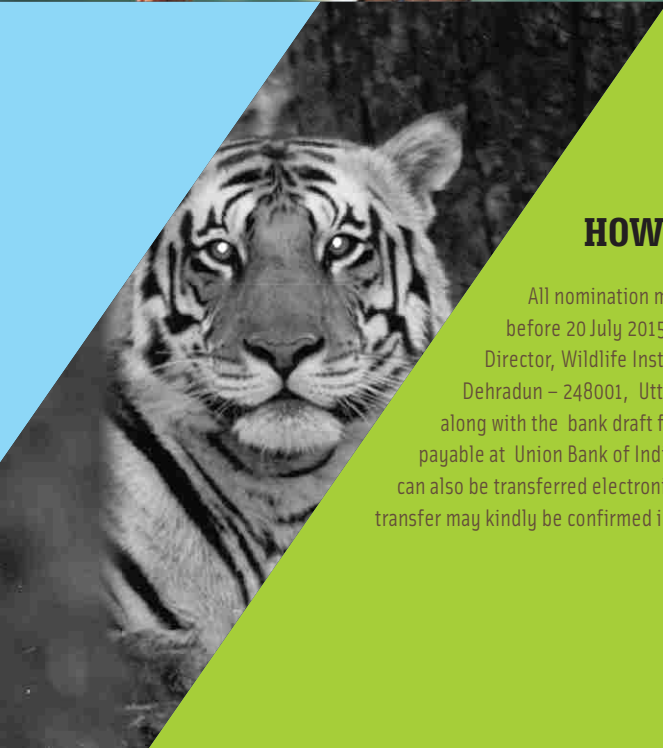
## ABOUT WILDLIFE INSTITUTE OF INDIA (WII)

The Wildlife Institute of India (WII), an autonomous institution of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India, is an eminent regional centre for academics, training and research in the field of wildlife conservation in South Asia and South East Asia. The Institute has also emerged as an internationally acclaimed institution that received the Rajiv Gandhi Award for Conservation in 2001 for its significant contribution to the science of conservation, and more recently was recognized as the first UNESCO Centre on World Natural Heritage Training and Management for Asia Pacific Region. Apart from WII's role in building capacity of wildlife managers, our key role is also to help business organizations and impact assessment professionals understand and prepare for delivering responsible development to ensure security of wildlife species and their habitats.



## HOW TO APPLY

All nomination must reach Wildlife Institute of India before 20 July 2015. Nominations should be confirmed to Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Chandrabani, Dehradun – 248001, Uttarakhand on the prescribed form along with the bank draft for Rs. 36500 (course fee), payable at Union Bank of India, Dehradun. The course fee can also be transferred electronically and details of transfer may kindly be confirmed in the nomination form.



Wildlife Institute of India  
Post Box #18, Chandrabani  
Dehradun – 248001  
Uttarakhand

Telephone: +91 135-2646101  
E-mail: [wii@wii.gov.in](mailto:wii@wii.gov.in)  
Fax: +91 135 2640117  
Website: [www.wii.gov.in](http://www.wii.gov.in)

For further information  
related to the course,  
kindly visit WII website  
([www.wii.gov.in](http://www.wii.gov.in)) or contact  
any of the following:

**Dr. Asha Rajvanshi,**  
Course Coordinator  
(email: [ar@wii.gov.in](mailto:ar@wii.gov.in))  
Phone: +91 135 2646234

**Dr Anju Baroth,**  
Co Course Coordinator  
(email: [anju.baroth@wii.gov.in](mailto:anju.baroth@wii.gov.in))  
Phone: +91 135 2646264

