

PREPARATION OF DPR FOR REJUVINATION OF RIVER CAUVERY THROUGH FORESTRY INTERVENTION - PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PHASE

ICFRE will be the focal point and IFGTB will act as the nodal centre for planning, capacity building, co-coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the different activities. All the concerned states and their representative agencies will act as the implementing partner for their respective identified activities. For the river Cauvery, the states of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry have been identified as the project implementing states. After identification of the roles and activities of the concerned states through project inception meetings inviting all stake holders, detail plan will be drafted for its execution. State Forest Departments (SFDs), State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and other stakeholders will be invited to discuss and identify the action plan and strategy. Each concerned state will host two meetings. The first meeting will be the project inception meeting in which suggestions will take place for drafting the strategy. Delphi method of questionnaire will be adopted to acquire relevant information involving all concerned stakeholders. Available modern tools of Remote Sensing and Geographical Information System will also be used to generate different layers of information appropriate for planning and implementing the action plan. Once the data required for the formulation of proposed activities is in place, the second meeting will be held to finalize the draft of the proposed actions in the DPR. Thus, the first phase of the project envisaged as the *Project Development Phase* for a period of 10 months involves intensive work mainly to identify the activities, prioritizing the activities, strategy for execution of activities in a time bound manner for successfully achieving the set goals, identification of stakeholders and their roles, development of essential initial GIS layers and formulation of the action plan to be incorporated into DPR.

Main focus of activities would be on the following:

1. Biodiversity conservation and development
2. Development of Riparian Zone with Biological Filter
3. Establishing Biological filter zone- Four tiers of plantation filters:
 - i. Ist Tier Plantation
 - ii. IInd Tier Plantation
 - iii. IIIrd Tier Plantation
 - iv. IVth Tier Plantation
4. Increasing tree and forest cover in Cauvery basin