

Main aims of workshop

To disseminate the outcomes of “The Manual on Economic Valuation of Tiger and Snow Leopard Landscape” prepared by IIFM with the support of The World Bank in collaboration with GTF, GTI, SLF; “The Report on Economic Valuation of Tiger Reserves in India” prepared by IIFM with the support of National Tiger Conservation Authority, Govt of India & Various Working Papers developed by the UNEP on Ecosystem Services, specially the one on “Regulating Services” with IIFM, Bhopal, India so as to build technical capacity and develop extensive understanding of the concepts like Natural Capital, Ecosystem Services and their classification, Total Economic Valuation and its methodologies/tools, Green Accounting, Conservation Finance, Payment of Ecosystem Services and incentive-based mechanisms across various practitioners and non economists from TSL range countries..

Key background and justification for the workshop

"The workshop holds high relevance for the Conservation Asia, 2018 as it is directly linked to its central theme mainstreaming conservation in a changing Asia. To bring the conservation into mainstream it is crucial that the value of conservation is recognised and internalised. Valuation of Ecosystem services gives an effective tool to the policy makers for inclusion of natural capital into mainstream. Valuation of ecosystem services is also a step towards drawing attention and generating awareness in the direction of benefits of conservation of ecosystems. It will cover these thematic areas of Conservation Asia, 2018- Valuation of Ecosystem Services, from Conservation to Policy, and Ecosystem Financing and Ecosystem based conservation.

Moreover, Asia is the land of tigers and the only habitat for snow leopards. From these tiger and snow-leopard landscapes a range of important ecosystem services emanate and support human well-being as well as maintain the overall ecological balance. They have high use as well as non-use values like existence value, bequest value and insurance value, and intrinsic value. Many of these values are intangible and are not reflected in the policy scenarios. The flow of the benefits from these services is not only local but global. With the tiger and snow-leopard landscapes being under intensive threat from anthropogenic pressures, valuation of ecosystem services is an effective tool for policymakers to recognise, demonstrate and capture the values for making a strong case for conservation

and evaluating the trade-offs in the dynamic context. Measuring the contribution of ecosystem services is a way of communicating the value of nature and ecosystems and gradually internalise it in the policy making scenarios.

The central objective of the sessions will be to expose participants to the concept of economic valuation of tiger & snow leopard landscapes and how can this be used to achieve dual goals of ecological sustainable and economic development. Further, the session is specifically designed to provide interaction and participation of decision-makers at various levels to catalyse transformative initiatives at various scales.