

2 Training the Stakeholders

The process of JFM involves three major stakeholders: the state forest departments (SFDs), voluntary agencies (VAs), and the village-level institutions (VIs) instrumental in implementing and steering the programme. Capacity building of these stakeholders is important if JFM is to be balanced between activities and objectives.

Within the SFDs, a package is being developed to impart training at different levels to prepare a cadre of foresters able to implement sound forest management through JFM. The Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA) at Dehradun imparts professional forestry training to the Indian Forest Service (IFS) officers. The IFS officers hold key positions in managing the forest wealth in the country. The major policy decisions and execution of planned development of forest areas come from IFS officers, from the level of Principal Chief

Conservator of Forests at the state level, to Deputy Conservator of Forests at the district level. At the Academy, the curriculum topics related to JFM helps this cadre refine and strengthen their skills and knowledge so that they can facilitate a meaningful outcome from the relevant policies. The number of IFS officers in the HKH states is shown in Table 1.2, together with the number of State Forest Services (SFS).

The induction training given to IFS officers recruited by the Government of India consists of 32 subjects, of which 11 focus on the spirit of JFM (Table 2.1).

Different components of JFM are highlighted in the course on People and Forests. There are 15 modules in this course (Table 2.2), highlighting the importance of acquiring relevant knowledge and developing the skill of IFS officers.

Table 2.1: List of Course Modules Related to JFM in the Professional Training Course

Phase	Papers
Induction Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Forest Ecology ▪ Overview of Forestry: National and Global
Professional Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Soil Conservation and Land Management ▪ Silvicultural Systems ▪ Non-wood Forest Products, Bio-diversity Conservation, and Wildlife Management ▪ Forest Administration ▪ Forest Protection.
Advanced Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Environmental Conservation ▪ People and Forests ▪ Working (Management) Plans

Table 2.2: Modules in the People and Forests Course During Professional Training

Module
Forest People, Symbiotic Linkages
Social Forestry Programmes
People's Participation in Forestry
Forest Management Strategy
Micro-planning
Participatory Rural Appraisal
Forestry Extension
Management of Local Community Action
Communication Skills
Role of NGOs in JFM
Gender Interpretations
Forest Dwellers
Forests, Management, and Rural Development
Behavioural Dimension in People-Centred FM
Silvicultural Interventions in JFM

Besides this, in-service courses are also organised at the Academy as is a ten-week training programme for SFS officers inducted in the IFS. The latter has seven modules addressing the need for JFM and of developing the necessary attitudes (Table 2.3).

The other category of in-service training is the compulsory training course set designed for vertical integration of IFS officers (from Deputy Conservator of Forests to Chief Conservator of Forests). These are sponsored by the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEF) and also

Table 2.3: JFM Topics in the Induction Training Programme

Contents
Overview of Forestry
Forest Ecology
Forestry, and Sustainable Rural Development
Joint Forest Management
Bio-diversity and Environmental Conservation
Forest Policy and Law
Wildlife Management
General Management

address a number of issues related to JFM. The courses are shown in Table 2.4 and reflect the high recognition and priority given by the MOEF to imparting training on issues related to JFM. One of these courses, People's Participation in Forestry, is organised over a two-week period and has a very rich input (Table 2.5).

In order to involve VAs and NGOs in JFM, it is essential to train them on the general silviculture prevailing in a specific area, the code and contents of working plans, and wildlife and biodiversity conservation. A suitable package may be designed for them and appropriate institutions requested to organise such training for these groups. This knowledge can help them understand the scientific approach to management, and a common understanding and appreciation of JFM may steer the process smoothly amongst the stakeholders. The role of this group as a catalyst can be made more effective by such interventions.

Table 2.4: List of Compulsory Courses Related to JFM Sponsored by the MOEF

Courses
Socio Anthropological Dimension in Forestry
Wildlife Management
Project Appraisal and Analysis
Forestry Development & Rural Economy
Forestry Extension
Management of Change
Policy & Legal Issues in Forestry
Public Relation & Use of Media
Forest Tribal Interface
Land Use Planning and Management
Financial Management for Forest Managers
Joint Forest Management
Human Resource Development
People's Participation in Forestry
Environmental Education and Awareness
Watershed Management & Afforestation

Table 2.5: Topics in the Course 'People's Participation in Forestry'

Brainstorming and Expectations
Forest Management and People
History and Background of JFM in India
First Generation Issues of JFM in India: Attitudinal Building
Practical Experiences in JFM
Stakeholders in JFM : The Case of Protected Areas
Harmonisation in Working Plans
Gender Analysis in Forestry
Legal Framework for JFM
Converging Official Efforts in JFM
Stakeholders in JFM
Visit to Success Story of People's Participation: WMD
Biodiversity, Conservation: General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT IPRs)
Trends in JFM in India
Revisiting the Training Needs of the IFS
Attitudinal Changes in Forest Departments for Implementing JFM
Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) as Means: Tools and Techniques
International Cooperation and Multinational Flows in the Forestry Sector
Policy Issues in JFM: Open Forum for Views
Course Evaluation. Revisiting Hopes and Fears
Biodiversity in the Context of National Parks