

## REPORT

### One Day Workshop and Training Program on - BIODIVERSITY and VAN SYSTEM

‘If Ecosystems are managed well, Biodiversity will be retained and vice versa’

A one day workshop on ‘Biodiversity and Van System’ was conducted by HFRI on 24 July 2024. 5 students accompanied by Professor Deepti Gupta got a chance to be a part of this workshop. In the workshop, special emphasis was laid on Ecosystem Management, Forest PLUS program and Van system.

Forest-PLUS 3.P is a three-year program (December 2023-2024) of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC). The goal of Forest-PLUS 3.0 is to provide technical assistance that supports the Government of India (GoI) to strengthen sustainable, inclusive and data-driven management of forest landscapes. It will build on, scale up, and institutionalize at a national level the solutions developed and piloted by Forest-PLUS 2.0.

Van System is an integrated system comprising a mobile app and a web portal for forest inventory and ecosystem data collection for the preparation of Working Plans.

Advantages of Van System-

1. Equipped with all the data inventory formats needed for Working Plan preparation
2. Increase accuracy of data collection
3. Reduces time and resources required for preparing the Working Plan
4. Creates a data repository for regular monitoring.

TIGRAM- Forest-PLUS 2.0 developed a traceability system TIGRAM (Timber Georeferenced Area Management) for the Kerala SFD to monitor and manage the sale and movement of timber harvested from private land, which is compliant with the provisions of the Kerala Promotion of Tree Growth in Non-Forest Area Act of 2005 and subsequent rules framed under this act. The system makes use of Quick Response (QR) codes that can be easily generated through a secure web-based system and pasted on the logs. The movement of the labelled legal timber can be then monitored by relevant authorities through a secure track-and-trace system.

In the workshop, experts from the very field trained the participants for the use of Van System.







