

INDUS TREE CRAFTS FOUNDATION

LONG-TERM COMMITMENT TO FOREST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE POLICY



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1. Introduction:

- Indus Tree Crafts Foundation is dedicated to promoting sustainable forest management practices in the context of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®) project Bamboo Plantation Project. This policy outlines our long-term commitment to responsible forest management, conservation, and the enhancement of ecosystem services. It serves as a guiding framework for all stakeholders involved in the project to ensure the preservation of forest resources and the well-being of local communities.

2. Compliance with FSC Principles and Criteria:

- Indus Tree Crafts Foundation is committed to complying with the FSC Principles and Criteria, which encompass ecological, social, and economic aspects of forest management.
- We will adhere to the highest standards and continuously improve our practices to meet or exceed the requirements set by the FSC.

3. Sustainable Forest Management:

1) Forest Conservation and Restoration:

- We recognize the importance of forest conservation and will prioritize the protection of high conservation value areas, endangered species habitats, and areas of ecological significance.
- We will strive to restore and rehabilitate degraded forests, enhancing their biodiversity and ecological resilience.

2) Responsible Harvesting:

- We will employ responsible harvesting practices, ensuring that only sustainable timber and non-timber forest products are extracted from the project area.
- Harvesting activities will be carried out in compliance with approved management plans, ensuring the maintenance of forest structure, regeneration, and long-term productivity.

3) Ecosystem Services and Climate Change:

- We will actively manage forests to enhance their capacity to provide ecosystem services, such as carbon sequestration, water regulation, soil conservation, and habitat connectivity.

- Climate change considerations will be integrated into our forest management practices, aiming to increase resilience and adaptation to changing environmental conditions.

4. Stakeholder Collaboration:

- Indus Tree Crafts Foundation will actively engage with stakeholders, including government agencies, non-governmental organizations, local communities, and other relevant parties, to promote transparency, accountability, and shared responsibility in forest management.
- Collaboration will include information sharing, consultation, and ongoing dialogue to address concerns, identify opportunities, and foster mutual understanding.

5. Certification and Auditing:

- Indus Tree Crafts Foundation will seek and maintain FSC certification for the project to validate our commitment to responsible forest management.
- We will undergo regular independent audits to ensure compliance with the FSC standards and the verification of our sustainable practices.

6. Authorized Signatory:

*Name: Ms. Remya Devan
Designation: Project Manager
Indus Tree Crafts Foundation*

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