

INDUS TREE CRAFTS FOUNDATION

Policy on Identification of Scheduled Tribes (ST) and
Nomadic/Denotified/Semi-Nomadic Tribes (NT/DNT/SNT) for
the FSC FM Certification Project



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1. Introduction:

This policy establishes the formal procedure for identifying Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Nomadic, Denotified and Semi-Nomadic Tribes (NT/DNT/SNT) within the operational geography of the FSC Forest Management Certification Project implemented across Karnataka and Maharashtra. The policy ensures alignment with FSC Principles & Criteria, national and state legal frameworks, and ensures that all community engagements, consultations, and safeguards recognise and respect the rights of constitutionally listed vulnerable communities.

The identification is strictly based on Government of India notifications on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes contained in The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 and corresponding Scheduled Tribes lists for states, as well as the Draft List of Denotified Tribes, Nomadic Tribes & Semi-Nomadic Tribes of India prepared by the National Commission for DNT/NT/SNT under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

2. Objectives:

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Establish a transparent, statutory-aligned identification mechanism for ST and NT/DNT/SNT communities.
- Ensure that all such communities within or adjacent to FSC project areas are recognised, consulted respectfully, and their cultural and social systems are safeguarded.
- Comply with FSC requirements related to Indigenous Peoples, traditional communities, vulnerable groups, and FPIC (Free, Prior and Informed Consent).

3. Identification of Scheduled Tribes (ST) in Project States:

The following official documents form the backbone of this policy:

3.1 Scheduled Tribes in Karnataka:

- As per the official Scheduled Tribes list for Karnataka, the following ST communities are identified in the project districts (Chikkamagaluru, Shivamogga, Hassan):
 - Adiya
 - Baira
 - Betta Kuruba (Gowda)
 - Chenchu

- Irular
- Jenu Kuruba (Koraga)
- Kadu Kuruba (Hakki-Pikki)
- Kattunayakan
- Kolam
- Koraga
- Konda Kapus
- Koya
- Malekudiya
- Maratha Kuruba
- Moger
- Nayaka (Bedar, Valmiki)
- Paniyan
- Sholaga
- Siddi
- Yerava

3.2 Scheduled Tribes in Maharashtra:

- ST communities identified in the Government of India notification for state of Maharashtra includes:

District	ST Community
Nashik	koli Mahadev, Dongar Koli, Kokna, Kokni, Kukna, Bhil, Bhil Garsia, Thakur, Thakar, Varli.
Pune	Koli Mahadev, Dongar Koli, Thakur, Thakar, Bhil, Bhil garsia, Kathodi, Katkari, Pardhi, Advichincher
Dharashiv (Osmanabad)	Koli Mahadev, Dongar Koli, Pardhi, Advichincher, Thakur, Thakar

4. Identification of NT/DNT/SNT Communities in Project States:

The identification follows the **Draft List of Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes of India** prepared by the National Commission.

4.1 Karnataka – Official NT/DNT/SNT List

- NT/DNT communities listed by Government of India in Karnataka include:

- Pardhis
- Yerukula
- Kaikadi
- Berad
- Talwar
- Naikmakkallu
- Bhamta
- Takar
- Irani
- Jogi
- Budga Jangam
- Banjara
- Handi Jogi
- Hakkipikki
- Koracha
- Korava
- Kattunayakan
- Jenu Kuruba
- Shikkaligar
- Siddi
- Sillekyathas



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4.2 Maharashtra – NT/DNT/SNT Communities

- Government-listed NT/DNT/SNT communities in Maharashtra includes:

- Pardhis
- Vaghari
- Wadar
- Kaikadi
- Kanjar Bhat
- Ramoshi
- Berad
- Dombari

- Bohari
- Garudi
- Ghisadi
- Lohar (Nomadic)
- Sapera
- Pardhi sub-groups
- Bhamta/Rajput Bhamta

5. Review and Updating of the Policy:

This policy will be:

- Reviewed annually during the Internal Monitoring cycle.
- Updated whenever Government notifications on STs or NT/DNT/SNT communities are revised.
- Adjusted based on new evidence from project villages or local administrations.

6. References:

1. **Government of India.** *The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950*, including state-wise lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Ministry of Law, Government of India.
2. **National Commission for Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes.** *Draft List of Denotified Tribes, Nomadic Tribes and Semi-Nomadic Tribes of India*. Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India, New Delhi.
3. **Government of India Notification:** *State-wise Notification of Nomadic Tribes*.

4. Authorized Signatory:

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Designation: Project Manager

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