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Dr Promode Kant

Indian Forest Service (Retd)

Date of birth: March, 1955

Chairman, Expert Appraisal Committee (Infrastructure 2), MoEF&CC, GOI

Member, Core Committee of Experts, National Human Rights Commission

I hold a PhD in Climate Change and Forestry, Masters in Physics and Masters in Forestry, and a post graduate diploma in wildlife conservation and management and have more than three decade long experience in the IFS related to forest administration and management, wildlife and ecological sciences, Protected Area management, coastal zone and wetland conservation, forest-tribe interface, traditional agricultural practices among tribal communities and cultivation of tea, coffee, cardamom and rubber in forested areas, Joint Forest Management, climate change, international environmental conventions including UNFCCC, UNCCD, CBD, CITES etc, research and teaching in forestry, and corporate management of tea plantations and factories, among others. I led the enforcement of CITES in its formative years at Chennai between 1985 to 1988 and then at Mumbai from 1988 to 1990. I led the establishment of the first tiger project KMTR in Tamilnadu, initiated the highly successful Ecodevelopment program around its buffer, and made it into the biggest hub for field research in wildlife in India while leading it on two occasions. Between 1997 to 2002 while working as the north eastern regional head of the MoEF&CC I was responsible for the implementation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the eight states of the region besides steering the tribal communities of the region towards increased sustainability of shifting agriculture, better management of non-timber forest products, and creating a knowledge base for their Intellectual Property Rights.

I have held several top positions in Tamilnadu Forest Department both in the headquarters and also as Managing Director of the Tamilnadu Tea Plantation Corporation, Coonoor, which is the largest tea plantation company in the public sector in India. I had also had extensive opportunities of taking part in international negotiations during CITES conferences and considerable background role in climate change negotiations.

In 2008 I took retirement from the Indian Forest Service and has since been involved in writing, teaching and capacity building in climate change adaptation, CDM and REDD and related fields. I was a Visiting Professor at the Faculty of Forest Sciences, University of Joensuu, Finland, from 2005 till 2009 during which period I led courses on climate change and forestry for MSc (European Forestry). I am a frequent visiting faculty at the Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy, Dehradun, India, and over the past one decade I have delivered hundreds of talks on forestry and climate change at teaching and capacity building institutions across the world.

In April 2018 I coordinated the National Workshop on National Action Plan on Forest Fire of the MoEF&CC, Government of India, and led the drafting of the National Forest Fire Action Plan. Subsequently, I was one of the Lead Authors of the IUFRO Occasional Paper 32 titled “Global Fire challenges in a warming world: Summary Note of a Global Expert Workshop on Fire and Climate Change”. Subsequently in 2021 I helped in the preparation of the Uttarakhand Forest Fire Action Plan which is under implementation . Earlier, I was the leading author of “National Forest Financing Strategies” published by the Food and Agriculture Organization in 2013.

In March 2022 I was appointed as a Member of the Core Committee of Experts to the National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi. And since July 2022 I am functioning as the Chairman of the Expert Appraisal Committee (Infrastructure 2) of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

I have written more than 50 papers on forestry and climate change related issues and has been a co-author of a number of books. I am a regular reviewer of the Elsevier Journal of Energy Policy and of Elsevier Journal of Forest Policy and Economics besides many other national and international journals.

Some of my publications are as follows:

1. As the Second Lead Author in IUFRO Occasional Paper No. 34 titled “Governance of forest landscape restoration – analyses of governance issues in cases from Ghana and India”, published in Jan 2022 by IUFRO, Vienna
2. Kant, P and Raman Nautiyal, 2021, INDIA TIMBER SUPPLY AND DEMAND 2010-2030: An analysis of supply, demand, and end use of timber in India and projections to 2030, published by ITTO, Yokohama, Japan, 2021
3. Nautiyal, R and Promode Kant, 2021, The rise of India’s timber market, published in Tropical Forest Update, Vol 30, No. 3/4 2021, ITTO, Yokohama, Japan, ISSN 1022–5439
4. As a Co-ordinating Lead Author in IUFRO Occasional Paper No. 33 titled “Forest Landscape Restoration Implementation: Lessons Learned from Selected Landscapes in Africa, Asia and Latin America”, Published in Feb 2020
5. **Co-author of IUFRO Occasional Paper 32 titled “Global Fire challenges in a warming world: Summary Note of a Global Expert Workshop on Fire and Climate Change”, Dec 2018**
6. Contributory Author to “Implementing Forest Landscape Restoration: A Practitioner’s Guide”, 2017, IUFRO-SPDC, Vienna, ISBN: 978-3-902762-78-8
7. Author of a chapter titled "Large scale rural job creation has the potential of becoming the main attraction of REDD+" in the book "Sustainable Forest Management for Multiple Values: A Paradigm Shift" published by the Forest Research Institute, Dehradun, 2015
8. Co-Editor of “Forest Biomass for Energy” published by the European Forestry Institute, Joensuu, 2014
9. First Author of “National Forest Financing Strategies” published by the Food and Agriculture Organization, FAO RAP Publication 2013/01, January 2013, ISBN 978-92-5-107476-3
10. Second Co-author of Forestry and Climate Change in Asia Pacific Region, 2010. Published by FAO, Rome, 2010
11. Sole author of Forest Carbon Management in India, ISBN-NR: 978-3-8433-7472-9 published by Lambert Publishers, Germany
12. Contributory author of Keep Asia Green Vol III, South Asia, IUFRO publication 2009, ISBN 978-89-955147-4-0, IUFRO, Vienna
13. Contributory author of Keep Asia Green Volume V, published by International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO), Vienna, in 2011

The following are some of my research publications

1. Rapidly Expanding Domestic Carbon Markets can help Attract Investment in REDD, by Promode Kant & Wu Shuirong, IGREC WORKING PAPER IGREC-29:2014
 2. Pushing REDD+ out of its Paralyzing Inertia, by Promode Kant & Wu Shuirong, IGREC WORKING PAPER IGREC-28:2014
 3. Forest Transitions across Ages and Continents: Implications for REDD, by Promode Kant & Wu Shuirong, Working Paper IGREC-27:2013
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4. "Should Adaptation to Climate Change be Given Priority Over Mitigation in Tropical Forests?" by Promode Kant and Wu Shuirong, *Journal of Carbon Management* (2012) 3(3), 303-311, Future Science Group, London, UK, 2012
 5. "The REDD Market Should Not End up a Subprime House of Cards: Introducing a New REDD Architecture for Environmental Integrity" Promode Kant & Wu Shuirong, *Journal of Environmental Science & Technology*, Vol 45, Issue 19, USA
 6. "The Extraordinary Collapse of Jatropha as a Global Biofuel", Promode Kant & Wu Shuirong, *Journal of Environmental Science and Technology*, Vol 45, Issue 17, USA
 7. The Critical Importance of Forest Carbon Sink in the Green Economy of the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Mountain Systems, by Promode Kant & Wu Shuirong, Working Paper IGREC-26:2011
 8. Impact of Border Carbon Adjustment and of Restrictions on non - certified Timber on International Commerce in Wood Products, by Promode Kant & Wu Shuirong, Working Paper IGREC-25:2011
 9. "Reducing Deforestation & Degradation through Post-colonial Settlement of Land Rights: a Case Study in India", Promode Kant & Wu Shuirong, *Climate Change & Law Review*, No. 3/2008, Lexxion Legal Publishers, Germany
 10. Rehabilitating Forests and Extending Tree Cover in South Asia – A Synthesis, Promode Kant et al published in *Keep Asia Green Vol III, South Asia*, IUFRO publication 2009, ISBN 978-89-955147-4-0, IUFRO, Vienna, pp 7-20.
 11. India: Bringing a Third of the Land under Forest Cover, Promode Kant et al published in *Keep Asia Green Vol III, South Asia*, IUFRO publication 2009, ISBN 978-89-955147-4-0, IUFRO, Vienna, pp 111-161.
 12. Assessing the impact of environmental campaigns against the activities of a pulp and paper company in Indonesia by Gritten, D. and Kant, P. 2007. *International Forestry Review*. 30(4).
 13. Redefining Baseline for Forestry Projects under CDM, Promode Kant & R P S Katwal, *Indian Forester*, Dehradun, India, 2003, Vol 129, No. 6, pp 682-690
 14. Policy Support for Enhancing Economic Returns from Smallholder Plantations using carbon Credits and other Forest Values, FAO-RAP Publication 2004/22, Bangkok, Thailand, ISBN No: 974-7946-57-2,
 15. Raising Kyoto Forests in Different Bio-geographic Zones of India - A Profitability Analysis. *Indian Forester*, Dehradun, India, 2005, Vol 131, No. 9,
 16. Definition of Forests under the Kyoto Protocol: Choosing Appropriate Values for Crown Cover, Area and Tree Height for India, *Indian Forester*, Dehradun, India, 2006, Vol 132, No. 5,
 17. Clean Development Mechanism in Forestry Sector in India: Opportunities, Challenges and the State of Preparedness, published in "Climate Change, Kyoto Protocol and Forest Sector" Youn Y. (ed) 2006. Korean studies Information Co., Ltd, Paju Korea. ISBN 8953455340.
 18. Exploring Possibilities of Reforestation of Forest Lands Exposed to Encroachment and Shifting Cultivation in the North Eastern India through CDM, by Promode Kant et al, Published in 'Technological Innovations and Research Advancements in JFM' ICFRE, Dehradun, 2003,
 19. Innovative Role of Tribal Institutions in Joint Forest Management in North Eastern India, By Imtiena Ao, Darlong V T, Promode Kant, published in the Proceedings of the International
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Workshop on “A Decade Joint Forest Management - Retrospection and Introspection” June 19-20, 2000 pp 33-37

20. Clearance of Large Hydel Projects: Environmental Procedures and Considerations, published in Ecologist Asia, UK, Vol. 11, No.1, 2003, pages 34-37.
21. Inter-relationship between the forest owning tribes and the plainsmen in Northeast India, Silva Carelica, Vol 49, 2005, pages 203-213, published by University of Joensuu, Finland.
22. Balancing Public and Private Goods in Private Forestry, Published in “Communication Strategies for Multiple Partner Involvement in Forestry Extension”, IUFRO, 2006, Rome, pages 405-409
23. Public Interest Litigation Helps Extend Scientific Forestry to Forests Owned by Tribes in India: An Economic, Legal and Equity Analysis. Published in “Communication Strategies for Multiple Partner Involvement in Forestry Extension”, IUFRO, 2006, Rome, pages 90-105.
24. R & D Requirements of Incorporating Environmental Goods and Services from Forests within JFM as an Effective Poverty Alleviation Strategy, Promode Kant & R P S Katwal, paper published in FAO, RAP publication 2005/19, Bangkok, Thailand

Recent international and national assignments

Date	May 2022 onwards
Location	India
Position	IUFRO Coordinator for organizing international knowledge sharing workshop on “Mainstreaming Landscape Thinking for Restoration Impact in Natural Resources Management Education in the BIMSTEC Region”.

Date	Jan 2022 onwards
Location	India
Position	Chairman of the Expert Committee for the Establishment of Domestic Forestry Carbon Market under the ICFRE, Dehradun.

Date	Dec 2021 onwards till March 2022
Location	India
Position	Expert Member of MoEF&CC Working Group on CITES COP19

Date	August 2021 onwards till Jan 2022
Location	Seoul (online)
Position	As speaker, and lead moderator in the “AFoCO-ITTO Capacity Building Workshop on Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) in the Asia-Pacific Region”

Date April 1, 2021 onwards till November, 2021
Location India
Position IUFRO training coordinator for a workshop series on forest landscape restoration implementation in India and associated activities.

Date May 2021
Location India
Position Member of ICFRE Expert Committee for preparing and finalizing the draft of the Safeguards Information System for Implementation of REDD+ in India. Task accomplished

Date Sept 13-17, 2021
Location India
Position Keynote Speaker on Community Based REDD+ and World Bank Finance for Carbon Forestry Projects at the Online training program for IFS officers on “Developing Legal and Policy Framework for Private Forestry: Global Experiences for Application in India” at UPES School of Law, Dehradun

Date Dec 9, 2021
Location India
Position Keynote Speaker at “Sustainable Forest Management: Contribution to Climate Change Mitigation” organized by the University of Göttingen, Germany.

Date July 1, 2021 onwards till March 31, 2022
Location India
Position ITTO Co-Editor for the publication of a new book entitled “Sustainable Management of Teak in the Mekong Region for a sustainable future” under the ITTO Project (PP-A/54-331).

Date August 30, 2021, till March 2022
Location India
Position AFoCO - ITTO "Capacity Building Workshop on Forest Landscape Restoration in the Asia-Pacific Region" 30 August -3 September 2021 as Speaker, Moderator & Concept Developer for AFoCO-ITTO Joint Mechanism for implementing FLR in Asia Pacific.

Date Feb 19 – March 31, 2019
Location MoEFCC, New Delhi
Position Member, Expert Committee for restructuring the Course Curriculum for training of IFS in IGFNA, Dehradun.

Date March 6-7, 2019
Location Vienna, Austria
Position Member, Forest Landscape Restoration Core Team of IUFRO, Global FLR monitoring strategy meeting for 2019

Date Jan 7, 2019
Location Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation, Chennai
Position Guest Speaker on “Observed and potential effects of global climate change on species and ecosystems. How research can help in developing plans for adoption strategies that relate to human society and ecological systems”.

Date Nov 14-16, 2018
Location Bangkok
Position Expert Member at the FAO-ITTO Expert Group Conference for FLR in the Tropics

Date Sept 13-14, 2018
Location Oregon State University, Corvallis, USA
Position Climate Change Adaptation Expert at the IUFRO joint TF workshop "Forests landscapes in times of changing climate and water resources"

Date Aug 13-17, 2018
Location Chilaw, Srilanka
Position IUFRO-IUCN Forest Landscape Restoration in South Asia

Date May to October, 2018
Location Vienna
Position IUFRO Lead Editor, Forest Fires and Climate Change Issue Paper.

Date March 27 to April 26, 2018

Location	New Delhi
Position	Chair, Committee on Forest Fires, MoEFCC, Government of India, for the preparation of National Forest Fire Action Plan for India.
Date	March 6 to April 30, 2018
Location	Pontianak, West Kalimantan, Indonesia
Position	Subject Expert for ITTO International Workshop on Transboundary Conservation Area held at Pontianak, West Kalimantan, Indonesia.
Date	02/2017 to 04/2017
Location	Bhutan
Position	International Expert to IUFRO for the implementation of the Project “Climate change adaptation potentials of forests in Bhutan – building human capacities and knowledge base
Organization	International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO), Vienna
Date	October 4-7, 2016
Location	Pyongyang, North Korea
Position	Member of an international team of Experts organized by the University of British Columbia, Canada, for international Conference on “Promoting Sustainable Development in the DPRK,”
Description	for capacity building of North Korean Government officials
Organization	Asia Pacific Forest Policy Think Tank, FAO Regional Office
Position	Foundational Member
Description	Advising Asia Pacific countries on forest policy matters to bring them in alignment with international conventions on climate change, biodiversity and desertification etc & development of National Forest Financing Strategies for Asia pacific
Date	01/2013 – 07/2014
Location	Denmark
Organization	European Forestry Institute, North Europe Campus, Copenhagen
Position	Lead Author and Editor of a publication titled Forest Biomass Energy for Europe
