

Report for the 43rd Session of the World Heritage Committee

(Baku, 30 June-10 July 2019)

1. General information

- **Name of the Centre:** UNESCO Category 2 Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for the Asia and Pacific Region at Wildlife Institute of India
- **Address:** Wildlife Institute of India Campus, Chandrabani, Dehradun – 248001. Uttarakhand, India
- **Telephone:** +91 135 2640910
- **Name and contact information of the Acting Director/Head:** Dr. Vinod B. Mathur
- **Designated Focal Point(s) (name, title and contact information):**

Dr. Vinod B. Mathur
Director, Wildlife Institute of India
Chandrabani, Dehradun – 248001.
Uttarakhand, India
Email: dwii@wii.gov.in, vbm@wii.gov.in
Tel: +91 135 2640910
Fax: +91 135 2640117

- **Website of the Centre (if available):** http://wii.gov.in/unesco_category2_centre

2. Institutional and operational structure of the Centre (Governing Board, Staffing, Operational funding and premises)

From the outcome of the second cycle of Periodic Reporting (2012) conducted by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties in Asia and the Pacific, a Centre of Excellence on Natural World Heritage for Asia and the Pacific region at the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), was proposed as a Category 2 Centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

The Indian Cabinet of Ministers, chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi formally approved the proposal for signing the Agreement for establishment of the UNESCO C2C at Wildlife Institute of India on 5th August, 2015. The Agreement was signed between the Director General, UNESCO and Director General of Forest, Government of India on 2nd September, 2015. The 21 member Governing Body of the Wildlife Institute of India chaired by the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) is also the Governing Body of UNESCO C2C at WII.

The operational activities of the C2C are handled by a 15 member dedicated team of skilled professionals. The C2C team includes Director, Scientists, Technical Officers, Assistant Technical Officers and World Heritage Assistants. Administrative staff includes Administrative officer, Finance Officer and IT Officer.

The C2C is supported with financial resources primarily from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India to achieve its mandate and also raises additional funding from other institutional donors for specific activities. The Centre now operates from its own exclusive building within the WII campus, which was inaugurated in March, 2018.

3. Updates on the management of the Centre – particularly on meetings of the Governing Board and key decisions adopted

The Centre has been envisaged as an integral part of Wildlife Institute of India and is governed by the Institute's Governing Body with Secretary (Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change), Govt. of India as its Chairperson and Director, WII as its Member Secretary. The Governing Body also includes the Director of Heritage Division and World Heritage Centre, UNESCO Paris as representative of the UNESCO Director General.

The Annual Progress Reports are submitted to and reviewed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India. The Centre has successfully accomplished annual work programmes for the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19. The Centre's Annual Progress Report (2018-19) and Annual Work Plan (2019-20) have been approved at the 69th Governing Body of WII held in New Delhi on 28 March, 2019. The Annual Reports are available at http://wii.gov.in/unesco_category2_centre.

4. Main programs and activities implemented since April 2018 and planned for the current year

Nb	Title of the activity	Reference to WHCBS ¹
1	Proposal for nomination of tentative listing of Kailash Sacred Landscape as a World Heritage Site	2.3, 2.6
2	Proposal for nomination of Garo Hills Conservation Area as a World Heritage Site	2.2, 2.6
3	Proposal for nomination of tentative listing of Satpura-Kanha-Pench-Bandhargarh-Sanjay protected areas and Bedaghat (Jabalpur)	2.3, 2.6
4	Training Programme on Monitoring of Outstanding Universal Values of Natural World Heritage Sites in The Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area (28-30 June, 2018)	3.3, 4.3

¹WHCBS i.e. World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy (<http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2011/whc11-35com-9B6e.pdf>).

7	Capacity Building cum Planning workshop on Ecotourism and Visitor-use Management in Protected Areas at WII, Dehradun (08-10 August, 2018)	3.7, 7.2
8	Ecosystem Services Partnership(ESP)-Asia Conference at WII, Dehradun (09-12 October, 2018)	7.2
9	Training Programme on Dossier Preparation for Natural World Heritage, Mixed and Cultural Landscapes Nomination of World Heritage Sites at WII, Dehradun (23 October, 2018)	2.2, 3.4
10	Symposium on Culture-Nature Journey: Beyond Borders in Asia and the Pacific at WII, Dehradun (24-26 October, 2018)	1.4, 7.2, 8.1
11	Training Programme on Monitoring of Outstanding Universal Values of Natural World Heritage Site at Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Park (27- 29 November, 2018)	3.3, 4.3
12	Training Programme on Monitoring of Outstanding Universal Values of Natural World Heritage Sites (Serial sites of Western Ghats WHS) in Karnataka (14-15 December, 2018)	3.3, 4.3
13	Foundation Training Course on Wildlife Management for Frontline Staff of Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area (GHNPCA) at WII, Dehradun and GHNP, Himachal Pradesh (February, 2019)	3.3, 3.4, 4.3
14	Training Programme on Monitoring of Outstanding Universal Values of Natural World Heritage Sites at Kaziranga National Park (25-26 February, 2019)	3.3, .43
15	UNESCO Sub-regional Conference on World Heritage Global Strategy in the context of South Asia, Kolkata, West Bengal (21-22 February, 2019)	1.6, 2.2, 2.3, 10.7
16	Adaptive Management for Protected Areas under World Heritage Leadership Programme in Australia (2-5 November, 2018)	1.3, 3.3, 3.4, 4.3
17	Heritage Management Conference – community partnerships and culture-nature integration – at Ahmedabad University (14-16 December, 2018)	7.2, 8.1
18	Visiting Fellow Programme	5.2
19	Internship	1.1, 5.2, 7.2
20	State of Conservation Report 2018 for World Heritage Properties in India	4.9
21	Reflection meeting on reforming the World Heritage Nomination Process, Tunisia (January, 2019)	2

22	Celebration of World HeritageDay, (18th April,2018)	1.1, 7.2
23	Session at Green Hub Festival on 'Aliens in World Heritage Sites: A Key concern in maintaining Outstanding Universal Values', Assam (13-14May, 2018)	3.7, 4.3, 7.2
24	Natural Heritage Bulletin	8.2
25	Rapid assessment of Hispid Hare in Manas World Heritage Site, Assam, India (February, 2019)	4.7