

Training Programme on Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services March 14-17, 2016

An **'Appreciating Training Programme on Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services'** was organized jointly by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH at Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun on March 14-17, 2016. The programme began with a welcome address by Dr. G. S. Rawat, Dean, Wildlife Sciences, WII and Ravindra Singh, Senior Advisor, Indo-German Biodiversity Programme, GIZ, New Delhi. The objective of the programme was to familiarize the participants with the basics of economic valuation of ecosystem services through modules of ValuES project and Conservation Strategy Fund (CSF). Kim Bonine, Training Director - Conservation Strategy Fund, California and Dr. Alejandro von Bertrab, Advisor, ValuES, GIZ, Germany were the instructors for the training. The highpoint of the training was when the participants were exposed to situational exercises and plan strategies to do economic evaluation of an area. The training programme was attended by 25 participants from reputed national institutions and international agencies. The participant group had combination of scientists, professionals, foresters and researchers having diverse background from applied to social sciences.

The concluding session was chaired by Dr. V. B. Mathur, Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. During his address, he expressed great satisfaction from the expression drawn from the feedback provided by the participants. He further highlighted the importance of such training and the need to maintain the continuity of such programmes for building capacity of trainers to support conservation efforts.

