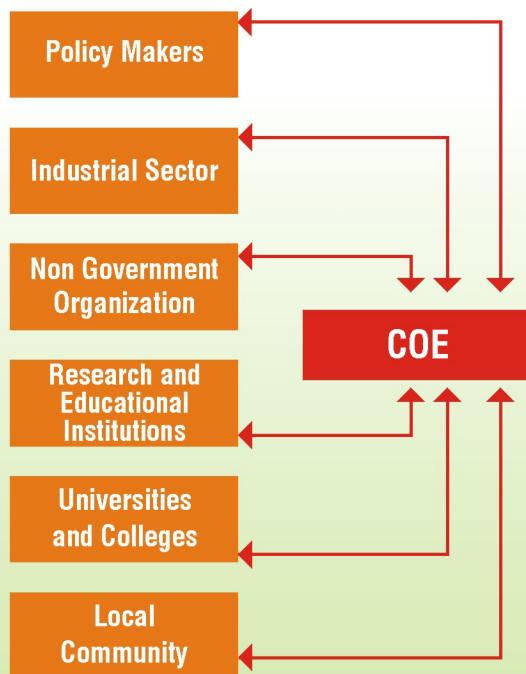


## Stakeholders



## Deliverables

- Database of forest based livelihood in Uttarakhand.
- Information regarding socio-economic status of the people dependent on forests for their livelihood.

## Outcome

- Resource and information centre on forest based livelihood in Uttarakhand.
- Information generated will be helpful in sustainable non-wood forest product management and in exploring more livelihood opportunities of the State.



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Centre of  
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Livelihood in  
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## Centre of Excellence on Forest based Livelihood in Uttarakhand

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF& CC) created a *Centre of Excellence (CoE) on Forest based Livelihood in Uttarakhand* with Uttarakhand State Council for Science and Technology (UCOST). A first of its kind in the state, the COE delves on issues related to forest based products and dependence of forest fringe dwellers on forest resources.

### Mandate

Uttarakhand's forests have been an essential part of the state development and nearly 80% people are directly or indirectly dependent on forests either for their sustenance or subsistence. Forests provide fodder, fuelwood, many wild foods, construction material, medicines etc. and also create microclimate for cultivation of several crops of the hill. Non wood forest products (NWFPs) mainly medicinal plants and bamboo are gaining importance in bringing better livelihood opportunities. COE thrives to generate datasets on forest based livelihood and income generating opportunities.



### Vision

To become a resource and knowledge centre on forest based livelihood and contribute towards sustainable livelihood opportunities in the state.

### Objectives

- To collect all the available data on forest based produce with focus on non-timber products like medicinal plants and bamboo and to create a clearing house for the same.
- To interact with people through focused group discussion (FGD) and to estimate their dependence on forests for their livelihood.
- To do value and supply chain analysis for different forest products.
- To create a resource directory of various government and non-government organisations, private institutes and experts working in the area of forest livelihood.
- To conduct socio-economic analysis and estimate cultural dependence of the forest fringe villages on forestry.



### Focus Area

#### Medicinal plants:

Uttarakhand state is the hub of medicinal plants due to wide altitudinal variation, different habitat types, and varying microclimatic conditions. The state has nearly 700 species of medicinal plants which find usage in folk and documented systems of medicine like Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy. Medicinal plants are not only a major resource base for the traditional medicine & herbal industry but also provide livelihood and health security to a large segment of Indian population.

#### Bamboo:

Bamboo regarded as the poor man's timber, have been associated with human's civilizations since ages. There are mainly eight bamboo species growing naturally in Uttarakhand- four thick species, grow between 300-1500 msl, are used for making paper and diverse household items. The remaining four thin species, known as ringals, grow between 1500-3500 msl and are commonly used for making baskets, mats, flowerpots and other products.

#### Others:

Few other forest products such as fuelwood, fibres, seeds, honey, leaves, barks, resins, gums, fungi, berries, nuts, flowers and fodder also provide large livelihood opportunities in the state. Keerajadi, a caterpillar fungus found at an altitude of 4000 msl, due to high medicinal value, have greatly enhanced the economic status of the collectors of Pithoragarh, Chamoli and Bageshwar districts. Jhula, a lichen is a source of livelihood due to its use in perfumery and dye making. Some multipurpose species like Bhimal and Khadik are a part of rural culture in hilly region and indispensable for their households.

