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## Study tour cum exposure visit programme for the Scientists from Kenya Forest Research Institute

4 September 2023, Dehradun. The ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, Dehradun organized a six-day study tour cum exposure visit programme on Bamboo Allometrics, Hydrology and environmental Metrics for the scientists from Kenya Forest Research Institute (KEFRI), Kenya from 21-26 August 2023.

On inaugurating the function, Dr Charan Singh, Officiating Director, highlighted the work done by the institute for rehabilitation of degraded lands. Dr R K Singh emphasized the importance of conserving green and blue water while efficiently utilizing grey water. Dr JMS Tomar, Head Plant Science Division stressed the importance of agroforestry and fruit trees in resource conservation and providing livelihood security. He also highlighted the work done by the Plant Science Division in TSP and SCSP programme. Dr Gopal Kumar highlighted the technologies developed by Soil Science and Agronomy Division, which can play an important role in enhancing productivity of degraded lands. On this occasion, Dr James Ndufa, Chief Scientist and Incharge of Forest Biodiversity and Environment Management, KEFRI provided a briefing on the state of land degradation in Kenya, revealing that 62% of the land is currently degraded and an additional 21% is considered to be extremely degraded. Dr Stanley Nadir, Senior Research Scientist and Deputy Regional Director, emphasized on joint working of IISWC and KEFRI in promoting bamboo research programme.



During the six days study tour, many experts apprised the delegates on the subject matters and they were exposed to demonstrations, experiments; observed research work and machines; visited various laboratories, Library, processing center and market places; and introduced to various techniques with practical experiences. In-depth discussions were conducted, covering a range of topics including industrial development, market dynamics, and policy matters.

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