



National Coastal Mission 2.0

Central Sector Scheme

Scheme Implementation Guidelines



Healthy
Coasts



Sustainable
Ecosystems



Climate
Resilience



Prosperous
Communities

Implementation Guidelines

National Coastal Mission 2.0 Central Sector Scheme



Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change
Government of India

September 2026

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Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full Form
A&OE	Administrative and Operational Expenses
AA&ES	Administrative Approval and Expenditure Sanction
AN	Andaman and Nicobar Islands
AE	Appraisal Entity
C&AG	Comptroller and Auditor General of India
CMSP	Coastal and Marine Spatial Plan
CNA	Central Nodal Agency
CPCB	Central Pollution Control Board
CVI	Cumulative Vulnerability Index
DPR	Detailed Project Report
DoE	Department of Expenditure
DSS	Decision Support System
EFC	Expenditure Finance Committee
EMP	Environment Management Plan
GFR	General Financial Rules
GIS	Geographic Information System
GRM	Grievance Redressal Mechanism
IA	Implementing Agency
ICZMP	Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan
IFD	Internal Finance Division
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LoA	Letter of Authorisation
MER	Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting
MIS	Management Information System
MoEFCC	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NCM	National Coastal Mission
NCSCM	National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management
NIOT	National Institute of Ocean Technology

PD	Programme Division
PFMS	Public Financial Management System
PFR	Pre-Feasibility Report
PMC	Project Management Cell
PSC	Project Steering Committee
SCMD	Sustainable Coastal Management Division
SEVI	Socio-Economic Vulnerability Index
SoE	Statement of Expenditure
SNCO	State Nodal Coordination Officer
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TPA	Third Party Assessment
UC	Utilisation Certificate
UT	Union Territory
WII	Wildlife Institute of India
ZSI	Zoological Survey of India

Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1 The Government of India's Vision for India of 2030, enunciated in the Interim Budget Speech 2019-20, identified the country's coastline and ocean waters powering India's development and growth, through the Blue Economy, as the Sixth Dimension of national growth. The Draft Policy Framework for India's Blue Economy (EAC-PM, September 2020) expressly envisages the integration of the National Coastal Mission (NCM), of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), with Blue Economy activities (Para 4.13), positioning the Mission as a key institutional vehicle for environmentally sustainable development of India's coastal zones.

1.2 The National Coastal Mission, implemented during 2021-22 to 2025-26, supported the conservation and management of mangroves and coral reefs, research and development in coastal and marine ecosystems, sustainable development of beaches, and capacity building of coastal States and Union Territories. The NCM a central sector scheme, was an interim arrangement during COVID-19, to continue and enhance the scope of work of the World Bank assisted pilot project Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan (ICZMP) and another scheme Conservation and Management of Mangroves and Coral Reefs, till the approval of the larger comprehensive proposal, namely Enhancing Coastal and Ocean Resource Efficiency (ENCORE) which was under the consideration of Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC).

1.3 This policy continuum received budgetary articulation in the Union Budget 2024-25, which announced a scheme for restoration and adaptation measures, coastal aquaculture and mariculture under Blue Economy 2.0, with an integrated and multi-sectoral approach. NITI Aayog's report *India's Blue Economy: Strategy for Harnessing Deep-Sea and Offshore Fisheries* (October 2025) further situates sustainable utilisation of coastal and marine resources within the Blue Economy Vision 2047, in consonance with the goal of Viksit Bharat.

1.4 The National Coastal Mission 2.0 (NCM 2.0), with an approved outlay of ₹767 crore for the period 2025-26 to 2030-31, co-terminus with the Finance Commission award period, shall give effect to this mandate. The erstwhile NCM stands subsumed within NCM 2.0 w.e.f. 16.05.2025, which shall serve as the consolidating framework for climate-resilient coastal management, ecosystem restoration, and sustainable livelihoods across the coastal States and Union Territories.

Chapter 2: Vision, Objectives and Scope

2.1 Vision

Vision

To conserve and protect India's coastal and marine ecosystems while promoting sustainable and inclusive development, enhancing climate resilience, and unlocking the potential of the Blue Economy for the socio-economic development and prosperity of coastal regions and communities.

2.2 Mission Objectives

The Mission objectives are to:

- a) Promote adaptation and mitigation measures to address climate change impacts on coastal communities and ecosystems.
- b) Conserve, protect, and manage fragile coastal and marine ecosystems including mangroves, brackish water wetlands, coral reefs, etc.
- c) Develop Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans (ICZMP) and Coastal Marine Spatial Plans (CMSP) to facilitate environmentally sound, climate-resilient Blue Economy development, including green and sustainable shoreline infrastructure.
- d) Support the development of diversified and resilient livelihood options for coastal communities.
- e) Prevent, abate, and control pollution of coastal and territorial marine waters.
- f) Strengthen capacity and enhance awareness among stakeholders on climate change challenges and promote appropriate adaptation and mitigation responses.
- g) Promote the objectives of Atmanirbhar Bharat and fulfil obligations arising from international treaties and conventions related to ocean and coastal environmental management.
- h) Unlocking Blue Economy Potential resulting in the socio-economic development of the coastal region.

2.3 Thematic Categories

There are five mission components, namely:

- a. Climate Resilient Blue Economic Growth:** Promotes ecosystem conservation, pollution management, and climate-resilient development to enhance the sustainability, resilience, and Blue Economy potential of coastal and marine regions.
- b. Coastal Vulnerability and Risk Reduction:** Supports scientific assessment of coastal vulnerabilities and risks, integrated planning through ICZMPs and CMSPs, and the development of climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable approaches to reduce coastal risks and enhance the resilience of coastal ecosystems, infrastructure, and communities.

- c. **Climate Change Adaptation with Mitigation co-benefits:** Support ecosystem-based and nature-positive interventions that enhance the resilience of coastal and marine ecosystems and communities to climate change while generating mitigation co-benefits through conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of coastal and marine biodiversity and natural resources.
- d. **Capacity Building and Outreach:** Strengthen the capacities of institutions, stakeholders, and coastal communities through training, knowledge sharing, awareness generation, and outreach initiatives to promote sustainable management of coastal and marine ecosystems, enhance climate resilience, support adaptation and mitigation efforts, and foster sustainable and diversified livelihood opportunities.
- e. **Committed liabilities and Project Management:** This component includes committed liabilities to meet the national component of co-finance commitment under Green Climate Fund supported Enhancing Climate Resilience of Indian Coastal Communities Project, committed liabilities of NCM 1.0 and for setting up an institutional mechanism for Project Monitoring, Evaluation and Review.

2.4 Geographical Coverage

The Mission activities will be implemented in the Coastal States and UTs, covering the country's diverse coastal and marine ecosystems. The Mission will support interventions tailored to local ecological, socio-economic, and climate-risk contexts, while promoting integrated coastal zone management, climate resilience, ecosystem conservation, and sustainable Blue Economy development.

- 9 Coastal States: Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and West Bengal.
- 4 Union Territories: Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Puducherry, and Lakshadweep.

2.5 Expected Outcomes

2.5.1 NCM 2.0 is expected to deliver measurable outcomes. Some of the envisaged outputs and outcomes, of the identified activities/projects include, but are not limited to, are the following:

- a. Enable scientific evidence-based guidance to policy and decision makers for development of blue economy activities and coastal ecosystem conservation plans and programmes by developing ICZMPs and CMSPs for 1000 km of priority coastal stretch and a Cumulative Vulnerability Study of the coastline of India, undertaken using uniform methodology, and standardised data framework.
- b. Restoration of coral reef ecosystems across multiple identified sites, improving biodiversity and fishery resources; setting up of a Centre of Excellence on corals.
- c. Restoration of Mangroves in Andaman & Nicobar Islands for improving carbon sequestration, storm surge buffering, and shoreline stabilization.

- d. Improved coastal water quality resulting from strengthened pollution abatement, control and monitoring measures.
- e. Reduction in vulnerability of coastal communities to erosion, salinity ingress, and flooding arising due to climate change impacts.
- f. Adoption of green infrastructure to abate shoreline changes and reduce long-term infrastructure costs.
- g. Development of Model Eco-friendly Tourism facilities and infrastructure.
- h. Enhanced income and livelihood opportunities of coastal communities through sustainable ecotourism, while promoting community stewardship.
- i. Enhanced capacity of State/UT institutions in managing coastal ecosystems.
- j. Enhanced awareness among Coastal Communities about the impacts of climate change and associated mitigation and adaptation measures.
- k. Conservation and Information Centre cum Marine Oceanarium in Gujarat.
- l. Conservation of coastal mammals.

The National Coastal Mission 2.0 seeks to provide a comprehensive framework for conservation and sustainable management of India's coastal and marine ecosystems, while addressing the growing challenges posed by climate change and environmental degradation. Through its focus on scientific planning, climate resilience, ecosystem restoration, pollution management, capacity building, and sustainable livelihood development, the Mission aims to strengthen the resilience of coastal communities and ecosystems. By promoting integrated coastal and marine spatial planning and supporting environmentally sound Blue Economy initiatives, the Mission will contribute to the sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development of coastal regions. The successful implementation of the Mission is expected to enhance ecological security, reduce climate vulnerabilities, strengthen institutional capacities, and unlock the potential of India's coastal and marine resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

Chapter 3: Scheme Components and Activities

3.1 Budget Overview

The following is the indicative budget outlay for a six-year period (2025-2031) of the mission aligning with the 16th Finance Commission and the indicative Implementing agencies (IA)

S No.	Component	Outlay (₹ Cr.)	Indicative IA
Category 1: Climate Resilient Blue Economy Growth			
1	Climate-resilient and environment friendly coastal tourism infrastructure	100	NCSCM / State/UT Government
2	Pollution abatement, monitoring and control (Deep Sea Discharge studies)	70	CPCB
3	Coral reef development and management	50	ZSI with NCSCM
4	Marine Research, Conservation & Information Centre cum Oceanarium, Somnath (GAP funding)	100	MoEFCC / Govt. of Gujarat / GEER Foundation
Category 2: Coastal Vulnerability and Risk Reduction			
5	Development of Criteria and designing guidelines for Green Coastal Infrastructure for highly eroding coastlines along with demonstration projects	250	NCSCM
6	ICZMP and CMSP development (~1,000 km coastline)		NCSCM
Category 3: Climate Change Adaptation with Mitigation Co-benefits			
7	Andaman & Nicobar Islands — Biosphere Management and Climate Action	62	ANI Forest & Environment Dept
8	Conservation of sea water Dolphins	20	MoEFCC Wildlife Division / WII
Category 4: Capacity Building and Outreach			
9	Environmental Education, Capacity Building and Awareness	15	MoEFCC
Category 5: Project Management and Preparatory Expenses			
10	Committed liability from ENCORE	70	NCSCM / MoEFCC
11	Administrative and Operational Expenses including MIS	30	MoEFCC/NCSCM or any other agency
TOTAL SANCTIONED BUDGET		767	

The above table is indicative in nature and to meet the objective of the scheme, the Project Steering Committee (PSC) as defined in para 4.2 of the Guidelines, with due diligence, may reappportion fund allocations and/or savings, if any,

in a project, amongst approved components or any new projects, with the approval of the Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, within the overall sanctioned outlay of the scheme.

3.2 Component Details

3.2.1 Climate-Resilient Environmentally friendly Coastal Tourism Infrastructure

- a) Develop a framework for identifying coastal areas for eco-tourism development, considering a variety of physical, ecological, environmental, social, and legal factors.
- b) Establish a mechanism for developing, promoting and encouraging eco-friendly best practices, sustainable beach amenities, and low-impact tourism facilities.
- c) Projects will be invited from States under this component and shall be selected through a Challenge Mode mechanism. Possibility of convergence with the approved projects under Ministry of Tourism Schemes may also be explored.

3.2.2 Andaman & Nicobar Islands — Climate Action and Biosphere Management

- a) Conducting a study to assess the feasibility of restocking of degraded mangrove forest areas by Ecological Restoration method/Mangrove engineering method.
- b) Afforestation and restoration of mangroves and littoral forests in Tsunami affected areas through Mangrove Engineering/Ecological restoration method.
- c) Conducting a study on establishment of littoral forests on uplifted areas based on coastal bio-shield model.
- d) Monitoring critical faunal habitats (turtles/ littoral birds) to assess the impacts of Climate Change.
- e) Capacity building of front-line staff on coastal resource management through reputed institutions.
- f) Documentation and publication of best practices in coastal resource management and climate change impact-mitigation measures in the forestry sector.
- g) Mechanisms to handle man-animal conflict/poaching, particularly saltwater crocodile impacts on livelihoods.
- h) Any innovative projects from State Governments/UT Administration.

3.2.3 Pollution Abatement, Monitoring and Control

- a) Demarcation of coastal waters in accordance with Designated Best Use (DBU) criteria.
- b) Inventorisation of offshore discharges along the coastline and assessment of the associated waste load.
- c) Development of an assimilative-capacity-based framework for waste load assessment and allocation.

- d) Development of a uniform framework and standardised protocol for the regulation and monitoring of offshore discharges.
- e) Development of a Decision Support System (DSS) to aid the regulatory authority.
- f) Implementation of low-cost demonstrative projects for urban wastewater management in the major islands of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep, in consultation with the Union Territory Administrations.
- g) Identification of coastal hotspots of land-based marine litter, and the development and implementation of management plans at selected hotspots in collaboration with the concerned States/UT Administrations.
- h) Assessment of non-point sources of nitrogen and their impact at major river Mouths, and development of a framework for the abatement and control of nitrogen discharges.

3.2.4 Coral Reef Development and Management

- a) Mapping of coral and coral reefs in the coastal waters of India and assessment of their health status.
- b) Development of an Indian protocol for health assessment of coral and coral reefs, aligned with accepted international protocols.
- c) Pilot-scale demonstration of technologies for restoration of coral and coral reefs, in collaboration with concerned regulatory and State/UT authorities.
- d) Establishment of a Decision Support System for coral and coral reef health management.
- e) Development of a centre of excellence / interpretation centre, preferably in the A&N Islands and Lakshadweep.
- f) Capacity building of staff and managers of concerned departments of coastal States/UTs, and engagement of local communities, on conservation, restoration and maintenance of coral and coral reefs, including health monitoring.
- g) Development of comprehensive coral and coral reef management strategies, including a carrying-capacity-based tourism plan at major coral hotspots.

Note: The sites for coral restoration will be selected from Lakshadweep Islands and Andaman & Nicobar Islands and along the coastline of mainland, based on ecological suitability, accessibility, degree of degradation, and tourism impact.

3.2.5 Conservation of Coastal and Marine Dolphins

- a) Mapping and demarcation of coastal dolphin habitats and their migratory routes in the coastal waters of India.
- b) Standardisation of enumeration methodology for coastal dolphins.
- c) Preparation of conservation and management strategies for coastal dolphins, in consultation with States/UTs, including establishment of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to address emergency situations.

- d) Development of a decision support system for implementation of conservation measures through citizen science, including mobile application-based reporting of sightings and strandings.
- e) Development and implementation of short, medium and long-term management action plans at selected hotspots, in collaboration with States/UTs.
- f) Monitoring of water quality and ecosystem health of major coastal dolphin habitats.
- g) Capacity building and awareness programmes for active engagement of local communities in the conservation of coastal ecosystems.

3.2.6 Green Coastal Infrastructure for Eroding Coastlines

- a) Preparation of a framework for GCI for eroding coastlines by taking forward the work done in National Coastal Mission (2021-25), in consultation with Coastal States/UTs including but not limited to expert institutes like Central Water Commission, Central Power Research Institute, Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), etc. The framework may include conceptual designs, criteria and guidelines, best practices, etc.
- b) Demonstrative pilot site implementation along with coastal States/UTs preferably under a challenge-based method.

3.2.7 Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan (ICZMP) and Coastal & Marine Spatial Plan (CMSP)

- a) Identification and delineation of potential sites for blue economy development with environment and ecological safeguard to coastal natural resources through the development of ICZMPs and CMSPs for around 1000 Km of stretch of the mainland coastline.
- b) Identification of inter-sectoral impacts and corrective measures as well as spatial zones for suitability of blue economy activities with safeguards for implementation.
- c) Macro plan for integrated development covering spatial zoning, environmental, social, institutional, and financial aspects, and conflict resolution mapping.
- d) Stakeholder consultations to understand perspectives on coastal development, conflicts, and synergies.
- e) Analysis of development and conservation opportunities, impacts of past and ongoing land use, and natural processes.
- f) Detailed sectoral and area-based sub-plans within the macro plan.
- g) Assessment of Blue Economy potential along the entire coast of India to identify pilot sites for implementation, based on the Marine Spatial Plan Mapping of Blue Economy components to finalize pilot implementation sites.
- h) Development of criteria for pilot interventions of blue economy components for healthy ecosystems, economies, and community wellbeing.

- i) Exploration of a decision support system and pilot project for Digital Twin of identified coastal stretch(es) for scenario generation (sea level rise, infrastructure expansion, coastal erosion, sediment dynamics, sectoral zoning) thereby supporting evidence-based planning.

3.2.8 Committed liability from ENCORE (Enhancing Coastal and Ocean Resource Efficiency)

- a) National Coastal Mission approved in 2021(2021- 2026) is subsumed in National Coastal Mission 2.0 (2025-2031). The committed liabilities of NCM 1.0 shall be met from NCM 2.0 budgetary allocation.
- b) Financial liabilities (co-finance commitments) arising from the implementation of committed works/activities under the National Component in the Green Climate Fund supported project titled “Enhancing Climate Resilience of Indian Coastal Communities Project (GCF-ECRICC)” shall be met from the budgetary allocation of NCM 2.0.

3.2.9 Environmental Education, Capacity Building and Awareness

- a) Operationalising a structured, recognition-based framework to promote safe, inclusive, and environmentally well-managed beaches across India. The proposed framework would assess beaches against standardised criteria preferably covering environmental protection, water quality, waste management, safety infrastructure, visitor services, and any other suitable criteria rewarding progressive improvement over time.
- b) Assessment of knowledge and skill gaps in the stakeholders through a training need assessment.
- c) Development and delivery of structured environmental education and training programmes for target groups.
- d) Training of Trainers.
- e) Capacity-building and outreach programmes on climate change and coastal management themes.
- f) Promoting responsible resource use, ecosystem conservation, and pollution reduction including through beach cleaning campaigns.
- g) Creating a knowledge network with State and Central level Institutes/Organizations in the domain of coastal conservation and management.
- h) Leveraging global knowledge in coastal ecosystem management through international exposure visits, collaborative training, and institutional partnership.

3.2.10 Marine Research, Conservation & Information Centre cum Oceanarium, Somnath

- a) Establishment of Marine Research, conservation and Information centre cum Oceanarium to boost coastal eco-tourism at Somnath in Gujarat.
- b) The financial support viability gap funding for the Marine Research, Conservation & Information Centre cum Oceanarium at Somnath will be met from NCM 2.0 within the provisions as recommended by EFC.

Chapter 4: Institutional Framework

4.1 Design Principles

4.1.1 Guiding Principles for the Institutional Structure

- Lean and effective institutional structure with minimum layers between sanction and implementation.
- A unified, national-level management structure combining oversight and operational management.
- Direct engagement of States with the national body through a designated Nodal Officer — no parallel State bureaucracy created under the scheme.
- No permanent posts — all engagement on a contractual or project-basis.

4.2 Project Steering Committee (PSC)

The PSC is the apex decision-making body of NCM 2.0. It provides policy guidance, accords project approvals, monitors Mission progress, and ensures compliance with EFC recommendations and DoE guidelines. The Secretary, MoEFCC chairs the PSC with representatives from different line ministries, departments and coastal States/UTs part of the PSC.

4.2.1 Composition

SN	Member	Role
1	Secretary, MoEFCC	Chairperson
2	Financial Advisor, MoEFCC	Member
3	Representative, Ministry of Earth Sciences	Member
4	Representative, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy	Member
5	Representative, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways	Member
6	Representative, Department of Fisheries	Member
7	Representative, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	Member
8	Representative, NITI Aayog	Member
9	Representative, Department of Expenditure	Member
10	Chairman, CPCB	Member
11	Representatives of Coastal States/UTs (as required)	Member (Invitees)
12	Director NCSCM, Chennai	Member
13	Director, National Centre for Coastal Research	Member
14	Domain Experts (as required)	Invitees
15	Joint Secretary, SCMD, MoEFCC	Member Secretary

* Representatives from Line Ministries/Departments and Coastal States to not be below the rank of Joint Secretary

4.2.2 Functions of the PSC

- a. Provide overall policy direction and strategic guidance for implementation of the National Coastal Mission and its projects. To provide guidance on the capacity building, research, and knowledge management components of the Mission.
- b. Review and approve work plans (DPR), projects, and progress reports with focus on:
 - Avoiding any duplication of activities and explore opportunities for convergence of resources from other schemes/programs.
 - Promoting blue economy activities and associated /livelihood opportunities with safeguard for coastal ecology and marine environment.
 - Realistic Outputs/Outcomes with key performance indicators clearly identified in the Detailed Project Reports.
- c. Authorise fund allocations and re-appropriation within overall sanctioned outlay with approval of Hon'ble Minister of EF&CC.
- d. Review and approve proposals with due diligence for including any additional activities required to support and meet the overall objectives of the scheme, within the approved outlay.
- e. Ensure compliance with EFC recommendations and DoE approval conditions.
- f. Approve mid-term course corrections based on evaluations and TPA findings.
- g. Oversee performance of Implementing Agencies against KPIs and any mid- course corrections.
- h. Chairperson, PSC may co-opt/nominate additional domain experts as per requirement.
- i. Meet at least twice a year; the Chair, as required, may convene extraordinary meetings.

4.3 Project Management Cell (PMC)

A Project Management Cell (PMC), within the MoEFCC, led by Joint Secretary, Sustainable Coastal Management Division (SCMD) shall be constituted to assist PSC for overall planning, monitoring and reporting of the project. Further, PMC can also utilise the services of domain experts/Appraisal Entities (AE) as required.

The PMC may seek technical support from concerned divisions/organization of the MoEFCC, other line ministries, relevant Departments of State Governments. The PMC may also seek the services of academic and technical institutes such as NCSCM, NCCR, INCOIS, CSIR labs, ICAR, NIC, etc., and those of retired experts, possessing demonstrated expertise, wherever required for scrutiny, examination/appraisal, implementation, monitoring &

evaluation of the project and all other works as may be required for ensuring convergence and smooth implementation of the Scheme.

4.3.1 Functions of the PMC

The PMC shall perform both the strategic management and the day-to-day secretarial and operational functions of the scheme, including:

- a. Providing technical and operational support to the Project Steering Committee (PSC) in appraisal, execution, and oversight of Mission activities.
- b. Reviewing the Appraisal Report prepared by Appraisal Entity as defined at para 5.3 of the Guidelines and place the revised DPR before PSC with its recommendations.
- c. Monitoring and periodically evaluating project activities to ensure adherence to approved timelines, technical specifications, and financial norms as per DPR.
- d. Project planning and coordination with Implementing Agencies and State/UT Nodal Officers. Develop implementation strategies and ensure routine supervision of project activities.
- e. Providing technical guidance on MIS portal and related matters.
- f. Regularly reviewing the physical and financial progress of all projects.
- g. Recommending mid-term course corrections and fund appropriation to PSC.
- h. Providing Guidance and support for third-party verification, field inspections, impact assessment, and developing Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Mission activities.
- i. Providing guidance to IAs on site prioritisation, statutory permissions, and preliminary environmental/social considerations.
- j. Any other works related to the scheme, as required.

4.4 Sustainable Coastal Management Division (SCMD)

SCMD, MoEFCC is the Programme Division responsible for the administration and implementation of the scheme. SCMD shall:

- a. Provide secretariat support and technical inputs to PSC/PMC. Coordinate and organize meetings of PSC/PMC.
- b. Empanel Appraisal Entities (AE) from reputed institutes like IITs, NITs, CSIR institutes, ICAR institutes, Government research organisations and/or Independent Domain Experts with cross-sector expertise in coastal, ecological, financial, and social domains.
- c. Hire individual domain experts approved by the competent authority DPR(s) on an interim basis for appraisal of already received DPR(s), until the panel of Appraisal Entities is operational.

- d. Maintain project documentation, reporting structure, database management related to Mission.
- e. Issue Administrative Approval and Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) for approved projects after concurrence of IFD. In case of UTs, issue LoA as per extant instructions as applicable.
- f. Ensure budget Management for the Mission.
- g. Formulate and issue strategic policy directives and guidelines.
- h. Approve Annual Work Plans and Annual Progress Reports for submission to PSC.
- i. Facilitate inter-ministerial and inter-State coordination.
- j. Ensure compliance with statutory frameworks.
- k. Develop and maintain the MIS portal as envisaged by the EFC.
- l. Ensure submission of UCs, Statement of Expenditure, Physical and Financial progress report along with photographs from CNA/IAs.
- m. Manage the grievance redressal mechanism and ensuring its effectiveness.
- n. Oversee administrative matters related to the hiring of Consultants for the Mission.

4.5 Central Nodal Agency (CNA)

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) shall serve as the Central Nodal Agency (CNA) for NCM 2.0. in compliance with the DoE OM F.No. 3/(06)/PFMS/2023 dated 21 May 2024 and any amendments thereto as per para 6.3 of the Guidelines. The CPCB shall:

- a. Maintain PFMS-linked accounts and release funds to Implementing Agencies in accordance with sanctions issued by MoEFCC.
- b. Monitor fund utilisation and facilitate audits as required by MoEFCC.
- c. Collect Utilisation Certificates and Statements of Expenditure from IAs and submit a consolidated report to MoEFCC within one month of close of each financial year.
- d. Refund unspent balances along with accrued interest to Bharat Kosh as per applicable norms.
- e. Ensure financial prudence and coordination with IAs.

4.6 Implementing Agencies (IAs)

Implementing Agencies identified on the basis of domain expertise, institutional capacity, and track record in coastal and marine subject matters, would carry out the projects with the approval of the PSC. The PSC may, based on performance and efficacy, substitute any agency on case-to-case basis.

Implementing Agency	Core Domains
National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai	Coastal & Marine spatial planning, ICZM, shoreline modelling, GIS, ecological restoration
Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), New Delhi	Water quality management, marine pollution monitoring, effluent and discharge assessment
Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), Kolkata	Marine biodiversity, coral ecology, taxonomy, species conservation planning
Wildlife Division/Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun	Wildlife research, dolphin conservation, marine mammal monitoring
ANI Forest and Environment Dept, Port Blair	Mangrove restoration, littoral forest management, biosphere conservation
Government of Gujarat / GEER Foundation	Marine tourism infrastructure, coastal development, Somnath Oceanarium
National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR)	ICZMP, Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning, Shoreline Management

4.6.1 The IAs in addition to the mentioned above, may be identified based on their expertise and be engaged with the approval of the PSC.

4.6.2 All Implementing Agencies shall:

- a. Constitute a dedicated team headed by a senior domain expert for each assigned activity.
- b. Constitute a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) comprising independent domain experts for each project, with the concurrence of SCMD.
- c. Develop and plan projects in consultation with and concurrence of the concerned State/UT, within the objectives and scope of work assigned by MoEFCC. Ensure that concerned States/UTs and district administration are involved in the projects, from preparatory work till execution. The local administration and the relevant district authorities shall be involved at every stage of planning, implementation and monitoring. Maintain close coordination and consultation with the concerned State Government(s), Union Territory Administration(s), District Administration(s), and other relevant local authorities throughout the project cycle. IAs shall keep the concerned authorities informed of planned activities and ensure their participation, wherever required, to facilitate effective implementation and local ownership of project interventions.
- d. Obtain all necessary permissions, approvals, clearances, and no-objection certificates from the competent authorities prior to undertaking any activity under the project. Any activity requiring statutory, administrative, or local approvals shall be commenced only after such approvals have been duly obtained.

- e. Conduct data gap analysis and generate required datasets; coordinate with State agencies for data collection, validation, and access to State data sources.
- f. Ensure scientific robustness, regulatory alignment, and compliance with applicable national frameworks in all project outputs.
- g. Build capacity of State department officials in the preparation and application of plans, outputs, and tools developed under the assigned activity.
- h. Provide technical or knowledge support to States/UTs for implementation of similar activities from their own resources, where requested.
- i. Ensure that permanent assets are not created without an identified owner/beneficiary with an O&M commitment.
- j. Maintain procured assets in operational condition for the full useful life of the project.
- k. Actively coordinate with the State Nodal Coordination Officer (SNCO) and project-level State officers on all matters requiring State engagement, including site selection, field activities, and stakeholder consultations.
- l. Maintain all data generated or used under assigned activities in a standardised format as per directions of MoEFCC and shall not be used for commercial purposes without approval of MoEFCC.
- m. Maintain strict confidentiality of all project-related information and shall ensure that its personnel and any third party hired for the work, adhere to a high standard of ethical conduct. No information, data, documents, or knowledge obtained through the project shall be disclosed or used for personal, commercial, or any other unauthorized gain without prior approval of the competent authority.
- n. Submit Action Plan with defined timelines for advance funds disbursement.
- o. Each Implementing Agency shall execute a single Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with MoEFCC. The MoU is placed at Annexure A.

4.7 State and UT Engagement

States and Union Territories are essential partners in the implementation of NCM 2.0. Their knowledge of local coastal ecosystems, communities, and governance contexts is indispensable to the success of the Mission. The role of States encompasses facilitating project preparation, enabling implementation on the ground, and ensuring that the outcomes of the Mission are sustained long after project completion.

Since NCM 2.0 is a Central Sector Scheme, the financial structure and project sanction process vest with the Centre. The engagement architecture at the State/UT level is accordingly designed to work through with existing State Government machinery, without creating new administrative structures or imposing additional burden on State resources.

Each participating coastal State and UT shall execute a single Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with MoEFCC. This MoU shall be the sole formal

instrument between MoEFCC and the State/UT and will govern the entire framework of collaboration, commitment, and accountability for all projects under NCM 2.0 in that State/UT. Its terms are set out in Section 5.6. The MoU is placed at Annexure B.

4.7.1 State Nodal Coordination Officer (SNCO)

Each coastal State and UT shall nominate a senior officer as the State Nodal Coordination Officer (SNCO) for NCM 2.0. The SNCO shall be an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary in the Government of India, and the details to be communicated to MoEFCC.

The SNCO is the primary point of coordination between the State/UT and MoEFCC for all matters relating to NCM 2.0. The role is one of active facilitation and coordination and not merely an administrative liaison. Key responsibilities of the SNCO include:

- a. Coordinating with Implementing Agencies for project identification, stakeholder consultations, and DPR preparation, with particular reference to land availability, baseline data, and local ecological knowledge.
- b. Facilitating necessary statutory clearances for CRZ, Forest, Environment, Wildlife, and any other applicable and ensuring these are reflected in the DPR, as per extant rules and guidelines.
- c. Reviewing and providing State-level inputs on project proposals before their submission to the PMC.
- d. Submitting a quarterly progress report to the PMC on all NCM 2.0 projects within the State/UT and participating in the annual PSC review.
- e. Facilitating resolution of implementation issues that require State-level action and escalating unresolved matters to the SCMD.
- f. Promoting convergence between NCM 2.0 projects and relevant State Government schemes and programmes, particularly in the areas of coastal management, fisheries, tourism, and disaster resilience.

4.7.2 State-Level Project Engagement

For each project under NCM 2.0, the State/UT shall:

- a. Identify and make available required land, free from encumbrances, in advance of project sanction — and confirm the same in the DPR.
- b. Designate a project-level officer from the relevant State Department to work alongside the Implementing Agency's project team for the duration of the project.
- c. Provide logistical and resource support for field activities and site investigations undertaken by the Implementing Agency.
- d. Facilitate community engagement and ensure that the interests and participation of coastal communities, including women and vulnerable groups, are reflected in project design and implementation.
- e. Share all relevant State-level data, spatial information, ecosystem assessments, maps, and records required for project preparation and

implementation; provide access to relevant State departments and agencies.

- f. Actively participate in projects selected through the Challenge Mode, acknowledge the process, and support its implementation.
- g. Ensure adoption and use of ICZMP and MSP outputs in State planning and development activities in the coastal zone, following plan finalisation.
- h. Ensure operation and maintenance of assets created under NCM 2.0 for their assessed design lifetime; upscale or replicate learnings to other similar situations within the State/UT.
- i. Avoid duplication and overlap with ongoing or proposed State or Central programmes and explore convergence with such programmes for optimised resource utilisation.

4.7.3 Project proposals received from State Govt./UT Administration

- a) In case of projects being submitted directly by States/UTs under NCM 2.0, the States/UTs shall ensure that the concerned State Departments (Forest, Fisheries, Tourism, Environment, Revenue, as applicable) are engaged in stakeholder consultations and are represented in the project's State Project Steering Committee chaired by Chief Secretary for projects appraisals before referring to the Project Steering Committee under NCM 2.0.
- b) The proposals received from the State Govt/UT Administration will be processed through the same review mechanism by the Appraisal Entity and Project Management Cell before submission for approval of the Project Steering Committee. The DPRs received will be assessed and reviewed with a focus on the following broad criteria:
 - Alignment of the proposal with the objectives and priority areas of NCM 2.0, including clearly defined outputs, outcomes, and impact indicators (ecological, social, and livelihood-related);
 - Commitment of the State/UT Government to provide financial contribution alongside Central assistance for implementation of the project;
 - Demonstration of ownership by the State/UT, including institutional arrangements for implementation and monitoring;
 - Availability of a clear and sustainable Operation & Maintenance (O&M) plan, including earmarking of resources for upkeep of assets created;
 - Need-based prioritisation, particularly for ecologically vulnerable or high-risk coastal stretches;
 - Financial viability / Economic Internal Rate of Return (EIRR), where applicable, especially for infrastructure or revenue-generating components.
 - Use of innovative approaches through the application of new technologies, digital interventions, innovative financing mechanisms, behavioural change strategies, or adaptation of global best practices to local conditions.

- (c) For project proposals received directly from States/UTs, the mode of implementation, i.e. whether the project will be implemented by the concerned State/UT or through an approved Implementing Agency, shall be decided by the Project Steering Committee as stated in para 4.6.1.

4.8 Collaboration with Public / Private Sector / Academia / International Agencies on a pilot basis

4.8.1 The involvement of and collaboration with private / public sector entities and, academia, and collaboration with international experts on a pilot basis would be explored, as and when required for the successful implementation of the Mission, with approval of PSC.

Chapter 5: Project Lifecycle — Preparation, Appraisal and Implementation

5.1 Project Lifecycle Overview

The project lifecycle under NCM 2.0 encompasses twelve sequential steps from initial concept to commencement of implementation, spanning functions across the Implementing Agency (IA), Project Management Cell (PMC), Project Steering Committee (PSC), and the Sustainable Coastal Management Division (SCMD).

The process begins with the rolling submission of a Concept Note by the IA and progresses through stakeholder consultation, Pre-Feasibility Report (PFR) preparation and review, and Detailed Project Report (DPR) preparation, technical appraisal by an independent entity nominated by the PMC, and revision.

Following final appraisal and recommendation by the PMC to the PSC, the PSC accords approval and the Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction (AA&ES) is issued by SCMD. The activity schedule is thereafter appended to the IA MoU, and implementation commences within 30 days of AA&ES issuance. The stepwise breakdown of activities, lead responsibilities, and indicative timelines is set out in the table below.

Step	Activity	Lead	Indicative Timeline
1	Concept Note submission by IA	IA → PMC	Rolling
2	PMC review of Concept Note; in-principle approval + prep funds	PMC	4 weeks of receipt
3	Stakeholder identification and consultative meetings	IA + State SNCO	As per project scope
4	Pre-Feasibility Report (PFR) preparation and submission	IA → PMC	Based on TOR agreed with PMC
5	PMC review of PFR; comments to IA	PMC	6 weeks of receipt
6	DPR preparation (field studies, technical design, cost estimation)	IA	As per approved PFR scope
7	Internal scrutiny and submission of DPR to PMC	IA → PMC	On completion
8	Technical appraisal of DPR by independent Appraisal Entity	PMC-nominated entity	4 -6 weeks of receipt
9	Revised DPR incorporating appraisal observations	IA	2-3 weeks of appraisal report
10	Final appraisal and recommendation by PMC to PSC	PMC → PSC	2-3 weeks of revised DPR
11	PSC approval; issuance of AA&ES by SCMD	PSC / SCMD	At next PSC meeting
12	Activity schedule appended to IA MoU (or MoU executed if first assignment); implementation plan submitted; commencement of project implementation	IA + SCMD	Within 30 days of AA&ES*

Note: Total elapsed time from Concept Note to AA&ES, for a well-prepared proposal, is expected to be within 6 months. PSC approvals shall be valid for 12 months from issuance of AA&ES; Projects not commenced within this period shall require fresh approval. However, expiry of the approval period shall not, by itself, necessitate any amendment to the existing MoU.

*Commencement refers to initiation of project implementation and does not imply commencement of physical activities requiring statutory clearances. Such activities shall commence only after obtaining the applicable statutory approvals/clearances. Further, in case of any delay in project initiation due to pending approvals, it shall be brought to the notice of the SCMD by IA/State for seeking appropriate extension from PSC, as required.

5.2 DPR Preparation — Standards and Requirements

The Detailed Project Report is the foundational document through which a project concept is translated into an implementable, accountable plan. It provides the basis for technical appraisal, PSC approval, fund sanction, and ongoing monitoring. The DPR must be technically sound, ecologically credible, financially prudent, and grounded in baseline evidence. The following standards apply to all DPRs prepared under NCM 2.0:

5.2.1 Cost Estimation

- a. Cost estimates shall be prepared on the basis of consultations with State/UT Governments, market surveys, and prices from various past tenders under similar projects.
- b. Schedule of Rates (SoR) of respective States, and past similar work contracts, shall be the primary basis for cost estimation; Market-derived costs shall be used where SoR is unavailable.
- c. Price escalation and Warranty/AMC components shall be factored in for a suitable period (maximum one year).
- d. Physical variation of +/-10% and fiscal variation of +/-15% are expected; total variation ceiling is 20% of EFC-approved base cost.
- e. Cost ceilings for project preparation and for monitoring and evaluation are specified in Section 5.2.3.

5.2.2 DPR Content Requirements

The DPR shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Chapter	Mandatory Content
Executive Summary	Problem statement, objectives, location, cost, duration, key KPIs and outcomes
Background and Need	Evidence base, baseline data, gap analysis, stakeholder needs, Concept Note and PFR, approvals received
Project Objectives	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound (SMART) objectives aligned to NCM 2.0 mission objectives
Scope, Methodology and Technical Design	Location selection and justification, site investigation, technical design (CPWD/PWD/IS standards where applicable), alternative analysis and selection rationale, innovation and technology use
Institutional Framework	IA, State/UT contact officer, other stakeholders, roles and responsibilities, TAC composition
Implementation Plan	Work plan, timeline, milestones, Gantt chart, convergence details, quality control and assurance, provision to avoid duplication/overlaps
Financial Plan	Activity-wise cost estimates, fund flow by year, convergence envisaged, fund flow arrangement among IAs; justification for capital-intensive investments
Procurement Plan	Procurement strategy (preference for service contract model over capital-intensive investment), GFR compliance, consultancy engagement guidelines
Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting	Internal monitoring arrangement, Output/Outcome indicators, KPI indicators, monitoring protocols, MIS integration, reporting frequencies
Risk Management	Risk matrix: implementation, social, financial, technological, ecological; mitigation measures; legal/regulatory compliance plan
Environment and Social Safeguards	Baseline data, statutory clearances status (CRZ, Forest, EC, Wildlife, etc.), EMP with compliance costs, social safeguards, gender and inclusion provisions, community participation
Communication and Capacity Building	IEC plan, stakeholder engagement, training, awareness programmes, knowledge products, GRM
Sustainability and Asset Handover	O&M plan post-project; identified asset owner; relevant schedule of State/UT obligations from State/UT MoU; sustainability financing beyond scheme period
Annexures	Concept Note; PFR; copy of executed State/UT MoU (or written confirmation of execution pending); relevant project-specific schedule from State/UT MoU; Permissions/Consents; Land documents; CVs of key personnel; Declaration of no duplication; Maps; BoQ; Risk matrix; Environmental baseline data

A checklist for DPR preparation has been placed at Annexure C

5.2.3 DPR Cost and Compliance Requirements

The following requirements shall be observed by Implementing Agencies in the preparation of DPRs under NCM 2.0:

- a. Implementation costs shall cover all post-approval activities: monitoring, evaluation, reporting, quality control, grievance redressal, mid-term corrections, and project closure including audit. Activities specified in the sanction order or directed by the PSC shall also be included.
- b. The DPR shall include dedicated cost heads for project preparation (not exceeding 4% of the approved project cost); implementation; monitoring, evaluation and support costs (capped at 4% of contract value); and capacity building, awareness and outreach.
- c. Environmental safeguards, statutory fees, safety and security costs, and compliance expenditure shall be explicitly identified in the DPR, with a lump sum provision for legal costs.
- d. An Environment Management Plan (EMP) shall be a mandatory chapter of the DPR, covering climate risk mitigation and adaptation, risks from proposed interventions, biodiversity protection protocols, and impact indicators with monitoring frequency. Applicable statutory obligations / clearances / liabilities (Consent to Establish/Operate, EC, or CRZ, etc.) shall be identified, and plan / compliance mechanism, including the agency obligated for such compliances shall be included in the DPR.
- e. Existing IA infrastructure and resources may be utilised for the project; the proportionate cost shall be estimated and included under a dedicated head in the DPR.
- f. A consent or collaboration letter from the concerned State/UT shall be attached with the PFR. The DPR shall carry a dedicated chapter on State/UT commitments, covering resource allocation, O&M obligations, and replication commitments.
- g. All efforts shall be made to avoid any capital purchases in the project, and wherever it is required, a justification along with commitment for O&M of such created assets shall be clearly specified in the DPR. No disposal or write-off of such asset shall be made without permission of MoEFCC.

5.2.4 Quality Standards for DPRs

- a. Deliverables and tangible outcomes must be clearly defined, measurable, and time-bound - not vague or aspirational.
- b. Output-outcome matrix with defined timelines for each activity must be part of the DPR.
- c. All equipment procured must have a clear maintenance schedule and an identified custodian; IAs are encouraged to explore sharing through the DST I-STEM portal.
- d. The DPR must clearly articulate convergence potential with relevant Central/State schemes and ongoing programmes, and state what steps have been taken to avoid duplication.
- e. Appraisal of DPR shall be independent - the appraisal entity shall not be the same as the IA.
- f. The DPR must be replicable by design: project methodology should be sufficiently documented to enable replication by other States.

- g. Community participation is mandatory where the project directly impacts coastal livelihoods — Women-headed households and vulnerable groups must be specifically addressed.
- h. No permanent post or engagement of resources including manpower shall be considered in the DPR. Any essential engagement shall be on contractual basis limited to the completion of assigned work. Implementing Agencies (IAs) may, based on project requirements, make provision in the DPR for extended contractual engagement of specialised technical personnel/experts for a defined period within the sanctioned project duration, subject to demonstrated expertise, satisfactory performance and applicable Government rules.
- i. Projects must be designed with a clearly defined sunset clause — O&M post-project completion rests with the State/UT, as approved by the Competent Authority.

5.3 Appraisal

- a. Appraisal Entities as mentioned at para 4.4 (b) of the Scheme guidelines shall assess the projects technical feasibility, ecological sustainability, statutory compliance, financial prudence, land availability, resource optimisation, risk mitigation, and alignment with NCM 2.0 objectives. AE is required to appraise the DPRs/PFRs through an interactive process with Implementing Agencies and their partners, State Government Department/UT Administration and other relevant stakeholders, including site visits to the proposed or relevant areas, as per terms of reference defined under their engagement with due approval of the competent authority.
- b. The Appraisal fee will be based on the project cost as approved by the competent authority, but not less than Rs 2.5 lakhs and not more than Rs.10 lakhs (excluding applicable taxes).
- c. The PMC shall review the Appraisal Report prepared by Appraisal Entity and place the revised DPR before PSC with its recommendations.
- d. The PSC may approve with/without conditions, defer for revision, or reject with recorded reasons; decisions shall be recorded in the official minutes.

5.4 Project Prioritisation

The governing factors for project prioritisation include the scale of support and demonstrated intent of the respective State/UT Government, based on:

- a. MoU executed between MoEFCC and the State/UT Government (see Section 5.6.1); SNCO designated and communicated to MoEFCC.
- b. Land identified and made encumbrance-free.
- c. Statutory clearances initiated or obtained.
- d. DPR or feasibility study prepared.
- e. Baseline data collected.
- f. O&M funding commitment provided post-project.

- g. Ecological sensitivity, erosion intensity, climate vulnerability index, and biodiversity importance.
- h. Convergence with ongoing State or Central schemes.

5.5 Implementation

- a. All IAs shall be responsible for the complete implementation of project, as approved by PSC and in compliance with AA&ES conditions. The provisions of these Guidelines shall be applicable. Wherever, any ambiguity in conditions or interpretation of provisions or conditions arises, the IA shall report the same to the SCMD, and the decision of SCMD will be binding. The SCMD shall examine such representations/issues and after due diligence and approval of the competent authority will communicate its decision within 10 days of receiving of such representation.
- b. Within 30 days of issuance of AA&ES, the approved activity schedule shall be appended to the MoU between MoEFCC and the IA (or the MoU executed if this is the IA's first assignment) in accordance with Section 5.6.2. Release of the first fund instalment for the activity is contingent on this.
- c. Any deviation or modification in scope, deliverables, or methodology must be brought to the notice of the SCMD and shall not be executed without approval.
- d. Tenders must be finalised within stipulated timelines to enable MoEFCC to release subsequent fund instalments.
- e. Fund release may be withheld on non-receipt of utilisation certificate.

5.5.1 Project Replacement & Transfer of Assignments

Projects approved by PSC shall not be replaced in normal course. In unavoidable circumstances, the State/IA must approach the SCMD with written justification; SCMD may place the matter before PSC. Replacement is only permissible where the work order has not been issued.

The Implementing agency shall not transfer any or part of any assignment to any other agency without prior approval of SCMD. Any such request should be accompanied with a written justification to the SCMD.

5.6 Formal Instruments

Two Memoranda of Understanding governing the relationships between the MoEFCC, States/UTs, and Implementing Agencies under NCM 2.0 shall be executed, each with defined purpose, timing, and authority level. Together they constitute the complete accountability framework of the Mission. The indicative frameworks of the MoUs are placed at Annexure A and Annexure B

5.6.1 MoU between MoEFCC and State Government/UT Administration

- (a) Each participating coastal State/ Union Territory Administration shall execute a single Memorandum of Understanding with MoEFCC. This will be the formal instrument between MoEFCC and the State/UT for NCM 2.0 and will be in force for the duration of the scheme.
- (b) The MoU shall be signed by the authorised representative of MoEFCC and the concerned State Government. The signatory on behalf of MoEFCC shall not be below the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India, and the signatory on behalf of the State Government shall not be below the rank of Joint Secretary in the Government of India.
- (c) The MoU shall be executed prior to, or concurrently with, the sanctioning of the first project in that State/UT. No project shall be placed before the PSC for approval until the MoU has been executed. As each subsequent project is sanctioned, a project-specific schedule shall be appended to the existing MoU, with any requisite amendment, if necessary, with project-specific requirements. This appendment / amendment in the MoU /Schedule will replaces any need for a separate consent or commitment letter.

5.6.1(a) Obligations of MoEFCC

Under the MoU, the MoEFCC shall:

- a. Provide financial support under NCM 2.0 as per the approved scheme guidelines and budget.
- b. Provide policy guidance, administrative approvals, and expenditure sanctions in a timely manner.
- c. Coordinate with line Ministries, the State Government, and Implementing Agencies to facilitate project implementation.
- d. Ensure alignment of all project activities with national frameworks, regulations, and international obligations.
- e. Facilitate convergence with other Central Government schemes.
- f. Conduct or facilitate workshops, awareness programmes, and capacity building for State stakeholders.
- g. Take final decisions on matters under the scheme, which shall be binding on all parties.

5.6.1(b) Obligations of the State/UT Government

Under the MoU, the State/UT Government shall:

- a. Actively participate in planning, implementation, monitoring, and replication of NCM 2.0 interventions within its territory.
- b. Nominate the SNCO and communicate the nomination to MoEFCC; notify MoEFCC promptly of any change in nomination.
- c. Facilitate all necessary support — including data access, logistical support, and inter-departmental coordination — to Implementing Agencies identified by MoEFCC.

- d. Provide access to relevant State-level data sources, spatial information, and agency networks required for project preparation and implementation.
- e. Make available required land, free from encumbrances, for each sanctioned project, with site-specific confirmation recorded in the relevant project schedule.
- f. Facilitate all necessary statutory clearances including CRZ, Forest, Environment, Wildlife, and any other applicable, as per extant rules and guidelines — in a timely manner, with project-wise status recorded in the project schedule.
- g. Actively avoid duplication and overlaps with ongoing or proposed State or Central programmes; explore convergence opportunities.
- h. Provide financial or resource support, wherever feasible, for effective implementation of NCM projects; such support to be documented in the relevant project schedule.
- i. Ensure operation and maintenance of all assets created under NCM 2.0 at State/UT expense for the full assessed design lifetime; upscale or replicate learnings to similar situations, where feasible.
- j. Ensure the adoption and use of ICZMP and MSP outputs in State coastal planning and development activities after plan finalisation.
- k. Acknowledge and actively participate in projects selected through the Challenge Mode.

5.6.1(c) Data Management and Intellectual Property

- a) All data generated or used under NCM 2.0 activities shall be collated, analysed, compiled, and maintained in a standardised format as per MoEFCC directions. The data shall be accessible to all parties to the MoU and shared in accordance with national data policies. Data shall not be used for any commercial purpose without prior written approval of MoEFCC.
- b) Any intellectual property developed under NCM 2.0 activities shall be jointly owned by MoEFCC and the State Government. Use of such intellectual property by any party for purposes beyond the scheme shall require the prior written approval of MoEFCC. Use of IT tools, geospatial systems, and emerging technologies including AI/ML shall be encouraged in all project activities.
- c) Data sharing mechanisms shall conform to the applicable legal and regulatory framework.

5.6.1(d) Work Plan and Financials

A detailed work plan with time-bound milestones, deliverables, and financial requirements shall be jointly prepared by the State Government and the Implementing Agency for each project and approved by MoEFCC. Funds shall be released by MoEFCC as per the approved milestones and scheme guidelines. Outsourcing of specific components of work may be undertaken

by the Implementing Agency within the approved budget, with prior approval of MoEFCC.

5.6.1(e) Duration, Amendment and Termination

The MoU shall remain in force for the duration of the scheme or until all obligations under it are discharged, whichever is later. The MoU may be amended by mutual consent of the parties, with approval of MoEFCC. Any party may withdraw from the MoU with prior written notice of 60 days to MoEFCC, subject to settlement of all outstanding obligations. Any dispute shall first be addressed through mutual consultation; unresolved matters shall be referred to the Secretary, MoEFCC, whose decision shall be final and binding.

5.6.2 MoU between MoEFCC and Implementing Agency

A single Memorandum of Understanding shall be executed between MoEFCC and each Implementing Agency covering all activities and projects assigned to that IA under NCM 2.0. One MoU per IA is sufficient regardless of the number of projects or components assigned to it. The MoU shall be signed at the time of the first assignment and shall remain in force for the duration of the scheme or until all assigned activities are closed, whichever is later.

As additional projects are sanctioned to the same IA, activity-specific schedules shall be appended to the existing MoU — signed by the authorised representative of the IA and the designated officer of MoEFCC — without requiring a new MoU. Each schedule shall be appended within 30 days of the relevant AA&ES and shall constitute the binding project-level agreement for that activity.

The MoU, together with its schedules, shall govern:

- a. The overall framework of the IA's engagement with MoEFCC under NCM 2.0, including institutional commitments, key personnel, and governance arrangements.
- b. For each activity schedule: scope of work, deliverables, milestones, and KPIs as approved by the PSC.
- c. Financial terms for each activity including instalment schedule, advance provisions, and conditions for fund release.
- d. Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting obligations including frequency, format, and escalation procedures.
- e. Procurement and financial management obligations in compliance with GFR 2017.
- f. Asset creation, custody, and handover arrangements.
- g. Conditions for deviation, scope modification, and termination of any activity.
- h. Dispute resolution mechanism.

Release of the first fund instalment for any activity is contingent on the relevant activity schedule having been appended and signed. The MoU shall remain in force, and each activity schedule shall remain operative, until the

corresponding project closure report is accepted by the PMC and all financial obligations for that activity are settled.

Note: The MoU with its appended schedules is the operative agreement between the MoEFCC and the IA for all assigned activities. It does not substitute the AA&ES for each project, which remains the instrument of administrative approval & expenditure sanction. Both together constitute the complete legal and financial framework for each sanctioned activity.

5.7 Project Closure

Project closure requires the submission of a comprehensive closure report by the IA including:

- a. Financial audit, compliance with AA&ES conditions, and reconciliation of accounts with PFMS.
- b. Report on physical completion of all project components by asset users/owners.
- c. Inventory and status of assets created; asset handover documentation
- d. Settlement of all contractual liabilities.
- e. Audited financial statements; refund of balance fund with accrued interest.
- f. EMP compliance report; monitoring and knowledge transfer to asset owners.
- g. Mid-term and end-term review reports and compliance.
- h. Social impact study of the intervention, where applicable.
- i. Any other conditions issued in this regard by PSC/PMC.

Chapter 6: Financial Framework

6.1 Funding Pattern

- 6.1.1 NCM 2.0 is a 100% centrally funded Central Sector Scheme. Funds shall be sourced exclusively from the budgetary support of MoEFCC, Government of India.
- 6.1.2 No external funding — such as multilateral loans or grants — is envisaged under the scheme.
- 6.1.3 The budgetary allocation for FY 2025-26 under NCM 1.0 shall stand subsumed into NCM 2.0 with effect from 16 May 2025.
- 6.1.4 Coastal States and UT Administrations shall be encouraged to actively participate in planning, implementation, monitoring, and replication of interventions, and to commit to the operation and maintenance of assets created under the scheme.
- 6.1.5. States and UTs are also encouraged to leverage their own resources and existing State-level schemes for convergence with NCM 2.0 projects, in order to maximise the impact of the Mission's investments.

6.2 Budget Allocation

The budgetary support for NCM 2.0, is Rs 767 crore for 2025-2031 as referenced in para 3.1 for each activity.

6.3 Fund Flow Mechanism

- 6.3.1 NCM 2.0, being a Central Sector Scheme, shall follow the fund-flow and financial management procedure prescribed by the Department of Expenditure and applicable from time to time. The Scheme shall be implemented by the Ministry through the designated Implementing Agencies, with funds routed through the designated Central Nodal Agency under the applicable PFMS-enabled model (CNA / TSA / TSA-Hybrid). Fund releases shall, to the extent prescribed, follow the Just-in-Time principle and be linked to approved activities, availability of budget, prescribed financial conditions and achievement of milestones. No funds shall be released or retained in excess of the requirement for approved activities. The CNA and Implementing Agencies shall maintain complete transaction records on PFMS and comply with the applicable provisions relating to utilisation, interest (where applicable), reconciliation, audit and reporting. Expenditure incurred directly by MoEFCC towards project management, associated activities and fulfilment of past committed liabilities shall be met through direct fund flow from MoEFCC and shall not be routed through the Implementing Agencies.
- 6.3.2 All fund flow and utilisation shall be monitored through the Public Financial Management System (PFMS).
- 6.3.3 The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) shall serve as the CNA for NCM 2.0, as detailed in Section 4.5. In the context of financial management, the CNA shall:

- Release funds to IAs in accordance with sanctions issued by MoEFCC, and monitor utilisation through PFMS.
 - Collect UCs, SoEs, Physical and Financial progress report and photographs from IAs, deposit unspent balances and accrued interest in Bharat Kosh, and submit a consolidated annual report to MoEFCC within one month of close of each financial year.
- 6.3.4 All operations of the CNA shall be in compliance with the DoE OM F.No. 3/ (06)/PFMS/2023 dated 21 May 2024 and any amendments thereto.

6.4 Responsibilities of Implementing Agencies

In addition to the general obligations set out in Section 4.6, IAs functioning as SNAs shall adhere to the following financial management requirements:

- Funds transferred by an IA to co-implementing partners shall be channelled through dedicated bank accounts and closely monitored.
- IAs shall facilitate all statutory audits, financial verifications, and scrutiny by MoEFCC, CNA, or CAG as and when required, including production of bank statements, asset registers, and other relevant documents.
- A Utilisation Certificate or Statement of Expenditure, duly certified by the competent authority, shall be submitted along with every fund demand. The next tranche shall be processed only after consideration of the UC/SoE and satisfactory physical progress.
- All applicable taxes, cess, and deductions shall be complied with by IAs and reported to the scheme.
- Advance payment to vendors may be permitted against retention of an equivalent bank guarantee from a scheduled bank. For maintenance work, the advance period shall not exceed six months. Any deviation shall require PSC approval with justification.

UTs without legislature, functioning as IAs, shall work directly in PFMS through a Letter of Authorisation (LoA) and shall release funds to vendors and beneficiaries on a just-in-time basis without opening a Central Nodal Account.

6.5 Fund Release

6.5.1 Fund releases to IAs shall be governed by the conditions set out in the table below.

Instalment	Trigger	Amount
1st	1. AA&ES issued and accepted by IAs/Agency 2. Approved activity appended to MoU as per Section 5.6.2 of Guidelines; 3. Implementation plan submitted to SCMD	Advance up to 25% of approved project cost may be permitted by PSC
Subsequent	Utilisation of at least 75% of earlier release; UC/SoE certified by competent authority; satisfactory physical progress	As per latest CNA guidelines issued by DoE, MoF
Final	Physical completion of project; all outcomes achieved; UC for remaining central assistance; project closure report submitted	Remaining balance

6.5.2. The first instalment shall be released only after execution of the MoU between the MoEFCC and IA, and submission of the implementation plan as detailed in Section 5.6.

6.5.3 All projects shall have defined Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), and fund releases shall be linked to KPI achievement wherever feasible.

6.5.4 Where ecological constraints, limited seasonal windows, or unforeseen convergence opportunities warrant flexibility in fund release timelines, relaxation may be considered by the PSC on the recommendation of the PMC, with recorded justification. The concerned agency shall request for such relaxation with proper justification to PMC, at the earliest.

6.5.5. Direct payment to the parties by MoEFCC, such as engagement of consultants, Project management related activities, awards/facilitations, any work undertaken by PSC/PMC shall be exempted from the CNA model of fund management.

6.5.6 For transactions such as TDS, income tax, GST payments, opening of letters of credit for foreign suppliers, or March salary disbursements, CNAs and SNAs may utilise their existing commercial bank accounts, transferring funds on a just-in-time basis to the designated PFMS-linked account.

Note: The initial advance against the AA&ES shall not exceed 25% of the total sanctioned amount, except with specific PSC approval. Subsequent and final instalments shall be governed by the instalment schedule set out above.

6.6 Re-appropriation and Financial Irregularities

6.6.1 Minor re-appropriation within approved DPR components — not exceeding +/-10% of the allocation for any component — may be allowed by the PSC after due assessment

6.6.2 Major changes in project scope or cost shall require PSC approval. The PSC, on the recommendation of the PMC, may also review progress on

ongoing projects and reallocate sanctioned budgets within the project sub-heads, across projects or project groups within the scheme.

- 6.6.3 Financial irregularities identified during implementation, audit, or monitoring shall result in withholding of further fund releases, recovery of funds after due diligence, termination of the project, and blacklisting of the IA. A transparent mechanism shall be adopted, including constitution of an independent committee and an opportunity for the IA to be heard, before any punitive action is taken.

6.7 Administrative and Operational Expenses (A&OE)

A total allocation of ₹30 crore has been earmarked for Administrative and Operational Expenses over the scheme period. These funds shall be utilised at the SCMD level and shall cover project management, monitoring and evaluation, third-party assessments, administration, workshops, training, awards, research studies, MIS development, engagement of project management consultants, and other administrative expenses necessary for effective scheme implementation.

6.8 Statutory Compliances

All financial operations under NCM 2.0 shall be subject to:

- Statutory audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG).
- Internal audit by MoEFCC.
- Financial verification by the CNA.
- Third-party audits as decided by the PSC or SCMD.

In line with their responsibilities under Section 4.5, all IAs and the CNA shall facilitate audit and financial verification processes as and when required, providing all requisite documents, bank statements, asset registers, and other records. The fund management framework shall be governed by DoE OM F.No. 3/ (06)/PFMS/2023 dated 21 May 2024 and shall be updated to comply with any subsequent amendments or superseding guidelines issued by DoE.

Chapter 7: Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (MER)

7.1 Framework and Applicability

The MER framework shall apply to all project components under NCM 2.0 including IAs, CNA, PMC, consultants, and third-party agencies. It shall ensure financial discipline, accountability, achievement of measurable outputs and outcomes, transparency in expenditure, and legal compliance. The framework shall conform to GFR 2017, DFPR, DoE guidelines, and PFMS architecture. Project-level MER requirements form a mandatory chapter of the DPR, as specified in Section 5.2.2.

7.2 Monitoring Structure and Frequency

The monitoring structure under NCM 2.0 shall operate across multiple levels, with distinct roles assigned to the PSC, PMC, IAs, and State Nodal Coordination Officers (SNCOs). The respective responsibilities shall be as follows:

- The PSC chaired by the Secretary, MoEFCC shall provide apex-level oversight, ensure that scheme objectives are met within approved timelines, and review any deviations to maintain alignment with applicable rules. Permitted deviations shall be duly recorded with justification and placed in the public domain through the MIS portal.
- The PMC shall conduct regular operational reviews, undertake field visits for progress verification, and place its findings before the PSC. Wherever applicable, services of Registered Environment Auditors for monitoring of the project activities may be explored, in accordance with the provisions of the **Environment Audit Rules, 2025, notified vide S.O. 3973(E) dated 29.08.2025**, and other applicable guidelines/instructions of the Government of India.
- The IAs shall establish internal monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, maintain defined reporting timelines, and ensure statutory and financial compliances.
- SNCOs shall provide quarterly progress reports to the PMC, and independent third-party assessments and statutory audits shall complement real-time progress tracking through the MIS dashboard.

The table below sets out the monitoring levels, responsible entities, and prescribed frequencies.

Level	Entity	Frequency
National Oversight	PSC chaired by Secretary, MoEFCC	At least twice a year
Operational Review	PMC (chaired by JS, SCMD)	Regularly
Field Review	PMC — field visits and verification of IA progress reports	As required; at least once a year per project
Statutory Audit	CAG / State AG Audits	As per CAG Schedule
Independent Evaluation	Third-Party Assessment (TPA) as approved by PSC	Mid-term (optional), End-term (compulsory)
Real-Time Progress	MIS and dashboard-based review with KPI tracking, financial utilisation, GRM	Real-time / continuous
State Reporting	SNCO quarterly progress report to PMC	Quarterly

7.3 Management Information System (MIS)

A web-based MIS shall be developed for effective monitoring, evaluation, and reporting. Key components include:

- Geo-tagged images, GIS mapping, real-time dashboard and mobile reporting application.
- Reporting system by IAs and State Nodal Coordination Officers.
- Third-party verification and monitoring module.
- KPI achievement tracking, fund release and utilisation updates.
- Grievance redressal and resolution tracking.
- Stakeholder feedback and capacity building modules.
- Submission and generation of Annual Reports.

7.4 Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM)

- A structured GRM shall be made available through the MIS with defined hierarchy, disposal timelines, and contact details.
- Each IA and the SNCO shall maintain an escalation-based grievance system.
- PMC shall review grievance disposal status quarterly; submit annual report to PSC.

7.5 Third Party Assessment (TPA)

- SCMD shall recommend, and PSC shall approve, the appointment of one or more TPA agencies through a transparent, competitive process.
- TPA cost shall be borne from the project management component of the scheme.
- TPA findings shall be placed before PSC and shall inform any mid-term or end-term course corrections.

7.6 Statutory Audit

The scheme shall be subjected to statutory audits by the CAG. Annual accounts shall be audited as per the standard ToR for all Central Government projects.

7.7 Risk Management

- Risks shall be assessed in the DPR with mitigation measures.
- Projects classified as RED (physical progress < 50% of target, financial utilisation < 40%, repeated non-compliance) shall be reported to the PSC along with corrective measures.
- False reporting shall attract penal action unless rectified with intimation to PMC within 10 working days.

Chapter 8: Communication, Capacity Building and Knowledge Management

8.1 Objective

Capacity building, knowledge management, communication, and awareness generation shall be cross-cutting components of NCM 2.0. These shall be integrated into all projects with measurable indicators to ensure that interventions are scientifically robust, technically sound, and supported by sustainable, community-driven approaches. The IAs shall allocate adequate resources for these components in project DPRs, with specific deliverables and timelines.

8.2 Capacity Building Framework

Capacity building shall be implemented as a structured, multi-level effort spanning institutional, technical, and community dimensions. It shall be a mandatory component of all projects and activities under NCM 2.0.

8.2.1 Verticals of Capacity Building

Capacity building under NCM 2.0 shall be organised under three broad verticals:

- Institutional: strengthening the planning, coordination, and oversight capacities of MoEFCC, PMC, State Nodal agencies, and IAs, including systems development, database management, and institutional processes.
- Technical and Scientific: enhancing the technical competence of IA staff, State and UT planners, designers, and officials through specialised training in coastal ecosystem science, DPR preparation, environmental safeguards, monitoring methodologies, and financial management.
- Community-Oriented: building awareness and capacities among coastal communities, local governance bodies, and civil society organisations on sustainable coastal management, conservation practices, and grievance mechanisms.

8.2.2 Modes of Capacity Building

Support for capacity building may include engagement of technical experts, strengthening of institutional systems, database development, field monitoring, and provision of necessary equipment. Training programmes shall include, but not be limited to:

- Workshops and seminars at national, State, and field levels.
- Field-based and hands-on training for IA and State officials.
- Environmental safeguard training for project staff and contractors.
- Training of State/UT planners, designers, and IA officials on scheme processes and compliance requirements.
- Cross-learning visits and exposure programmes to best-practice sites.

8.2.3 Standards-Based Beach Management

The MoEFCC envisages operationalising a structured, recognition-based framework to promote safe, inclusive, and environmentally well-managed beaches across India. Such a framework would assess beaches against standardised criteria covering environmental protection, water quality, waste management, safety infrastructure, and visitor services, rewarding progressive improvement over time. The scheme may also provide for performance-linked support to beaches that achieve defined recognition thresholds, the modalities for which shall be determined separately by MoEFCC. When launched, this initiative shall serve as a practical platform for capacity building, community engagement, and healthy competition among beach management stakeholders.

8.2.4 International Exposure and Cooperation

The NCM 2.0 shall seek to leverage global knowledge in coastal ecosystem management through international exposure visits, collaborative training, and institutional partnerships. Visits shall be facilitated to countries with proven models in coral reef restoration, mangrove conservation, integrated coastal zone management, and climate-resilient shoreline stabilisation. Collaboration with international institutions such as IUCN, UNEP, and IOC-UNESCO shall be explored for adapting training modules to Indian conditions, and training delivered by international experts — in India or abroad — shall be incorporated into the Mission's capacity building calendar where domestic expertise is limited.

The MoEFCC shall explore formalising such engagements through MoUs or Letters of Intent with partner institutions, in coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs where relevant. The international exposure visits shall be undertaken in accordance with the extant Government of India policies, guidelines and procedure Learnings from international visits shall be documented as knowledge products and shared on the Mission portal. Synergies with multilateral frameworks such as BIMSTEC, BRICS, and the Indian Ocean Rim Association may be explored, with the IC Division of MoEFCC engaged as a facilitator where appropriate.

8.3 Training Delivery and Feedback

Technology-enabled platforms shall be developed to complement in-person training, broadening reach and ensuring continuity of learning for participants in remote coastal areas. Knowledge products shall be hosted on the Mission web portal for open access. All training initiatives — physical and digital — shall incorporate a structured feedback and evaluation mechanism, and IAs shall report on training outcomes as part of their regular progress reports to the PMC.

8.4 Knowledge Management

The IAs shall ensure that the development of knowledge products is an integral part of project implementation. All projects shall include dedicated outputs in the form of documented knowledge products, and associated costs shall be included in the project DPR.

The following shall constitute the minimum knowledge management requirements under NCM 2.0:

- Best practices, lessons learned, and relevant global experiences shall be documented throughout the project lifecycle and made available on the Mission portal upon project closure.
- Standard manuals and guidelines on procurement, technical specifications, community engagement protocols, and awareness activities shall be developed, wherever feasible, to ensure uniformity and efficiency across IAs.
- Scientific and technical data generated through project activities — including baseline surveys, monitoring datasets, and ecological assessments — shall be archived in a structured format and submitted to the MIS for use by future projects and researchers.
- IAs shall produce at least one knowledge product per project — such as a case study, technical note, or practice brief — for dissemination through the Mission portal and relevant national platforms.

8.5 Communication and IEC Strategy

Each project shall implement an Information, Education and Communication (IEC) strategy in accordance with the Communication Plan included in the DPR. The IEC strategy implementation and progress shall be disclosed on the Mission portal.

Multiple communication modes shall be actively used, including:

- Public consultations and community dialogues at the State and district levels.
- Documentary films, audio-visual content, and digital media campaigns.
- Outreach through educational institutions, community-based organisations, and non-governmental organisations.
- Print and outdoor media, including brochures, posters, and signage at intervention sites.
- Innovative and locally appropriate communication approaches that leverage existing community networks.

Mission branding shall be mandatorily displayed at all intervention sites, providing details of the project, its objectives, expected benefits, cost, timeline for completion, and grievance redressal contact information.

8.6 Public Awareness and Community Participation

Community participation shall be treated as a core principle of NCM 2.0 and shall not be limited to consultation. IAs shall design and implement participatory, community-driven awareness programmes focused on the conservation and sustainable management of coastal ecosystems and the marine environment.

The following shall form part of the community engagement and awareness activities under NCM 2.0:

- Beach cleaning campaigns involving local communities, schools, and civil society groups, aligned with national and international awareness days such as International Coastal Cleanup Day.
- Promotion of sustainable beach management and coastal livelihoods practices, including adoption of environmentally sound technologies and waste management protocols.
- Community-based biodiversity monitoring and citizen science programmes to build local stewardship and generate ground-level ecological data.
- Engagement of women and marginalised coastal communities in project design, implementation, and monitoring to ensure equitable participation and benefit-sharing.
- Coordination with Panchayati Raj Institutions, Urban Local Bodies, and coastal village councils to embed conservation outcomes in local governance frameworks.

The IAs shall report on community engagement activities and outcomes as part of their quarterly and annual progress reports. Community feedback shall be captured through the GRM and incorporated into project course corrections where relevant.

Chapter 9: Miscellaneous Provisions

9.1 Dispute Resolution

Any dispute arising during project implementation including administrative, contractual, litigation-related, technical, or financial matters shall be addressed, in the first instance, by the Implementing Agency (IA). The MoEFCC, the PSC, and the PMC shall not be made party to such disputes unless directly involved in the decision-making that gave rise to the dispute.

Where an IA is aggrieved by a decision of the PMC, it may escalate the matter to the PSC. The PSC's decision on such matters shall be final, subject to applicable laws. All dispute resolution proceedings shall be documented and retained as part of project records.

9.2 Legal and Regulatory Compliance

All project activities under NCM 2.0 shall comply with applicable laws and regulations, including but not limited to those relating to environmental protection, wildlife conservation, forests, biodiversity, pollution control, coastal regulation, and occupational health and safety. Consistent with the obligations in Sections 4.6 and 5.2.3, the IAs shall be responsible for identifying the full set of statutory clearances and permissions applicable to their projects and for obtaining them in a timely manner.

Clearances shall, wherever possible, be identified at the DPR stage and their status tracked through the MIS. Projects shall not commence field activities in areas requiring clearances until such clearances are obtained. Any instance of non-compliance identified during monitoring or audit shall be reported immediately to the PMC and remediated within timelines specified by the PSC.

9.3 Land Availability

The scheme does not envisage land acquisition under any circumstances. Any land required for project interventions shall be made available by the concerned State Government or UT Administration within existing governmental frameworks and without recourse to compulsory acquisition. IAs shall confirm the encumbrance-free status of land proposed for use prior to DPR submission, and the State/UT shall provide a written commitment to this effect, with site-specific confirmation in the relevant project schedule appended to the MoU.

9.4 Human Resources

No permanent post or regular manpower shall be created under NCM 2.0. All human resources required for implementation — including consultants, technical experts, and support staff — shall be engaged on a contractual or project basis in accordance with applicable guidelines issued by MoEFCC or the IA, as the case may be. Engagement shall be made through transparent and competitive processes.

The engagement of consultants and experts shall be co-terminus with the completion of the project or the specific requirement for which they were engaged or shall be based on a performance assessment conducted by the TAC or PMC, whichever is earlier. Extensions beyond the project period shall

not ordinarily be permitted and shall require specific approval of the PSC with recorded justification.

9.5 Procurements

All procurement of goods, works and services under the Scheme shall be carried out in a fair, transparent, competitive and cost-effective manner in accordance with the provisions of the General Financial Rules (GFR), 2017 and the Manual for Procurement of Goods, 2017, as amended from time to time, issued by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

9.6 No Subsidy Provision

There is no provision for payment of any subsidy or direct benefit transfer to individuals or private entities under the scheme. All funding released under NCM 2.0 shall be for the purpose of project implementation through eligible IAs in accordance with approved DPRs and sanctioned activity schedules. This provision shall not apply to structured recognition or standards-based frameworks that MoEFCC may separately operationalise for promoting sustainable beach management, which shall be governed by their own guidelines.

9.7 Convergence and Collaboration

State Government departments working in domains relevant to coastal management shall be actively engaged where feasible, with a view to building their institutional capacities and enabling the replication of successful project models beyond the Mission's direct funding. IAs shall identify and document convergence opportunities with ongoing State or Central schemes as part of the convergence chapter of the DPR (Section 5.2.2).

Organisations and agencies of line ministries working in the domain of proposed project activities may also be involved in implementation to the extent possible, to ensure coordination, avoid duplication, and leverage existing expertise and infrastructure. Such involvement shall be documented as part of the project implementation plan.

9.8 Scheme Review and Revision

The scheme shall be subject to periodic review by the PSC. Based on the findings of mid-term evaluations, audit reports, monitoring outcomes, or changed circumstances, the PSC may recommend revisions to the scheme guidelines, funding norms, implementation modalities, or eligible activities, in consultation with the competent authority. Any such revisions shall be documented and communicated to all stakeholders through the MIS portal. MoEFCC reserves the rights to change, modify or amend the guidelines with due approval of the PSC.

9.9 Interpretation and Residual Matters

In the event of any ambiguity in the interpretation of these guidelines, the matter shall be referred to MoEFCC, whose interpretation shall be final. Matters not covered by these guidelines shall be dealt with in accordance with

the General Financial Rules, Procurement guidelines, and relevant Government of India instructions in force from time to time. MoEFCC reserves the right to issue clarifications, addenda, or supplementary instructions as may be necessary for the effective implementation of the scheme.

9.10 Termination/Suspension of the Projects

In case of unsatisfactory performance, non-compliance with the approved project scope, terms and conditions of the AA&ES/MoU, persistent delays, misuse or misutilisation of funds, submission of incorrect or misleading information, or any other material deviation from the approved provisions of the Scheme, the engagement of an IA can be terminated/suspended with the approval of the Project Steering Committee.

In case of termination or discontinuation, the concerned IA or State/UT, as the case may be, shall be required to furnish the status of the project and utilisation of funds and shall take necessary steps for settlement/recovery of unutilised funds, outstanding advances and other dues, as applicable, in accordance with the extant rules and instructions of the Government of India.

The project may also be reassigned to another eligible Implementing Agency, with the approval of the PSC, to ensure completion of the approved activities and achievement of the objectives of the Scheme.

The detailed terms and conditions relating to suspension, termination, recovery of funds and settlement of accounts shall be incorporated in the sanction order, as applicable.

9.11 Force Majeure

In the event of any Force Majeure circumstance affecting implementation of activities under the Scheme, the provisions contained in the extant guidelines/instructions of the Department of Expenditure (DoE), Ministry of Finance, Government of India, relating to Force Majeure, as amended from time to time, shall apply.

**Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)
for
Implementation of National Coastal Mission 2.0**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is made on this ____ day of _____, 2026 among:

(a) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, hereinafter “MoEFCC”

and

(b) [Name of Implementing Agency], hereinafter “IA”

1. Background

India’s coastal and marine areas face increasing environmental and developmental pressures, including the impacts of climate change, necessitating integrated and sustainable coastal management. At the same time, the growing importance of the Blue Economy calls for balancing economic development with conservation of coastal and marine ecosystems.

To address these challenges, the Government of India has launched the **National Coastal Mission (NCM 2.0) (hereinafter *scheme*)**, a Central Sector Scheme aimed at promoting climate-resilient and sustainable coastal development through science-based planning, innovative interventions, and evidence-driven decision-making.

Coastal States and Union Territories are key partners in the Mission and play a critical role in the planning, implementation, monitoring, and long-term sustainability of interventions. The Implementing Agencies (IAs) shall work in close coordination with the respective State Governments and UT Administrations for design and effective implementation of projects under the Mission.

This MoU establishes a collaborative framework between the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and [Name of the Implementing Agency] for achieving the objectives of the Scheme.

2. Objectives of this MoU include

- To conserve, protect and manage the coastal ecosystems and marine environment
- To promote adaptation and mitigation measures to address climate change impacts
- To develop spatial and temporal planning of coastal landscape and marine territorial waters for promotion of blue economy
- To prevent, abate and monitor the pollution in coastal waters and provide science- based measures to address identified challenges

- Capacity building and awareness activities on impacts of Climate change and conservation of coastal ecosystems
- To support the obligatory requirements of international treaties and conventions on coastal environment
- To facilitate and collaborate in identifying, planning, implementation, monitoring and O&M of the interventions undertaken to meet the above objectives

3. Scope of Work:

The scope of work under the Scheme shall include, inter alia, the following activities, and such other activities as may be approved by MoEFCC from time to time in furtherance of the objectives of the Scheme

- Development of climate resilient and environment friendly coastal tourism infrastructure
- Pollution abatement, control and monitoring including on deep sea (offshore) discharge in coastal territorial waters
- Conservation and restoration of coral and coral reefs & its management
- Conservation of sea water Dolphin
- Development of criteria and designing guidelines for green coastal infrastructure for highly eroding coastline
- Development of integrated coastal zone management plan (ICZMP) and Coastal Marine Spatial Plan (CMSP)
- Capacity building of State government organisation associated with conservation and management of Coastal ecosystem, Environmental education and awareness programmes for coastal communities

4. Purpose of MoUs

This MoU aims to ensure active participation and commitment of the Implementing Agency in planning, implementation, monitoring, and long-term sustainability of projects undertaken under the Scheme.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

(a) MoEFCC: MoEFCC shall:

- Provide financial support under the National Coastal Mission
- Coordinate with line ministries, State Government, and Implementing Agencies
- Provide policy guidance and approvals
- Ensure alignment with national policies and regulations
- Facilitate convergence with other Central schemes
- Take final decisions, which shall be binding on all parties
- Conduct workshops, awareness programs including capacity building for the stakeholders of the NCM 2.0

- Identify and provide necessary information about Implementing agencies / partners to State Government as and when required with contact details of the nodal officer.

(b) Implementing Agency shall

- Have a dedicated team headed by a senior domain expert for each assigned activity
- Constitute a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) comprising independent domain experts for each project, with concurrence of Sustainable Coastal Management Division.
- Develop and plan projects in consultation and concurrence with the concerned State/UT, within the objectives and scope of work assigned by MoEFCC.
- Ensure that concerned States/UTs and district administration are involved in the projects, from preparatory work till execution.
- Maintain close coordination and consultation with the concerned State Government(s), Union Territory Administration(s), District Administration(s), and other relevant local authorities throughout the project cycle. IAs shall keep the concerned authorities informed of planned activities and ensure their participation, wherever required, to facilitate effective implementation and local ownership of project interventions.
- Identify and obtain all necessary permissions, statutory approvals, clearances, and no-objection certificates from the competent authorities prior to undertaking any activity under the project.
- Conduct data gap analysis and generate required datasets; coordinate with State agencies for data collection, validation, and access to State data sources
- Ensure scientific robustness, regulatory alignment, and compliance with applicable national frameworks in all project outputs
- Build capacity of State department officials in the preparation and application of plans, outputs, and tools developed under the assigned activity
- Provide technical or knowledge support to States/UTs for implementation of similar activities from their own resources, where requested
- Ensure no permanent asset creation without an identified owner/beneficiary with an O&M commitment
- Maintain procured assets in operational condition for the full useful life of the project
- Actively coordinate with the State Nodal Coordination Officer (SNCO) and project-level State officers on all matters requiring State engagement, including site selection, field activities, and stakeholder consultations

- Maintain all data generated or used under assigned activities in a standardised format as per MoEFCC directions and shall not be used for commercial purposes without approval of MoEFCC
- Maintain strict confidentiality of all project-related information and shall ensure that its personnel and any third party hired for the work, adhere to a high standard of ethical conduct. No information, data, documents, or knowledge obtained through the project shall be disclosed or used for personal, commercial, or any other unauthorized gain without prior approval of the competent authority.
- Submit Action plan with defined timelines for advance funds disbursement.
- Shall be accountable to both the Ministry and the concerned State/UT for timely and effective implementation

6. Work Plan and Financials

A detailed work plan with time-bound milestones / deliverables and other requirements shall be prepared by Implementing agencies in close consultation with State Government/UT Administration. MoEFCC will accord approvals to the proposed activities, and the funds will be released as per approved milestones and guidelines.

MoEFCC reserves the right to withhold, suspend or recover funds released under the Scheme in the event of non-compliance with Scheme guidelines, misuse of funds, material deviation from approved activities, or violation of applicable laws.

7. Outsourcing

Wherever necessary, specific components of work may be outsourced by the Implementing Agency in consultation with the State Government within the approved budget, and with prior approval of MoEFCC

8. Data Management

- All data generated or used shall be collated, analysed, compiled and maintained in a standardised format by Implementing agencies or as decided by MoEFCC. The data shall not be used for any commercial purposes, without permission of MoEFCC and/or State Government. The data shall be accessible to all parties, and data sharing mechanisms shall conform to the applicable legal and regulatory framework.
- All parties shall adhere to an ethical code of conduct ensuring transparency, integrity, confidentiality where required, and ensure responsible use of data.
- All efforts shall be made to avoid duplication with ongoing or proposed project/ programmes of State or Central Government. It shall be ensured to have synergy with Central and State Government schemes and policy

or other initiatives of sustainable coastal development including blue economy activities.

- Implementing agencies shall incorporate appropriate convergence of resources from other schemes and programs, be it under implementation or proposed, in consultation with State Government at every stage of implementation

9. Use of Technology

Use of Information Technology tools, geospatial system and other relevant technologies shall be encouraged. Use of Artificial Intelligence and Machine learning tools shall be encouraged. Explore possibilities to develop and utilise digital twin platforms for integrated coastal and marine spatial planning, scenario analysis, and decision support.

10. Intellectual Property

Any intellectual property developed shall be jointly owned by MoEFCC and State Government as the case may be, subject to applicable laws and their use by any party shall be with prior approval of MoEFCC. The IA shall have no right to publish or commercially exploit such outputs without prior written approval of MoEFCC.

11. Capacity Building

IAs shall conduct training programmes, develop manuals and guidelines. Knowledge product developed during the scheme period shall be made available to the State Government/UT Administration officials. Workshops and consultations organised by IAs should actively explore opportunities for convergence across scheme and programme undertaken by State government. State government shall identify the officials / target groups in consultation with IAs for training programs and other outreach activities.

12. Duration

This MoU shall remain valid for the entire scheme period from the date of signing of this MoU till the completion of the project scheme terminating on March 31st, 2031.

However, the State government will have the option to retain the implementing partner as their knowledge partner, after termination of this MoU, as per mutually agreed terms and conditions.

13. Performance Standards:

The IA shall adhere to the approved timelines and quality standards. Persistent delays or substandard outputs may result in withholding of payments, reassignment of work or termination.

14. Conflict of Interest:

The IA shall disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest and shall not undertake activities that may compromise impartiality.

15. Dispute Resolution

Any dispute arising shall be resolved through mutual consultation. In case of unresolved matters, the decision of Secretary- Environment Forest & Climate Change, Government of India shall be final and binding.

16. Amendment

This MoU may be amended with mutual consent of both parties, with approval of Secretary, Environment Forest & Climate Change, Government of India

17. Termination

Any party may withdraw with prior notice of 60 days, subject to settlement of obligations and approval of MoEFCC.

Signatories:

MoEFCC

Implementing Agency

Name:

Name:

Designation: Joint Secretary,
Sustainable Coastal Management Division,
MoEFCC

Designation:

Signature:

Signature:

**Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)
for
Implementation of National Coastal Mission 2.0**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is made on this ____ day of _____, 2026 among:

(a) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, hereinafter “MoEFCC”

and

(b) Government/Administration of [Name of State/UT], hereinafter “State Government”

1. Background

India’s coastal and marine areas face increasing environmental and developmental pressures, including the impacts of climate change, necessitating integrated and sustainable coastal management. At the same time, the growing importance of the Blue Economy calls for balancing economic development with conservation of coastal and marine ecosystems.

To address these challenges, the Government of India has launched the **National Coastal Mission (NCM 2.0) (hereinafter *scheme*)**, a Central Sector Scheme aimed at promoting climate-resilient and sustainable coastal development through science-based planning, innovative interventions, and evidence-driven decision-making.

Coastal States and Union Territories are key partners in the Mission and play a critical role in the planning, implementation, monitoring, and long-term sustainability of interventions. Designated Implementing Agencies (IAs) shall work in close coordination with the respective State Governments and UT Administrations for design and effective implementation of projects under the Mission.

This MoU establishes a collaborative framework between the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and the State Governments/UT Administrations for achieving the objectives of the Scheme.

2. Objectives of this MoU include

- To conserve, protect and manage the coastal ecosystems and marine environment
- To promote adaptation and mitigation measures to address climate change impacts
- To develop spatial and temporal planning of coastal landscape and marine territorial waters for promotion of blue economy
- To prevent, abate and monitor the pollution in coastal waters and provide science- based measures to address identified challenges

- Capacity building and awareness activities on impacts of Climate change and conservation of coastal ecosystems
- To support the obligatory requirements of international treaties and conventions on coastal environment
- To facilitate and collaborate in identifying, planning, implementation, monitoring and O&M of the interventions undertaken to meet the above objectives

3. Scope of Work:

The scope of work under the Scheme shall include, inter alia, the following activities, and such other activities as may be approved by MoEFCC from time to time in furtherance of the objectives of the Scheme.

- Development of climate resilient and environment friendly coastal tourism infrastructure
- Pollution abatement, control and monitoring including on deep sea (offshore) discharge in coastal territorial waters
- Conservation and restoration of coral and coral reefs & its management
- Conservation of Sea water Dolphin
- Development of criteria and designing guidelines for green coastal infrastructure for highly eroding coastline
- Development of integrated coastal zone management plan (ICZMP) and Coastal Marine Spatial Plan (CMSP)
- Capacity building of State government organisation associated with conservation and management of Coastal ecosystem, Environmental education and awareness programmes for coastal communities

4. Purpose of MoU

This MoU aims to ensure active participation and commitment of the Coastal State/UT in planning, implementation, monitoring, and long-term sustainability of projects undertaken under the Scheme.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

(a) MoEFCC: MoEFCC shall:

- Provide financial support under the National Coastal Mission
- Coordinate with line ministries, State Government, and Implementing Agencies
- Provide policy guidance and approvals
- Ensure alignment with national policies and regulations
- Facilitate convergence with other Central schemes
- Take final decisions, which shall be binding on all parties
- Conduct workshops, awareness programs including capacity building for the stakeholders of the NCM 2.0
- Identify and provide necessary information about Implementing agencies / partners to State Government/UT Administration as and when required with contact details of the nodal officer.

(b) Coastal State Government/UT Administration shall

- Facilitate necessary support to the Implementing agencies identified by MoEFCC
- Nominate a State Nodal Coordination Officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary in the Government of India.
- Identify priority coastal stretches for planning and intervention under NCM 2.0
- Actively provide inputs/comments on the project design and their implementation
- Provide access to data sources available with State agencies/ department required for project conceptualisation, planning, execution, Operation & Monitoring of interventions undertaken under NCM 2.0 Scheme
- Facilitate coordination with State departments, local agencies, and stakeholders
- Provide statutory and land-related approvals, permissions, as required for the identified projects under the NCM 2.0 scheme, in accordance with applicable rules and regulations
- Ensure adoption and use of ICZMP and MSP in planning and developmental activities
- Facilitate and support field activities and stakeholder consultations
- Acknowledge and participate in projects under Challenge based method
- Ensure operation and maintenance of assets created under NCM2.0 for its design lifetime and upscale or replicate such learning at other similar locations/situation
- Support to avoid duplication and overlaps with the ongoing or proposed State or Central programs. All efforts shall be made to explore the convergence with such programs and projects for optimised utilisation of the Resources
- Commit financial / resource support, wherever required for effective implementation of NCM 2.0 project and sustenance of the interventions for its designed lifetime

6. Work Plan and Financials

A detailed work plan with time-bound milestones / deliverables and other requirements shall be prepared by Implementing Agencies in close consultation with State Government/UT Administration. State Governments/UT Administrations are encouraged to contribute financial and other resources in cash or kind for effective implementation of the proposed activities. MoEFCC will accord approvals to the proposed activities, and the funds will be released as per approved milestones and guidelines.

MoEFCC reserves the right to withhold, suspend or recover funds released under the Scheme in the event of non-compliance with Scheme guidelines, misuse of funds, material deviation from approved activities, or violation of applicable laws.

7. Outsourcing

Wherever necessary, specific components of work may be outsourced by the Implementing Agency in consultation with the State Government within the approved budget, and with prior approval of MoEFCC

8. Data Management

- All data generated or used shall be collated, analysed, compiled and maintained in a standardised format by Implementing agencies or as decided by MoEFCC. The data shall not be used for any commercial purposes, without permission of MoEFCC and/or State Government. The data shall be accessible to all parties. Data sharing mechanisms shall conform to the applicable legal and regulatory framework.
- All parties shall adhere to an ethical code of conduct ensuring transparency, integrity, confidentiality where required, and ensure responsible use of data.
- All efforts shall be made to avoid duplication with ongoing or proposed project/ programmes of State or Central Government. It shall be ensured to have synergy with Central and State Government schemes and policy or other initiatives of sustainable coastal development including blue economy activities.
- Implementing agencies shall incorporate appropriate convergence of resources from other schemes and programs, be it under implementation or proposed, in consultation with State Government at every stage of implementation

9. Use of Technology

Use of Information Technology tools, geospatial system and other relevant technologies shall be encouraged. Use of Artificial Intelligence and Machine learning tools shall be encouraged. Explore possibilities to develop and utilise digital twin platforms for integrated coastal and marine spatial planning, scenario analysis, and decision support.

10. Intellectual Property

Any intellectual property developed shall be jointly owned by MoEFCC and State Government, subject to applicable laws and their use by any party shall be with prior approval of MoEFCC.

11. Capacity Building

The Implementing agencies shall conduct training programmes, develop manuals and guidelines. Knowledge product developed during the scheme period shall be made available to the State Government/UT Administration officials. Workshops and consultations organised by IAs should actively explore opportunities for convergence across scheme and programme

undertaken by State government. State government shall identify the officials / target groups in consultation with IAs for training programs and other outreach activities.

12. Duration

This MoU shall remain valid for the entire scheme period from the date of signing of this MoU till the completion of the project scheme terminating on March 31st, 2031.

However, the State Govt./UT Administration will have the option to retain the implementing partner as their knowledge partner, after termination of this MoU, as per mutually agreed terms and conditions.

13. Dispute Resolution

Any dispute arising shall be resolved through mutual consultation. In case of unresolved matters, the decision of Secretary- Environment Forest & Climate Change, Government of India shall be final and binding.

14. Amendment

This MoU may be amended with mutual consent of both parties, with approval of Secretary, Environment Forest & Climate Change, Government of India

15. Termination

Any party may withdraw with prior notice of 60 days, subject to settlement of obligations and approval of MoEFCC

Signatories:

MoEFCC

State Government/UT Administration

Name:

Name:

Designation: Joint Secretary,

Designation:

Sustainable Coastal Management Division,

MoEFCC

Signature:

Signature:

Check List for verification of DPRs for compliance with the DPR format.

Objective: To verify completeness of the DPR and compliance with the Scheme Guidelines before referring it to the Appraisal Entity (AE).

(To be completed by PMC before Technical & Financial Appraisal)

A. General Information

S. No.	Verification Item	Remarks
1	DPR submitted by the identified Implementing Agency/State	
2	Project falls under approved NCM 2.0 component	
3	Project title clearly defined	
4	State(s)/UT(s) covered clearly identified	
5	Nodal Officer and Project Director identified	
6	Duration of project specified	
7	Total project cost indicated	
8	Pre-feasibility Report (PFR) Submitted	
9	Proposal part of PFR	
10	Objective of PFR in agreement with stipulated guidelines objectives	
11	For State/UT Proposal	
a	Approval of Competent Authority (Level of approving authority)	
b	Financial Commitment by State	

B. Strategic Alignment

S. No.	Verification Item	Remarks
1	Proposal aligns / supplement the Mission Objectives	
2	Falls within approved Scheme Component	
3	Supports ecosystem conservation or climate resilience	
4	Enhance potential of Blue Economy	
5	Supports capacity building/ community engagement	
6	State Engagement / Ownership commitments (Department identified)	
7	Implementation schedule	
8	Implementing partners and their work plan/schedule	
9	Key Performance Indicators for proposed activities provided	
10	Fund demand linked to KPIs	
11	Yearly budget provided	
12	Measurable and Monitorable Indicators of proposed activities provided for	
(a)	Outputs	
(b)	Outcome	
13	O&M plan for the asset created	
14	Convergence potential explored	
15	Duplication / Overlaps potential assessed	

C. DPR Structure:

#	Verification Item	Mandatory Requirements	Page No
1	Executive Summary	• Problem statement • Objectives • Location • Cost • Duration • Key KPIs • Outcomes	
2	Background & Need	• Evidence base • Baseline data • Gap analysis • Stakeholder needs / Consultations • Concept Note • PFR • Approvals received	
3	Project Objectives (Overall and proposal specific)	• Specific • Measurable • Achievable • Relevant • Time-bound (SMART) • Mission objectives and how the present proposal meet these objectives.	
4	Scope, Methodology and Technical Design, PFR	• Location selection and justification, • Site investigation • Technical design (CPWD/PWD/IS standards where applicable) • Alternative analysis and selection rationale, innovation and technology use • PFR – What should be done to meet the objectives and outcomes of the project highlighting phases and multiple interventions • DPR of the proposed intervention to defines its contribution to the outcome in PFR and its relevance • DPR must be replicable by design: project methodology should be sufficiently documented to enable replication by other States • All plans and interventions shall be holistic, integrated and citizen centric	
5	Convergence Assessment	• Similar Central Scheme examined • Similar State Scheme examined • Duplication avoided • Resource optimisation demonstrated • Existing infrastructure utilised • Existing datasets utilised • Existing institutions utilised	

#	Verification Item	Mandatory Requirements	Page No
		Convergence matrix enclosed	
6	Institutional Framework, Role and Responsibilities	- IA, State/UT contact officer, - Other stakeholders, - Roles and responsibilities, - TAC composition	
7	Implementation Plan	- Work plan, - Timeline, milestones, - Gantt chart, convergence details, - Quality control and assurance, - Provision to avoid duplication/overlaps	
8	Communication, Capacity Building & Outreach Plan	- Stakeholder engagement - IEC plan - Training - Community Awareness - knowledge products - GRM	
9	Environmental Impact Assessment & Safeguards	- Baseline data - Statutory clearances status (CRZ, Forest, EC, Wildlife, etc.), - EMP with compliance costs, - Social safeguards, - Gender and inclusion provisions, - Community participation	
10	Community participation & Livelihood safeguards	- Community consultation and engagement plan - Livelihood aspects - IEC plan - stakeholder engagement - training - awareness programmes - knowledge products - GRM - Relevant State Departments and district authorities - Regulators (PCBs, SCZMA, CAA) - Incorporate Mission LiFE and “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” as entry-point activities which may be undertaken at project sites, as appropriate, prior to or alongside the commencement of core project interventions.	
11	Monitoring framework	- Internal monitoring arrangement, - Output/Outcome indicators, - KPI indicators, - monitoring protocols, - MIS integration, - Reporting frequencies - Monthly, quarterly and annual reporting in physical/MIS	

#	Verification Item	Mandatory Requirements	Page No
		- Physical and financial monitoring - Capacity building and outreach programs - Data base management and MIS reporting	
12	Procurement Plan	- Procurement strategy (preference for service contract model over capital-intensive investment) - Reference for procurement process proposed - GFR Compliance - Procurement Manual compliance - GeM applicability - Bid strategy - Asset management (O&M) and Serviceable Life	
13	Risk Management	- Risk matrix: - Implementation, - Social, financial, - Technological, ecological; - Mitigation measures - Legal/regulatory compliance plan	
14	Human Resources Plan	- Manpower / Consultant engagement - Experts' engagement - Engagement rationale	
15	Financial Plan	- Activity-wise cost estimates, - Fund flow by year, - Convergence envisaged, - Fund flow arrangement among IAs; - Justification for capital-intensive investments	
16	Sensitivity Analysis	- Identify key Variables - Justifies budget request	
17	Sustainability Plan	- State commitment - Physical sustainability – O&M cost and responsibility - Financial sustainability - Manual and guidelines	
18	Exit Strategy	- Handover of the project - Manual, design and guidelines - Knowledge transfer and capacity building - Statutory Compliance related information - Project Closure Plan	
19	Knowledge Management	- Publications - SOPs and Manuals - Best Practices - Training Modules - Knowledge Repository	

#	Verification Item	Mandatory Requirements	Page No
20	Mandatory Declarations & Maps	• Concept Note • Pre-feasibility Report • State Concurrence • Collaboration Letters • Permission/NOC • Site Maps & Layout Drawings • GIS Maps (as applicable) • Gantt Chart • CV of Experts • Organisation Profile • Declaration regarding non-duplication of funding • Declaration on land availability • Cost calculations • Stakeholder Consultation Minutes • Baseline Survey • Photographs • DPR Soft Copy	
21	Schematic diagram- Internal fund flow, monitoring, evaluation and reporting mechanism		
22	Details of the team leads		
23	References		