

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

Voluntary Public

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India

Post: New Delhi

India's New Agroforestry Policy Approved

Report Categories:

Agriculture in the News

Wood Products

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Report Highlights:

On February 6, 2014, the Government of India approved a new agroforestry policy that has been developed by the Ministry of Agriculture, in consultation with Ministry of Environment and Forests. The policy approval was mentioned in the interim union budget 2014/15 on February 17, 2014, however greater clarity regarding its enactment will likely be provided later in 2014.

New Agroforestry Policy

On February 6, 2014, the Government of India approved a new agroforestry policy that has been developed by the Ministry of Agriculture, in consultation with Ministry of Environment and Forests. The policy approval was mentioned in the interim union budget 2014/15 on February 17, 2014, however greater clarity regarding its enactment will likely be provided later this summer when the final fiscal year 2014/15 (Apr/Mar) budget is announced following upcoming elections.

The new policy aims to provide a platform for key ministries such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, the Planning Commission, and other government and non-government agencies to identify strategies to expand the use of agroforestry. The Ministry of Agriculture will continue to have the mandate for agroforestry. Some of the major policy objectives include: encourage and expand tree plantation in an integrated manner with crops and livestock; meet the raw material requirements of wood based industries; reduce imports of wood and wood products; and increase the availability of fuel, fodder, and small timber for rural populations. The aim is to reduce the pressure on existing forests and increase the level of tree cover.

The policy recognizes the key role of wood-based industries in the promotion of agroforestry and economy in certain states. It also identifies regulatory and commercial factors that can be streamlined or revised to foster more growth in the industry

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a cursory review of the subject announcement and therefore should not be viewed under any circumstance, as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests.

Details of Notification:

- **Type of Regulation:** Policy
- **Public Notice Date:** February 10, 2014
- **Proposed Date of Adoption:** N/A

Notification Text as published: The full text of the policy can be accessed on the Ministry of Agriculture website ([The National Agroforestry Policy 2014](#)).

Products Affected: Agroforestry products

Agency in Charge: Ministry of Agriculture, and Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India

A list of documents related to this latest announcement follows:

<u>The World Congress on Agro-forestry</u>	February 10, 2014
<u>World Agroforestry Congress Inaugurated Press Release</u>	February 10, 2014
<u>Recommendations for a National Policy on Agroforestry</u>	November, 2013
<u>Recommendations for a National Policy on Agroforestry - Summary</u>	November, 2013
<u>National Policy Framework on Agroforestry</u>	September, 2013