

# Curriculum Vitae

## Dr. Shalini Dhyani

Principal Scientist, CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur

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ResearchGate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Shalini-Dhyani>

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## KEY SKILLS

- Expertise in **forest ecosystems, agroforestry, urban ecosystems, biodiversity conservation, and ecosystem services**
  - Strong background in **science-policy integration, climate adaptation and nature-based solutions**
  - Management of **multi-institutional, multistakeholder** as well as **interdisciplinary teams**
  - Proven **research publication** record and science communication through popular writing and talks
  - **Capacity building** and training in **sustainability science approaches and restoration**
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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI)

**Principal Scientist** | Nagpur, India | Sep 2021 – Present

**Senior Scientist** | Sep 2017 – Sep 2021

**Scientist** | Sep 2013 – Sep 2017

### Gujarat Institute of Desert Ecology (GUIDE)

**Project Scientist** | Gujarat, India | Jan 2013 – Sep 2013

### G.B. Pant National Institute on Himalayan Environment

**Young Scientist** | Uttarakhand, India | Apr 2009 – Dec 2012

**Senior Research Fellow** | Uttarakhand, India | Apr 2007 – Dec 2007

**Junior Research Fellow** | Uttarakhand, India | Sep 2004 – March 2007

## VISITING ROLES

**UNESCO-TWAS Associate** | CIFOR-ICRAF, Bogor, Indonesia | 2022 – 2025

**Visiting Scientist** | CIFOR-ICRAF | 2023 – Present

**Visiting Professor** | Khazar University, Azerbaijan | 2022 – Present

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. in Forestry** | Forest Research Institute University, India | 2010

**M.Sc. in Botany Specialization Cytogenetics** | University of Allahabad, India | 2003

**B.Sc. in Biology** | University of Allahabad, India | 2001

## CERTIFICATIONS AND TRAINING

- **Post Graduate Diploma in Environmental Law** | National Law School of India University | 2021
- **Certificate in Ecosystem Vulnerability to Climate Change** | Central European University, Hungary | 2010
- **IPROMO Program on Sustainable Mountain Management** | University of Torino, Italy | 2021 & 2009
- **Post Graduate Diploma in Biodiversity Conservation** | Forest Research Institute University, India | 2004

## RELEVANT RESEARCH PROJECTS

- **Forest Restoration and Health Assessment:** Moist temperate Oak forests and mangroves in west and east coast of India, grasslands in central India, Ecosystem services mapping, climate justice in climate risk management, adaptation and disaster risk reduction.
- **Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services:** Forested landscapes, contributing to the sustainable management of forests in the Himalayas and other critical regions.
- **Urban Ecosystems:** disparity, green justice of urban forest ecosystems, their role in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction (heat islands, flashfloods and nutritional security).
- **Agroforestry & Community-Based Forest Management:** Participatory Forest management to enhance forest resilience and biodiversity.
- **Impact Assessment and Auditing** Impact of developmental projects on biodiversity and natural ecosystems. [NABET Accredited FAE for Ecology and Biodiversity; Sector Coordinator Thermal Power Projects and Mining]

## FUNDRAISING AND PARTNERSHIPS

- Research and applied research funding from national and international agencies including **IUCN, UNEP, APN, Japan, NTFP-EP, Indonesia, Rufford SGS, UK** and corporate grants.
- Long-term partnerships with **UNCCD, IUCN, UNEP, IGES, CIFOR, WRI, and Food and Land Use Coalition (FOLU)**.
- Key contributor to **multi-country projects** across **Asia** and **South-East Asia**.

## ADVISORY SERVICES

- **Coordinating Lead Author.** IPBES Global Assessment II [2025-2028]
- **Coordinating Lead Author.** ICIMOD Rangeland and Pastoralism in HKH Assessment [2025-2026]
- **Asia Vice Chair and Steering Committee Member** IUCN Commission on Ecosystems Management | 2022 – Present
- **Lead Author** IPBES thematic assessment on Sustainable Use of Wild Species (2022) and the Asia-Pacific Regional Assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services (2018).
- **Scoping expert and Lead Author** IUFRO Global Forest Expert Panels (GFEP) assessment on **Forests for Social and Economic Resilience** (2024-2025)
- **Lead Author** Hindukush Himalayan **Springs Outlook**, ICIMOD (2024-2025)
- **Expert Member and Co-Chair**, Technical Committee for SER World Congress 2025 | 2020 – Present
- **Expert Member** Protected Area Management Effectiveness Evaluation (PA-MEE) India | 2023 – 2024;
- **Expert Member**, Hill Area Development Engineering Sectional Committee CED 56 Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), New Delhi | 2023 – Present
- **Expert Member**, Environmental and Ecology Working Group under NTFIWRDM, New Delhi, | 2025 – Present
- **Fellow** International Society of Environmental Botanists, Lucknow (2022); The Society for Science of Climate Change and Sustainable Environment, New Delhi (2022)
- **Advisor** Knowledge, Capacity and Policy Taskforce and the Forum Research Program of NbS India Forum, **WRI**
- **Scientific Advisor** Shillim Institute, Pavana Laka catchment conservation area, Pune, MH | 2023 – Present
- **Editorial Board**, Sustainability Science, Restoration Ecology, Agroforestry Systems, Anthropocene Science

## RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

- **First position** for empowering women through fodder bank approach as best practices under Agenda 3 of Honorable Prime Minister's 10-point agenda by the IUIINDRR-NIDM, MHA, Government of India (2024)
- **Invited Expert:** Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework and SDG 15 at UNGA, New York (2023)
- **IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management:** Special recognition for contributions to forest ecosystem management (2021 & 2025) at IUCN WCC at Marseille, France and Abu Dhabi, UAE respectively
- **IUCN CEM Chair Young Professional Award:** IUCN World Parks Congress, Sydney, Australia (2014)
- **Success Stories in Mountain Ecosystems:** Recognized by SAARC Forestry Centre, Bhutan (2014)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Edited Books 7; Research Papers 65; Book Chapters 36; Intergovernmental Panel Reports (IPBES) 2; IUFRO GFEP 01; Outlook by ICIMOD 02 (ongoing) [*Detailed List Separately Enclosed*]

Citations: 2650; h-index 27 and i10 index 72 [As on 1<sup>st</sup> Dec., 2025]

For details see <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=alsuByQAAAAJ&hl=en>  
and <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0915-5733>

## **PANELS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Delivered over 120+ expert talks for popularizing the relevance of healthy ecosystems, people centric approaches in restoration and nature-based solutions at international forums such as the UN General Assembly, New York; International Water Association (IWA); IIASA, Austria; Global Land Initiative (UNCCD), Harvard College Conservation Society, USA, The Democracy Forum, UK 2021, Landscape Institute South East, UK 2020, World Resources Institute, The Nature Conservancy, Columbia University and various academic institutions worldwide.

-Shalini Dhyani