



Technical Report

SERICULTURE ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG) 2030 - SOME EXPERIENCES OF INDIA

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SYNOPSIS

Sericulture, covering a chain of activities, namely plantation of silkworm food plants, rearing of silkworm, reeling of yarn and weaving silk fabrics, is an important agro based rural industry activity known for its potential of optimisation of use of labor and poverty alleviation in general and empowerment of women in particular. India is the second largest global silk producer, after China. Indian sericulture has been concentrated in the five traditional states around Karnataka. With land and labour becoming costly in this traditional area, special initiatives were taken for introducing sericulture on a commercial scale in the North-Eastern Region (NER), which has favourable conditions *viz.*, fertile land, good rainfall and abundant labour. Early reports on production of quality silk, decent return and bringing cheers to the women have been positive. This has in turn, proved effective in reduction of poverty and hunger, empowerment of women and environment conservation, some of the important components of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2030. This experience can be replicated at other places / countries with favourable agro-climatic conditions for promotion of sericulture as a tool for socio-economic inclusion and to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Key words: Indian sericulture, sustainable development goals.