



## Second Nicholas Georgescu-Roegen Awards

*8<sup>th</sup> February 2014*

**Winner: Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel  
(Chaired by Prof. Madhav Gadgil)  
(Bioeconomic Practice Category)**

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### Award Acceptance Speech

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On behalf of Prof. Madhav Gadgil and the members of the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel, I am honoured and delighted to receive the Nicholas Georgescu-Roegen award in the category of bio-economic practice.

We have in this Report, sought to arrive at a policy framework that enables the co-evolution of economic development and ecological sustainability in a very sensitive and ecological valuable ecosystem such as the Western Ghats.

We believe that we have been objective, true to the values of our Constitution, honestly undertaken what we were mandated to do, followed a transparent and participatory process, and not yielded to political expediency and what is generally considered “implementable”.

We came up against many hurdles and criticisms, but we are also pleased that the Report generated an enormous interest in rethinking development, beyond the “growth first” paradigm.

We believe that this award given to the Panel Report will help create a further interest in bio economic based development policy approaches and more equitable and sustainable frameworks for India, and maybe other parts of the world.

Thank you again for the honour.

