Beyond 2015: People, Planet & Progress

WORLD SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT

SUMMIT BULLETIN | DAY 4

October 5–8, 2016 | India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Chair: Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General, TERI
Prof. Jeffrey Sachs, Director- The Earth Institute, Columbia University (via video)

Prof. Jeffrey Sachs asserted that we are at a historic moment, with India playing a vital role. With India and the EU simultaneously ratifying the Paris agreement, the Agreement has become law. When 196 nations agreed to a basic concept, they agreed an improved kind of economic development, something new and different from solely GDP growth—one that is socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable. India is at a crossroads, with robust economic growth, but facing challenges of social and environmental sustainability.

PleNARY SESSION 1: Energy Transitions: Perspectives & Priorities

Chair: Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General, TERI
Presentations By: Global Energy Transitions: Mr Paul Simons, Deputy Executive Director; International Energy Agency; India Energy Transitions: Dr Ritu Mathur, Director; Green Growth and Resource Efficiency, TERI
Speakers: Dr Anshu Bharadwaj, Executive Director, CSTEP; Mr Sumant Sinha, Chairman & CEO, ReNEW Power; Mr Upendra Tripathy, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, India

The opening remarks of the sessions stressed on the need for discourse on energy transitions to change from ‘what’ to ‘how’. Presentation on Global Energy Outlook categorised the key technologies that would be required for these transition into three groups: that are on track, that are in need of accelerated improvement, and that are not on track. The presentation on Indian Energy Scenario noted that the country’s primary energy demand could increase by 2–3 times by 2031 from 2006 levels. The power, industry, transport, residential, and buildings sectors will have to chart out a holistic roadmap in order to achieve India’s INDCs. Decoupling GHG intensity into two factors, viz., GHG intensity of energy and energy intensity of GDP, the former was likened to the supply side while the latter to the demand side. It was noted that the bulk of the heavy-lifting and potential opportunities lie in the latter.

Increasing role for renewables was also predicted in the session. The issue of base load being met purely by renewable energy (RE) can be looked into provided there are commercialised solutions in energy storage. India is already on track to meet its RE targets. However, investment in the distribution sector needs to increase. India’s leadership in promoting energy efficiency was applauded.

The guiding principles of the NITI Aayog are based on the sustainable development goals and India’s INDCs. The three pillars for meeting the energy challenge are availability, accessibility, and affordability. Global problems such as climate change require global resources and can be achieved only through international resolutions.

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Climate finance is a very crucial topic. New dimensions of climate finance are arising, such as cost of finance for commercial activities, different types of financing mechanism, etc. Not many impressive results have been seen in climate finance globally. The reason may be areas that require finance are not economically or commercially viable. Some specific issues regarding climate finance are risk reduction, cheaper finance, and debt fund.

At government level, a focused active wing is required for handling all national or international financing related subjects. Institutional capacity building is also very much required and the initial investment needs to be made by the government.

In his opening remarks, Mr Ashok Chawla said that all the aspects of sustainable development were duly discussed at the summit with a wide range of participation from around the world. The developing as well as developed countries stressed over the shared concern of the threat posed by climate change. He opined that the sustainable development goals (SDGs) have provided opportunity to focus on the poorest communities of the world and the challenges before us is to uplift their status.

Mr Amit Kumar while presenting the summary of the WSDS 2016 proceedings said that WSDS has been conceptualised as a single platform to accelerate to actions towards sustainability especially with climate change. WSDS has brought together technology, helping to share experiences and building new partnerships and accelerated implementation of the INDCs. He summarised that collaboration with government, academia, private sector, and the knowledge society is going to play a pivotal role in ensuring sustainable development for everybody. TERI University Symposium Awards 2016 were presented during the session. Thereafter, TERI Press Photo Contest awards were also announced through a brief presentation.

In his valedictory address, Shri Prakash Javadekar appreciated TERI’s efforts in the sphere of sustainable development. He said that the Paris Summit was joined by almost all the countries and its ratification is a landmark with India joining it. India is committed to walk the sustainable growth path through its eight national missions. Dr Ajay Mathur presented the concluding remarks at the end and thanked everybody for successfully hosting the summit.
This session brought together young entrepreneurs from the field of ecology, biodiversity, and environmental protection together on one platform. The speakers shared their respective inspirational entrepreneurial journeys and also opined that each individual aspiring to become an entrepreneur should be ready to take challenges, embrace failure, and be ready to innovate and collaborate. One of the speakers shared that there is no fixed formula to become an entrepreneur and it is based on instinct, problem solving technique, opportunity, and the person himself/herself. All the speakers emphasised on the fact that context is very important in initiating an entrepreneurial venture. It is not the ideas that guide the way, but the entire execution of an idea. The speakers also highlighted that collaboration rather than competition is the key to success for an entrepreneur and problems could be common but solutions should be different based on context and opportunities.

**International Solar Alliance**

Welcome Address: Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General, TERI
Chair: Mr Upendra Tripathy, Secretary, MNRE, Ex-officio Interim DG, ISA
Speakers: Mr Guy-Cedric Werlings, National Focal Point of ISA, France; Mr Jaco Cilliers, UNDP Country Director; Mr Jean-Pascal Pham-Ba, Secretary General, Terrawatt Initiatives; Mr Inderjit Singh, Additional Secretary, MNRE, India; Mr Shirish Gaonkar, Director, TERI; Dr K S Popli, CMD, IREDA; HE Ms Brigitte Collet, Ambassador for Renewable Energy, Special Representative of the French government for the International Solar Alliance

International Solar Alliance was launched to promote accelerated deployment of solar energy in pursuit of the objectives set by the Paris Declaration. The alliance would have participation of 121 countries that fall between the two Tropics. The main objective of the alliance is to pool and harmonise the demand for investments and technologies from the solar-rich countries. Change in scale of deployment of solar energy is required for achieving the objectives set by the Paris agreement. Only through a coordinated approach can the countries achieve the targets. Harmonised and aggregated demands for solar finance, technologies innovations, research and capacity building would also help.

The total investment required for the development of ISA is more than USD 1000 million, which is expected to be contributed by countries and corporates on a voluntary basis. India, being a host country, is making monetary contribution of USD 16 million. During the event, the first edition of the journal on international solar alliance was launched by the distinguished.

**Collaborative Regional Learning and Brokering Knowledge to Enhance Resilience to Climate Change in South Asia (CDKN & LEAD)**

Chair: Mr Mihir Bhatt, CDKN & AIDMI
Panelists: Ms Aditi Kapoor, Red Cross; Ms Vandana Chauhan, AIDMI; Ms Bhawana Luftna, LEAD India; Mr Damandep Singh, CDKN & AIDMI

The session discussed and built on strategies for knowledge sharing and collaboration to enhance resilience in South Asia. Knowledge sharing was acknowledged as an important basis for collaboration in South Asia. The panelists also highlighted that regional cooperation should address the inequality of resilience and should also identify the already existing resilient communities and human capital in terms of knowledge and actual action.

The panel discussed the steps towards climate resilience and risk management, including development of tools or methodologies that review rural and urban ecosystem levels for collaboration by regional organisations. This will build more local capacities and regional capabilities. The session also highlighted the role of panchayats and governments in making adaptation a local effort by putting public resources to proper use. Integrated risk management method was identified by the panel which also includes ecosystem health to study climate resilience issues. Further, the panel also recommended the need for a design for a south Asia strategic support group.

**MEDIA COLLOQUIUM**

Twenty journalists from six countries participated in the Media Colloquium, which aimed at expanding their knowledge of sustainable development and climate change while also participating in the World Sustainable Development Summit and cover it for their media. They had access to TERI experts and others. Most of the journalists were from local language and regional media and took the message of sustainable development to the masses in their own languages. More than 60 news reports in print and online in five languages besides English, and two TV news items, two radio news segments, and a radio round table were generated by the participants. Here are their opinions about the summit:

**Anu Nkeze Paul**, Cameroon, ‘I am taking home world class knowledge on climate change, sustainable development, and above all, environmental threats, challenges, and proposed solutions’.

**Nargis Mansoor**, Afghanistan, ‘I learnt a lot about the world’s biggest challenge climate change and global warming. And the techniques and methodologies to cope with them. The idea of Gau Gas (biogas) could be implemented in various areas of Afghanistan deprived of electricity. Also, the idea of solar pumps was amazing’.

**Chaitrali Chandorkar**, Maharashtra, India, ‘Being a representative of regional language newspaper, national and international level workshops give me the larger perspective to cover my stories in a “Glocal” manner’.

**Mir Farhat**, Jammu and Kashmir, India, ‘The rich experience and knowledge that I gained in these four days will help me cover the environment and development issues in Kashmir’.

**THEMATIC TRACKS**

**Youth Ecopreneurs (Genpact)**

Moderator: Dr Srirad Babu, Area Convener, EADB – SRC, TERI
Speakers: Mr Vilmindu Jha, Director, Swechha, Mr Pravin Nikam, Founder, Roshni; Mr Sumit Sabherwal, Director, A&S Creations

This session brought together young entrepreneurs from the field of ecology, biodiversity, and environmental protection together on one platform. The speakers shared their respective inspirational entrepreneurial journeys and also opined that each individual aspiring to become an entrepreneur should be ready to take challenges, embrace failure, and be ready to innovate and collaborate. One of the speakers shared that there is no fixed formula to become an entrepreneur and it is based on instinct, problem solving technique, opportunity, and the person himself/herself. All the speakers emphasised on the fact that context is very important in initiating an entrepreneurial venture. It is not the ideas that guide the way, but the entire execution of an idea. The speakers also highlighted that collaboration rather than competition is the key to success for an entrepreneur and problems could be common but solutions should be different based on context and opportunities.
Scaling Up Energy Efficiency (EESL)

Opening Remarks: Mr R K Rakhra, AGM, EESL
Welcome and Opening Remarks: Mr Sanjay Seth, Sr Director, TERI
Scaling Up of Energy-Efficiency Opportunities in India – Setting the Tone: Dr Satish Kumar, Chairman, AEEE
Vote of Thanks: Mr Prabhat Kumar, AGM, EESL
Speakers: Mr Samir Pandita, AEE, BEE; Mr K N Hemanth Kumar, Manager (Technical), EESL; Mr M A Patil, Sr Director, FICCI

Mr R K Rakhra, in his opening remarks, stated the significance of energy efficiency in energy-intensive sectors in the country. He mentioned that a shift towards demand side management is critical instead of singularly focusing on supply侧 management.

Energy efficiency plays a critical role in moderation of increased demand of energy with the output optimised through demand side management. Emphasis was also made on transformative efforts in the industry, building, transport, and appliances (e.g. LED). Energy efficiency focuses on three key pillars: market transformation, policy implementation, and role of businesses. Stringency, technology, and impetus are required to implement codes and standards such as ECBC and PAT.

Importance of growing cooling demand in the coming years in India was also discussed. Currently, heating demand is 500–600 GW while cooling demand is just 10% of heating demand; however, it is expected to overtake the heating demand in the coming years.

Mr Sameer Pandita mentioned the target goal of reduction in energy intensity between 2016 and 2019 by 7% while Mr K N Hemanth Kumar EESL shared the success of EESL’s LED programme. The impact of implementation of PAT cycle I was also presented.

TU – Ensuring Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns (SDG 12) through Higher Education Learning

Introductory Note: Dr Shaleen Singhal, Head, Department of Policy Studies, TERI University
Panelists: Mr Vijay Samnotra, Head, UNEP, India; Prof. Shri Prakash, Department of Policy Studies, TERI University; Ms Sara Castro-Hallgren, Programme Officer, 10YFP and SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Support, UNEP; Dr Michel Ricard, President, University on Environment and Sustainable Development, and Head, UNESCO chair ‘Education, training and research for sustainable development’, Bordeaux Polytechnic Institute; Mr W K Rathnadeera, Sr Programme Officer, South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme (SACEP); Mr Jitendra Kumar, Adviser (Natural Resources and Environment), NITI Aayog, Government of India; Dr Samdrup Rigyal, Director, Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Royal University of Bhutan; Prof. Nilanthi Bandara, Department of Forestry and Environmental Science, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; Prof. Chella Rajan, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Co-ordinator, Indo-German Centre for Sustainability, IIT Madras

TERI University’s thematic track on ‘Ensuring Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns (SDG 12) through Higher Education Learning’ highlighted the importance of embedding sustainable consumption and production into education systems, especially higher education and research.

The session highlighted that higher education should not only be confined to academia and knowledge creation but should also be effectively applicable on the ground level through application of that knowledge for technological development. In addition, in view of contemporary social norms that encourage unsustainable production and consumption patterns, there is an urgent need for holistic awareness-generation for promoting sustainable consumption and production. This can be achieved through exposing decision makers to issues, challenges, and opportunities to mainstream sustainability in policy making.

The emerging concept of a sharing economy is an alternative to the current individual privatised consumption trends and increased research, and importantly, education policies need to shift focus towards the drivers of these alternative or sustainable lifestyles. Incorporating sustainable consumption and production into higher education geared towards existing and incoming policymakers brings with it the added advantage of promoting inter-disciplinary and cross-sectoral benefits for achieving sustainable development.

GREENOVATION 2016: GLIMPSES