

# WORLD SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT 2021

REDEFINING OUR COMMON FUTURE:  
SAFE AND SECURE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL

February 10-12, 2021



SUMMIT BULLETIN | DAY 2

#Act4Earth



## PLENARY

Virtual Hall: Pavagada

### COMMEMORATING 20 YEARS OF THE SUMMIT SERIES: REMEMBERING DR R K PACHAURI

**Opening Remarks:** Mr Nitin Desai, Chairman, TERI; Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General, TERI

**Address:** Dr Saroj Pachauri, Distinguished Scholar, Population Council

**Speakers:** Prof. Nebojsa Nakicenovic, Emeritus Research Scholar, Transformative Institutional and Social Solutions Research Group, Integrated Assessment and Climate Change Research Group; Dr Björn Stigson, Chairman, Stigson & Partners; Mr Uday Khemka, Vice Chairman, SUN Group; Mr Erik Solheim, Former Minister of International Development and Minister of the Environment, Norway

**Closing Remarks:** Dr Vibha Dhawan, Distinguished Fellow, TERI

In his opening remarks, Mr Nitin Desai said that it was a pleasure for him to be speaking on the commemoration of 20 years of the summit and yet a sad occasion as Dr R K Pachauri is no more with us. He felt that it is important to realize Dr R K Pachauri's contribution as the sustainable development summit is his creation. His thought and vision behind the summit were fruitful. Mr Desai also stressed that the challenges we face in terms of sustainable development is not just a challenge for the governments to negotiate but also for climate activists, research institutions, NGOs, and other individuals. The whole idea is to provide a platform for these people to come together for networking, forming partnerships, and launching projects. So, we should remember Dr Pachauri's role in bringing everything together long before people started talking about it globally.

After a video remembrance on Dr R K Pachauri, Dr Ajay Mathur requested people, who have at some point of time taken part in the sustainable development summit, to share

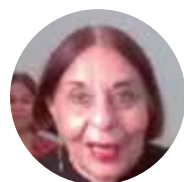
their thoughts. Mr Erik Solheim found it hard to believe that Dr Pachauri passed away far too early. He mentioned that Dr Pachauri had played a critical role in climate change and the environment sphere. Mr Solheim emphasized that Dr Pachauri was not only a great intellectual but also a

practical man. He developed practical energy solutions for the poor. His great work towards humanity would always be remembered.

Mr Uday Khemka, while fondly remembering Dr Pachauri said, he had a great influence on his life as a climate policymaker. Mr Khemka expressed his admiration for Dr Pachauri in terms of his contribution to the world through leadership roles at TERI, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and WSDS (earlier called DSDS). He felt that Dr Pachauri had tremendous ability to motivate and bring together like-minded gatherings of climate warriors to focus on the looming climate challenges.

Prof. Björn Stigson lovingly remembered Dr R K Pachauri as he has fond memories of participating in the Summit, which has been an inspiration. He hoped that TERI would continue hosting the Summit for the progression of the global sustainable development.

Prof. Nebojsa Nakicenovic felt that the 20th anniversary of WSDS is an apt occasion to celebrate Dr Pachauri's incredible life and journey. He lives in our memories through his exemplary work and dedication, and his legacy would always remain with us. Prof. Nakicenovic highlighted that it was under Dr Pachauri that the IPCC received the Nobel Peace Prize, which was a monumental achievement.



**DR SAROJ PACHAURI**

Distinguished Scholar,  
Population Council

“Dr R K Pachauri was very excited to organize the first Delhi Sustainable Development Summit in 2001. He wanted to organize it each year from thereon”

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**PROF. NEBOJSA NAKICENOVIC**

Emeritus Professor and Scholar IIASA and TU Wien

“The 20th anniversary of WSDS is a very apt occasion to celebrate Patchy’s life. He lives in our memories through his exemplary dedication and work”

In her address, Dr Saroj Pachauri said that she was deeply touched to participate in the Summit. She fondly remembered the time when Dr R K Pachauri organized the first Delhi Sustainable Development Summit (DSDS) in 2001, and continued organizing it thereafter for years to come.

In her closing remarks, Dr Vibha Dhawan thanked Dr Saroj Pachauri for giving a wonderful address, remembering Dr R K Pachauri. Dr Dhawan called him a man of sharp foresight and vision, as he used to ignite young minds by bringing out the best in them. She hoped that TERI would further imbibe his qualities and take forward his legacy.



**MR ERIK SOLHEIM**

Former Minister of International Development and Minister of the Environment, Norway

“We will always remember Dr R K Pachauri’s great humanity”

## PLENARY

Virtual Hall: Pavagada

### CLEAN OCEANS AND A BLUE ECONOMY: A PATHWAY FOR SUSTAINABLE OCEAN MANAGEMENT

**Chair:** Mr Atul Bagai, Head of Country Office, United Nations Environment Programme, India

**Opening Remarks:** Dr Madhavan Nair Rajeevan, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India

**Keynote Address:** Mr Vidar Helgesen, Executive Director, Nobelstiftelsen

**Special Address:** Mr Serge Segura, French Ambassador for Oceans

**Panellists:** Mr Axel Borchmann, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und nukleare Sicherheit (BMU); Mr Andreas Hansen, Head, International Marine Environment, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs; Ms Nina Jensen, Chief Executive Officer, REV Ocean, Norway; Mr Rob Kaplan, Founder and CEO, Circulate Capital; Mr Olivier Wenden, Vice President, Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation



**MR OLIVIER WENDEN**

Vice President, Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation

“Encouraging sustainable behaviour needs to be leveraged through efficient levels of economic development”

The session began with Mr Atul Bagai informing the attendees about the importance and relevance of blue economy for India – owing to its long coastline. It was followed by the opening remarks by Dr Madhavan Nair Rajeevan, who emphasized the relevance of oceans and marine ecosystems for human survival. He mentioned that oceans are the replenishing house for all living and non-living things that inhabit the planet as they are the common link between air, water, and soil. Annually, almost 8 million metric tonne of waste is dumped into the ocean, which he highlighted is the major cause of destruction of the marine ecosystem.

In his keynote address, Mr Vidar Helgesen said, “Though oceans pose a big challenge to the world, they also present a big opportunity, for sectors such as renewable energy, mining, fisheries, etc. These opportunities can be realized by an efficient amalgamation of politics and policy.” He also suggested that by investing in sustainable ocean development, the world can achieve 21% of the requisite targets needed to attain the 1.5°C goal. Further, he discussed that there are many overlaps; we need a competent management to build long-term solutions for which everyone must work together. He said, “This is a double task, humanity cannot survive without thriving on oceans and we need everyone to collaborate and create profound solutions to eradicate the problem at hand.”



**DR MADHAVAN NAIR RAJEEVAN**

Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India

“Blue economy is all about exploring and optimizing the opportunities presented by marine ecosystems while preserving its health and well-being”

Mr Serge Segura talked about the relevance of oceans to France, since it is an archipelagic country, and also the importance of blue economy to India. He further mentioned that in order to protect oceans from plastic pollution, there is a dire need of a globally integrated approach combining societal, economic, financial, and governmental aspects. He also discussed the importance of marine-protected



**MR SERGE SEGURA**

French Ambassador for Oceans

“We require a close connection between policymakers and scientists as we need to form policies and frameworks on facts rather than ideologies”

areas and how they foster marine biodiversity and combat climate change. He highlighted the potential of international partnerships for promoting conservation and sustainability of marine ecosystems.

Dr Axel Borchmann stressed on the urgent need to develop a holistic approach to curb the problem of marine litter. He stated that besides collection, treatment, and consumer awareness, producer responsibility and accountability are also important, which are currently being addressed in India by the Extended Producer Responsibility policy. Further, he said, “There is a need for international cooperation and management, and countries such as Norway and the UK have already taken up leadership roles in association with the UN to deal with this issue.”

Ms Nina Jensen highlighted the importance of involving the private sector for the resolution of marine issues as that sector causes massive damage to oceans through plastic and chemical pollution, excessive fishing, and most importantly, aggravating climate change risks. She further expressed the need for data and knowledge sharing on a global level.

Mr Olivier Wenden foregrounded the opportunity the world can explore in a post-pandemic world to bring in a green shift, given that humanity has already experienced what the environment would be if everything came to a standstill. He stated that we can achieve both economic and socio-economic progress by bridging the gap between international legal framework and national jurisdiction.

Calling for immediate actions to save oceans, Mr Andreas Hansen said, “With rising sea levels and polluted marine wetlands, many species are on the verge of extinction.” In order to save the ocean, he pointed out two key solutions, which include global cooperation in regulatory framework development and protection of existing marine life.

Mr Rob Kaplan discussed the unique capabilities of private investment in the sustainable development of waterbodies across the world. He indicated that by moving from a linear to a circular economy, we will be able to bridge a lot of financial gaps that currently persist.

Summarizing the session, Mr Atul Bagai mentioned that strengthening of blue economy requires a harmonious relationship between economic growth and ocean development.



## PLENARY

Virtual Hall: Pavagada

### ROLE OF BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN A GREEN AND RESILIENT POST-PANDEMIC ECONOMY

**Speakers:** Ms Amy Fraenkel, Executive Secretary, Convention on Migratory Species, Bonn; Dr Midori Paxton, Head Ecosystems & Biodiversity, Principal Technical Advisor at UNDP, New York; Dr Theresa Mundita Lim, Executive Director, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity Manila, Philippines; Mr Basile van Havre, Co-Chair, Open Ended Working Group negotiating Global Biodiversity Framework, Convention on Biological Diversity; Dr J V Sharma, Director, Land Resources Division, TERI; Mrs BV Umadevi, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India



**MS AMY FRAENKEL**

Executive Secretary,  
Convention on Migratory  
Species, Bonn

“Losing biodiversity means  
losing option of living”



**DR THERESA MUNDITA LIM**

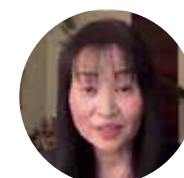
Executive Director, ASEAN  
Centre for Biodiversity

“Biodiversity is the most important  
and least recognized factor”

Biodiversity has always been an intrinsic part of human civilization. In India, the Sanskrit phrase ‘Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam’ is the essence of Indian culture and philosophy of life. Literally translated, it means, ‘the Earth is family’. Biodiversity is more than a mere list of species; it underpins ecosystem services and ecosystem functioning. The session began with theme setting by Mr Siddharth

Edake followed by the release of six policy briefs, focusing on enhancing carbon sink through forestry in India. The keynote speaker Ms Aslaug Marie emphasized the importance of biodiversity, agro-biodiversity, and green revolution. She remarked that losing biodiversity means losing options for future. The welcome address was delivered by Dr V B Mathur, Chairman, National Biodiversity Authority,

Government of India. Ms Amy Fraenkel focused on how the conservation of migratory wildlife can help in protecting our biodiversity and reducing the risk of emergence and spread of zoonosis. Dr Midori Paxton stated that it is about time for us to realize the importance of nature in making green choices for a resilient post-pandemic economy. Dr Theresa Mundita Lim focused on increasing investment in biodiversity and wildlife protection in order to prevent future pandemics and the need to look for nature-based solutions as a response for ASEAN countries. Mr Basile van Havre discussed how efforts should be made to improve the relationship between human and nature in a post-pandemic world by mainstreaming biodiversity in policies and programmes of the government as this relationship will result in more growth and better economy. Dr J V Sharma highlighted the contribution of biodiversity and ecosystem services on the overall economy, globally and state-wise. He stated that the economic evaluation of ecosystem services is important in the policy-planning process. He also emphasized the need for biodiversity conservation through the involvement of youth. Mrs B V Umadevi pointed out the immediate steps taken by the Government of India in relation to health schemes, with a focus on mapping and halting emergent zoonotic diseases. She flagged that the key challenges that must be overcome include lack of coordination and inadequate legal framework for the success of the mission.



**DR MIDORI PAXTON**

Head- Ecosystems and  
Biodiversity, United  
Nations Development  
Programme (via video)

“Biodiversity and ecosystem are  
key to human development”



**MR BASILE VAN HAVRE**

Co-Chair, Convention on  
Biological Diversity (via video)

“We are not fighting our enemy.  
We are fighting our creator”



## PLENARY

Virtual Hall: Pavagada

### DEVELOPING A LONG-TERM VISION FOR IMPLEMENTING ‘ONE SUN ONE WORLD ONE GRID’

**Welcome Address:** Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General, TERI

**Inaugural Address:** Lord Adair Turner, Chair, Energy Transitions Commission

**Panel Discussion Chair:** Dr Anshu Bhardwaj, CEO, Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation

**Panellists:** Mr Upendra Tripathy, Director General, International Solar Alliance; H.E. Mr Stephane Crouzat, French Ambassador; Mr Philippe Lienhart, Electcité de France (EDF) Project Lead OSOWOG; Mr Amit Jain, Senior Energy Specialist, World Bank



**MR STEPHANE CROUZAT**

French Ambassador for Climate

“Solar energy is king of  
renewable energy”

The idea of ‘One Sun, One World, One Grid’ (OSOWOG) was floated in 2018 by Hon’ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi during the first assembly of International Solar Alliance (ISA), with a vision to transfer the benefit of the access to clean energy at a global level through interconnection of regional grids, linking the geographies beyond the nation’s boundary. Delivering the welcome address, Dr Ajay Mathur highlighted that OSOWOG is an amazing concept and can be achieved since there is huge potential of solar energy in India, which can be supplied to our neighbouring countries. Dr Mathur also added that the countries can take advantage of the time zones.





Lord Adair Turner talked about how many developed and developing countries are moving towards net-zero emissions commitment with the reduction in renewable energy prices. He emphasized two major aspects of OSOWOG – one for countries like Bangladesh, where the population density is high and the availability of land is a major concern; the other reason being the intermittent nature of renewable sources, which calls for the need of battery technology and hydrogen energy as alternatives to maintain a balance of grid. He also suggested the use of long-distance transmission line through under sea cabling.



**LORD ADAIR TURNER**  
Chairman, Energy Transitions Commission

“OSOWOG is a major opportunity for green prosperity and climate change”

increase in the demand for electricity, which would require more penetration of energy into the interconnected grids. Mr Amit Jain said, “One Sun, One World, One Grid is about global grid, but it does not mean that we are trying to connect whole world with one grid. Rather, it forms the interconnector between different countries or continents.”

Mr Philippe Lienhart outlined the road map of the project and the activities to be undertaken, such as setting up of database on potentials of renewable energy for all countries, identifying the strategic corridors, enabling economics, and safe renewable power exchange between the countries.



**MR ANSHU BHARDWAJ**  
CEO, Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation

“Solar energy that falls in one hour is more than the globe consumes in an entire year”

Mr Upendra Tripathy discussed how solar has made significant progress through bundling with its penetration into the grid, which has resulted in cost reduction of electricity in six years. He stated that the creation of world grid code, power sale agreements, and establishment of world solar bank are some of the mechanisms to foster OSOWOG vision.

The panel discussion shed light on some of the interesting insights, addressing the benefits and the loopholes associated with the vision of OSOWOG. With the development of EVs and focus on hydrogen energy, there will be a considerable



**MR UPENDRA TRIPATHY**  
Director General, International Solar Alliance

“OSOWOG will play a role in gender equality and attaining the SDGs on a global platform”

PLENARY

Virtual Hall: Pavagada

**EXAMINING INTERLINKAGES TO CLIMATE ACTION, BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY**  
**Chair:** Mr Rameshwar Prasad Gupta, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India  
**Welcome Remarks:** Mr Christophe Manet, Chargé d’Affaires a.i., Delegation of the European Union to India  
**Keynote Address:** Ms Inger Andersen, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme  
**Panellists:** Mr Basile van Havre, Co-Chair, Convention on Biological Diversity; Mr P V S Surya Kumar, Deputy Managing Director, NABARD; Ms Astrid Schomaker, Director, Global Sustainable Development, European Commission; Prof. Kazuhiko Takeuchi, President, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

In the welcome address, Mr Rameshwar Prasad Gupta highlighted the work undertaken by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) in the sphere of climate action, biodiversity, and circular economy. Recounting Mahatma Gandhi’s words, he stated that the world has enough resources for people’s needs

but it is too small to satiate the growing greed of the people. Emphasizing the idea of a sustainable lifestyle, as promulgated by the Hon’ble Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, he opined that circular economy (CE) is the only way through which the natural ecosystem could be preserved.

The various interlinkages between climate action, biodiversity protection, and CE were discussed during this thought-provoking session. The gravity of the problem lies in the incessant exploitation of natural resources by humankind, thereby leading to increased greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions along with a reduced repository of resources.

While the world is already grappling with the disastrous impacts of climate change, the recent pandemic has aggravated the situation in terms of increased health hazards, which now demand more investment in the form of recovery packages. The pertinence of CE lies in the fact that it allows resources to be reused and recycled, thereby expanding their usage across the supply chain. The six principles of CE pertain to redesign, reduce, reuse, recycle, repair, and refurbish, which enable the judicious usage of resources, thereby enhancing material efficiency. These principles of



**MR RAMESHWAR PRASAD GUPTA**  
Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India

“Circular economy can play an important role to preserve the value of ecosystem services”



**MR CHRISTOPHE MANET**  
Head of Political Section, the EU delegation to India

“EU has put forth the Green Deal as the very source of growth strategy and transition to CE”




**MS ASTRID SCHOMAKER**  
Director, Global Sustainable Development, European Commission

“Lessons can be drawn from good practices, such as the EU Green Deal to transit to CE”



CE can be applied to reduce the impact of climate change and biodiversity loss.

The discussions highlighted the key opportunities that exist across various sectors, namely, steel, aluminium, transport, construction, and agriculture to list a few. The application of CE will enable reusing waste generated across various sectors and lead to development of innovative



**MR BASILE VAN HAVRE**  
Co-Chair, Convention on Biological Diversity

“CE is the key to respond to a sustainable model of development”



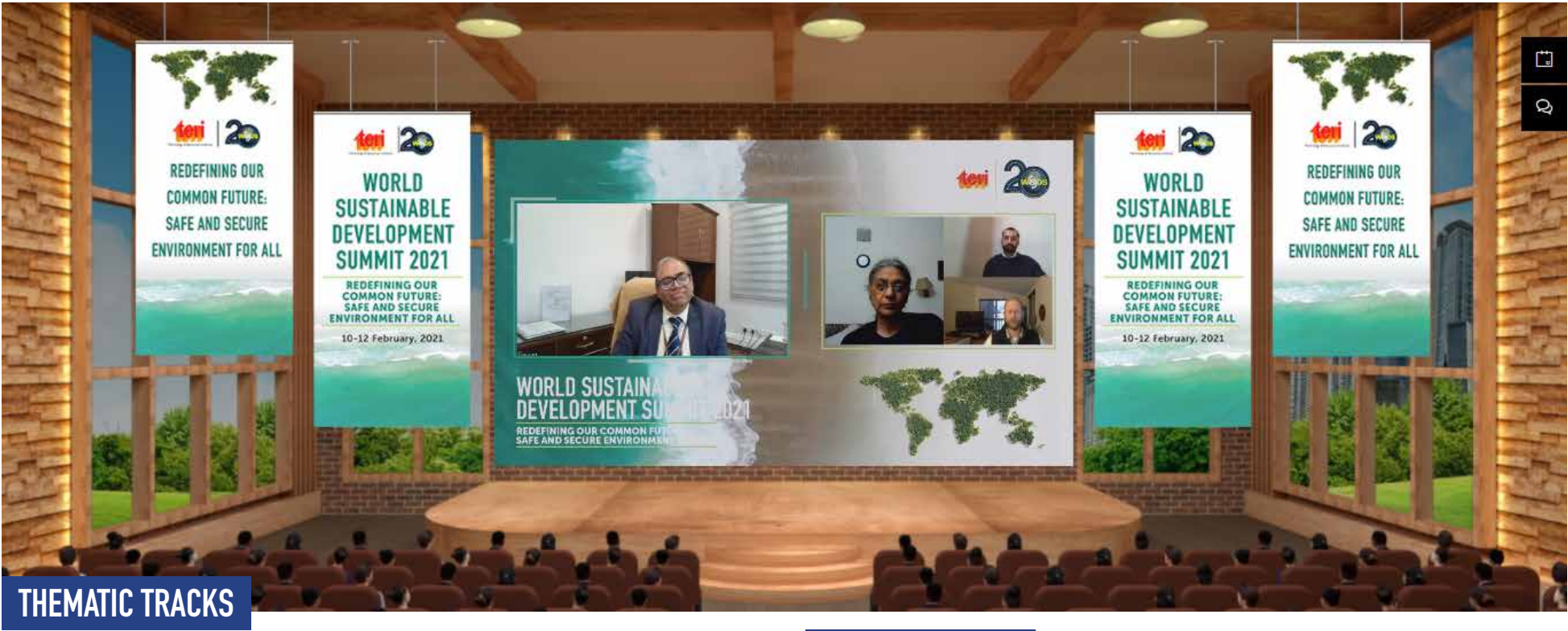
products. In this context, Ms Inger Andersen stated that while the COVID-19 outbreak has led to a rise in medical waste, innovations are already being introduced in India to recycle the waste and create sustainable products.

However, the transition to a CE will entail a lot of effort to be undertaken by multiple stakeholders. Multilateral governance is the key to success. The existing Convention on Biological Diversity and UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) are classic examples of

multilateral governance. The forthcoming Conference of Parties (COP) 26 to be held in Glasgow in November 2021 is also a step in this direction. Similarly, the EU Green Deal also foregrounds the importance of CE to achieve climate neutrality by 2050.

India's leadership and environmental stewardship are, therefore, imperative to move towards a pollution-free planet in which innumerable opportunities could be explored. The intense deliberations were followed by critical

questions related to the importance of biofuels in CE. Ms Astrid Shomaker was prompt to acknowledge the role of algae firms and residues from waste to be converted into biofuels. Certain questions were also raised on the role of informal economy in the CE transition. Mr Basile van Havre focused on 'just' transition and emphasized the inclusion of the informal sector in the process. Some of the countries where just transition has been observed include Europe, Australia, and Spain, he concluded.



THEMATIC TRACKS


Virtual Hall: Kamuthi

IS A DECARBONIZED TRANSPORT SECTOR POSSIBLE IN INDIA BY 2050?

**Welcome remarks and context setting presentation:** Mr Sharif Qamar, Fellow, Centre for Sustainable Mobility, TERI  
**Moderator:** Mr Sudhendhu J Sinha, Advisor, Transport, NITI Aayog  
**Panellists:** Prof. Geetam Tiwari, MoUD Chair Professor, Department of Civil Engineering and TRIPP, Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi; Mr Clay Stranger, Managing Director, RMI; Mr Vivek Chandran, Associate Director, Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation

The session focused on decarbonizing the transport sector, including passenger and freight. In the welcome address, Mr Sharif Qamar emphasized two major areas surrounding the question of whether a decarbonized transport sector is possible in India by 2050. First, no-regret infrastructure approach and second, incentivizing zero-carbon transport. The share of railways has been declining over the years, with an increasing share of road transport. Along with a net-zero emission approach of railways, he emphasized that railways must increase their share in total transport. He further discussed four strategies to decarbonize the transport sector—modal shift, alternative fuel, fuel efficiency, and demand reduction.

Mr Sudhendhu J Sinha spoke about the government initiatives being aimed at localization of jobs/ manufacturing in the country, adhering to the grand vision of employment. Last-mile connectivity being essential for passenger and freight sector is a high-priority goal of the government. However, in developed urban areas, the challenge of inclusion of last-mile connectivity remains.



**PROF. GEETAM TIWARI**  
MoUD Chair Professor,  
Department of Civil Engineering  
and TRIPP, Indian Institute of  
Technology-Delhi

“When we are looking into transport, it is not just about decarbonization as integrating with other SDGs (better health, gender equality, etc.) is equally important”

Mr Vivek Chandran shed light on various challenges that must be overcome through sustainable strategies before realizing the goal of decarbonizing the transport sector. He briefly discussed the benefit of solar battery technology as the cheapest power source in India. Macro-level regional and urban planning plays a crucial role in setting up of industries and linkages with transport nodes. An improved vehicle strategy is required to decarbonize the transport sector in order to align with the sustainable development goals.

Prof. Geetam Tiwari highlighted that there is a huge gap between aiming, planning, and on-ground implementation in transport projects. Lack of political and administrative stability also creates issues and difficulties during implementation stages, which is why a lot of hand-holding is required from policymaking to on-ground implementation of the projects. Holistic planning approaches shall be adopted for last-mile connectivity where all the infrastructure and transport modes are planned together for better results. She highlighted the importance of life cycle emissions and incorporating the emissions during construction and maintenance phases, while talking about transport decarbonization.



**MR VIVEK CHANDRAN**  
Associate Director, Shakti  
Sustainable Energy Foundation

“Prices can drive technology growth and make things economical”

Mr Clay Stranger highlighted that since India is a service-heavy economy, it will see a net gain in employment over time after transitioning to electric vehicles (EVs) with a staged approach. He stated that such an approach only seems logical for India or any other country that is looking to make a transition to EVs based on equity, market willingness, and overall impact. He also discussed that e-commerce companies can be rewarded and given recognition for the efforts they put in for electrification of last-mile delivery vehicles and zero-emission for last deliveries. Also, decarbonization in airways and waterways shall focus on efficient fuel, engine, and battery technologies. Biofuels, carbon sequester programmes, and hydrogen applications could lead the way.



**MR SUDHENDHU J SINHA**  
Advisor, Transport, NITI Aayog

“In our efforts towards decarbonization, the priority of the government would be aimed at localization of jobs and manufacturing in the country”



**MR CLAY STRANGER**  
Managing Director, RMI

“Technological improvements, use of biofuels, battery-technology and carbon sequestration programmes may decarbonize airways and waterways by 2050”



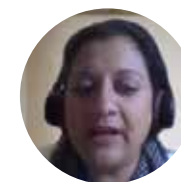
### WOMEN ON THE RISE: PRIORITIZING GENDER EQUITY AS A BUSINESS IMPERATIVE

#### Session I: Diversity & Inclusion: Gender Equity as a Business Imperative

**Panellists:** Ms Katie McGinty, Vice President & Chief Sustainability, Government and Regulatory Affairs Officer, Johnson Controls; Dr Laurel Harmon, Vice President (Government Affairs), LanzaTech; Ms Christine Lins, Executive Director, Global Women's Network for the Energy Transition (GWNET); Ms Alexandra Palt, Chief Corporate Responsibility Officer, L'Oréal  
**Moderator:** Ms Gauri Jauhar, Executive Director, IHS Markit

#### Session II: Advancing Women Leadership in Business

**Panellists:** Ms Rana Ghoneim, Chief, Energy Systems and Infrastructure Division, UNIDO; Dr Sujatha Narayan, Regional Vice President, Wabtec Corporation India; Ms Rachel Kyte, Dean, The Fletcher School, Tufts University; Ms Susan Ferguson, Representative, UN Women India  
**Moderator:** Dr Shalini Sarin, Co-Founder & Executive Director Elektromobilitat; Co-Chair SAWIE



**DR SUJATHA NARAYAN**

Regional Vice President,  
Wabtec Corporation India

“Competence, confidence and courage are important for women. Women need to be confident of and market their accomplishments, and they must have the courage to take risks in their careers to grow”

issues and companies should provide the flexibility to accommodate domestic issues and challenges faced by women. Furthermore, investors should be encouraged to insist on changes for diversity and inclusion, as boards tend to listen to investors more.

### Session II

Dr Shalini Sarin opened the session with remarks on the current pandemic and how it has disproportionately impacted women's careers. She emphasized the role of women in leadership to make decisions to bring about change.

According to Ms Rana Ghoneim, women form one-third of the workforce in renewable energy, but are fewer when it comes to leadership roles. Similarly, in the UN, in entry level positions, two-thirds are women, but at leadership positions it becomes one-third with respect to men. Ms Rana also highlighted some of the stereotypes faced by women at the workplace, such as the misconception of being aggressive as opposed to assertive, when women express their opinions. She also encouraged women to reach out and seek support, and that there should be an ecosystem of support, which must include men. Dr Sujatha Narayan highlighted that things have improved from 30 years ago in terms of having women at leadership positions. But overall women in leadership roles are very few. This is a complex problem. Companies need to understand a woman's world



**MS SUSAN FERGUSON**

Representative,  
UN Women India

“Workplaces need to value kindness and compassion—need policies and regulations that are family friendly”

and the kind of challenges they face on a daily basis and must take steps to ensure women do not drop out. Ms Rachel Kyte reiterated that more diversity leads to better decision making. There should be diversity in companies as well as local and national governments. She called for the need of regulations and policies that support women's careers being sensitive to domestic responsibilities. Moreover, diversity issues in different countries are different; so mentoring and sponsorship methods should itself be diverse. Ms Susan expressed that there are many invisible barriers that also constrain women. For instance, domestic violence and the ensuing social isolation are impediments to women taking up any roles outside the house. Furthermore, she highlighted the unconscious bias that women face at work, such as emphasis on women to be likeable, or taking up jobs that complement their traditional roles as care-givers, like teaching. This is a shared problem, and everyone has a role in opening up doors for women to take up leadership roles.



The opening remarks were given by Ms Monali Zeya Hazra, Regional Energy Manager and Clean Energy Specialist, Indo Pacific Office, USAID/India, who highlighted that women continue to encounter barriers in industries that are traditionally dominated by men, and that gender equality and women empowerment are important for sustainable development. Ms Hazra briefly shared the various initiatives undertaken by USAID that support gender equality and women's leadership, including SAWIE.

### Session I

In her opening remarks, Ms Gauri Jauhar set the context for the ensuing discussions by highlighting the findings from a recent McKinsey report that stated that if women are brought into the workforce in their full potential, US\$ 28 trillion could be added to the world economy by 2050.

Ms Katie McGinty stated that the organizations where women are in leadership roles outperform as there is greater perception of market trends, increase in the agility of the organization, and the ability to drive ahead of trends. Dr Laurel Harmon opined that innovation and diversity would be the key to reshape the world while recovering from the pandemic. According to Ms Christine Lins, women lack role models in the energy field and the Global Women's Network for the Energy Transition (GWNET) works to empower women to enter the market and in career advancement. Ms Alexandra Palt described the various efforts taken by L'Oréal to ensure diversity in their leadership, workforce, and brands. She highlighted that a generation of women is emerging that would not accept inequality, and would expect organizations and brands to be supportive of this.



**MS ALEXANDRA PALT**

Chief Corporate  
Responsibility Officer, L'Oréal

“There is a need for extending diversity and inclusion requirements to the whole value chain including extended companies, partnerships, and suppliers”

The session progressed to a moderated discussion on issues of diversity and actions to ensure it. Dr Laurel Harmon commented on ensuring gender diversity during collaborations and partnerships, which includes there is interaction of women on the team with partners.

Ms Alexandra Palt emphasized the need for extending diversity and inclusion requirements to the whole value chain including extended companies, partnerships, and suppliers. Social audit of suppliers has been a key initiative along with encouraging transitioning from a minimum wage to living wage scenario. According to Ms Christine Lins, gender and energy networks across the globe face similar issues and they provide a platform to them to discuss these issues and find solutions. They also work with next-generation women in different parts of the energy sector and put them in touch with their peers and mentors.

The panel unanimously agreed that in order to drive change, gender issues should be treated as everybody's



**DR LAUREL HARMON**

Vice President  
(Government Affairs),  
LanzaTech

“So many women left the workforce during pandemic and when they re-enter there is an opportunity to reshape the workforce towards diversity”



**MS RACHEL KYTE**

The Fletcher School,  
Tufts University

“There is a need of regulations and policies that support women's careers being sensitive to domestic responsibilities”





Virtual Hall: Charanka

## CLEANING AIR IN INDIAN CITIES

### Session I: Cleaning Air in Indian Cities – International Experience

**Moderator:** Dr Sumit Sharma, Senior Fellow, Earth Science and Climate Change (ESCC), Centre for Environmental Studies (CES), TERI

**Panellists:** Ms Priya Shankar, Director- India Environment Programme, Bloomberg Philanthropies; Ms Frances Beinecke, President Emerita, Natural Resources Defense Council; Ms Glynda Bathan, Deputy Executive Director, Clean Air Asia, Philippines; Mr Iyad Kheirbek, Program Director, Air Quality - C40

### Session II: Cleaning Air in Indian Cities – Progress Made by the Cities for Control

**Moderator:** Dr Prashant Garghava, Member Secretary, CPCB

**Panellists:** Dr Ashok Ghosh, Chairman, Bihar State Pollution Control Board; Mr Sreenivasulu, IFS, Member Secretary, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board; Mr Banchhanidhi Pani, IAS, Municipal Commissioner, Surat

The thematic track addressed some of the key issues regarding the quality of air in Indian cities and focused on the learnings from experiences of achieving clean air in international cities.

## Session I

The first session was moderated by Dr Sumit Sharma, who enlightened the audience about the current air quality scenario in Indian cities. Ms Priya Shankar highlighted the work of Bloomberg Philanthropies in Indian cities and explained the team's collaboration with NCAP, which is structured on three pillars, including understanding of data at all levels, policy engagement and advocacy, and capacity building through peer-to-peer learning.



**DR PRASHANT GARGAVA**

Member Secretary, CPCB

“More priority to air pollution mitigation has been given by various stakeholders such as research scholars, academicians, and students, which has strengthened the implementation of various policies in Indian cities”

Ms Frances Beinecke highlighted that performance standards, health-based data, strict compliance, and enforcement of air quality standards are key parameters to monitor air quality standards. Sharing the success stories of California, she said that the actions involved tremendous participation at all levels, and resulted in significant deduction in air pollution levels.

Taking a cue from the remarkable achievements from Manila and Bangkok, Ms Glynda highlighted the air quality scenario in South Asia. She discussed the actions and interventions carried out in these cities that lead to cleaner air. Mr Iyad carried forward the conversation by sharing his insights on the importance of integrating climate change and air pollution actions.



**MS FRANCES BEINECKE**

President Emerita, Natural Resources Defense Council

“One has to invest time in air quality, over many decades, to achieve results”

## Session II

This session focused on the development made by the Indian states in tackling air pollution. Dr Prashant Garghava addressed some of the key issues regarding the quality of air in Indian cities and congratulated the various State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) for achieving the reduction targets in a remarkable way. Following suit, Dr Ashok Ghosh highlighted the pollution sources in Patna, Gaya, and Muzaffarpur, and lauded the efforts of the SPCBs along with other stakeholders, who worked tirelessly towards controlling the emissions.

Dr KS Jayachandran explained the various steps taken in Delhi to reduce the pollution levels. Mr Sreenivasulu spoke about the achievements made by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board in tackling air pollution. Mr Banchhanidhi Pani foregrounded the achievements Surat has made in tackling air pollution. He also pointed out that rapid urbanization has resulted in unprecedented exploitation of natural resources, which if unchecked, would lead to deleterious implications on human health and the overall environment.

## THEMATIC TRACKS

Virtual Hall: Muppandal

## DECARBONIZING SOUTH ASIA

**Welcome Remarks:** Mr RR Rashmi, Distinguished Fellow, TERI

**Introductory Remarks:** Mr Abhas Kumar Jha, Practice Manager, DRM and Climate Change, World Bank

**Speakers:** Mr Stephane Hallegatte, Lead Economist, World Bank; Dr Muthukumara Mani, Lead Economist, World Bank; Ms Mekhala Sastry, Research Associate, TERI

**Moderator:** Ms Neha Mukhi, Senior Climate Change Specialist, World Bank

**Panellists:** Mr Ali Tauqeer Sheikh, Founding CEO & National Program Director, LEAD Pakistan; Mr Utpal Bhattacharjee, GHG Mitigation expert, UNDP Bangladesh; Mr Chirag Gajjar, Head Subnational Climate Action, WRI India

**Vote of Thanks:** Abhishek Kaushik, Associate Fellow, TERI

In his opening address, Mr R R Rashmi emphasized that India's energy requirement will be doubled by 2030 compared to the 2000 levels. Mr Stephane Hallegatte gave a presentation about the global deep decarbonization pathways and highlighted that it will take a lot of time to change the economic system towards achieving the zero



emission scenario. Dr Muthukumara Mani underlined the importance of the South Asian region towards the global climate agenda. He stressed that the decarbonization scenario of coal plants will lead to significant implications along with job losses and stranded assets. Ms Mekhala Sastry outlined that the framework for strong LTS is influenced by drivers, including indicative blueprint for development, linkage with NDCs, efficient resource allocation, and support from international community.

The second session focused on the possible pathway for the South Asian countries to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 while ensuring a 'just' transition. The panellists deliberated on the status, challenges, and opportunities for the three major South Asian economies – India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. The various ongoing programmes, policy measures, and the future road map towards accomplishing carbon neutrality for these three countries were also explained during the discussion.

The Vote of Thanks was delivered by Mr Abhishek Kaushik.



## THEMATIC TRACKS

Virtual Hall: Brahmanvel

### JUST TRANSITION: A WAY FORWARD FROM THE ENERGY CROSSWORDS

**Opening Remarks:** Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General, TERI

**Special Remarks:** Dr Anil Kumar Jain, Secretary, Ministry of Coal

**Panellists:** Mr Pramod Agarwal, Chairman, Coal India Limited; Dr Tejaswi S Naik, Managing Director, Madhya Pradesh Jal Nigam Maryadit (Former District Magistrate, Betul, Madhya Pradesh); Prof. Kuntala Lahiri Dutt, The Australian National University; Mr SM Vijayanand, Former Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala; Mr Jules Kortenhorst, Chief Executive Officer, Rocky Mountain Institute; Dr Ashok Sreenivas, Senior Research Fellow, Prayas Energy Group; Dr Anna Sobczak, Policy Coordinator, Coal Regions in Transition, European Commission; Ms Moutushi Sengupta, Director, India Office, Mac Arthur Foundation; Mr Michael Ward, Senior Sustainability Consultant, Climate Investment Funds, World Bank

**Valedictory Note:** Dr Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog

**Vote of Thanks:** Mr Sanjay Mitra, Distinguished Fellow, TERI



**MR MICHAEL WARD**

Senior Sustainability Consultant, Climate Investment Funds, World Bank

“We need to include social inclusion, capacity building at local level in the planning”

Opening the session, Dr Ajay Mathur remarked that as we transition towards clean energy, the issue of unemployment should also be addressed. He added, “It is important to see how communities have coped or not coped as we move away from fossil fuels.”

Ms Ruchi Gupta gave a presentation on the study – ‘Mapping the Impact of Coal Mines and Their Closure: A Case of Betul’. Speaking about the study, Mr Amit Kumar said that social dimensions will be at the core of ‘just’ transition. Prof. Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt emphasized that we must shift from

business-as-usual (BAU), and encourage the participation of environmental justice groups and human rights groups.

Dr Anil Kumar Jain added, “Former coal-bearing areas face double whammy of loss of jobs and degraded environment. While renewables rise and coal recedes, there



is an opportunity for us to rehabilitate land and people.” Dr Ashok Sreenivas explained that not every green economy is completely shiny and that the local communities need to be part of the discussion and decision-making processes. Dr Tejaswi Naik opined that managing the after-effects of phasing requires a proper game plan and adequate funding. Moving towards the discussion on planning and investing in just transition, Ms Anna Sobczak explained that a special

dedicated fund – Just Transition/Clean Transition Fund – is planned to move towards carbon neutrality. Ms Moutushi Sengupta said that the transition will be sustainable only if the community is willing to be a co-creator. Mr Michael Ward said that the need to establish the framework for monitoring, evaluation, and learning is mandatory. The vote of thanks was delivered by Mr Sanjay Mitra.



**MR JULES KORTENHOST**

Chief Executive Officer, Rocky Mountain Institute

“India has great advantage in transition to clean energy, we need to embrace these opportunities and extending these jobs to the people who are going to be directly affected due to transition is required”

