

First
Announcement

**National Conference on
CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

24th & 25th February, 2011



Envisioning A World For Tomorrow's Generation



Organized By:



Watershed Organisation Trust

Supported By:



**Swiss Agency for Development and
Cooperation SDC**

Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Development

Climate change and variability can no longer be denied. Especially as this has been a significant experience in the recent years. We are uncertain as to how it will baffle us next. The vulnerability of natural and human systems to climatic changes and the necessity to adapt to such changes has been recognized as a global need and obligation by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1992. Since then, however, the international dialogue on ways to meet this challenge has been held hostage to vested political, economic and commercial interests, which has resulted in further increasing vulnerability, especially of poor communities and nations in tropical climes.

India is committed to playing its part in the international effort, as well as reducing climate induced vulnerabilities of its citizens. This is evidenced by the National Action Plan for Climate Change and the launching of the eight missions.

It is time to consider the various dimensions and implications of the climate threat and the opportunities arising thereof, especially for the nearly 70% of Indians that live on less than \$2 a day.

This conference seeks to bring together practitioners, academicians, donors, corporates and policy makers to address this climate-induced challenge from a comprehensive, multi and interdisciplinary perspective and a systemic approach.

Your Take-Away: You will be able to take home a wealth of adaptive mitigation oriented good practices and fresh perspectives from leading thinkers and practitioners. You will have a forum to share your own experience and knowledge which will then be widely disseminated. You will meet fellow travelers, professionals and institutions who are working in the field. You will contribute to a new perspective of looking at Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation.

About Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR)

Established in 1993, WOTR has been in the forefront of mobilizing vulnerable communities in semi arid and resource fragile regions to help themselves out of poverty by harvesting rainwater and regenerating the ecosystems they live in along watershed lines. With the experience and continuous learning, we realized that issues concerning environmental degradation, globalization and climate variability have posed major economic, social and political challenges not only for the development of a rural community, but for society at large. Hence, with the integration of several sustainable development frameworks that capture not just the important pieces of the puzzle but the puzzle as a whole, WOTR calls for sustainable development to expand its horizon beyond the economic calculus.

WOTR, supported by the SDC and NABARD has recently launched the implementation of a Climate Change Adaptation Project in 25 villages in two clusters in the rain-shadow Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra. Visit us at www.wotr.org

THEMES

1. Weaving Knowledge Streams & Disciplines Together to Address Climate Change

Climate change affects every aspect of human life. Addressing it by way of adaptation and mitigation therefore requires a holistic approach, encompassing multiple perspectives, objectives, approaches and strategies. This calls for bringing together the various knowledge and technological streams in a dynamic and synergistic engagement that addresses these multi dimensional and complex challenges.

This theme offers a platform for discussion on how key knowledge disciplines can be brought together to respond to the emerging challenges.

2. Enhancing and Managing Ecosystems and Natural Resources for Development and Disaster Risk Reduction

Ecosystems are the base of the intricate web of life that sustains us as individuals and communities. Robust and vibrant ecosystems not only provide a range of environmental services so vital to our existence, but also to our quality of life. Yet, never before has this vital “staff of life” been under such threat, from anthropogenic activities. This instability is feeding back in increasing frequency and intensity of extreme natural events resulting in disasters.

This theme invites us to find practical ways of addressing human, environmental and ecological needs, in order to reduce vulnerabilities and mitigate risks within the context of climate variability and change.

3. Gender, Climate Variability & Adaptation

Women and men are both affected by climate variability but differently. Their perspectives differ because of the distinct roles they play. Both roles are complementary and one cannot survive without the other. Women are generally seen as victims of the problem, while their role as providers of solutions is underplayed.

This theme seeks to understand the different impacts of climate variability on gender. It explores ways of mitigating these adverse impacts while capitalizing on opportunities that improve the quality of life and bring about equity in gender relationships.

4. Greening Economic Development

We need to be prepared for a future in which business and environmental interests increasingly overlap, and in which businesses can better satisfy their customers' needs, increase profits, and help solve environmental problems all at the same time.

The “business as usual” approach is not just the cause and driver of climate change; it will also be one of its biggest victims.

This session would provide a portrayal of opportunities that, if captured, will lead to no less than a transformation of commerce and of all societal institutions. We need to map the general direction of a journey that requires overturning long-held assumptions, even questioning what we value and how we are to live.

The green economy is now being recognized as the next frontier energizing development and societal transformation.

This theme seeks to identify those pillars of our economy. This unfolding scenario offers opportunities to bridge the rural urban divide in terms of new livelihood opportunities, technology and skills transfer and capacity building and infrastructural development.

This theme seeks to identify existing and emerging green technologies and opportunities for both urban and rural areas that will provide sustainable livelihood opportunities to people, especially youth.

5. Making Livelihoods Climate Smart

Most of rural India depends on nature based resources for their livelihoods - agriculture, forest produce, and biodiversity – all of which are sensitive to climate variability and change. The challenge is how to make livelihoods

Call for Papers and Abstracts

Abstracts not exceeding 300 words should mention Title, Author(s), Study Background, Objectives, Methodology, Finding(s) and Conclusion. Abstracts and their affiliations for oral/ poster presentation should reach WOTR by e-mail attachment by **31st December, 2010**. Final papers (soft copy) with a word limit between 4500 to 5000 words should reach WOTR on or before **25th January, 2011** on workshops@wotr.org.

Abstracts and papers should be typed in **Times New Roman** in font size **12** with **single spacing**. References in final paper should be clearly mentioned.

Research papers with robust applicability at the ground-level will be highly appreciated.

The papers will be reviewed for acceptance/rejection with an independent expert committee and their decision will be considered final.

“climate resilient”. What are the new opportunities for sustainable livelihoods arising from climate variability? How can the local economy generate sustainable livelihoods within the local economy? How can livelihoods of the vulnerable be “fail-safe”?

This theme calls for ideas for making livelihoods climate smart and to exploit emerging opportunities to build local economic resilience and livelihood sustainability.

Registration

- Registration is compulsory for all the delegates. A registration fee of **₹1500** per participant should be remitted by Bank transfer/Demand Draft In favor of Watershed Organisation Trust, payable at Pune.

Bank Details for transfer

Account Name: Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR)

Account No.: 1021/SB/01/000486

Bank Name: Corporation Bank

Branch: Saras Bag (Branch code: 1021)

Bank Address: 986, Shukrawar Peth, Opp.

Sarasbaug, Next to

Mahalaxmi temple, Mitra

Mandal Road, PUNE - 411002

ISFC Code: CORP0001021

- The last date for the receipt of the Registration Fee is the 31st of January 2011.
- Registration fee is non-refundable.
- WOTR will bear the cost of lodging boarding for all participants.

For Selected Papers

- Participants whose papers are selected for presentation will be provided with travel (to & fro) Pune by Train AC II.
- An honorarium of ₹5000 for the papers selected for presentation.

For further details / queries please contact:

Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR)

2nd Floor, "The Forum", S.No. 63/2B, Padmavati Corner, Pune Satara Road, Pune: 411 009, Phone/Fax: +91 20 24226211, +919404953956 (Gaurav)/+919404953945 (Jones)
email: workshops@wotr.org / info@wotr.org, <http://www.wotr.org>



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Registration Form

Name: _____

Sex: Male/Female

Organisation: _____ Department: _____

Designation: _____

Address for correspondence: _____

State: _____

PIN: _____

Phone: _____

Mobile: _____

E-mail: _____

Title of the Abstract (Optional):

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Amount: Rs.: _____

Mode of Payment : Demand Draft/Bank Transfer

Demand Draft no.: _____

Dated: _____

Bank: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Registration will be complete when the Registration Fee is received.

IF REQUIRED, PLEASE MAKE ADDITIONAL PHOTO COPIES OF THE REGISTRATION FORM

Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR)

2nd Floor, "The Forum", S.No. 63/2B, Padmavati Corner, Pune Satara Road, Pune: 411 009, Phone/Fax: +91 20 24226211, +919404953956 (Gaurav)/+919404953945 (Jones), email: workshops@wotr.org / info@wotr.org, <http://www.wotr.org>