



सहाद्री वाचवा

सहाद्रियां रक्षित्त्व कोर्या

ಸಹ್ಯಾದ್ರಿ ವಾಚವಾ

ಸಹ್ಯಾದ್ರಿಯಾ ರಕ್ಷಿತ್ವ ಕೋರ್ಯಾ

ಸಹ್ಯಾದ್ರಿ ಪೂರ್ವತಮಾಣಾ ಬಚಾವೊ

पश्चिमी घाट बचावो

ಪಶ್ಚಿಮಿ ಘಾಟ್ ಬಚಾವೊ

सह्याद्री पूर्वतमाणा बचावो

save western ghats

Celebrating 25 Years of Save the Western Ghats Movement  
Rejuvenating the Spirit of Civil Society

'PRACTITIONERS' CONCLAVE'

30<sup>th</sup> Nov-2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2012

**CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM**  
PARTNERSHIP FUND



## SWG 2012 PRACTITIONERS' CONCLAVE

Applied Environmental Research Foundation (AERF) with the support of Save the Western Ghats group is proud to announce the celebrations of 25 years of Save the Western Ghats March. A meeting of some civil society organizations and other stakeholders from various walks of life will be organized from 30<sup>th</sup> Nov-2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2012 in Mahabaleshwar.

## THE HISTORIC SAHYADRI CAMPAIGN

Save the Western Ghats Movement, which is recognized as one of the pioneering social-ecological movements in India, owed its origin to a 100 day historic march across the length of the Western Ghats covering six states. In the year 1987/88, a group of passionate and enthusiastic people, united by the cause of conserving the ecological and cultural diversity of the Western Ghats came together for the 'Save the Western Ghats March'. This group comprised members of the local communities, local organizations, media, civil society groups and government officials. This 100 day awareness campaign was an endeavour to enhance their understanding of the ecological status and developmental needs within these mighty mountains.

## IN THE INTERIM

The mountain chain called Western Ghats, covers 51 districts in six states, is one of the 34 global biodiversity hotspots and is home to many indigenous communities. These mountains are under tremendous pressure and the ecology and environment is at stake. In these 25 years, spurred on by globalization, a flawed policy environment and changing value systems of the local communities, new problems have been created in the area and old issues, persist with an increased intensity and impact. In such a situation, the need for civil society to deliberate and to search for inclusive solutions in pursuit of sustainable development is far more urgent now than ever before.

## WAKING UP!!!

Since 2009 a group of committed organizations and individuals working in Western Ghats, have been organizing annual meetings to bring together stakeholders of Western Ghats and have created a platform to initiate collective action again. The Annual meeting of 2009 was held at Goa in February by Peaceful Society Goa, in 2010 at Kotagiri Tamil Nadu by Keystone Foundation, in 2011 by Prakruti at Moodbidri Karnataka. The meeting of 2012 is being organized in Maharashtra by Applied Environmental Research Foundation.



**SWG - 2012 PRACTITIONERS' CONCLAVE**



### MAHABALESHWAR 2012

This Practitioners' Conclave is an attempt to bring together the various civil society groups and stakeholders in order to discuss pressing ecological, economic and social issues leading to sustainable solutions and strategies for the region. The meeting will carve new partnerships, strengthen the existing ones and develop concrete long term action plans for sustainable development in Western Ghats.

**The four major challenges that are of paramount importance for maintaining the grandeur and ecological integrity of the Western Ghats as well as to civil society have been identified and will be discussed during the meeting.**

- How do we stabilize growing demand for natural resources?
- What are the ways and means to prevent further degradation of ecosystems and their services?
- How to bring in diversity and improve stakeholders' engagement?
- How to strengthen partnerships within CSOs and rejuvenate the spirit of civil society for its increased participation in and delivering just environmental decision making?



## Local Organizing Committee

1. Dr. Archana Godbole, AERF, Pune
2. Dr. Madhukar Bachulkar, Nisarg Mitra, Kolhapur
3. Mrs. Shailaja Phatak, Mumbai
4. Dr. Jay Samant, Devrai, Kolhapur
5. Mr. Makarand Brahme, Peninsula Land Limited, Business Head
6. Dr. G.S. Chinchankar, Prof. of Botany, University of Pune (retd.)
7. Mrs. Vandana Kulkarni, AERF, Mumbai
8. Mr. Alhad Godbole, Journalist, Mumbai
9. Mr. Uday Phatak, C.S. Mumbai
10. Mr. Vijay Magikar, Event Consultant, Pune
11. Mr. Kiran Rahalkar, Nasik Nature Conservation Trust, Nasik
12. Mr. Vinod Patil, Khandesh Nature Conservation Society, Jalgaon
13. Mr. Jayant Samaik, AERF, Pune

Presentations and events effectively representing and addressing the above challenges will be organized in a thematic manner mentioned below.

- Evidence - to include findings and results of movements, actions, models, projects, research influencing conservation in the Western Ghats.
- Moving the Mountains - to exchange knowledge between old and new movement initiators and practitioners from the Western Ghats.
- Dilemma - to include research and action projects, examples, models specifically addressing cross-cutting issues (conservation, livelihoods, energy, and water).
- Wealth of Western Ghats - to include examples, specimens of rich traditions specifically focusing on sound environmental practices in Western Ghats.

We are expecting a turnout of nearly 500 people from various arenas of work which would include NGOs, Civil Society groups, Media, Corporate Houses and International Organizations for this milestone celebration.

**Through this event, let us join hands together to,  
Save the one and only Western Ghats.**



**SWG - 2012 PRACTITIONERS' CONCLAVE**



### SAVE THE WESTERN GHATS GROUP 2012

Dr. Archana Godbole

Mr. Pratim Roy

Mr. Pandurang Hegde

Mr. Samir Mehta

Mr. Somnath Sen

Ms .Parineeta Dandekar

Dr. A. Latha

Ms. Carmen Miranda

Mr. Ritwick Datta

Mr. Jayant Sarnaik

Ms. Bhakti Nefertiti

Ms. Snehlata Nath

For more Information

Visit us at : [www.savethewesternghats.org](http://www.savethewesternghats.org)

Follow us on



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