











## **ICSE FORUMS AND 1ST ICSE ANNIVERSARY EDITION**



2019-2020

**International Conference on Sustainability Education** 















## **INSIDE THE REPORT**

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**International Conference on Sustainability Education 2020** 





ICSE FORUM 1- World Environment Day 2020 - International Webinar and Principal's Conclave on Sustainability Education in COVID Era





ICSE FORUM 2 - World Population Day 2020 - Webinar on 'Population and Sustainability in COVID Era'





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## FROM THE DESK

## Chairman's Message



Mr Pradip Burman Chairman Mobius Foundation

The First International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE) was successfully organized on 9-10 September 2019 in New Delhi. The first International Conference was a collaborating effort to develop sustainability education in the country by the Mobius foundation in partnership with UNESCO, Climate Reality Project India, CEE, TERI and several others.

ICSE 2019 had been organized with its ultimate goal of developing societies competent in the principles of sustainability and striving to live within the carrying capacity of the planet. It aims to aid implementation of education for sustainable development (ESD) which is culturally-relevant, locally appropriate, occurring across national school education system.

The two-day International Webinar was organized as part of the ICSE Forum to commemorate the World Environment Day. The webinar deliberated on the interlinkages between COVID-19 pandemic, biodiversity and how sustainability education can be a strategic asset to address both the environment and pandemic challenge.

I believe that two key factors which need attention are education and population stabilization. As people get educated, population stabilizes and in fact goes into a negative growth. Education is therefore the key to stable population, which is one of the outcomes of ICSE FORUM 2 - Population and Sustainability in COVID Era, a webinar held on World Population Day 2020 (11th July 2020).

To keep up the momentum of the 1st ICSE, the 2nd version of the ICSE was organized on 9th -10th September 2020 virtually. Practical things done by youth are important to change the environment on the ground reality. Education is the key to change our mind-set and changing our modes of action.

## CEO's Message



**Dr Ram Boojh** *CEO Mobius Foundation* 

The challenge of educating about sustainability during and post Covid 19 pandemic is being discussed at various platforms by sustainability professionals, educators, teachers, policy makers and the general public. The Covid pandemic has reemphasized the need for a sustainable lifestyle and education is the most potent tool to bring about such a transformation. This was the focus of the International Webinar organized by Mobius Foundation and partners to mark the first anniversary of the landmark International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE) on 9 and 10 September 2020. The virtual event was opened by Shri Amit Khare, Secretary, Ministry of Education, Government of India who spoke about India's New Education Policy (NEP) terming it as broad based, multi-disciplinary and holistic. Presiding over the event, Mr. Eric Falt, Director and Representative, UNESCO New Delhi stressed upon the significance of the NEP as a great starting point and very welcome reform related to gender equality, foundation and holistic learning and for improving learning outcomes of children.

Mr. Pradip Burman, Chairman, Mobius Foundation enlightened about the ICSE forum for regular exchange of ideas, experiences and efforts through the network, in order to carry forward the initiative. The ICSE events have been able to provide useful forum and opportunity for educators and teachers during the Covid crisis, for learning from experiences of the wider sustainability education community and for working together to build back better and resilient education systems through individual and collective leadership, creativity and innovation. We do hope that such leadership will be demonstrated and reinforced across education systems in days to come. India's new education policy is a positive development in this direction.



### **ICSE 2019 AT A GLANCE**





The First International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE) 2019 was successfully organized by Mobius Foundation, Climate Reality Project India, UNESCO, TERI and 30+ other distinguished partners on 9th and 10th September 2019 in New Delhi, India. The conference brought together some 750 delegates including experts and practitioners of Environment Education (EE), Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), and Climate Change Education (CCE) to discuss innovative ideas, practices and pedagogies to incorporate sustainable practises in education. The conference highlighted the key role of **Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)** as an element of quality education through 5 Plenaries, 15 special sessions with as many 20 keynote speeches on various themes of sustainability education.

The conference was planned with a view to explore pathways to address current and

emerging sustainability challenges through education by empowering learners with new skills, values and attitudes that lead to more sustainable societies. The conference looked into various facets of sustainability education from a broader perspective taking into consideration global issues and challenges as well as regional and national realities. Sustainability education gained importance during the U N Decade of Education for a Sustainable Development (2005-2014) which promoted the integration of principles, values and practices of sustainable development into all aspects of education and teaching from kindergarten up to university and lifelong learning.

#### **Outcome of ICSE 2019**

The conference received overwhelming response from over 750 attendees from over 40 countries which included sustainability educators, leaders, policy makers, teachers and practitioners from across the disciplines and professions. Conference delegates shared their experiences, stories and best practices on various facets of sustainability education from a broader perspective taking into consideration global issues and challenges as well as regional and national realities. The two-day long events witnessed some 15 key note addresses in 5 plenaries, 15 thematic parallel sessions, 25 stalls in exhibition, 45 oral and 27 poster presentations besides inaugural and concluding plenaries. Two high octane special events, the launch of the World Environment School (WES) and a STEM session for school children from India and Australia were highlight of the conference. The participants had the opportunity to write out their recommendations on a conference "Declaration Wall" which provided a wish list of ideas and thoughts on sustainability education. ICSE 2019 provided an exciting opportunity and experience to the delegates as

summed up by Dr. Christa Henze, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany: "The Conference was not just about 'nice to meet you' or listening to speakers. I could experience so many ideas that I can take home and utilize in our university."

One of the key outcomes of the ICSE 2019 was to create a FORUM for regular exchange of ideas, experiences and efforts throughout the network, in order to carry forward the initiative. The 1st FORUM was organized on World Environment Day 2020 through an International Webinar and School Principals Conclave on the theme "SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION IN COVID ERA" on 4th -5th June 2020. ICSE FORUM 2 was organized on the World Population Day 2020 through webinar titled "POPULATION AND SUSTAINABILITY IN COVID ERA" on July 11th, 2020. In continuation of these forums and to keep up the momentum of the 1st ICSE, Mobius Foundation in partnership with UNESCO New Delhi, CEE (Centre for Environment Education), Earth Day Network and The Climate Reality Project India organized the 2nd version of the ICSE on 9th -10th September 2020 virtually.



The Conference was not just about 'nice to meet you' or listening to speakers. I could experience so many ideas that I can take home and utilize in our university.

**Dr. Christa Henze** *University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany* 



#### **b)) ICSE 2019 Voices**





Inclusion of Sustainable Development is the need of the hour. Integrating environmental education, climate education and sustainability in the school curriculum and the pedagogy would go a long way to make our education really transformative and helpful in attaining sustainable development goals.

Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' Minister for Human Resource Development (HRD) Government of India

The best agent to implement SDGs is education and the Right to Education provides access to every citizen of the country and that sustainable lifestyle is in the Indian Ethos and we need to reemphasize it.







The young people are the best audience for climate change education.

Dr. Jane Goodall

Founder, Roots & Shoots Institute

UN Messenger of Peace

It's time we stopped being too polite and genteel in our approach and tell things as they are because that is what the children today expect from us.

Dr. Sunita Narain

Director General

Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)





On the challenge on education and sustainable development, we have learnt a lot. And I would point to three critical pillars of education in sustainability. The first is interdisciplinary nature to educate for sustainable development, second is holistic in the sense we are applying at all scales of our lives and a third pillar in addition to the interdisciplinary nature and the holistic nature is the ethical core of sustainable development.

**Prof. Jeffrey D. Sachs**Director for Sustainable Development
Columbia University

Education for Sustainable development is not only about being environmentally – friendly; it also involves developing life skills including leadership, communication, and management; all of which are extremely important for personal development.

Mr. Pradip Burman
Chairperson
Mobius Foundation





Environmental education has carved a niche within the mainstream education in most part of the World. It has been recognized in formal education which was earlier seen as just an outdoor education

Kartikeya V. Sarabhai Founder and Director Centre for Environment Education (CEE)













# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION 2020

#### FIRST ANNIVERSARY EDITION

September 9 & 10, 2020 | 15:30 to 17:00 hrs IST (GMT + 5:30)

#### **Summary Report**

#### Introduction

The ICSE II Webinar was organized on the first anniversary of ICSE 2019, a landmark event. The two-day webinar conducted on September 9th and 10th 2020 was focussed on sustainability education in the new normal and the role of youth in sustainability education. The first day was focussed on sustainability education and new normal and it was attended by 500+ participants nationally and internationally. The speakers discussed about National Education Policy, Digital Divide, Sustainability Education, Girl's Education and their linkages with each other to lead sustainable world.

#### DAY 1 SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION AND THE NEW NORMAL

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought huge disruption in education forcing around 1.58 billion children and youth out of their campuses. Several new and innovative online, virtual and distance teaching learning initiatives are being tried out across the world as the new normal with their own positives and negatives. The challenge today is to reduce as much as possible the negative impact this pandemic will have on learning and schooling and build on this experience to get back on a path of build back better the educational system.

India's National Education Policy 2020 announced recently, has huge implication on the future of education in general and sustainability education in particular. The policy advocates for an education system that contributes to an equitable and vibrant knowledge society, by providing high-quality education to all. The National Education Policy is also in the line with the Goal 4 of the U N Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 4), which clearly believes equal access to education is the basis for sustainable development.



#### Welcome note by

#### Dr. Ram Boojh, CEO, Mobius Foundation

The 2nd anniversary event was kick started with the welcome note by Dr. Ram Boojh, CEO, Mobius Foundation. He reminisced the first anniversary of ICSE 2019 held last year on 9-10<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at New Delhi, shared good messages including from ministers and personalities from across the globe in last conference and showed gratitude for partners. On the anniversary of ICSE 2019, we launched proceedings of ICSE 2019 report which is also available on websites (www.icse2019.org/PDF/ICSE-Report-Revisedon-07-09-2020.pdf and www.mobiusfoundation. in/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/ICSE-reportrevised-on-07-09-2020-revised compressed.pdf). To keep up the momentum of the 1st ICSE, ICSE Forum was created and under this webinar were conducted on Environment Day and Population Day.



Dr. Ram Boojh served the UNESCO South Asia Cluster Office in New Delhi during 2007-2018 as Programme Specialist/Head of the Natural Sciences Unit, coordinated the South & Central Asia MAB Network (SACAM) as its Secretary. He is Co-Founder of the World Ocean Network- an international network of professionals involved in ocean education and conservation issues based at the French National Sea Centre, Nausicaa, Boulogne Sur Mer. He has published over 75 research/technical papers in various journals/ publications of repute 19 Books/technical Reports: 19 and 30 popular articles and other miscellaneous contributions.

#### **Address by Chief Guest**

Shri Amit Khare, Secretary, Department of Higher Education,

Ministry of Education, Government of India on comprehensive overview of National Education Policy (NEP)

In his inaugural address Shri Amit Khare emphasized that challenging situations like COVID 19 pandemic also provide opportunities to see, do and explore new things. The system in India is to teach and not learn. The process has to shift from teaching to learning and emphasise on learning. Secondly, it is a general notion that schooling of 10 years is equal to education of 10 years. Though, schooling is education is not true, schooling must lead to learning as learning outcomes are more important. The major improvements in education system is the foundational level program which will be activity based for students to explore the world that will enable them to learn by their own understanding. Another major improvement at secondary and tertiary level (higher level) is that education should be multidisciplinary with multiple entry and exits. Shri Amit Khare briefly explained about the academic bank credit system which will be linked to AADHAR number and digi locker for entry and exit at higher education level. To bring India as developed country, SDG to be focussed in the education, and to make sure there are no dropouts in till 12th education. To inculcate sustainability education, the most important point is to remove boundaries between curricular and extra-curricular activities. Eliminating this boundary, the students will have more understanding of their surroundings and responsibilities.



Shri Amit Khare is an Indian Administrative Service officer (1985 batch) of Jharkhand Cadre. He is a graduate from St. Stephen's College, Delhi and post-graduate in Business Administration from IIM Ahmedabad. He has long years of experience in Finance as also in the field of Education. He was the first Commissioner of Commercial Taxes of Jharkhand, Additional Finance Commissioner, Jharkhand and Principal Secretary and Additional Chief Secretary, Finance & Planning Department, Jharkhand. He joined Government of India as Secretary, I&B on 31st May 2018 and has since been Secretary, School Education & Literacy and Secretary, Higher Education. Presently he is Secretary, Higher Education with additional charge of Secretary, M/o Information and Broadcasting.

The National education policy (NEP) must have citizens of India who have outlook of world but grounded in reality of country. "Jo jad se jude hue hain aur jag ko dekhte hain." We must develop responsible citizens who will not only contribute to india but to entire society in the world.

# Opening remarks by Chair Mr. Eric Falt, Director and UNESCO Representative, UNESCO New Delhi Cluster office

Mr. Eric Falt gave his insights on the current pandemic which has affected everyone in the world especially the education system, teachers, universities etc. The youth and adolescent have been affected more which are the heart of society. Education system is what enables youth and children as global citizens to respond to challenges of the complex world and later contribute to peace and sustainable communities. He shared that the UNESCO is keen to promote gender equality in and through education, by emphasizing the importance of girl's education, as we move towards new normal.

Regarding sustainability education, in today's era of online learning, it is important to pay special attention to digital divide between rural and urban areas. UNESCO launched global education program, which seeks to facilitate students in this disruption. Another important aspect is improving quality of education, teachers, classroom process, school structure, survey and assessment and community participation etc.

NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY is a great starting point in India which relates to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 4 – Quality Education, new National Education Policy has very welcome reforms, gender, equality foundation, holistic learning and improving learning outcomes of children. Policy formation is one important aspect of education system, but implementation is equally important and challenging situation. It is vital to have clear linkage between policy and their effective implementation, so that no one is left behind.



Eric Falt assumed the position of Director and UNESCO Representative for the UNESCO New Delhi Cluster Office covering Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, the Maldives and Sri Lanka.

Prior to this assignment and since September 2010, he was based at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris as the Assistant Director-General for External Relations and Public Information, with the rank of Assistant Secretary-General of the UN. As such, he oversaw the work of the Organization in the political field, in particular relations with Member States, and coordinated activities geared towards civil society. He also guided UNESCO's communications and public information efforts.

It is important not just to build back better but also build back equal. "Building back equal girls to school" is launched by UNESCO, Malana fund plan, and UNICEF, aims to have policy makers to address the gender dimension of COVID related school closures.

#### Keynote address by

# Kartikeya Sarabhai, Founder and Director, Centre for Environment Education (CEE)

Mr. Kartikeya Sarabhai gave his views on another aspect; challenges of COVID 19 pandemic on educational system. It is important time for India when National Education Policy has come out, National Education Policy and new normal should be looped as a new opportunity. The digital scenario has both pros and cons. Currently, digital connect is a great opportunity to meet and talk virtually to different countries. But this also gives birth to increase of fake news and information, as earlier the students had limited sources of information; from teachers, books and at their home. New norms need to made to deal with this fake digital outspread.

In his address, he put light on the link between digital divide and girl's education. The technology is limited to availability of number of devices, if there is one device at home, will a girl get preference as the boys where differentiation is present in societies? New challenge in the current online education system is of assessment, when one is learning from different sources, then how to assess. The college and schools have to undergo dramatic change, as COVID crisis has put question mark to why we need to come at single place physically. While going to school lot of relationships are built, want people to have emotional connection and behavioural change, which is lacking in online learning. This medium doesn't replace school system. He suggested about neighbourhood learning centres where you can meet and learn together without need to travel far. People need to act, think local, go global, the initiatives can be at home level or society level.



Mr. Sarabhai has served on several committees of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India including greening India's formal education system and initiatives for biodiversity education. Mr. Sarabhai has long been associated with IUCN, and was the chair of South and South-East Asia, IUCN Commission on Education and Communication. Mr. Sarabhai was instrumental in initiating SASEANEE, the South and Southeast Asian Network for Environment Education. He was a member of the Indian delegation to UNCED at Rio and WSSD at Johannesburg and was co-author of India's report for UNCED.

National Education Policy look upon COVID as pause button and as a way in which can transformation of education as they want. how institutional mechanism to be changed alongwith the new normal.

#### Special Address by

Dr. Christa Henze, Pedagogue and Academic senior counsellor, Faculty of Biology, University of Duisburg-Essen

Dr. Christa Henze emphasized on what can be learned out of COVID 19 pandemic crisis and education (ESD). Dr. Henze shared about the ripple effect of COVID 19 in Germany is very different in communities and family. The transition to digital learning is difficult in Germany as compared to other countries. Only 1/3rd of school managers agreed that they could have provided an effective online learning support platform. In other countries more than 90% school were able to provide effective online education platform. During lockdown, people had to work from home, people seemed desperate to come out of homes to visit outside, this may be stimulated interest in rural outdoor learning can play in post COVID school recovery. Growing recognition of potential of outdoor learning with health and well being benefits. Outdoor learning has great potential to build relationships with self, others and natural environment. Power of outdoor learning practices on content level and benefits for students to mental health and it is perfect to fit in new National Education Policy in India. COVID 19 has helped to clarify the need to investigate the implications of natural events for example the biodiversity's roar in pathogenic transmission. Two questions might need to be considered, the fact that school are reopened, the travel is limited to local and limited distance, can we concentrate more on local areas and regional level? Do students really know the emissions impacts on the scale of community? Can outdoor learning and ESD help learners to develop a deeper understanding of climate change and sustainable development? Can such models of local outdoor learning support a great sense of community in school and beyond to develop a better resilience in different communities to work closer to understand, commit and to act to two crucial challenges, like climate change and loss of biodiversity.



Christa Henze is a qualified pedagogue and academic senior counsellor in the Biology Faculty of the University of Duisburg-Essen. For many years, her work has focused on education for sustainable development, sustainability in a university context, biodiversity and education for sustainable development as well as sustainability communication. During the entire decade she was a member of the round table of the UN Decade "Education for Sustainable Development" and the associated working groups on universities and biodiversity. She is also active on an international level: since 2009 she has been a member of the expert group "International Capacity Building for India, Mexico.

Pandemic creates an urgent need on the in-depth reflection on the relationship between human and nature and risks associated with economic development pathways and how we can protect humanity in future.

#### Address by

Prof Hanumantha Rayappa, Associate
Director, Satellite Communication Programme
Office, ISRO HQ, Bengaluru on Potential of
satellite communications for education and
empowerment

Prof Rayappa in his address shared the use of satellite communication to deal with situation of COVID 19 disruptions in education. We need to embrace technology to deliver quality education as education is the fundamental, and 60% of students stay in rural region where education level is not same as urban areas. As a solution to digital divide, satellite communication plays a vital role to reach the unconnected regions, like hilly regions, islands. There is a need to create a mechanism to make access quality education content uniformly. He briefly shared the concept of ISRO's EDUSAT network, at national level to help in universities, like one-way broadcasting (DTH) and two-way interactive broadcasting (higher education). EDUSAT which is meant for distant class room education from school level to higher education helped in making public domain content, Bharat net affordable broadband connectivity of 2 Mbps to 20 Mbps for all households and on demand capacity to all institutions, National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL) which is an initiative by seven Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT Bombay, Delhi, Guwahati, Kanpur, Kharagpur, Madras and Roorkee) and Indian Institute of Science (IISc) for creating course contents in engineering and science. It provides a platform to orientation for learning in schools and synchronised learning. This also helps in skill development and non-formal education.



Prof Rayappa, graduated from Bangalore
University in 1991 with his Masters in Statistics.
Since then he has been serving in ISRO in various
capacities. He has played a key role in realization
of societal applications mainly tele-education,
telemedicine, village resource centers and related
ground segments. He is a recipient of Team
Excellence Awards of ISRO for implementation of
Societal Programmes. He has also received IETE
– R S Khandpur Gold Medal for his contributions
to Tele-medicine Programme. Currently, he is
serving as Associate Director, SatCom Ground
Segment, Applications and Policy Implementation
at SATCOM Programme Office at ISRO HQ,
Bengaluru.

"

As a solution to digital divide, satellite communication plays a vital role to reach the unconnected regions, like hilly regions, islands. There is a need to create a mechanism to make access quality education content uniformly.

# University, Nigeria on YouTube The New Normal in Online Learning and Management of Sustainability Education in Nigeria

Prof. Daisy I. Dimkpa shared her views on YouTube helps both teachers and students to download and upload educational materials which is used in enhancing classroom experience. Online learning has become the 'new normal' in Nigeria and other parts of the world, where schools have been shut down, with teaching and learning operating through the use of Social Media. The new normal signifies a way of doing things differently from the old method. Regarding Implementation of Online Learning in Nigeria, a 'learn at home' website was set up by the team to monitor the activities, with a regular update on the implementation status, online resources and available options for equity in teaching and learning, etc. Hence, sustainable education requires to be measured against expected outcomes, given the right environment, ensuring quality education and promoting earning opportunities; ensuring availability and sustainability of learning materials; ensuring access to affordable, ensuring adequate coverage of the syllabus and reaching out to those learners in the rural areas. Challenges of the New Normal in Online Learning: Change from classroom to online teaching and learning is a change that teachers and students are experiencing. Developing new skills and digital competencies is the new requirement for online learning and teaching. Prof Daisy mentioned few suggestions for online learning in new normal like, regulation of uploaded materials on the YouTube Education Site, training and re-training of teachers. In order to avoid online fatigue, students should limit screen time to school work and only the essentials. To sustain

and transform the education system it is important to ensure programme resilience by providing opportunities for innovation in the way we live and coordinate our education system. Subsequently, ensuring that transformation to sustainable education focuses on our knowledge, skills and capacity.



Prof. Daisy I. Dimkpa is a professor of Guidance and Counselling specializing in Women Education and Training, and a counsellor educator in the Department of Educational Foundations, Niger Delta University, Nigeria. She graduated from the University of Port Harcourt Nigeria, with the degree in Psychology, Guidance and Counselling in 1988, Masters of Education degree in Guidance and Counselling from the University of Ilorin Nigeria, in 1991 and subsequently Doctor of Philosophy degree in Guidance and Counselling from the same university in 2000.

The essence of the new pattern connotes that it should be better and at the same time made available to all that require it.

#### QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

The panellists and speakers during the 15 minute Question and Answer session shared their views on the specific questions on Sustainability Education and the New Normal asked by different participants.

#### Main outcomes of the question and answer session are:

- To remould our sustainability efforts, at this unprecedented and changed situation, we need students to develop systemic thinking in being able to learn and then transform into actions at local and regional level.
- To ensure each child gets involved in best sustainability practices across, the school management should make sure each student have easy access to technology, devices and content.
- The whole ecosystem of education needs strategic thinking to evaluate a student. The evaluation of students is connected with the nature of education and nature of job as also mentioned in National Education Policy.
- Emphasis to practice is proportional to analytical thinking. The technology and interactiveness through digital learning is easy to be implemented to have more practice which enable analytical thinking in students.
- To bridge the digital divide not only with students and but also with teachers, the satellite school system like EDUSAT can be one solution as satellite communication can be reached to remote areas.



#### Vote of Thanks

# Mr. Pradip Burman, Chairman, Mobius Foundation

Mr. Pradip Burman talked about the objective of Mobius Foundation is sustainability with focus on education and population stabilization. In COVID era we assisted NGO to provide food for migrants struck due to COVID 19. We initiated pass on plastic activity in society to segregate the plastic waste generated in household. It is a different experience to do online webinar and this is a new normal and we should get accustomed to this platform. He mentioned about creating ICSE forum, for regular exchange of ideas, experiences and efforts throughout the network, in order to carry forward the initiative.



Mr. Pradip Burman is the chairman of Mobius Foundation, established in 2015, is a non-profit organization working towards environmental sustainability. In a world struggling with scarcity, the foundation believes that environmental conservation is the key to a better future and a greener planet. He is also a trustee of the Climate Reality Project – India (affiliated to Mr. Al Gore of the Climate Reality Project Foundation, USA). He has interest in Social work, currently Founder Chairman of Sundesh, an NGO supported by Dabur India Limited, doing work in rural areas around Ghaziabad (UP).

**Dr. Ram Boojh** invited all the speakers and audience for the next day's webinar on sustainability education and the youth.



#### DAY 2 SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION AND THE YOUTH

Young people have an enormous stake in the present and future state of Earth. There is a powerful opportunity for society if young people can participate positively in all aspects of sustainable development. With the similar vision Mobius Foundation, Earth Day Network and The Climate Reality Project India joined hands to launch the Youth for Earth and My Future My Voice Campaigns to mark the 50th year of the Earth Day. The campaign was run through January to July 2020. Youths were invited to participate in the campaign and be a 'Champion for Earth' and a 'Change Maker' by submitting their activity done from 22nd April 2019 onwards. It was also to provide a platform for youth to showcase their ground actions and influence the world that change starts from them. The campaign received overwhelming responses from the youth from all over India and South Asia about doing an activity or projects on the ground which brings about a change and leads to a more sustainable planet. We had 11 youth from all parts of the globe to present their projects on the various themes related to environment. But before hearing to them we had Message from our partners who supported the event throughout.





Dr. Ram Boojh, CEO, Mobius Foundation, Convenor ICSE welcomed the young environmentalist & change makers and mentioned that world is under going through a major transformation. Three crucial triggers of transformation are Covid 19. New Education Policy 2020 and ESD Agenda 2030. Agenda 2030 is being promoted as transformative and is an instrument which is going to change the world. He mentioned about ICSE 2019 and that conference was focused on youth to great extent, the substantial contribution of youth led events and happenings. Out of 15 workshops 7 were focussed on youth, organized by ICSE partners CEE, FEE, Climate Reality Project India, TERI and others. There were youth members representing Young Reporters for Environment (YRE) from India and South East Asia who covered the proceedings of the conference and produced the newsletter with the highlights of each day.

Three crucial triggers of transformation are Covid 19, New Education Policy 2020 and ESD Agenda 2030.

Ms. Karuna A. Singh, Regional Director Asia, Earth Day Network shared her thoughts on the work youth are doing for protecting the environment. She mentioned about a Earth day youth leader who is graduate from Harvard University and in 1970 he took the movement forward, awaken people to the fact that the environment is getting polluted and to stand up against the pollution. So was born the Earth day 22nd April 1970 and hence named Earth Day Network and policy is to have network with and through the organization and not having its own office. At present they are in 190 countries working with 70 thousand organizations with the aim to unite the environmental movements as all of us are earthlings first. Their programmes are designed to work with and through youth. Although environmental education is compulsory in India but environmental literacy and civic actions are not coming up. Earth day network worked to understand the reasons and it was teachers need to rethink the way they teach and how student's wants to learn. She mentioned the programme JEMS – green environment monitors which engage youth in the manners that they will have interest in. She concluded by talking about the multiple ways they reach out to youth in fun manner and released an e-books which has innovative strategies that youth have adopted to inspire young generation.



Karuna A. Singh, Country Director for Earth Day India, joined Earth Day Network in March 2010, after working for 24 years at the State Department's US Consulate at Kolkata. A senior executive with them, Karuna's major portfolio focus was on environmental affairs. She organized seminars with environmental experts, workshops, film screenings, and other events to build awareness about climate change and other environmental issues among a wide spectrum of audiences, from senior-level policymakers to grassroots NGOs.

Earth day network worked to understand the reasons and it was teachers need to rethink the way they teach and how student's wants to learn.



Mr. Aditya Pundir, Country Manager, Climate Reality India shared three ideas with audience. First idea is, we have to change the way we think about nature and not consider it as a resource. Future generation has to look at it as a home where we all live in and so have to take care of it. This will also help in combating Climate Change and not looking at environment as resource all the time like excessive use of Fossil fuel and putting everything in to the nature. Second idea is the way we behave and great power comes with the great responsibility. Humans are having immense power and we have technology and new generation has to think about that how we use it more responsibly. Third message he gave regarding hope that we should not get depressed from the negative actions we experience from our surroundings rather look at the opportunity you get as green jobs. We should look at the future as hope and knowledge which you have acquired to be put into something and can help healing the earth.

We should look at the future as hope and knowledge which you have acquired to be put into something and can help healing the earth.

Ms. Madhavi Joshi, Sr. Programme Director, Youth Programmes and Rural Programmes Group, Centre for Environment Education talked about that this is the time to reflect upon what we considered as normal or was indeed normal. We have to see what choices we are making and to rethink or rework our choices. Also, Covid 19 has shown that nature can rejuvenate itself if we do not interfere too much with it therefore we should use this learning for making more sustainable choices which are kinder to the nature. The internet and virtual platform has opened the possibility of meeting everybody across the world without worrying the way how we managed to get people together. While concluding she added that we need to reflect, rethink and rewire our actions and be open to possibilities.

Covid 19 has shown that nature can rejuvenate itself if we do not too much interfere with it therefore we should use this learning for making more sustainable choices which are kinder to the nature.



Madhavi Joshi, is Senior Programme Director, Centre for Environment Education and manages the Youth Programmes and the Rural Programmes Group at the centre. Madhavi is involved in urban programmes in the areas of waste management, sustainable mobility, and greening. Leading the Rural Programmes, she is involved in capacity building of women elected representatives, sustainable livelihoods and water management programmes. As coordinator for the youth programmes, Madhavi initiated the South Asia Youth Environment Network with UNEP's support, conducting programmes in the region.

#### **YOUTH PRESENTATIONS**



#### **Youth Ambassador**

#### My Future My Voice Campaign

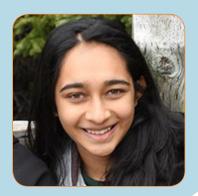
by Earth Day Network

Earth Day Network strongly believes in the power of youth to take the environmental movement forward. With this in mind **#MyFutureMyVoice**, a campaign to showcase the excellent work done by children and youth that has a positive impact on our environment. The campaign provided a platform for their voices to inspire a concerted effort for the betterment of our common home — Earth.

This campaign was launched to mark the 50th anniversary of Earth Day with 50 voices of youth from south and south East Asian countries and aim was to showcase the talent the youth has for their ability to do something for the environment. All the youth featured are united by their common aim – to work for the good of the environment. Each of them also took the #EarthDay pledge to do #ActofGreen for Earth. My Future My Voice has built a bridge and friendship across countries and there are only geographical boundaries but same landmass.

#### Aadya Joshi, Founder, The Right Green, India

68% of biodiversity in India has declined only in 5 decades and this is why what we see in the cities only pigeons, flies, crows and mosquitoes. The reason behind this decline is planting non-native species therefore we need to judiciously plant the native plants. The real challenge is to engage people and especially children and indulging them in an interesting way where they can understand the environment – species relationship. She created database of 15000 plants – Insect feeding relationships database based on biogeography for making science fun and engaging. She created scavenger hunt workshop (Tree Identification), Identification guides, animated videos and an action challenge. Only native trees are right green and bring nature back home.







Aadya Joshi - 16-year-old, Aadya Joshi is passionate about restoring native biodiversity and natural ecosystems in urban environments. In 2018, she founded The Right Green (www.therightgreen.org), an organization whose mission is to spread awareness about the vital ecological links between native plants, insects, and birds that are essential for maintaining healthy ecosystems.

She regularly conducts workshops for school children, adults, corporate and municipal authorities, and facilitates the development of native biodiversity gardens

# Michelle Dilhara, Sri Lankan Actress, an Author, Sri Lanka

She started a climate activism in 2016 since then she has organized several projects with the youth because they are the next generation. She organized 3-day climate change camp for young children to make them aware about the current climate crisis, how it is affecting the biodiversity and increasing the waste on earth. She is also working with powerful communities, Sri Lankan Universities and schools in Sri Lanka for planting trees across every district of Sri Lanka for mitigating, adapting global warming. As an actress I get massive media space where I dedicate 80% space to promote climate change and make everyone aware about the climate crisis



Michelle Dilhara - 24-year-old, Michelle is a Sri Lankan actress, an author, philanthropist and environmental activist. She is also the Founder of Invisible to Visible Movement. In 2018 she won the Asia Inspiration Award at the South Asian Youth Summit held in Colombo for her contribution towards Social invisibility.

In 2019 she received the National Youth Icon Award 2019 at the World Youth Summit held in New Delhi, India for her book Social Invisibility is not a Fiction it Exists and for her theory, Theory of Alternative Social Cogwheel.

In the year 2020 she was nominated as the Best Upcoming Actress and also was nominated for the Raigam Tele'es Most Popular Actress Award of the year 2019 in the Raigam Tele'es award ceremony. and global warming. The inventions by scientist 30 – 40 years back destroyed the mother earth unknowingly and their inventions directly related to economy. Educating young generation who are next scientist, next engineers and next politicians will make their decisions by keeping nature in mind and harming it less. Environment literacy is important which provides every person opportunity to get the knowledge, attitude, commitment and skills to protect and improve the environment. We have to put students to do work and give them responsibility to make them understand the environmental education. Outside classroom activity will help them become environmentally aware and promote environmental education. We should become role model to them as youth follows elders and adapt their path.





# Ralyn Satidtanasarn (Lilly), Climate Activist, Thailand

Environmental activist from Thailand working since 4 years to improve the environment and educate the world about climate change. She has been working on 6 different projects to how to improve the environment of Thailand. First, she tried to ban single use plastic with the help of Multinational companies and Thai government. She talked about her project known as Eco Education and working along with Ministry of education in Thailand to enforce education on ecosystem and environment. In this, young children will be taught about how to think out of the box and become leaders. Eco education will help children and adult to learn more about the world and helping everyone living peacefully as well.



Ralyn Satidtanasarn (Lilly) - 12-year-old environmentalist has been vocal about the problems of consumption and waste, taking time out of school to meet with government ministers, campaigning to build a student movement for behaviour change and climate action. She has started becoming a part of the environmental movement since she was eight. Since then she has been meeting with mall executives to demand reductions in single-use plastic waste. Central





Group's recent decision to stop automatic bagging in its malls is due in part to her petition.

On September 2019, Lilly joined a 'die-in'protest in front of Thailand's Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to symbolize the worsening climate crisis.

#### Afa Hussain, Founder of beleaf, Maldives

She has been in climate advocacy since the age of 12 years after her high school has started with environmental movement named as 'BeLeaf Maldives' to aware and empower the youth. This is a youth led environmental movement established in a northern island of the Maldives. They do community clean-ups, tree planting programmes and baseline researches. They have sent more than 12 tons of plastic bottles to recycling in corporation with other organizations. Along with clean up drives they maintain dataset of the bottles generated and do the waste management as well. They focus more on waste reduction and combating climate change as it contributes in air pollution. They have been doing awareness activity in the form of Climate strikes and events since 2017. They have also been working to restore mangrove of the country along with the government which was destroyed back in 2017. They do tree plantation and restoration programme and have planted 300 plants since 2019. She has also been given opportunity at international platform to raise her voice and aware people of the globe and demand the government for sustainable development. She further called upon the government to make the environmental protection agency independent so that the environmental laws and regulation can be enforced independently and impartially.



Afa Hussain - Concerned by the negative impacts of development and urbanization, 23-year-old Afa found her own youth led environmental movement called BeLeaf, Maldives. She has carried out many projects and events such as community cleanups, ocean cleanups, tree plantation programs and awareness sessions (from school kids to island councillors) etc.

Afa uses her voice in various international and national platforms to raise awareness about climate change, conservation and unsustainable development and has made sure that her voice reaches up to the policy level. Through the movement, she has inspired several youth in Maldives for voluntarism and environmental advocacy. Her environmental efforts have been widely covered by several national and international organizations like UNICEF Maldives, UNICEF South Asia among many others.

She also spoke at the South Asian Parliamentarian Platform for Children in Colombo in presence of parliamentarians and youth delegates from South Asian countries to push the national agendas for the realization of child rights.





# Clarence Gio Almoite, Founder of Youth for Earth Society, Philippines

He is working towards generative agriculture in Philippines and world today is supporting conventional agricultural practices that can lead to adverse environmental effects. There are alternative ways of agricultural practices that could address economic, social and environmental sustainability practices. One way of doing this is permanent agriculture or permaculture is a framework which talks about not only agriculture but also about incorporating sustainable practices to improve the livelihood of people. Environmental education and sustainability education can be incorporated and is based on sustainable use of biological resources. Sense of environmentalism and its philosophy is applied in the art of permaculture. It is important to develop an idea of permaculture as it addresses environmental problems and can be sustained in a long way. As a youth leader he is leading generative agriculture which is beyond sustainability and imparting education to the families. They are teaching organic farming, renewable energy technologies and sustainable practices to them as they are the beneficiaries. He is also advocating national green programme to increase the forest cover in his country along with the tree nurturing. He mentioned about his organization which tackles renewable energy and sustainable energy for communities at grass root level.



Clarence Gio Almoite - 23-year-old Clarence is leading an organisation called "Youth for Earth Society" - an environmental wing of the Youth Advocates for the Philippines.

A student of Benguet State University, Clarence advocates for environmental protection, biodiversity conservation, and ecosystem restoration. Recently, he became one of the 14 youth representatives (Youth Task Force) for the World Environment Day organised by the UNEP-Major Group for Children and Youth. He recently organized an international environmental conference that saw over 40 countries present with 2,000 youth delegates and had international speakers for the conference from the UK to Zambia.





#### Hedy Chen, Co-Founder, Edgier Tableware, Taiwan

Edgier Tableware is an eco-friendly Food delivery version of Zomato and similar website. They avoid serving single use plastic materials and instead of provide reusable materials. She is a medical student in the University of Taiwan and aims at solving the single-use waste caused by the online food delivery system wherein they are working on a system to provide food orders with reusable containers. Her team members are youth across diverse backgrounds, including business, technology and medicine, and they are engaged in a government start-up event, 2020 Global Youth Action Plan, to take action. Currently they are connecting with vendors at three cities across Taiwan. Setting their target audience at consumers of the university's food-court, they are encouraging greener consuming habits among the youth, which will be the changing force of the future.



Hedy Chen - 22- year-old Hedy Chen is a Medical Student and Clerk at China Medical University. Hedy was one of the 70th WHA Taiwan Healthcare Youth Delegate and also the 2017 Asia Medical Student Conference, Taiwan Delegate.

She is the co-founder of Edgier Tableware that aims at solving the single-use waste caused by the online food delivery system. They are working on a system to provide food orders with reusable containers. Her team members are youth across diverse backgrounds, including business, technology and medicine, and they are engaged in a government start-up event, 2020 Global Youth Action Plan, to take action.

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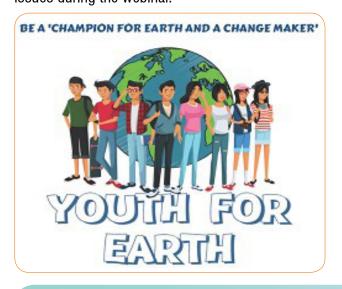
ALMOST A BILLION PEOPLE are going hungry, while we waste 1/3 OF THE FOOD WE PRODUCE.



### **Youth for Earth Campaign**

Mobius Foundation joined the Earth Day Network and Climate Reality Project India to organize the "Youth for Earth" Challenge to mark the celebration of Earth Day 50th anniversary in 2020. The "Youth for Earth" challenge is a campaign for youth to showcase their environment-friendly actions and tell the world that change starts from them. It is about work on the ground that results in a change for a more sustainable planet. Youth (age between 16-24 years) participated by submitting an environment activity conducted by them (between 22nd April 2019 to 30th June 2020), in the form of a written report (before & after) and short video of 3-5 minutes. Selected activity by the youth group was conducted within their campus or in the community nearby. The project/activity was based on the five categories: air, water, energy, waste and biodiversity.

We had received around 50 projects PAN India even when schools and colleges were shut during this pandemic. All received projects were evaluated on different parameters by our 5 esteemed judges. Two of our judges Dr. Shyamala Mani, Professor, Waste Management and Environmental Health, National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and Ms Alka Tomar, President and Founder, Centre for Environment Communication (CEC) announced the results. We had top 5 finalists to share the story and ground action they are taking to tackle the environmental issues during the webinar.



#### Our Jury

Dr. Shyamala Mani, Professor, Waste Management and Environmental Health, National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)



Dr. Shyamala Mani, Professor, Waste Management and Environmental Health. National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), her projects have received international recognition including the UNCHS Global 100 award for Community based waste management and Low-cost sanitation in slums in Bangalore, the Plasticon India award for innovative Plastics Reuse and Recycling, recognition by International Model Forest Network Canada and Regional Centres of Expertise of the UNU-IAS Japan for setting up the Regional Centre of Expertise at Kodagu (Coorg) for management of pilgrimage places. She worked as Programme Director, Waste and Resource Management at the Centre for Environment Education (CEE) for 25 years before she joined NIUA in December 2012. At NIUA, she has helped complete Operationalizing of the National Urban Sanitation Policy (NUSP) and waste management documentation project for PEARL.

Our Jury

# Ms Alka Tomar, President and Co-founder, Centre for Environment Communication (CEC)



With an experience of more two decades in environmental communication, outreach and capacity building, Alka Tomar is the founder of Centre for Environment Communication (CEC) and Centre for Youth (C4Y). She has worked on climate change, biodiversity, environmental education, water & sanitation and other developmental issues. She has specialisation in 'climate change communication, environmental research and communication'.

She is member of Expert Committee Panel of Augmenting Writing Skills for Articulating Research (AWSAR) of Department of Science and Technology (DST). Ms Tomar is also member of IUCN and co-chair of National Steering Committee, Climate Action Network (CANSA), South Asia. She is the LEAD Associate of the 20th Cohort of the LEAD India (Leadership in Environment and Development) Fellowship Programme. She had also participated in three days of Climate Reality Leadership Corp Training, Climate Reality, founded by Al Gore, Former US Vice President

She was also nominated and participated in US Department of State supported three weeks International Visitors Leadership Programme (IVLP) Fellow on "Climate Change and Clean Energy" from May 21 - June 08, 2012 in United States. Ms Alka has been a graduate and post graduate in environmental sciences

She has also organised various international and national deliberations and discourses on range of climate change issues across India with policy makers, local governments, climate experts, communication professionals and media.





#### **Team - Our Common Future**

10 Students of Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Gujarat restored a stream called Bhukhi nallah which flows through the centre of University covering 1.8 km distance. The students firstly did a quality assessment of the water and then with the help of volunteers removed the waste from and around the stream. This waste was then used for vermicomposting, upcycled and rest was sent to be gasified. They also organised community-based awareness programs, cleanliness and greening drives resulting in a clean and biodiversity rich stream.





#### **Team - Stercus**

A team of 04 students of Infant Jesus, MHS School Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu developed a cost-effective food composter called STERCUS, using which food waste can be processed and converted into compost. They took the help of a welder to convert a metal drum into a composter. They also spread awareness amongst the students to reduce the food wastage. Now, with the help of their composter, STERCUS they are able to convert 250 kg of food waste into compost every month.





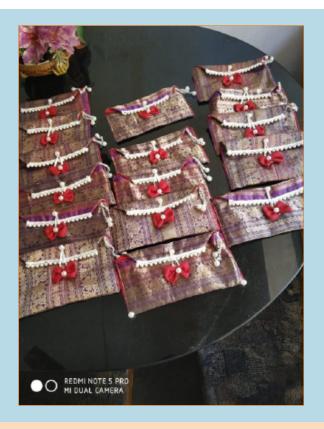


## **Best Project in Category Waste**



#### **Team - LSPS Eco Freak**

A team of 09 Students of Lakshmipat Singhania School, Odisha created a foot operated hand sanitizer dispenser for the small businessmen of their city so that customers can take the services without worrying during the COVID 19 times and these small businessmen do not have to experience loss. The students created these dispensers with the waste products easily available in our houses like plastic bottle, pipe/wooden stick, and cotton/jute rope.





### **Team - Waste Troopers**

A team of 09 Students of KIIT University, Bhubaneswar took a project on reducing the wastage of papers. They collected more than 300 used notebooks after the end of the term and segregated the used and unused pages. Then the segregated pages were sent for recycling and with the unused pages the students created 200 notebooks which were distributed amongst the under privileged children.







# **Best Project in Category Air**

#### **Team - Earth Warrior**

A team of 07 Students of Ramjas School, RK Puram took it upon themselves to do something about the poor quality of air. They did street plays, dance performances and organised a rally in their community to spread awareness about clean air. They also organised an interactive session with the drivers to discuss idling of the vehicles which causes pollution. They joined hands with organisations to get air quality sensors installed in their school.





## **Messages for Youth**



Dr. Christa Henze Pedagogue and Academic senior counsellor, Faculty of Biology, University of Duisburg-Essen addressed the youth and mentioned as how today's youth is social and environmental aware about the issues. They have the passion and energy to lead our society as one globe as low carbon and resilient future. It is always crucial and important to share experiences of programmes and projects that you have learnt so that others can learn and replicate without reinventing the wheel. Youth's contribution is important to advance for green learning and climate resilience development for the future. Youth are youth ambassadors and they are able to educate and inform crucial mass of pears, parents, friends and communities for education for sustainable development. She also focussed that youth should involve in the identification, the design, implementation and solutions for ESD related communities or school problems or community related problems. Their activities clearly demonstrate that it is time to change and to act therefore we should work together and make better world.

and important to share experiences for programmes and projects that you have learnt so that others can learn and replicate without reinventing the wheel.

# Mr. Pradip Burman, Chairman, Mobius Foundation

Concluded the webinar sharing his thoughts with the youth listening to him. He talked about technology as it has brought up into the mess and technology will lead us out of the mess as well. It is our future, our voice and our planet and we are responsible for making the planet liveable. We are already deteriorating and far behind the in terms of air pollution, renewable energy and it is the time now for the curve to rise and turn back the clock to do it. Practical things done by youth are important to change the environment on the ground reality. Education is the key to change our mind-set and changing our modes of action. He mentioned that 1 in 8 deaths are due to air pollution and is the biggest threat to the world. He also added special emphasis on Teachers training on which The Climate Reality Project India is working. Team work and sharing are the two important factors youth should look at and work upon. We should involve youth in the big movement which will force political leaders to take action towards environment.



Education is the key to change our mind-set and changing our modes of action.

The session was concluded with a vote of thanks from **Ms Archana Kushwaha**, **Mobius Foundation**, thanked all the speakers on behalf of ICSE 2020 team for gracing the presence and sharing the opinion both the days. She also thanked all the youth participants who showcased the projects and their impactful efforts.

# **Glimpses of Two-Day Webinar**

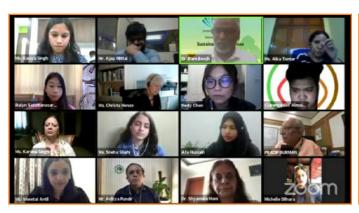














### **CAMPAIGN REPORT**



#### **Platforms**

The campaign garnered 3,411 impressions on Facebook, 4,001 on Instagram, and 4,819 on Twitter. The **LIVE** had a reach of 2,274 with 240+ engagements. Series of post, videos and stories/reels were designed to generate engagement

The Campaign was divided in to two parts: THROWBACK and ICSEIndia2020

**Throwback**: With this the Success of ICSEIndia2019 was refreshed with the series of quoted and videos of the speakers and eminent dignitaries

ICSEIndia2020: Focused on the theme of the webinar, speakers profiling and Youth

Platforms	No of Videos	Reach/Impressions	Engagement/ Engagement Rate
Facebook	5	1,47,205	885
Instagram	5	1,79,000	165
Twitter	5	1,710	4.15%





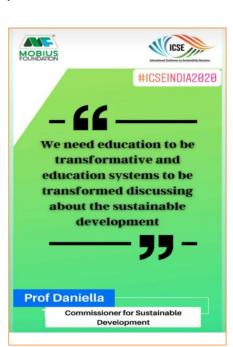
### ► ICSE INDIA 2020



Platforms	No of	posts	Reach/Impressions	Engagement/Engagement Rate
Facebook	1	4	3,411	196
Instagram	1	4	3,667/4,001	348
Twitter	1	4	4,819	121/2.51%











Day 1

Mobius Foundation was live.
Published by Mobius Foun [2] - 10 Se



Reach 2,274

Engagement 240

Day 2





## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION (ICSE) FORUM



#### **About ICSE Forum**

ICSE Forum was created as a follow up of the recommendations of the 4th Technical Advisory Committee of the ICSE, held on 31st October 2019. The objective of the Forum is to provide a platform for continuous exchange of ideas, networking and for providing strategic direction and leadership to strengthen sustainability education with national, regional and international professionals and development of future activities in this domain.

#### World Environment Day, June 5, 2020

World Environment Day is celebrated on June 5, annually to encourage awareness and environmental protection. According to the United Nations, "the celebration of this day provides us with an opportunity to broaden the basis for an enlightened opinion and responsible conduct by individuals, enterprises, and communities in preserving and enhancing the environment."

#### **World Environment Day 2020 theme**

The theme of World Environment 2020 is 'celebrating biodiversity' - a concern that is both urgent and existential. The fact is that the current environmental crisis is a warning that we must heed collectively. Recent events, from bushfires in Brazil, the United States, and Australia to locust infestations

across East Africa – and now, a global disease pandemic - demonstrate the interdependence of humans and the webs of life, in which they exist. We must now fundamentally rethink our relationship with the living world, with natural ecosystems and their biodiversity.

The foods we eat, the air we breathe, the water we drink and the climate that makes our planet habitable all come from nature. For instance, each year, marine plants produce more than a half of our atmosphere's oxygen, and a mature tree cleans our air, absorbing 22 kilos of carbon dioxide, releasing oxygen in exchange. Despite all the benefits that our nature gives us, we still mistreat it. That is why we need to work on that. That is why we need this Observance.

World Environment Day, hosted by Colombia this 2020, is the most renowned day for environmental action. Since 1974, it has been celebrated every year on 5 June: engaging governments, businesses, celebrities and citizens to focus their efforts on a pressing environmental issue.













### **World Environment Day 2020**

International Webinar and Principal's Conclave on

# SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION IN COVID ERA

June 4 & 5, 2020, 17:30 to 19:30 hrs IST (GMT + 5:30)

The two-day International Webinar was organized as part of the ICSE Forum to commemorate the World Environment Day, by Mobius Foundation, UNESCO New Delhi The Climate Reality Project India and other eminent partners. The webinar deliberated on the inter-linkages between COVID-19 pandemic, biodiversity and how sustainability education can be a strategic asset to address both the environment and pandemic challenge. The objective was to sensitize teachers, principals and educators about sustainability concerns and provide an opportunity for partnership between schools and research networks in ESD. The webinar was conducted over two days so as to accommodate the wider views from stakeholders and represent them holistically.

- DAY I: Opening of the International Webinar and Principals' Conclave
- DAY II: International Webinar and the world environment day event

ICSE Forum was created as a follow up of the recommendations of the 4th Technical Advisory Committee of the ICSE, held on 31st October 2019. The objective of the Forum is to provide a platform for continuous exchange of ideas, networking and for providing strategic direction and leadership to strengthen sustainability education with national, regional and international professionals and development of future activities in this domain.



# **International Webinar and Principals' Conclave**

The webinar was chaired by **Dr. Ram Boojh, CEO Mobius Foundation**. It was attended by 160 +
participants. The online broadcast was further
viewed by 6000+ viewers from all across the
globe on through social media. Speaking on the
occasion, Dr. Boojh emphasized on the awareness
of environmental actions and interlinkage of
biodiversity, COVID 19 and education. He stated
that COVID-19 is the greatest disruption in
reshaping educational system. Quoting the latest
UNESCO figures, he mentioned that around 1.3
billion learners are not able to attend schools/
colleges or universities due to the pandemic. He

emphasized that the pandemic is also bringing up new trends in our lifestyles such as virtual meetings, informal learning, and sustainability values, including Yoga, Namaste, social distancing, work from home virtual offices and teaching learning spaces which are becoming the new normal. While highlighting the role of technology as a great equalizer and multiplier, he cautioned s about its limitations such as internet access lack of proper devices and new challenges that have emerged for evaluation and examinations.



### The webinar was inaugurated by Mr. Atul Bagai, Director, UNEP India office.

He gave a comparative evaluation on how sustainability education and bio-diversity are inversely proportional. Sustainability Education grows at an arithmetic rate; however owing to climate changes, species extinction is increasing at a geometric rate. If we are making the communities aware about environment degradation, how it is that education is leading us to "want based lifestyle" instead of living more sustainably we are harming the environment to its extreme levels. Talking about biodiversity, he declared that 1st Jan 2021 will mark the starting of "Decade of Ecosystem Restoration". In the same context he added that no other incident has brought forward the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem, as this pandemic crisis has done. He stated that humans have always exploited the environment and eco-system and this current crisis has opened new horizons for us humans to work towards more balanced and sustainable lifestyle, where we create an equilibrium between human activities and the environmental activities through sustainability education.

Mr. Atul Bagai joined UN Environment's Ozone Action programme under the Montreal Protocol as the Regional Officer for South Asia in 2000 and served as Senior Regional Coordinator to build the capacity of subregional networks in Asia and enable them to meet the compliance targets under the Montreal Protocol. In that capacity, he spearheaded and led some innovative initiatives with the Executive Committee of the Multilateral



Fund. Prior to joining UN Environment, Atul worked with the Government of India for 17 years in a number of senior positions such as Chief of Staff to two Ministers at the federal level (Ministry of Finance and Ministry of External Affairs) and to a Chief Minister at the provincial level. He also served as the Ozone Cell Director at the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Mr. Bagai, an Indian national, holds a Post-Graduate degree in History from the University of Delhi.

Mr. Kartikeya V Sarabhai, Founder and Director,
Centre for Environment Education (CEE) gave
key note address saying that sustainability
education should take into consideration the
social, economic and environment as pillars. The
implications of COVID 19 can be seen through
change in pollution levels and carbon levels which
indicates that human activities contribute huge
amount in polluting the environment and it has also
shown how resilient the nature is. COVID 19 has
taught us that we seldom looked upon the threats
and their scale. We tend to see and evaluate the
effect on 9 million of species but we overlook
trillion of microbes. He announced the launch of
"Mighty Microbes" program by CEE and UNEP to

make people understand the concept of microbes and its impact on immunity and human body. He concluded by adding that the way forward for sustainability education is to involve people of diverse functions like civil society, NGOs and educational institutions.



Mr. Sarabhai has served on several committees of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India including greening India's formal education system and initiatives for biodiversity education. Mr. Sarabhai has long been associated with IUCN, and was the chair of South and South-East Asia, IUCN Commission on Education and Communication. Mr. Sarabhai was instrumental in initiating SASEANEE, the South and Southeast Asian Network for Environment Education. He was a member of the Indian delegation to UNCED at Rio and WSSD at Johannesburg and was co-author of India's report for UNCED.

To involve people and students, Denmark based Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) has a program called Eco Schools that engage youth of today to protect the planet of tomorrow. Dr. Pramod Sharma, Senior Director of Education, FEE talked about how FEE responded to COVID 19 challenge and is trying to bridge the digital divide. COVID 19 has shifted the schools to home which allowed the students to appreciate the change and understand the nature. FEE has also initiated different programs like "Look out of window" and "Learning about forests (LEAF)" customized specially for COVID Era. He also threw light on the concept of inter-generational education; where a child gets to spend time with their family. Programme like "Care and Share" initiated talks with grandparents and brought out suggestions and solutions from home environment itself. FEE is supporting organizations which are focused on education. He said education has shifted from content to skill and suggested that a lot of these skills can be developed at home. On e-learning, he shared that FEE published free articles and resources for the schools on topics like energy conservation, water, biodiversity, litter, transport and health management through Handprint initiative.



Mr. Pramod has over 17 years of experience working with environmental education and Education for Sustainable Development. As Senior Director of Education, he is looking after the overall programme development, administration, supervision, and evaluation of the three formal educational programmes (Eco-Schools, LEAF, and YRE).

To inculcate the sense of conservation of energy, water and other aspects of environment it is required that the campus in which students learn should be green and sustainable. Ms. Seema Bali, Vice Principal, St. Mary's School, Dwarka, New Delhi focused on the importance on how green campus helps in sustainability education. She mentioned that the impact of COVID 19 in education is as serious as the impact on economy of the country. The problems in post COVID 19 era would be right from sanitizing the pencil to the bus in schools. The IGBC GOLD rated building of his school focused on green campus activities which have turned sustainable, healthy and happy. School can be turned into live green labs by taking care of the air, water, energy & biodiversity and integrating them into curriculum consciously. The schools have to reorient their SOPs post lockdown era, she concluded.



Seema Bali is Vice Principal, St. Mary's School,
Dwarka, India and has 20 years' experience in
teaching. Equipped with a Master's degree in
Science and Diploma in Industrial Pollution and
Control, she is also a Climate Leader at Mr. Al
Gore's (former Vice President of the USA) The
Climate Reality Project. She is a chosen Tetra
Pak Safe Food Ambassador and is the recipient
of the Best Project award for Reducing Carbon
Footprints—Approach towards a sustainable school

community from CBSE on National Education
Day. Also, under her, project Constructive use of
Tetra Pak cartons to sound-proof a room received
a Special Award for Environment Management
by the Ministry of Environment & Forests,
Government of India.

The challenges and solutions are different in different regions. After the Indian perspective of education, the webinar moved to international perspective of sustainability education. Mr. Ben Green, Geography Teacher and Head of Outdoor Education Whitgift School, London talked on introducing Global Citizenship into the curriculum. He shared that students have a lot of responsibility; we have offloaded them with, till this time. They will be tackling with the problems like carbon levels, marine and air pollution and will be asked for solutions. It is our responsibility to prepare them for this challenge and work towards offering them a better future. By introducing Global Citizen Stewardship into the curriculum and strategies like traditional knowledge from each location, we can teach them to be more prepared and have a broader outlook for global environment protection. This can be taught from practical actions that too from a very young age/class. He gave insight on another important aspect, i.e. to identify what the students like to do, and observe when they turn rebellious. He quoted that this very observation made Greta, the voice of millions as she has elevated by her rebellious nature though for a larger good. The way forward, according to him is that students should be allocated focused domains of sustainable education as per his/her liking.



Mr. Ben Green, Geography Teacher and Head of Outdoor Education Whitgift School, London. Having graduated with a 2:1 in Environmental Science from the University of East Anglia in 1996, he spent 4 years flying helicopters in the Royal Air Force. A career in education then followed and he have spent the last 15 years teaching Geography, running the outdoor education and DofE programmes and most recently, introducing Global Citizenship into the curriculum. He is passionate about the absolute need for the current generation of students to have sustainability at the forefront of education.

Ms. Sumedha Jayaweera, Principal, St. Paul's Girls' School, Colombo, Sri Lanka shared her thoughts from our neighboring country Sri Lanka. There, the general education system initiated first curriculum report of new millennium to prepare the young minds of the nation for an emerging complex and dynamic future while resolving a host of other problems. The new learning and teaching environment is coming together to allow them to move in a new role altogether. She added, as one is adapting through new conditions, it is essential

to have the technology integrated knowledge and skills among the students. She shared that teachers are also facing lot of challenges like, their reluctance to use the technology in the teaching process (due to lack of experience), inadequate computer integration etc. In E-learning, one of the challenges with weak students is that they cannot cope up with online teaching; they need personal guidance and real classroom environment to generate interest to learn. The possible solution she suggested was to have more knowledge exchange among the students, so they learn from each other. The web based online lectures should be used more in the learning process which are freely available.



The principal Mrs. Sumedha Jayaweerawas rewarded with the service excellence award for the most innovative Principal of 2016 by the Rotary Club Colombo for the development she had achieved in school in all physical educational and spiritual aspects of the students. The principal was privileged to participate and present her research project on the English Educational conference held in Solo, Indonesia in 2016. In 2017 the principal was awarded as the best principal of the

western province by the provincial educational office. The madam principal is a member of the panel of Judges in international school award. She also serves as an internationally recognized teacher trainer at the British Council, Colombo. The principal, Mrs. Sumedha Jayaweera renders her service to the nation as a resource person of the national institute of education since 2012 as a certified teacher trainer and lecturer. The Principal, is a silver medalist Umpire of the netball federation of Sri Lanka and currently she serves as the President of the handball association of Sri Lanka.

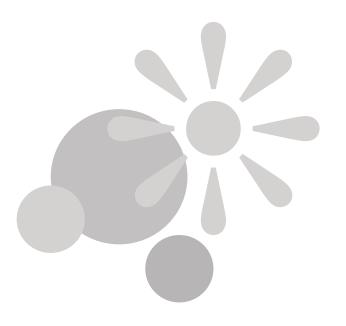
To start the Principals' Conclave and breaking out in the smaller groups, Mr. Aditya Pundir, Country Manager, Climate Reality India, gave a whole new perspective of the impact of COVID 19. The three main challenges he put forward were:

- 1. COVID
- 2. Global Recession and
- 3. Climate Change.

He threw light on threats greater than COVID 19, as we might have vaccine for the COVID 19 but not for climate change. He suggested that use of technology to create a solution for any kind of

change is the one and common solution at any level and it can be done only through education. We have to focus to educate the young minds to use technology with minimum damage caused to nature.

After this, the participants were divided in to 10 groups of 7 members each to discuss the challenges, solutions of education in COVID era and why inculcation of sustainability education is important. These groups had an open, free flowing discussion taking views from principals and stakeholders from the education sector with a moderator and volunteer to note their views. Key points on thematic areas were shared by each principal, which later helped the wider audience to have an insight of the education system in the COVID 19 era.





# **International Webinar and the World Environment Day Event**

Dr Ram Boojh, CEO, Mobius Foundation started the programme moderated the Day 2 event by a brief recap of the proceedings of the Day 1 of the webinar. He highlighted the significance of observing the world environment day during the unprecedented covid pandemic by celebrating biodiversity and nature.



Dr. Ram Boojh is an environment professional with rich experience of working with the United Nations, Government, academic and research institutions, civil society and international organizations in the field of environment, sustainable development, climate change, biodiversity, science policy, hydrology, disaster risk reduction, world natural heritage, education for sustainable development etc. He served the UNESCO South Asia Cluster Office in New Delhi during 2007-2018 as Programme Specialist/Head of the Natural Sciences Unit, coordinated the South & Central Asia MAB Network (SACAM) as its Secretary. Currently he is associated with the Mobius Foundation, as Director Programmes specifically involved in organizing an International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE 2019) held on 9-10 September 2019.

Mr. Ashok Pandey Chairperson Council for Global **Citizenship Education** presented the proceedings of breakout sessions held on the 4th June 2020. He talked about the themes discussed during breakout sessions and how COVID and post COVID would impact education in times to come and what should be the way forward? He shared the collective wisdom given by all the breakout group participants. Teachers from across the world especially developing countries had serious concern on digital infrastructure (internet and electricity availability etc.) to have the new normal of 'Online Education'. 1.7 billion people all over the world have been sitting at home for more than 70 days and reaching out to each one of them has been a challenge. 90 % students have not gone to campuses since COVID Breakdown and they are missing social and emotional learning. Further, he added that shift is towards hybrid education and infrastructure has to be build up to support blended learning which is a challenge for policy makers and other stakeholders.

There ought to be more case studies on Green Schools, how blend between human beings and nature can be reinvented? Skill building will be a new initiative once social distancing is over and students can be empowered with the theme of one people one planet, that encompass 'Vasudhev Kutumbukam', the underlying philosophy of Indian Vedas.

He concluded with emphasis on collective action so as to produce a new design of learning,

commitment to SDGs, fostering beautiful relationship between human and nature. Lastly, came the words of wisdom that this period will also pass and there will be a rainbow after the rain.



Mr. Ashok K Pandey is the Chairperson of the Council for GCED. His professional career as an educator and a school leader has spanned over three decades. He is currently the Director of Ahlcon Group of Schools. Earlier, for 17 years, he had served as the Principal of Ahlcon International School, ranked amongst the best in India. Mr. Ashok is an active partner to the UN's Act4SDGs campaign and has been at the forefront of fostering United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals in various schools across India, through his initiative SDG4QEducation.

### Dr Huma Masood National Programme Officer Gender and Education, UNESCO New Delhi

formally opened the technical session of the programme. She said that we should address collectively the implications of COVID 19 on education for sustainable development. "We are literally consuming the mother earth that sustains us and the only positive thing of this pandemic is that the environment has improved drastically". Further, she posed a question that reduced human activities has had such large and immediate impact on planet and how do we maintain it?

However, transformation of the education system in COVID Era should look at pedagogical revolution in sustainability education. Quality teaching is a prerequisite for quality education and pivotal role of teacher would be in bridging gaps between education and environment. Online teaching brings prominent, excellent visuals like documentaries; 3D artifices which can enhance the understanding of the students. Apart from this, the ground reality of India and socio economic factor should also be taken into consideration, alternate method to online learning to be identified and explored for the students that may include broadcasting method on television or on radio, align school to operate in areas for social distancing, pre-recorded lessons through ICT with full consideration for children marked with disability as internet penetration is still an issue. Lifestyle adopted during the lockdown should be continued after the lockdown to lower the impact on the environment. She concluded by saying that on the brighter side, the pandemic has forced many changes and this crisis must be viewed as an opportunity to save our mother earth.



Dr. Huma Masood, Programme Officer, Gender and Education Specialist, UNESCO New Delhi cluster Office for South Asia is a PhD and an MPhil in "Regional Development - Applied Social Sciences" with research on - "Educational and Occupational paradigms in social and economic policies for women in India", from premier Jawahar Lal Nehru University, New Delhi, India. At UNESCO, she is also the Gender and Education in Emergencies (EiE) focal point for sector and the Office. Her focus largely in the Education Sector is SDG 4 and its 10 target areas and expected Results. However, she has been very actively involved in cross cutting themes like Gender, Youth, ICTs, ESD (Education for Sustainable Development), GCED (Global Citizenship Education) and vulnerable groups like Persons with Disabilities.

Ms. Donna Goodman Founder and Executive **Director, Earth Child Institute (ECI)** talked on how to learn and live in a more sustainable way thus fulfilling the vision of a new, brighter future. She emphasized on the need to have changes in the curriculum around the world aided by effective tools like Zoom and Google classrooms, compounded with values based education that aids in self-learning. She spoke about various domains such as reading, writing, physical fitness, human values and respect for all forms of life. She gave a new perspective on technical subjects like math and science and how they can be taught in a more fun and stimulating way. Green Jobs should be a part of mid-senor curriculum encompassing future trends like disasters, risk management, renewable energy that may be aided by global collaborations in the curriculum. She mentioned about her upcoming book ECOMASTERS: A Planet in Peril which has superheroes adventure stories and training centers for students and parent at different locations.



Donna has been a champion of the rights and participation of child and young people in the environment sector for more than 25 years. Her international development work has been widely published by UN partners including UNICEF, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Health Organization (WHO) and others. In the private sector, her work has been

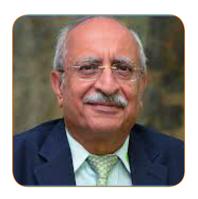
published by McGraw-Hill, Turner Broadcasting for Cartoon Network and MTV through production of a documentary special program about water featuring JayZ. She has documented and evaluated water, sanitation and hygiene, environmental education, climate change adaptation and child participation initiatives and activities in close to seventy (70) of countries worldwide.

Ms. Gayatri Raghwa, Environment Education **Consultant, UNEP** shared her views on Education: Building back better. She added that one should take whatever topic is trending in his/her mind as a student and have a more holistic approach for it with environment theme added to it. We need to deliver concrete deliverables on ground as far as sustainability is concerned. While the COVID gives the golden opportunity to talk about the clean environment but we have to connect all the dots. She spoke about Tide turner's plastic challenge which has three levels of engagement with the lower ones having a lot of on ground practical learning. Owing to lockdown, whole approach has been changed and still they are received good response. They have developed largest online programme 'Earth School Adventure' where 70 environmental professionals shared their resources designed for children who are under lockdown at home. Indian Children had shown great response to the programme and were the second largest in number after USA. There is one disadvantage that online learning is generating 'divide between haves and have not's'. There ought to be public private model devised out so this gap can be bridged as soon as possible. In conclusion, she mentioned on how one can balance between online and on ground efforts once the lockdown is over.



Gayatri Raghwa is a global leader in environmental education, and an Advisor to the Global Environmental Education Partnership (GEEP). She exemplifies the very best in her field through her leadership, passion, as well as the inspiration she provides to others. She has worked to raise the profile of Environment Education since its inception at Abu Dhabi. She has worked as a volunteer, with an NGO, and with the government to promote EE. She also developed MoUs with EE organizations such as the NAAEE, CEE, AAEE and also from other parts of the world. She has developed resource materials such as books and manuals for varied audiences, regularly conducting training of trainer modules for school and college educators. She also contributes as a member to organizations such as the Zayed Future Energy Prize, Eye On Earth, and UNCSD Education. She has developed and run successful programs like the Enviro-spellathon, Sustainable Schools Initiative, Sustainable Campus Initiative for the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi.

Mr. Pradip Burman Chairman, Mobius Foundation, chair of the webinar talked about his views reflecting insights from both the days. He said that one should not forget what COVID 19 has taught us and we should take forward the learning, once the situation is normal. One should have the concept of global citizenship that actually propagates good practices on sustainability amongst other schools beyond boundaries of nations. Natural immunity is important and should be emphasized, teachers are the best medium to pass on the information. He also added that Population explosion is also one of the domains to be looked at and shared how his team is working on the subject of population stabilization through project "AAKAR". He concluded by saying that change has to be adapted and we have to bring change in the way teachers have to teach in COVID Era.



He was Chairman of the Rural Development
Foundation (between Aug 96 and July 99) — a part
of PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry. He has
interest in Social work, currently Founder Chairman
of Sundesh, an NGO supported by Dabur India
Limited, doing work in rural areas around Ghaziabad
(UP). Also, a trustee of the Climate Reality Project in
India which is a branch of Al'Gore's Climate initiative.
He is the Chairman of Mobius Foundation, a Trust
under which two Schools-one in Coorg, Karnataka
and another at Atrouli, Distt. Hapur (Uttar Pradesh),
are being established

The session was concluded with a vote of thanks from Mr. Aditya Pundir, Country Manager, Climate Reality Project India. He mentioned about efforts of their organization in this domain and promised to take forward these learning's through future ICSE Forums.



Aditya Pundir is the country manager for The Climate Reality Project India. He took over the branch in 2010 and is posted in New Delhi. He received his training on climate change in 2009 from U.S. Vice President Al Gore and was selected for Australian Leadership Awards Training 2013 in environment. He has worked extensively in the field of climate change and sustainability in India. Mr. Pundir is active in community leadership, has served as an honorary warden for civil defense, and as an editor of an environmental website. Mr. Pundir has authored two books on natural World Heritage sites for UNESCO, five environmental education CD-ROM's, and seven comics for children on environmental issues. He serves on consultation committees on climate change in India formed by UNDP, World Bank, and UNESCO.

#### **SPEAKERS**







### CAMPAIGN REPORT

### **ICSE Forum World Environment Day 2020**

The theme for World Environment Day is "Time for nature" thus the campaign will be focused around the topics as #ForNature or #TimeForNature through which it helped to generate awareness through our social posts about emerging issues of environmental concern.



### Below is the Reach of Campaign on each Platform



On Instagram, the world environment day campaign reach was 8,451 Reach with 5,320 impressions

Total No. Post	Post Interaction	Reach	Likes	Impression
16	40	8,451	238	5,320



On Twitter, the world environment day campaign received 36 retweets with 8,283 impressions on tweets.

Total No. Post	Impression	Engagement	Likes	Retweet
16	8,283	442	190	36



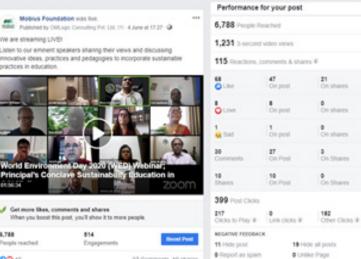
On Facebook, the world environment day campaign performed very well with 9,783reach, 43 shares on the posts and 523 likes on the posts.

Total No. Post	People Reached	Engagement	Likes	Share	Comments
16	9,783	982	523	43	245

# ▶ WED Webinar (#ICSEForum2020)

We had also done WED Webinar Live, below is the reach of the same.







The webinar posts on twitter received 10,095 impressions with 36 Retweets.

Impression	Engagement	Likes	Retweet
415	18	5	2



On Instagram, we received a lot of likes on the posts with 3,990 impressions.

Engagement	Reach	Likes	Impressions
249	3,685	15,056	3,990



The webinar posts on Facebook reached 6,788 people with a good amount of engagement 514.

Views	People Reached	Engagement	Likes	Share	Comments
1,231	6,788	514	68	10	30

# **PROJECT AAKAR**

**Duration: May 2017 – Present** 



Committed to Sustainability 'Aakar' was intended to catalyse improvements in reproductive behaviour, impacting family size resulting in effective community action in selected districts of Uttar Pradesh. Mobius Foundation has been working for 3 years in 2 districts of Uttar Pradesh (Bahraich & Barabanki) for project Aakar.

Aakar has been designed to support the Government of India's commitment to population stabilization. Special attention has been given to Project Aakar, in synergy with the guidelines of the Ministry of Health & Family Planning and State policies. The Mobius project, "Aakar", is focused on building awareness, influencing attitudes, related to contraceptive measures among the target group. This project is strengthening Govt. initiatives, changing the mindset of couples and the community towards family planning measures. Aakar reaches out to 200 interior villages of Barabanki & Bahraich. It also sets up a counseling desk during vaccination drives etc at health centers & village level.

During COVID times we have started supplies of contraceptives to the village community through Asha workers. There is a mobile reach out to registered numbers where the beneficiaries are informed about the availability of contraceptives in their respective village.

#### Bronze for Mobius at Flame Awards Asia 2020:

Mobius Foundation has bagged Bronze Metal for its campaign 'Dampatti no 1' under 'Project Aakar' in the prestigious category of 'INTEGRATED & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN OF THE YEAR' is bestowed by Flame Awards Asia 2020. Our Project Aakar is expanding to 3 more districts of Uttar Pradesh and getting modulated for a greater role in collaboration with Directorate of Family Welfare, Government of Uttar Pradesh and National Health Mission, Government of Uttar Pradesh.

#### **Proactive Participation in State-led Programs:**

We have been actively supporting lead programs of Directorate of Family Welfare, Government of Uttar Pradesh department like World population day for the past 3 years. We have started participating in KHUSHAL PARIVAR DIWAS initiated recently.

















### **World Population Day Webinar**

# POPULATION AND SUSTAINABILITY IN COVID ERA

July 11, 2020, 11 00 - 12 30 hrs (IST)

Keeping in view the theme of the World Population Day 2020, and in line with the vision of Mobius Foundation on population stabilization and sustainable living, the ICSE-2 Forum webinar titled "POPULATION AND SUSTAINABILITY IN COVID ERA" was organised on Saturday July 11th, 2020 between 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM (IST) by Mobius Foundation in partnership with CEE (Centre for Environment Education) and The Climate Reality Project India.

The overall objective of the webinar was to observe the World Population Day to enhance awareness of population issues, including their relations to the environment and development in the context of COVID19.

The webinar was chaired by Ms. Shailaja Chandra Former Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India.



### ▶ Dr Ram Boojh, CEO, Mobius Foundation

moderated the discussion and started with a welcome note to the distinguished speakers and participants. While setting the tone of the webinar. He emphasized on the linkages between Population, Sustainability and Environment. He introduced project "Aakar" by Mobius Foundation that's covering 200 villages of the two highly populated districts of Uttar Pradesh, Baharaich and Barabanki and focusing on the health counselling of married couples and school students falling in the marriageable group of 17 - 20 years.

He stated that the rising human population is the driving force behind the unprecedented loss of biodiversity which may lead towards the sixth mass extinction. He further stressed on the need to address issues related to population dynamics including fertility rate, access to sexual and reproductive health care, education and empowerment of women as part of overall strategy for sustainable development as these undermine the achievement of most of the SDGs.



Mr. Kartikeya V Sarabhai, Founder and Director,
Centre for Environment Education (CEE) in his
keynote address spoke on 'population in the
context of sustainability and universal education'.
He focused on the concept of social justice
and recommended to focus more on SDG 4 on
education as there is a huge connection between
Literacy-Fertility Rate and Human Development.
He opined that the status of women should be
improved in society to bring the viable change in
the population status. He further emphasized on
the need to increase the handprint (action towards
sustainability) and decrease the footprint (negative
impact of human activities on planet).



Foundation of India delivering her special address in the webinar said that the best contraceptive approach to control population is education with no side effects. She stated that women, especially young women do not have access to temporary methods of family planning thus undergo large number of abortions which further lead to lowering their physical and mental health She recommended for increased investment in Family Planning services to make contraceptives accessible to all strata of women in society. Health education and social communication strategy will play a crucial role in transforming regressive social norm for women, she further stated.



Prof. R B Bhagat, International Institute for
Population Sciences, Mumbai spoke on correlation
between population stabilisation and migration. He
focused on having a formal institutional setup for
migrant workers to ensure sustainable livelihood
opportunities for them in the times of emergencies. By
providing the social security, better living standard and
urban inclusion will help to manage and monitor the
migrant population in more organised way. He further

emphasized that even SDGs talk about managing migrant population for sustainable development.



# Ms. Shailaja Chandra Former Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India,

thanked Mobius Foundation and Panellist for their time and efforts put forward during the webinar. She said that we need to reach deep in to rural regions to address the real issues of population stabili-sation and family planning. There is a possibility of having a reverse problem with rapidly decreasing fertility rate that there will not be enough care-givers for elderly and this is going to be the new kind of population issue. Momentum of population growth will not come to a halt, thus there is a need to work for developing skilled and healthy population for sustainable living.

The session was concluded with a vote of thanks from Col Santhosh Kumar (Retd) Head – Project WESc Mobius Foundation and concluded by the quote "The greatest threat to a planet is the belief that someone else will save it".

### QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

Interactive Question and Answer session brought to light some interesting issues which were taken up by panellists. Here are the highlights:

- Issues related to majority vs minority population should not be the point of discussion for population stabilisation. These parameters are irrelevant to work upon, the focus should be on social and economic status.
- Strong communication strategy should be devised to reach youth and bring about change.
- Instead of comprehensive sex education we should focus on comprehensive health education which includes awareness on child marriage, contraception, social issues in adolescent etc.
- As fertility rate declines in India sex ration is going to get worse and reach adverse proportions just like china. This will in turn impact gender equality as well. Strict legal measures need to be put in place to maintain sex ratio. Policies like "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" should be strongly advocated.
- The right attitude towards a girl child can only be created by educating the families and empowering women.

### **Theme of the Webinar**



### **CAMPAIGN REPORT**

A focused campaign was curated to build awareness around growing population and its relation to SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). We had picked 10 topics to be addressed and projected to audience to garner there attention towards the real crisis and to build upon the interest for the upcoming Webinar on the occasion of World Population Day 2020.



#### Below is the Reach of Campaign on each Platform



On Instagram, the world population day campaign reach was 39,977 with 4,368 impressions.

Total No. Post	Engagement	Reach	Likes	Impression
10	325	39,977	34,136	4,368



On Twitter, the world population day campaign received 67 retweets with 13,874 impressions on tweets.

Total No. Post	Impression	Engagement	Likes	Retweet
10	13,874	1,038	622	67

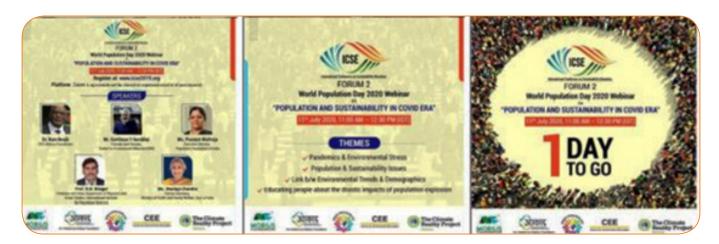


On Facebook, the world population day campaign performed very well with 1,04,972 reach, 57 shares on the posts and 20,700 likes on the posts.

Total No. Post	People Reached	Engagement	Likes	Share	Comments
10	1,04,972	22,562	20,700	57	107

Partner share our Post - 1 (cee\_india)

**WEBINAR POST**: We had also done Webinar specific postings which included countdown post, speakers profiling, theme of the webinar etc. Below is the reach of the same.





The webinar posts on twitter received 10,095 impressions with 36 Retweets.

Total No. Post	Impression	Engagement	Likes	Retweet
11	10,095	691	357	36



The webinar posts on Facebook reached to 42,493 people with a good amount of engagement 10,842.

Total No. Post	People Reached	Engagement	Likes	Share	Comments
11	42,493	10,842	10,918	15	29



On Instagram, we received a lot of likes on the posts with 3,990 impressions.

Total No. Post	Engagement	Reach	Likes	Impressions
11	249	3,685	15,056	3,990



**LIVE VIDEO** Partner share our Post - 1 (Climate Reality India)

Views	People Reached	Engagement	Likes	Share
655	2,310	304	27	10







#### **About Mobius Foundation**

Mobius Foundation, established in 2015, is a non-profit organization working towards environmental sustainability. With the objective of creating awareness, Mobius Foundation has been spearheading various educational programmes around the country. It is setting up a residential green school in Coorg, Karnataka and a Day School in Atrouli Village, Uttar Pradesh. The Project "Aakar" is promoting population stabilization, in the two districts of Uttar Pradesh (Bahraich and Barabanki) targeting 200 villages and will further roll out across five districts with highest birth rates. It educates people on the importance of reproductive health, family planning and increasing the uptake of contraceptives. Project "Sanjeevani" is a part of many ecological conservation projects undertaken by Mobius Foundation towards environmental sustainability. As many as 150 people, school students, youth, farmers, Self help group members, Kisan club members, officials of various departments and other NGOs have taken part in this plantation drive, at ARF R&D Centre of Chidana, Sonepat. There are many such project and participation by Mobius Foundation in various other sectors like Mobile Health Camps, School Support Programs, Solar Street Lights installation, Toilet Construction, Training & Awareness Program on food safety and natural farming practices. Mobius is always on move and in constant search of opportunities where it can contribute to the world in building a sustainable future.

Visit us at www.mobiusfoundation.in and contact us at info@mobiusfoudnation.in



