



## 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE-2022)

### DAY-1: 2<sup>nd</sup> Plenary Session

September 09, 2022 (Friday); Time: 14:00-15:30 (GMT +5:30)

On

### **Agenda Sustainability: The Road to Population Stabilization- How to Reach the Unreached?**

Venue: SCOPE Convention Centre, Auditorium

#### Background

The world's population is projected to reach 8 billion on 15 November 2022. As per the latest United Nations projections, global population is likely to grow to around 8.5 billion in 2030, 9.7 billion in 2050 and 10.4 billion in 2100. India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country during 2023. Also, India has already started experiencing a slowing down in population growth and a decline in fertility rates. This indicates that the country is on course to achieving population stabilization.

Rising human numbers have been a matter of concern for policy makers and common people alike given that the resources are finite. The world is struggling to meet the sustainability challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental pollution and degradation. India is also experiencing extreme weather conditions, air and water pollution, land degradation, flooding and depletion of freshwater resources due to climate change, impacting the urban and rural population equally. The climate change threatens to widen existing gender-based health disparities, especially in low- and middle-income countries. Also, there is a need to look into the consumption patterns in order to address the issues of equity and justice.

The nomenclature of population stabilization/limiting programmes has changed over the years, from family planning involving strict birth control measures to family welfare emphasizing on the benefits of health, wellbeing and social stability of well-planned small families. These changes also indicate the importance of non-coercive and sustainable approaches such as expanding access to health care, education, and economic opportunity; investing in girls' education; and ensuring family planning information and services are available to all who desire and need them. The importance of population stabilization was also linked to economic and equitable social development to promote



adoption of a small family norm. Education and Empowerment is considered to be the most important factor in stabilizing the population and also for saving the planet.

Mobius Foundation is working towards these concerns by linking environmental sustainability to population stabilization and implementing much-needed awareness and facilitation approaches of limiting family size in some of the high TFR districts in Uttar Pradesh, India. Foundation 's unique campaign, Mission Sustainability – Population vs Planet —was launched to create awareness about the impact of over-population on sustainability of the planet.

The Special Plenary Session organized by the Mobius Foundation, in collaboration with the Population Foundation of India (PFI), Population Balance and Population Media Centre, will deliberate on the broad-based issues and approaches of population stabilization along with linked sustainability concerns. The panellists will discuss about the current population trends, future scenarios and come out with possible roadmap for action for concerned stakeholders specifically policy makers and practitioners.

#### **Objectives:**

The overall objective of the session is to deliberate upon the linkage between population stabilization and sustainability concerns, status and trends of population growth and the role of education, empowerment and awareness in population stabilisation and sustainability of the planet.

**Outcomes:** Roadmap for population stabilisation and sustainability for intended target groups and general public.

#### **Program Schedule:**

<b>14:00-14:05</b>	<b>Moderator:</b> Dr. Ram Boojh, CEO, Mobius Foundation
<b>14:05-14:15</b>	<b>Opening remarks:</b> Mr. Pradeep Burman, Chairman, Mobius Foundation
<b>14:15- 15:00</b>	<b>Panel Discussion</b>
	• Ms Poonam Muttreja, Executive Director, Population Foundation of India
	• Dr (Ms) Nandita Bajaj, Executive Director, Population Balance, Montreal Canada (Online)
	• Mr. William Ryerson, Founder, Population Media Centre, USA (Online)
	• Ms. Andrea Wojnar, Resident Representative, UNFPA, India
	• Mr. Anand Sinha, Country Advisor, David and Lucile Packard Foundation
<b>15:00- 15:20</b>	<b>Open Discussion: Questions and Comments</b>
<b>15:20-15:30</b>	Concluding Remarks & Vote of Thanks: Dr Ram Boojh – CEO, Mobius foundation