



4th International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE-2022)

DAY 1: Parallel Session

September 09, 2022 (Friday); Time 16:00-17:30 hrs (GMT +5:30)

on

Eco-Restoration -For People, Nature & Climate

Venue: SCOPE Convention Centre, Bhabha Hall

Background

The world is facing severe challenges. Billions of people around the world are suffering the consequences of the climate emergency, food and water insecurity, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Ecosystems are an indispensable ally as we meet these challenges. Protecting them and managing their resources in a sustainable manner is essential. But just increasing the protection and sustainable management of our remaining natural landscapes and oceans will not be enough: the planet's degraded ecosystems and the huge benefits that they provide must also be restored.

By declaring the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, governments have recognized the need to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide for the benefit of both people and nature. The 2021–2030 timeline underlines the urgency of the task. Without a powerful 10-year drive for restoration, we can neither achieve the climate targets of the Paris Agreement, nor the Sustainable Development Goals.

This panel discussion will explain the crucial role played by ecosystems from forests and farmland to rivers and oceans, and charts the losses that result from our poor stewardship of the planet.

This we seek to achieve through effective and innovative landscapes and ecosystem management that prevents and halts degradation, and restores degraded ecosystems. The restoration of forest landscapes, farming, livestock and bee keeping, pollination should primarily contribute to restoring them to a healthy and stable state, so that they are able to provide ecosystem services and support human needs for sustainable production and livelihoods.

For example, around one third of the world's farmland is degraded, about 87 per cent of inland wetlands worldwide have disappeared since 1700, and one third of commercial fish species are overexploited. Degradation is already affecting the well-being of an estimated 3.2 billion people – that is 40 per cent of the world's population. Every single year, we lose ecosystem services worth more than 10 per cent of our global economic output.



Restoration on a global scale requires sustained investments. But there is growing evidence that it more than pays for itself. By engaging in restoration, everyone – from governments and businesses to civil society groups and individuals – can contribute towards resetting our relationship with nature.

Program Schedule

Name and affiliations of the Speakers	Role at the Session
Mr Praveen Garg, IAS (R) Advisor, Mobius Foundation	Chairperson
Dr Vinitaa Apte, Founder & Director, TERRE Policy Centre	Moderator
Dr Ninad Raut, Lead- Ecology & Biodiversity, Terracon Ecotech Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai	Panellist
Mr Pravin Bhagwat, Founder, 14 Trees Foundation	Panellist
Mr Amit Godse, Social Entrepreneur & Honey Bee Conservationist	Panellist
Ms Katharina Gehrig, Programme Manager, Global Nature Fund [Online]	Panellist