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भारतीय वन्यजीव संस्थान
Wildlife Institute of India

CONCEPT NOTE

MANGROVE RESEARCH IN INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT: RECENT ADVANCES, KNOWLEDGE GAPS AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

8 - 10 December 2021





Overview

Conservation and restoration of coastal ecosystems, including tidal salt marshes, seagrass meadows and mangrove forests (collectively called blue carbon (BC) ecosystems), offer excellent opportunities around nature-based solutions for climate mitigation and adaptation. The purpose of this three-day workshop is to serve as a knowledge exchange platform where advances and trends in mangrove research within Indian subcontinent will be discussed and information gaps will be identified. This webinar will allow interactions between mangrove researchers and help forge new partnerships and research collaborations among individuals and institutions for advancing mangrove scientific research in India.

Background

The significance of mangroves in maintaining coastal biodiversity, livelihoods, and mitigating climate change is widely recognized. The amplified awareness about the mangroves in India can be evidenced from the sharp increase in the number of peer-reviewed research publications over the past decade, especially on ecosystem services, carbon sequestration, and threats to mangroves. The growing interest in mangroves also provides an opportunity to address knowledge gaps through state of art techniques and multi-institutional collaborations, which will advance the understanding and management of Indian mangroves.

Goal and objectives

The goal of this online workshop is to bring together active mangrove researchers from academic and research institutions, government agencies and state entities to showcase the latest research findings from mangrove ecosystems within India. The discussions and deliberations will help in knowledge exchange and identifying future research directions. It will also help in identifying research priorities and possible approaches to address existing issues vis a vis mangrove conservation and management in the country.

Programme

A three-day virtual workshop (combined duration ~ 9 hours) is planned during 8 - 10 Dec, 2021 to allow exchange of knowledge among participants, facilitators and resource persons. This three-day event will focus on one thematic area each day. There will be one keynote speaker, two research talks and a panel discussion.

Themes for each day



Mangroves as nature-based solutions to climate change: Carbon sequestration, biophysical attributes and climate mitigation.



Mangroves for coastal resilience and biodiversity conservation: Climate adaptation, safeguarding coastal ecology and human well-being.



Recent advances in mangrove research and future perspectives: Regional and Indian mangrove research and opportunities to address existing gaps.



Early and mid-career researchers with active research focussed on India will be encouraged to share their new findings and its impacts. Seasoned academicians, conservationists and policy makers will be invited to share their experiences in a panel discussion.



Date and platform

This virtual workshop will be held over zoom and will consist of three hour Webinars each day on 08, 09, and 10 December 2021 (9:30 am - 12:30 pm IST).

Conference organizers



CIFOR/SWAMP

Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Indonesia is a global Centre of Excellence (CoE) in forestry research, capacity building, and policy engagement (<https://www.cifor.org/>). The Sustainable Wetlands Adaptation and Mitigation Program (SWAMP), a collaborative effort between CIFOR and US Forest service, exclusively focuses on providing policy makers with credible scientific information needed to make sound decisions relating to the role of tropical wetlands - especially mangroves - in climate change adaptation and mitigation.



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Wildlife Institute of India

Wildlife Institute of India

Wildlife Institute of India (WII) is an internationally acclaimed Institution (<https://www.wii.in/>), which had pioneered number of conservation projects in India and the neighbouring countries. The Institute is actively engaged in research, capacity building, outreach and policy related to the conservation of biodiversity. Coastal and marine ecosystems are among the major focus area of the Institute, and it strive to create site specific multi-disciplinary approaches inclusive of local community, researchers and managers to improve the management of coastal ecosystems in India.

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08 December 2021

Day 1

Theme – Mangroves as nature-based solutions to climate change

TIME (IST)	CONTENT	SPEAKER
09.30 am – 09.40 am	Opening	Dr. Rupesh Bhomia, CIFOR-ICRAF, Bogor, Indonesia
09.40 am – 09.50 am	Inaugural address	Dr. Dhananjai Mohan, Director, Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun
09.50 am – 10.00 am	Welcome address	Dr. Ravi Prabhu, Director Innovation, Investment and Impact, CIFOR-ICRAF, India
10.00 am – 10.25 am	Keynote 1: Blue carbon stocks in mangrove forests of Eastern India	Dr. Kakoli Banerjee, Department of Biodiversity and Conservation of Natural Resources, Central University of Odisha Landiguda, Koraput
10.25 am – 10.30 am	Group Photo	
Session I		
10.30 am – 10.50 am	Talk 1: Mangrove carbon stocks – Island's perspective	Dr. Ragavan P, Scientist, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi
10.50 am – 11.00 am	Break	
11.00 am – 11.20 am	Talk 2: Biogeochemical underpinnings and associated processes in coastal mangrove forests	Dr. Anirban Akhand Coastal and Estuarine Environment Research Group Nagase, Yokosuka, Kanagawa, Japan
Session II: Panel discussion		
11.25 am – 12.25pm	Perspectives in blue carbon research Moderator: Dr. Rupesh Bhomia	Panel members (12 min each + 24 min open discussions) Prof. Kathiresan Kandasamy, Centre of Advanced Study in Marine Biology, Annamalai University, Parangipettai Dr. Gurmeet Singh, National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Anna University Campus, Chennai
12.25 pm – 12.30pm	Concluding remarks/ Wrap up Day 1	Dr. Nehru Prabakaran, Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun



09 December 2021

Day 2

Theme – Mangroves for coastal resilience and biodiversity conservation

TIME (IST)	CONTENT	SPEAKER
09.30 am – 09.35 am	Opening	Dr. Nehru Prabakaran, Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun
09.35 am – 09.45 am	Welcome address	Prof. Sivakumar K, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun
09.45 am – 10.10 am	Keynote 2: Mangrove conservation: a success story built through multidisciplinary approach	Mr. N. Vasudevan, IFS PCCF, Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Limited, Nagpur
Session III		
10.10 am – 10.35 am	Talk 1: Life beneath the mangroves – role of mangrove benthic fauna in regulating ecosystem flows and services	Prof. Punyasloke Bhadury, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Kolkata
10.35 am - 10.45 am	Break	
10.45 am - 11.10 am	Talk 2: Social and ecological sustainability of coastal landscapes	Ms. Dina N Rasquinha, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, USA
Session IV: Panel discussion		
11.15 am - 12.15 pm	Contemporary issues on mangrove conservation in India Moderator: Dr. Nehru Prabakaran	Panel members (12 min each + 24 min open discussions) Prof. Saudarmini Das, Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), New Delhi Dr. R. Ramasubramanian, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai Prof. Ruchi Badola, Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun
12.15 pm - 12.25 pm	Concluding remarks/ Wrap up Day 2	Dr. Rupesh Bhomia, CIFOR-ICRAF, Bogor, Indonesia



10 December 2021

Day 3

Theme – Recent advances in mangrove research and future perspectives

TIME (IST)	CONTENT	SPEAKER
09.30 am – 09.35 am	Opening	Dr. Rupesh Bhomia, CIFOR-ICRAF, Bogor, Indonesia
09.35 am – 09.45 am	Welcome address	Dr. Rajarshi Dasgupta, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Kanagawa, Japan
09.45 am – 10.10 am	Keynote 3: How Mangrove Science can inform and influence policy	Prof. Daniel Murdiyarso, CIFOR-ICRAF, Bogor, Indonesia
Session V		
10.10 am – 10.35 am	Talk 1: Analysis of mangrove research in India over the last 50 years	Dr. Nehru Prabakaran, Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun
10.35 am – 10.40 am	Break	
10.40 am – 11.05 am	Talk 2: Mangroves research in SE Asia (Malaysia): Some insights for the way forward	Dr. Behara Stayanarayana, Associate Professor, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT, Malaysia)
Session VI: Panel discussion		
11.10 am – 12.10 pm	Recent advances in mangrove science New horizons and future actions Moderator: Dr. Rupesh Bhomia	Panel members (12 min each + 24 min open discussions) Dr. Shilpa Pandey, Birbal Sahni Institute of Paleosciences (BSIP), Lucknow Prof. Punyasloke Bhadury, Institute of Science Education and Research Kolkata Dr. Richard MacKenzie, US Forest Service, Washington DC, USA
12.10 pm – 12.20 pm	Talk 3: Priority questions in future mangrove science and effective conservation	Prof. Farid Dahdouh-Guebas & Ms. Meenakshi Poti Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Brussels, Belgium
12.20 pm – 12.25 pm	Concluding remarks/Conference wrap up	Dr. Nehru Prabakaran, Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun
12.25 pm – 12.30 pm	Vote of Thanks	Ms. Meenakshi Poti, Researcher Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Brussels, Belgium

CIFOR-ICRAF

The Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and World Agroforestry (ICRAF) envision a more equitable world where trees in all landscapes, from drylands to the humid tropics, enhance the environment and well-being for all. CIFOR and ICRAF are CGIAR Research Centers.

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