The Climate Reality Project
INDIA & SOUTH ASIA

THE CLIMATE PROJECT FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24



www.climatereality.org.in



FY 2023-24 KEY STATS

17000+
Teachers trained on Climate Change and SDGs

3.77 Lac
Trees planted in climate change affected areas and under GCP*

1.76 Lac
Youth reached out under GCP and other initiatives

25
Educational Institutes turned Green & won GCP Award

100+
Climate change events were held online and offline

*Green Campus Programme





WHAT'S **inside**

About Us 06
Our Board Trustees 07
Message from the Board 08

CLIMATE CHANGE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Green Campus Programme 11
5th International Conference on Sustainability Education 32
Youth Engagement 35

TREE PLANTATION 41

CLEAN ENERGY 45

AWARENESS, ADVOCACY & PARTNERSHIPS

Awareness & Advocacy 49
Social Media & Communications 57
Content on Climate Change Education And Awareness 59

CLIMATE REALITY LEADERS

Knowledge Exchange event, Phillipines 62
Session on 'Road To True Net-Zero' 63
Climate Reality Leaders Meet up in Bangladesh 63
Acts of Leadership 64

About Us

Who We Are

In 2006, the former Vice President of USA, and the Chairman, The Climate Reality Project Al Gore sparked an international conversation on climate change with his Academy Award-winning documentary, “An Inconvenient Truth.” It was just the beginning of a climate revolution, and a year later he founded The Climate Reality Project.

Today, Climate Reality is a diverse group of nature enthusiasts who’ve come together to solve the greatest challenge of our time. We have activists, cultural leaders, organizers, scientists, and storytellers, who are committed to building a sustainable future together.

The Climate Project Foundation

The Climate Project Foundation is an independent branch of The Climate Reality Project (International). It was established in March 2008 with the help of TERI. In 2009, it was incorporated as a trust in Mumbai with eminent Indians as trustees.

In addition to spreading awareness about climate change through training sessions and presentations, The Climate Project Foundation is focused on creating future leaders through its meticulously designed programs like the Green Campus Programme, which is spearheading educational institutes on the path of a sustainable future. We also have diversified milestone programs including Tree plantation and Youth empowerment as a part of our climate change mitigation strategy.

The India branch supports over 1500+ trained Climate Reality Leaders from India and South Asia region, who are taking climate actions at many levels.

The organization is also developing informative and educational content to sensitize and trigger climate action. Climate Reality has been working closely with partners and like-minded organizations, intending to strengthen India’s Paris commitments.

Our Board Trustees



KAMAL MEATTLE

Chairman Emeritus,
Paharpur Business Centre & Software Technology Incubator Park.



PRADIP BURMAN

Chairman,
Mobius Foundation & Ayurvet, formerly held leadership positions at Dabur.



KRISHAN KALRA

Former Secretary General
PHDCCI &
Former Additional Secretary General and Adviser, FICCI.



SHOVANA NARAYAN

Kathak Maestro,
Padmashri - 1992 & Sangeet Natak Academy Awardee in 1999. Retired from IAAS.



MOHAN M. DESHMUKH

Former President,
Maharashtra Chamber of Housing Industry (MCHI) & Advisor – Dr. D.Y. Patil University, Navi Mumbai.



> **Building community resilience and moving people out of harm's way requires swift and substantial changes in infrastructure and behaviour to both mitigate and adapt to this new reality. The Trust's Green Campus programme is working to address this through its interventions.**

Message from the Board

We are pleased to report on the Trust's work this year, which was aided by growing acceptance of our programs and a realization in society that climate change is a major threat to our well-being.

2023 will go down in history as the warmest year on record since 1850, with a 1.4°C rise in global temperature from the average, far surpassing previous records. The Paris Agreement aimed to limit temperature rise to 1.5°C to halt and reverse climate impacts. This raises the question: do we have the time and means to achieve this? Incessant climate disasters like the Himachal floods, heat waves, forest fires, and cyclones this year offered a glimpse of the future. These impacts are occurring globally, but unfortunately, South Asia, despite its low carbon emissions, is one of the worst affected regions.

The Green Campus programme has been running successfully across India, with a special focus on Maharashtra. This year, we expanded into Kashmir and Odisha. In Kashmir, with government and educational trust support, we launched the program in 10 districts, with 135 campuses joining and 460 teachers trained. In Maharashtra, we covered 62 campuses and trained 1414 teachers.

Another highlight this year was introducing the program into universities and colleges. Thirteen higher education institutions joined and are formulating policies to become more sustainable. We conducted several mobilization programs, details of which can be found in the report.

We have strengthened sustainability education and action by helping organize and participate in the annual international conference on sustainability education held in Delhi with Mobius, UNESCO, UNEP, and other stakeholders. This year, under our Youth For Earth campaign, 75 climate change solution-oriented projects were submitted. The winners were

awarded and recognized for their efforts.

Tree plantation is a highly effective tool for climate change mitigation. The Trust has been collaborating with the Forest Man of India, Shri Jadhav Payeng Padma Shree, on reforestation efforts in the Northeast. Two nurseries are being developed based on his model, and nearly 300,000 trees were planted this year under his guidance.

Access to green finance is crucial for solving the climate crisis. We are working to enable innovative ideas and organizations to access this funding. We conducted exploratory programs and will build on these with partners in the coming year. Events promoting electric vehicles (EVs) have been successful, and we plan to expand these efforts.

Climate Reality Leaders are an important part of our organization, and they carried out transformative work this year. We joined them at many events and amplified their message through our social media channels.

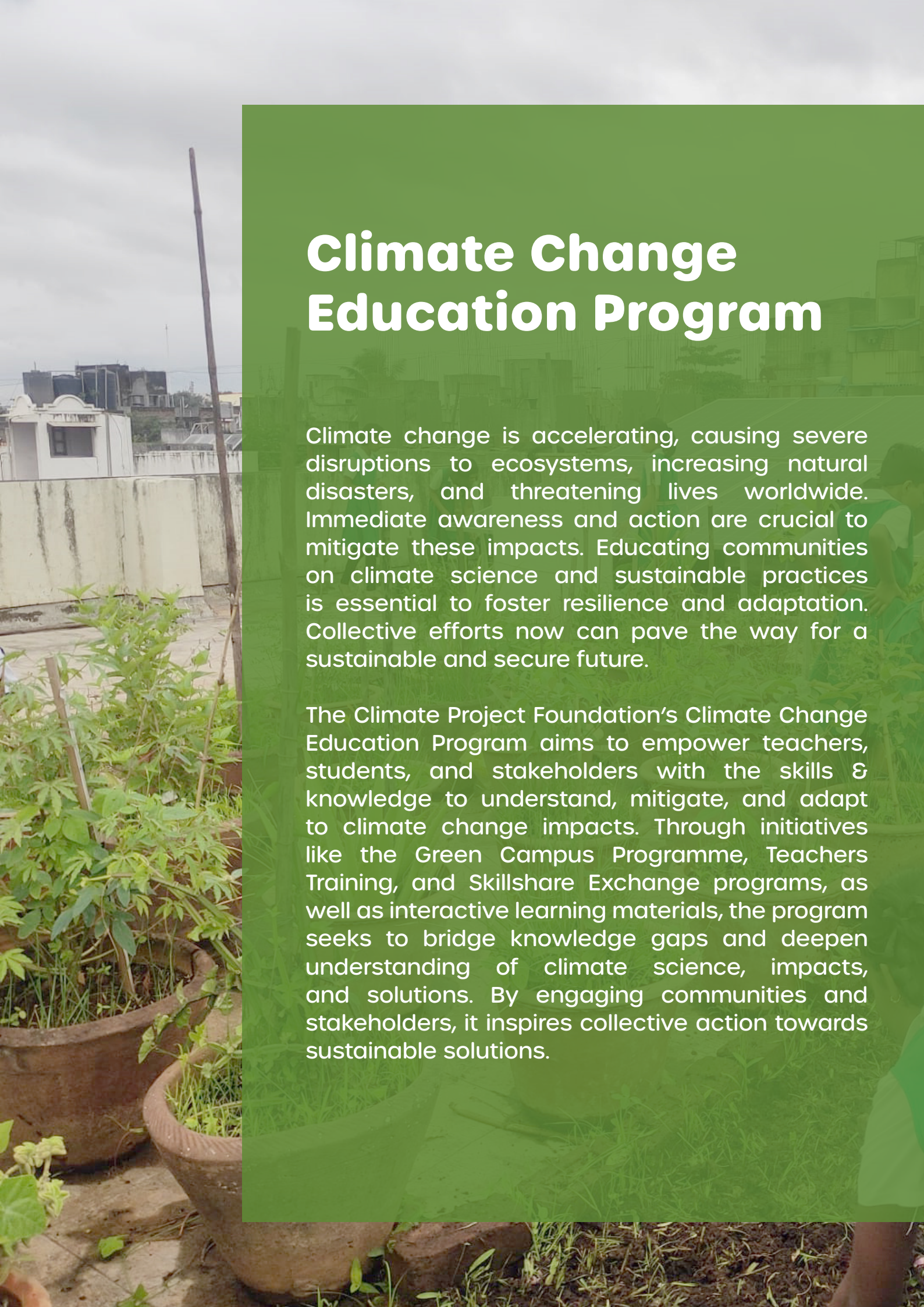
Digital technologies are extensively used in the Trust. We launched a new website and built several microsites with dashboards to support remote educators. We created content on current climate challenges and Trust programs for education, social media, and communications, and the response has been very encouraging.

As the climate crisis deepens, it is essential for all parts of society to unite and work towards climate change solutions. In India, this is not only an issue of climate disasters but also one of climate justice and the disproportionate impacts on the poor. We are committed to working towards solutions through our programs and appeal to individuals and organizations to join this movement.

On Behalf of the Board.



Aditya Pundir
Director,
The Climate Project Foundation



Climate Change Education Program

Climate change is accelerating, causing severe disruptions to ecosystems, increasing natural disasters, and threatening lives worldwide. Immediate awareness and action are crucial to mitigate these impacts. Educating communities on climate science and sustainable practices is essential to foster resilience and adaptation. Collective efforts now can pave the way for a sustainable and secure future.

The Climate Project Foundation's Climate Change Education Program aims to empower teachers, students, and stakeholders with the skills & knowledge to understand, mitigate, and adapt to climate change impacts. Through initiatives like the Green Campus Programme, Teachers Training, and Skillshare Exchange programs, as well as interactive learning materials, the program seeks to bridge knowledge gaps and deepen understanding of climate science, impacts, and solutions. By engaging communities and stakeholders, it inspires collective action towards sustainable solutions.



GREEN CAMPUS PROGRAMME

For Climate Action, Education and Awareness

Green Campus Programme is the cornerstone initiative of The Climate Project Foundation under the Climate Change Education Program which promotes sustainability and environment-friendly practices in campus operations and infrastructure and community engagement efforts. The program aims to minimize the environmental impact of the campus while fostering a culture of sustainable behavior among students, faculty, staff and community.

Key components of the program include- health and air quality, energy efficiency, waste management, biodiversity and water conservation. By integrating sustainability principles into various aspects of campus life, Green Campus Programme contributes to the creation of healthier, more resilient, and environmentally responsible educational institutions.

It also encourages students to responsibly utilize natural resources and adopt effective sustainable practices as part of their everyday life. This approach extends to the broader community, fostering long-term societal transformation towards low-carbon living.

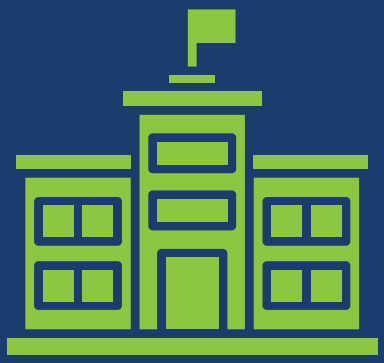
It stands on the pillars of Awareness, Action, and Award. GCP helps the campuses in adopting green practices in their campus and recognizes the campus that demonstrates outstanding commitment and achievement. The awards are given under the categories- Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze and Green certified. This also inspires other educational institutions to adopt similar initiatives and contribute to environmental stewardship and sustainability.

Green Campus Programme 2023-24



418

Campuses enrolled in the program



115

Campuses turned Green



303

Campuses undergoing the program



Sr. Shanta Xalxo - St. Teresa's Girls' H.S.School, Darjeeling

Since our school has been a part of the Green Campus Programme, we have been seeing positive changes in the school surroundings as well in the mindset of staff, students and guardians alike. The school Campus is greener, cleaner and more sustainable. Our school has also been able to engage other schools and communities in carrying forward this mission. I am grateful to the School Green Campus Team for their endeavors.

Mahalakshmi R - Principal, AMM School, Kotturpuram, Chennai



Our experience with The Green Campus Programme was overwhelming and it has helped us to promote sustainability in our school to a greater extent this academic year. Green projects cover soil conservation, creating green belts, funding research and education and even maintaining a bird sanctuary.. It was a journey which encouraged both the teaching and the learning fraternity to strive for a common cause of our institution.



Charles Abraham - Principal, Heritage Global School, Faridabad, Haryana

At Heritage Global School, our Green Campus Programme (GCP) stands as a beacon of sustainability, championing practices that not only reduce our ecological footprint but also foster a deeper understanding of our interconnected world. Through GCP, we've cultivated a culture of environmental stewardship, empowering students, faculty, and staff with hands-on experiences that transcend the classroom.

Impact of GCP in numbers

2574.8 KW

Total Solar Panel capacity build

6.97 Lakh

Sq. M. of Green Area

1.76 Lakh+

Students reached

67 Tonnes

Compost generated

51 Lakh

Liters of Rain water harvesting capacity built



Some Principals' Conclaves under GCP

Principals' Conclave, Kashmir

On June 5, 2023, on the occasion of World Environment Day, The Climate Project Foundation organized the first ever Principals' Conclave on Climate Change and Sustainability at Govt Degree College, Pampore, Kashmir. Principals of 20 schools from various districts attended the event. Prof. (Dr.) Huda Galzai, Principal of the college, emphasized the role of youth in addressing climate change.

Ms. Rekha Lalla, Lead-GCP, gave a keynote on climate change, followed by a Q&A session and discussions on teacher training and sustainable practices in schools. Mr. Aadil Bhatt and Mr. Nadeem Qadri, Climate Reality Leader and Advisor, GCP, Kashmir, previewed initiatives by the Wildlife Conservation Fund and the Green School Program in Kashmir. It was followed by students presenting a Kashmiri song on sustainability, and researchers discussing their biodiversity studies.

The event concluded with the distribution of Green Campus Programme materials. The following day, students and teachers from 10 schools met at Dachigam National Park for further discussions and a nature walk, led by Nadeem Qadri and Rekha Lalla, focusing on making Kashmir waste-free and green.







Principals' Conclave, Odisha

In line with SDG4.7 and sustainability education, we organized Principals' Conclave in Odisha in association with ODM Educational Group & Sahodaya Schools. The Conclave commenced with an introduction by Shri Bipin Sahoo, Principal, DAV, Pokhariput, Dy. Sec, Sahodaya Schools Complex, Bhubaneswar Chapter, setting the tone. Chief Guest, Shri Gaurav, Scientist In-charge, Regional Museum of Natural History, stressed population control and tree plantation to combat the climate crisis.

Mr. Aditya Pundir, Director, The Climate Project Foundation, highlighted the planet & light due to the climate crisis, using examples from Odisha. Ms. Rekha Lalla discussed the Green Campus Programme, showcasing successful implementations across 14+ states in India. Keynote speaker Dr. S.N Patro, Odisha Environment Society, emphasized awareness about climate change
and collective human responsibility. Mr. Prafulla Dhal, National Coordinator - Climate Disaster and Livelihood, underlined why Odisha needs green campuses.

The Principals' Conclave, attended by school and college leaders, was an interactive session focusing on actionable takeaways and experiential learning promotes a healthy educational relationship between educators, students, parents, and communities.



Principals' Conclave at Rayat Shikshan Sanstha, Satara

The Climate Project Foundation organized Principals' Conclave on "Climate Education and Green Campuses for Safer Planet" at Rayat Shikshan Sanstha, Satara in the month of October, 2023. In the academic year 2023-24, TCPF is working with 50 campuses of Rayat Shikshan Sanstha on teachers' training programs. Hence, principal conclave for the principal of 50 campuses organized at Satara. Total 51 participants took part in the conclave.

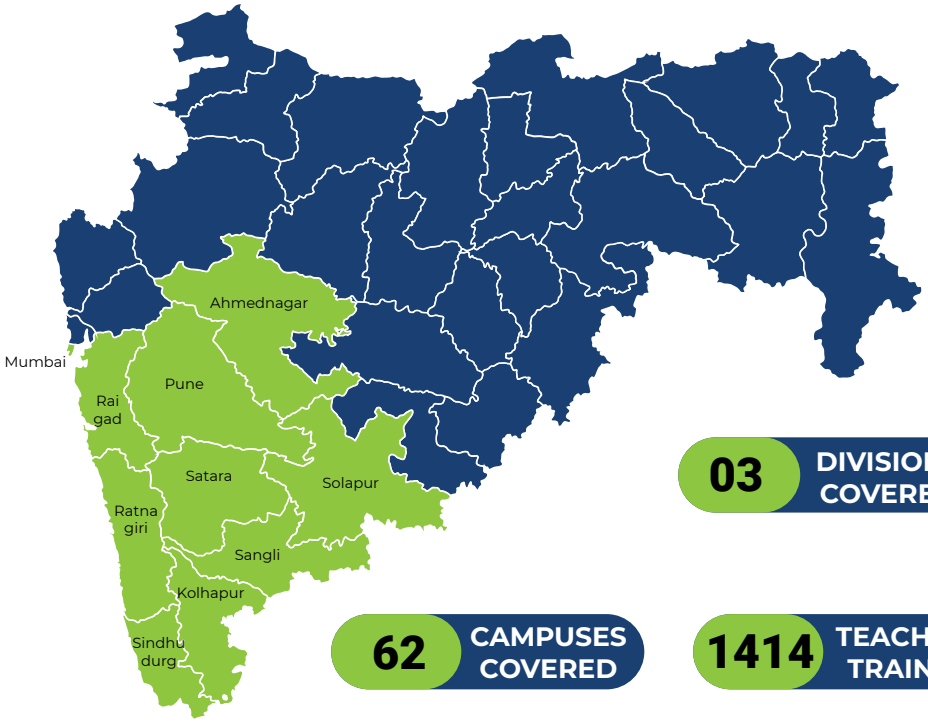
During the Conclave, a presentation about climate change: science, impacts and solutions was given by Mr. Ganesh Satav, Sr. Education Officer, TCPF, Dr. Amruta Deshmukh, Project Officer, TCPF gave a presentation on Teachers' Training Program and Role of Principals. Hon'ble Joint Secretary (secondary education) Rayat Shikshan Sanstha Mr. B. N. Pawar, Auditor Dr. Menkudale, Rayat Shikshan Sanstha; and Rayat Shiksan Sanstha's Green Campus Programme - Coordinator, Dr. Sudhir Kumbhar, provided valuable guidance during the Conclave.

The objective of this Conclave was to spread awareness about climate change and ways to deal with it; introduce one of our key programs i.e., Teachers' Training Program, and how Principals can catalyze momentum in the same while throwing light on the roadmap; and also, to provide guidance to participants through the officials of Rayat Shikshan Sanstha for smooth implementation of the program. The Principals' Conclave went well, and it was insightful for all the attendees there.



State in Focus

MAHARASHTRA



03 DIVISIONS COVERED

07 DISTRICTS COVERED

62 CAMPUSES COVERED

1414 TEACHERS TRAINED

47 TALUKA COVERED

Impact of Green Campus Programme in districts of Maharashtra

Under the Green Campus Programme (GCP), we're undertaking a profound journey towards sustainability and environmental stewardship in Maharashtra. Our outreach spans 161 campuses across dynamic districts like Satara, Sangli, Kolhapur, Solapur, Pune, Ahmednagar, and Ratnagiri. Through partnerships with educational institutions like Rayat Shikshan Sanstha, Deccan Education Society, Swami Vivekanand amongst others, we're promoting eco-friendly practices, renewable energy adoption, waste management, and biodiversity conservation.



The year 2023-24 marked significant progress and positivity for Maharashtra, particularly in the realm of education and environmental initiatives as we ventured to implement GCP in Higher Educational Institutes. Some of the highlights for this year-

- Physical and online Teachers' training workshops were conducted at 62 campuses and a total of 1414 teachers were trained on climate change, imparting crucial knowledge and skills to facilitate climate change education within their respective institutions.
- In 57 campuses, TTP training sessions were conducted offline, visiting the campuses to facilitate in-person interaction with teachers, gain insight into the working environment.
- 13 Higher Educational Institutes from Maharashtra signed an MoU with The Climate Project Foundation to implement GCP in their campuses.
- In the academic year 2023-24, GCP was successfully implemented in 09 campuses, with 05 campuses undergoing infrastructure upgrades to reduce carbon emissions.
- Solar panels were installed in five campuses, generating a total of 24 kW of solar energy, significantly reducing dependence on conventional energy and lowering electricity bills.
- 22 reports were submitted by the schools on sustainable activities undertaken by the trained teachers with students indicating an active engagement and commitment to environmental stewardship.





State in Focus

KASHMIR



10 DISTRICTS COVERED

135 CAMPUSES COVERED

460 TEACHERS TRAINED

Impact of Green Campus Programme in districts of Kashmir

Kashmir, the heavenly abode of India is also reeling under the impacts of climate change. With its diverse yet fragile ecosystem, it has been experiencing rising temperatures which is contributing to glacial retreats and shift in precipitation patterns impacting water availability, agriculture, power generation, livelihood and tourism in the region.

The Climate Project Foundation observed that a climate change vulnerable state like Kashmir needs both awareness and simultaneously act towards a transformative solution for building a climate-resilient society. Implementation of the Green Campus Programme can promote sustainability practices like waste reduction, energy conservation, and water management, helping to protect the region's delicate ecosystem. Its holistic approach can empower young people to become environmental stewards and create a more sustainable future for Kashmir and beyond.

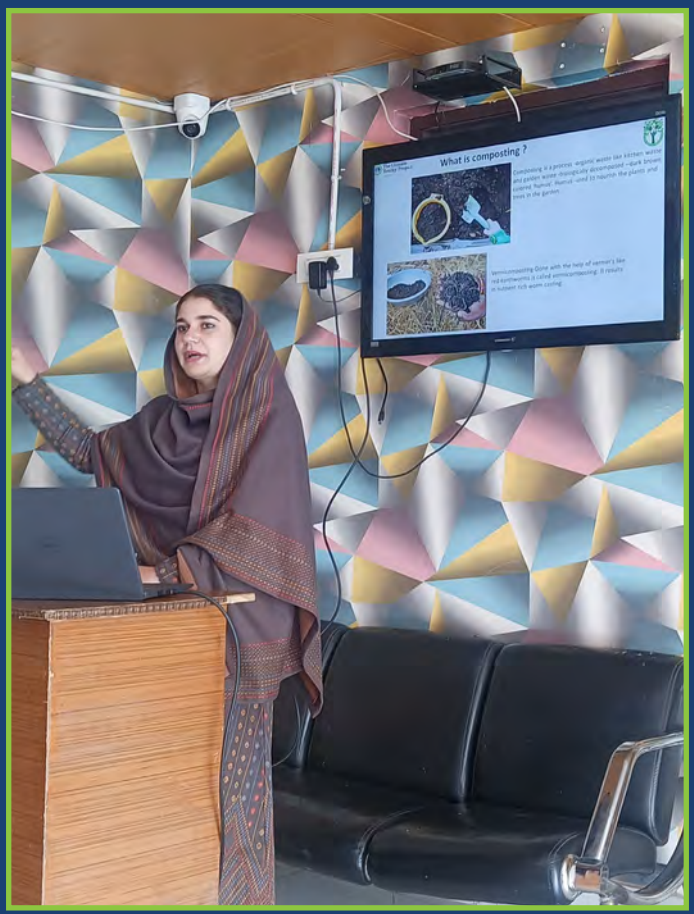
The Green Campus Programme was introduced to the local schools on 5th June, on the occasion of the World Environment Day with the help of Mr. Nadeem Qadri, Climate Reality Leader and Advisor for Green Campus Programme from Kashmir. Under the guidance of Ms. Rekha Lalla, Lead-GCP, first Principal's Conclave on Climate change and Sustainability at Government Degree College, Pampore was organized.

The event received an overwhelming response and 34 educational institutes joined the Green Campus Programme. To implement GCP on these campuses and conduct teachers training, a team of consultants was created. Exclusive content and a microsite was also developed for ease of access of content and to share the performance reports.

Kashmir presents a formidable challenge due to the region's rugged terrain and limited infrastructure with inaccessible roads and harsh weather conditions which makes transportation difficult. Moreover, the lack of reliable electricity and internet connectivity further complicates communication and coordination efforts. Despite these challenges, in the next six months more than 460 teachers from 34 schools/colleges were trained.

Mr Aadil Bhatt conducted training sessions on climate change and air quality, Ms Sheezana Rasool on waste management, Mr. Nadeem Ahmad Dar on water conservation, Mr. Parvez Yousuf on biodiversity conservation and Ms. Aamina Farooq trained the teachers on energy conservation.







In September, the **Government Degree College for Women Pulwama, Kashmir** became the first campus from Kashmir to be awarded a **Silver rating** under the Green Campus Programme since its introduction in Kashmir. The other schools and colleges are in the different stages of GCP implementation progressing towards transforming into a green campus.





GCP Implementation under Project Pancham

Maharashtra Foundation, New York, has launched a unique, multi-dimensional initiative, Project Pancham that holistically addresses five issues – education, healthcare, women's empowerment, poverty reduction and environment protection. Presently, the Pancham project is underway in two villages in Maharashtra: Kusumbi in Satara and Mutnur, a tribal village in Gadchiroli. The primary goal is to holistically address the fundamental needs of these villages, tackling local issues and driving sustainable development and change.

Within the Environment thrust area, The Climate Project Foundation is executing the Green Campus Programme (GCP) in two schools located in Kusumbi: New English School, and Zila Parishad Primary School. This initiative aims to steer schools towards sustainability by optimizing resources and transitioning traditional campuses into eco-friendly environments. The program encompasses five key domains: air quality, biodiversity conservation, energy conservation, water conservation, and waste management.

- Under the Green Campus Programme, **50 teachers and community members** have been trained and following sustainable changes were made in the two schools-
- **03 KW solar panels** were installed to meet the school energy needs and remove dependency on the conventional sources of energy.
- Rain water harvesting systems were installed with **5.8 lac liters** of water harvesting potential.
- Different colored bins were installed on the campus to promote segregation of waste. Also, **e-waste collection centers** were formed at the two schools for sorting and collecting e-waste.
- **04 pits** were developed to make compost from the organic waste generated at the campuses.





Green Campus Programme in the Higher Education Institutes

After implementing the Green Campus Programme in thousands of schools across India and setting a strong foothold in states like Maharashtra and Kashmir, GCP embarked on the journey within Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) as well with a vision to focus and foster sustainable practices.

We received a positive response from the Higher Education Institutes from various states and 13 Colleges and Universities signed an MoU with us under the Green Campus Programme. Additionally, 12 more HEIs registered under the program to implement the sustainable policy and practices on their campus.

The sessions were hosted at prominent institutions like Akal University, Chitkara University, KR.Mangalam University, SD College, Maharaja Agrasen University, GD Goenka University, Kirori Mal College and Laxmibai



College. These events commemorated occasions like Earth Day, Environment Day, National Energy Conservation Day (2 sessions), World Wetlands Day, and World Water Day.

As a result, the 13 Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) have already formulated a Green Policy as part of the Green Campus Programme, aiming to transform their campuses into eco-friendly, net- zero, and carbon-neutral environments.

Over **3000 students and faculty members** were engaged with the program this year, catalyzing discussions, workshops, and events aimed at promoting sustainability and climate action within the academic realm. The students and faculty members were engaged through online and physical orientation sessions.



MoUs with Esteemed Institutes

This year, we have successfully forged over 20 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) under the Green Campus Programme with esteemed Higher Education Institutes of India. These collaborative initiatives are aimed at building sustainable campuses and practices, creating responsible future consumers and leaders, knowledge exchange and community outreach.

Green Campus Programme- Bangladesh

This year, we were ecstatic to take our Green Campus Programme beyond the boundaries to our neighbor, Bangladesh. Introducing the Green Campus Programme in Bangladesh marks a pivotal step towards building sustainable educational institutions.

To kickstart this transformative journey, a three day long event with title- "International Seminar on Climate Change: Empowering Change for a Sustainable Tomorrow," was organized in different educational institutions in Dhaka, Bangladesh. It was a landmark event that served as a platform for dialogue, collaboration, and action, uniting principals, administrators, and key stakeholders to exchange ideas, and innovative local solutions for creating greener campuses.

The objective behind the three-day event was to conduct in-person workshops with all three levels of educational institutions in Bangladesh-

1. **Schools (Students below 16 years)**
2. **Colleges (Students between 16 to 18 years)**
3. **Universities (Students between 19 to 25 years)**

On day 1, we conducted a seminar at The Independent University, Bangladesh where we were joined by the students from the Green Planet Club of the University. Mr. Rabbani, the Deptt. Head of Environment, shared his thoughts on the importance of dialogue between students and organizations with sustainability as the primary goal. Mr. Aditya Pundir, Director, TCPF, gave a inspiring and thought provoking presentation on science, impacts and solutions of climate change



focusing on Bangladesh. It was followed by Mr. Zahurul Haque, Country Coordinator for The Climate Reality Project, India and South Asia introduced the Green Campus Programme to the present teachers, students and other stakeholders.

On day 2, an event was organized at Mohan Nagar College, Merul Badda, Dhaka which was inaugurated with the planting of saplings by the Principal and Mr. Sifur Rahman from the Eco Concern Association. Ms. Riya Deb, Project Officer, TCPF, took the center stage and talked about 'Clean and Green Campus'. More than 150 students from classes 9th to 12th and 12 faculty members along with the Principal joined the session. It was followed by an interactive Q/A session that provided valuable insights and inspired the participants to spearhead sustainability initiatives within their institution. The teachers also found the teaching resources exclusively developed in Bangla, relevant and useful for classroom teaching and happily took it with them.

On day 3, another event was organized at Ekramunnesa Boys High School, Dhaka. A session was organized on 'Green and Clean Campuses' which was joined by 200+ students and 12 faculty members. It was an engaging session with insightful panel discussions on how to drive meaningful change, cultivate a culture of sustainability, and empower future generations to become agents of positive environmental impact.

The three day program ended with the way forward to drive the teachers, authorities and students on the path of sustainability through the Green Campus Programme in the next one year.







TEACHERS' TRAINING PROGRAM

Teachers Training Program is one of the long standing programmes of The Climate Project Foundation. Under the program the teachers are trained on science, impacts, and solutions of climate change and educators are equipped with the knowledge and tools necessary to address one of the most pressing challenges of our time. This program empowers teachers to become catalysts for climate action in their classrooms and beyond and provides confidence to incorporate climate change education into their curriculum, fostering critical thinking, environmental literacy among students.



Some Major Teachers Training

05 branches of Mother's Public School, Odisha

An extensive two days workshop was conducted from 15th to 16th February for Mothers' Public School in Odisha. This training was exclusively organized for the teachers from the 05 branches of Mothers' Public School.



In the 02 days, the Teachers learnt about climate change and localized impacts and solutions. They also exchanged their views, participated in group presentations and discussed ideas to integrate sustainable activities in their curriculum.

Ganga International School, Delhi



The Teachers Training workshops focused on equipping educators with the necessary tools and knowledge to effectively teach climate change and sustainability to young learners. Led by Ms. Rekha Lalla, the program aimed to empower teachers to integrate climate education into school curricula and foster environmentally responsible behaviors on campus.

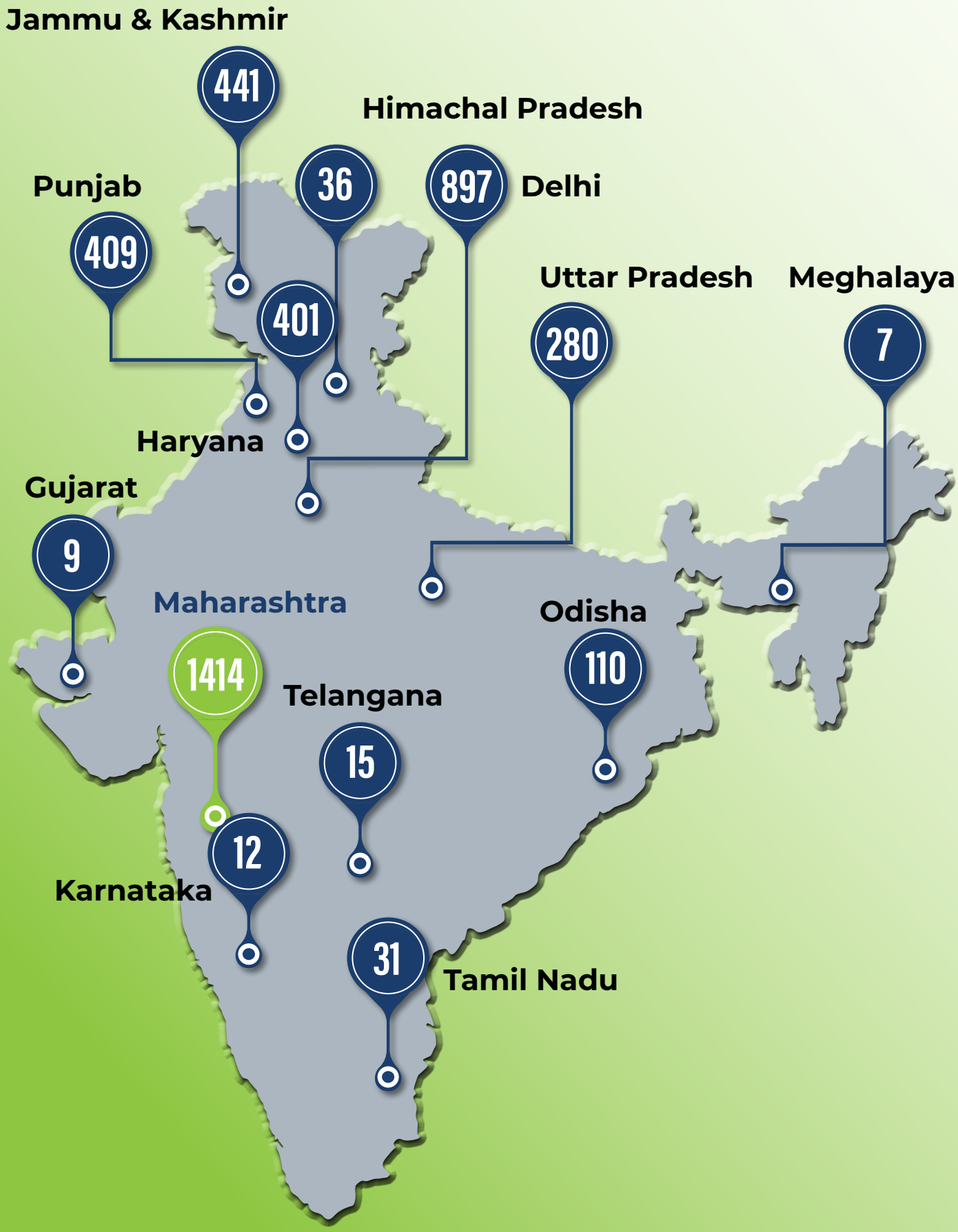
Through presentations and discussions, participants gained insights into the science, impacts, and solutions of climate change. The workshops provided a platform for open dialogue, allowing teachers to seek clarification and exchange ideas. Ultimately, the goal was to instill confidence in educators to inspire positive change and resilience in the face of climate challenges.

Ajinkya DY Patil University, Pune



The Climate Project Foundation (TCPF) successfully signed a MoU with Ajeenkya DY Patil University (ADYPU), Pune, Maharashtra under the Green Campus Programme. Following which an online Teachers' Training Program was conducted for the faculty members and students at Ajeenkya D Y Patil University (ADYPU) as a part of the Green Campus Programme. Ms. Rekha Lalla, Lead - Green Campus Programme, discussed the science, impact, and solutions to the climate change crisis.

Dr. Amruta Deshmukh, Project Officer, TCPF, introduced the need for climate action and the Green Campus Programme for Higher Education Institutions and how it aligns with UGC & NAAC norms. She emphasized how the participation of HEIs, and the young generation can catalyze the target of Net Zero.



Total Teachers Trained **4062**

Green Campus Programme Awards

- St. Mary's School, Dwarka Sector 19, Delhi
- Bluebells School International, Kailash, New Delhi
- A.M.M. School, Chennai
- D.C. Model International School, Ferozepur, Punjab
- Delhi Public School, Jorhat, Assam
- GTA Vidhya Mandir, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- Gyan Anant Vidyalaya, Atrouli, Uttar Pradesh
- Bal Bharati Public School, Dwarka, Delhi
- Mukkala Namalwar Chetty Vivekananda Vidyalaya Senior Secondary School, Tamil Nadu
- Scholar Global School, Haryana
- St. Teresa's Girls' Higher Secondary School, Darjeeling
- St. Thomas English Medium Higher Secondary School, Surat
- KBP Vidyalaya, Aitawade, Tal – Walwa, Dist. – Sangli
- Government Degree College For Women Pulwama, Kashmir
- JP International School, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh

Platinum Gold Silver Bronze Certified



List of Winners

- Little Flower Public Sr. Sec School, Shahdara, Delhi
- San Academy Velachery, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- Vaels International School, Injambakkam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- Mayur Public School, Delhi
- Ajit Karam Singh International Public School, Chandigarh
- DAV, Bankura West Bengal
- DPS Damanjodi, Odisha
- Ganga International School, New Delhi
- Heritage Global school, Haryana
- Dahiwadi College, Dahiwadi, Tal – Man, Dist. Satara
- RR Patil Mahavidyalaya, Savlaj, Tal – Tasgaon, Dist. - Sangli
- M G Vidyalaya, Rukdi, Tal – Hatkanangale, Dist.- Kolhapur
- Fergusson College, Pune
- Ahilyadevi High Schools for Girls, Pune
- Mahatma Gandhi Vidyalaya, Kale, Tal – Karad, Dist. – Sangli



5TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION

The 5th International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE) took place on September 19-20, 2023, using a hybrid model with physical gatherings at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi and virtual participation worldwide. Organized by Mobius Foundation in partnership with The Climate Reality Project India & South Asia, UNESCO, UNEP, and others, the event attracted around 750 participants, including policymakers, educators, and young professionals from various sectors.

With audience joining from worldwide, ICSE provided a global platform for dialogue and collaboration. Over the two days, the conference featured 8 plenary sessions, including inaugural and closing ceremonies, and facilitated discussions across 15 thematic tracks on sustainability education.

ICSE served as a hub for sharing knowledge, fostering partnerships, and driving action towards a sustainable future. The conference highlighted the collective responsibility and collaboration needed to address environmental challenges and promote sustainability



education worldwide.

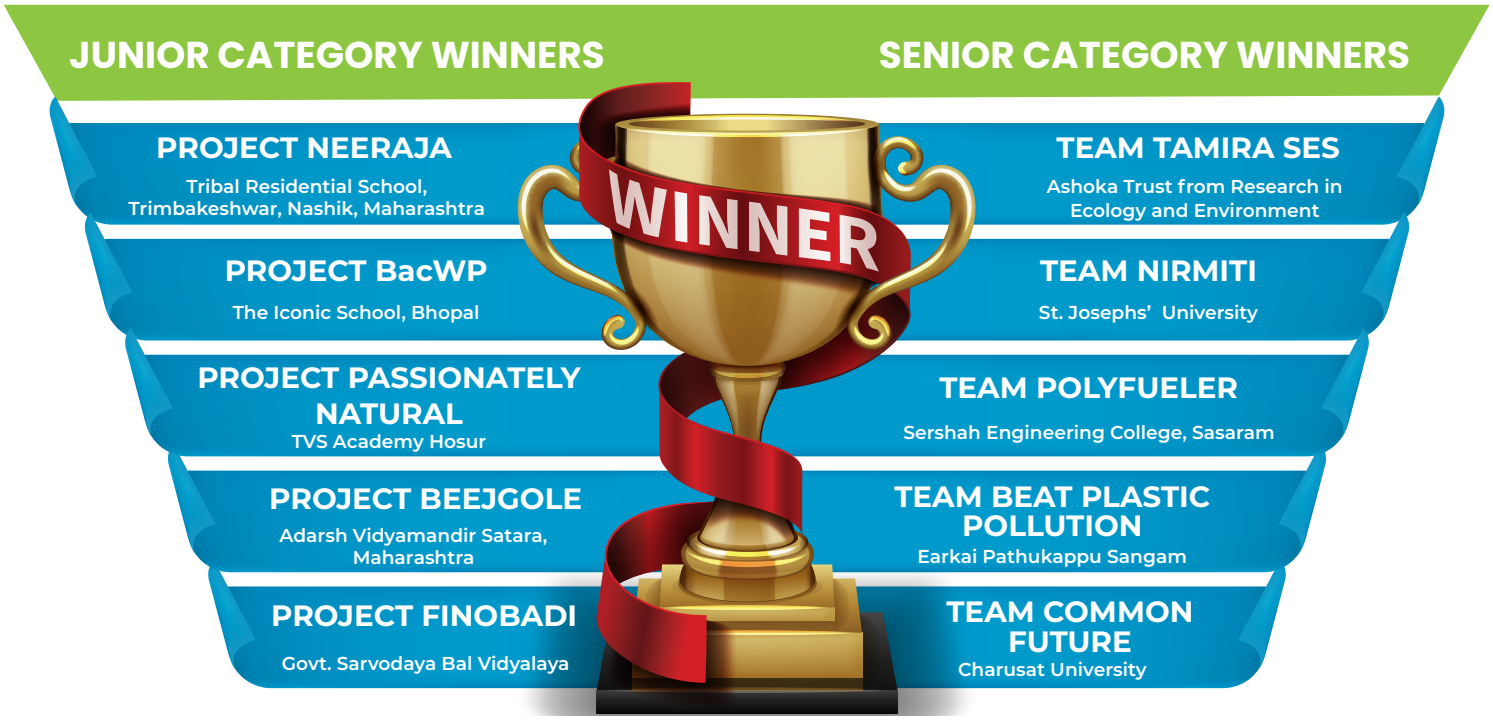
The second day began with a captivating dance performance by students from St. Mary School, Dwarka, setting an energetic tone for the day's events. Following the remarkable performance, the winners of the Youth for Earth Campaign 2023 were announced, recognizing and celebrating the outstanding contributions of young individuals towards environmental conservation and sustainability.



Youth for Earth Awards 2023



The Youth For Earth (Y4E) 2023 edition, a collaborative effort between The Mobius Foundation and The Climate Project Foundation, brought together young participants from India, Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal, Bhutan, and Sri Lanka to address climate change issues within their local communities. This year's focus centered on SDG 13: Climate Action, engaging students aged 13-18 from schools, universities, and independent organizations up to 30 years old across South Asia.



Over 200 students from South Asia registered for the projects, resulting in more than 75 submissions. Eleven winners, from both junior and senior categories, were selected and honored at the ICSE Conference 2023 at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi on September 19 and 20, 2023.

The campaign aimed to empower young people as “changemakers for the future” by encouraging behavioral change and inspiring sustainable practices in their communities and institutions. It provided mentorship to help students develop innovative climate solutions, offered a platform for sharing experiences and knowledge about climate change, and recognized winners at the International Conference on Sustainability Education. The initiative also guided students on climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.

SPECIAL MENTION

SD Vidya School, Ambala
for being consistent throughout the earlier editions of the campaign.

In addition to the insightful discussions, two significant books were launched during the conference: “Birds of Jammu and Kashmir including Ladakh” by Parvaiz Yousuf, aimed at promoting awareness and conservation of avian species in the region, and “Climate Actioneers’ Primer: A Beginners Toolkit,” co-authored by Anand Pendharkar, offering practical guidance for individuals and communities to initiate climate action.





YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

With more than one fifth of the population of South Asia under the age of 30, it becomes crucial to make young people aware about climate change and empower them to take climate action. They can play a pivotal role in driving climate solutions with their fresh perspectives and innovative ideas. Engaging youth through education, awareness campaigns, and opportunities for active participation can significantly amplify the impact of climate initiatives. By involving them in climate action, we not only address their immediate concerns but also build a resilient, informed, and proactive generation capable of tackling future challenges.

The Climate Project Foundation is constantly working towards creating green leaders through its youth-led programs. By focusing on empowering young individuals with the knowledge and skills needed to address climate change, the foundation nurtures a new generation of environmental advocates.

These programs provide opportunities for youth to engage in hands-on activities, develop leadership skills, and collaborate on innovative climate solutions. By inculcating a sense of responsibility and urgency, the organization helps young leaders become catalysts for change in their communities, inspiring others to join the movement towards a greener, more sustainable world.

International Youth Sustainability Festival 2023

The Climate Project Foundation partnered with ExploreiT to organize the International Youth Sustainability Festival 2024, aiming to expose students to current developments in various fields of sustainability and provide a platform for presenting innovative ideas through posters and models. The festival was inaugurated by Dr. Rajendra Singh, the 'Water Man of India. The event was graced by the presence of Dr. Ujjwal Chauhan, Additional Commissioner of Income Tax, Mumbai, with Aditya Pundir, Director, The Climate Reality Project India & South Asia and Dr. M.S. Shejul from Symbiosis International who delivered the welcome address.



The International Youth and Sustainability Conclave, themed around ESG, served as a platform for young leaders to engage, learn, and collaborate on global issues. By unlocking the potential of youth and promoting ESG principles, the event aimed to contribute to a more sustainable and equitable future.

MUN Conference, Gurgaon

Model United Nations conferences provide students with a platform to unleash their diplomatic and communication skills through the simulation of various committees of the United Nations. Vega School, Gurgaon, hosted an empowering Model United Nations (MUN) Conference, where students honed their skills, and The Climate Project Foundation was a part of it. Grade XI students, serving as the Secretariat and Organizing Committee, orchestrated the entire conference. Students from various schools of Gurgaon organized a tree plantation drive and actively participated in the MUN Conference.



Ms. Rekha Lalla, Lead-Green Campus Programme, spoke on the importance of trees and native plants and what actions a student can take as young ambassadors of sustainability, thus bringing transformative ideas and experiences to the table.

Young People's Climate Conference 2023

The Young People's Climate Conference, a partnership between The Climate Project Foundation and Shriram Educare, brought sustainability education to the forefront with over 400 students from various Shri Ram schools participating online on April 24th and 27th, 2023. The unique 2 day conference was inaugurated by Sh. Sheelam Seth, CEO of Shri Educare, and Mr. Aditya Pundir, Director, The Climate Reality Project - India and South Asia where they emphasized environmental preservation through traditional and technological methods. Sectoral experts highlighted the importance of breaking down climate change into manageable segments for effective action. Bhavesh Swami from The Climate Project Foundation led a session on 'Clean Energy Projects for Students,' discussing the rise of new energy forms and the achievement of grid parity in solar energy.

Day 2 featured inspiring speakers like permaculture enthusiast Harshita Srivastava, who connected mind, body, and soul with the earth's elements, and Nadeem Qadri, who differentiated between activism and advocacy. Students while engaging with the speakers, committed to present summer projects inspired by the conference, with Ms. Madhu Bhatnagar, Climate Reality Leader and an environmental education mentor, playing a pivotal role in organizing the event.



Youth Engagement for Climate Action- KR Mangalam University

On October 30th, K.R. Mangalam University (KRMU) hosted a one-day orientation program focused on educating students and faculty in Basic & Applied Sciences about climate change and the crucial role of youth in addressing this global issue. The session was attended by 80 students and 12 faculty members, and featured Bhavesh Swami from The Climate Project Foundation, who highlighted sustainable solutions such as eco-friendly technologies, electric vehicles, solar power, and eco-tourism.

Rakesh Chandra Agrawal, Executive Chairman of The Environment and Consumer Foundation, emphasized the urgency of youth-driven climate action, encouraging active student engagement. Dr. Sakshi Grover from The Climate Project Foundation, discussed the Green Campus Programme, outlining its implementation and auditing process to the newly formed committee. The event concluded with Vice Chancellor Dr. Ankush Mittal expressing his vision for



KRMU to become a leading Green Campus, engaging with green startups and promoting sustainability through education programs and workshops.



Youth Mobilization for Climate Action

GD Goenka University partnered with The Climate Project Foundation (TCPF) to host a one-day event on, “Climate Change and the Role of Youth in Addressing it”, on National Youth Day. The session was attended by the students as well as faculty from various departments.

Mr. Bhavesh Swami, Lead, Clean Energy, TCPF discussed the climate change crisis, global warming, and reasons for calamities like flooding and desertification. This sparked curiosity among students. He then presented sustainable solutions such as solar-powered battery-based bicycles, efficient cookstoves, and concepts like slow and eco-tourism to raise awareness within communities.

Dr. Rekha Singh from ECPFO spoke about Mission LiFE and a sustainable future, while Dr. Nihal Siddiqui conducted a campus tour,



showcasing the Fire Drill Ground established under the Centre of Excellence- Occupational Health & Safety. The orientation concluded with the vision of the Vice-Chancellor, Kim Menezes, who wants to make GD Goenka University a climate-active and leading Green Campus.



Climate Summit –'Unlocking Opportunities Around Sustainability'

In collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry's Young Indians (Yi), The Design Village (TDV), and The Climate Reality Project India and South Asia organized a Climate Summit on "Unlocking Opportunities Around Sustainability" for students of Design Village, Noida. The Summit aimed to engage the nation's youth in positive climate action by deepening their understanding of climate change and empowering them with the knowledge and skills needed to address global sustainability issues through a transformative lens of design.



The summit featured a Climate Solutions presentation by Mr. Bhavesh Swami, followed by a Green Campus Programme presentation by Ms. Rekha Lalla. It concluded with a panel discussion on sustainability in design, career opportunities, global challenges, and business strategies, featuring Ms. Smruti Shweta & Climate Reality leaders Mr. Samarth Khanna, Mr. Pradip Kuturi, and Nikhil Kamath. The students left motivated and enlightened, gaining valuable insights into sustainability through design.



Tree Plantation

Tree plantation is a highly effective tool for climate change mitigation due to its ability to absorb and store carbon dioxide (CO2) from the atmosphere. Trees act as natural carbon sinks, with each tree sequestering significant amounts of CO2 over its lifetime. Additionally, forests contribute to biodiversity, support ecosystems, and enhance soil and water quality. Large-scale tree planting initiatives can help offset greenhouse gas emissions, reduce the urban heat island effect, and promote a healthier environment.

Thus, The Climate Project Foundation is supporting India's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) towards the Paris Agreement, aiming to sequester 2.5-3 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide through forests and trees by 2030. We are initiating and collaborating with partners and Climate Reality Leaders to implement tree plantation programs across various states in India, particularly focusing on those which are most affected by climate change or with vulnerable ecosystems.



Background

Assam, a biodiversity-rich state, has experienced significant loss of green cover in recent years, as noted by the Forest Survey of India. It faces severe climate change impacts and is projected to encounter future water scarcity. The indigenous people rely on the region's biodiversity for their sustenance, health, and cultural heritage.



Environmental activist Padma Shri Jadhav Payeng, known as the Forest Man of India, supports this project. He has created a forest on a sandbar, home to various endangered species, proving that planting native trees can combat climate change, biodiversity loss, and ensure food security. Studies confirm the carbon sequestration and biodiversity preservation potential of his forest over four decades.

About the Project

The Molaikathoni Nursery Project near Jorhat was initiated in March 2022 and officially launched on World Water Day. The region was selected for the nursery on higher ground in the middle of a sandbar, close to the eponymous forest. All plant materials including saplings, seeds, and cuttings are native and sourced from the Molaikathoni forest. Villagers proposed to extend green cover to mitigate heat stress, protect crops, and reduce human-elephant conflicts. In the long term, the project aims



Under the Molaikathoni project **two nurseries** have been established to replicate Payeng's forestation success across Assam, aiding in reforestation of the degraded areas, creating suitable habitats, and ensuring food security for indigenous communities who are dependent on forest produce like fruits, herbs, ferns, roots etc. Presently, these two nurseries are being set up by The Climate Reality Project India & South Asia, and are located in Majuli district near Jorhat and near Nagaon. A total of 350,000 saplings from the two nurseries have been replanted as part of a larger reforestation project.

to ensure food and water security for both people and biodiversity, create alternative agro-ecology-based livelihoods, and sequester greenhouse gases.

The second nursery named the Amarnath Nursery Project in Nagaon was started in March 2023. The area chosen was off the arterial national highway connecting the districts of the Brahmaputra valley of Assam. The nursery location is in the center of a large open area that used to be a grazing reserve of over 500 hectares, in the periphery of Shri Shri Amarnath Siv Mandir.

The area is considered ideal for growing various citrus and other fruit bearing trees. It is also close to the Karbi foothills and frequented by passing elephant herds. Some environmentally conscious youth have taken up plantation in recent years and the development of the nursery has helped the plantation efforts of the local communities.

Outcomes

The nursery projects have significantly accelerated plantation efforts, yielding expected results. A total of 350,000 saplings from the two nurseries have been replanted as part of a larger reforestation project. These saplings have been used in degraded areas and distributed to local communities, including educational institutions and social enterprises.



The projects have provided livelihoods to villagers for several months, directly motivating communities to engage in forest and wildlife conservation. This initiative is recognized for protecting traditional indigenous knowledge systems, increasing resilience to floods and erosion, preserving biodiversity, and ensuring food security.

Way forward

The nurseries are being maintained by local communities and will continue to provide saplings of native species for reforestation efforts. Seeds, saplings, and cuttings will be continuously added to the nursery as they become seasonally available, with around three lakh seeds and saplings expected to be ready for replantation this year.

These nurseries will play a crucial role in expanding effective climate action for flood and erosion-affected indigenous communities. They will contribute to improving livelihoods and the local economy, combating deforestation and biodiversity loss, and enhancing carbon sequestration through intensive reforestation initiatives.

Conclusion

The Climate Project Foundation's initiative has been widely recognized as a grassroots climate action by indigenous communities, with the potential to be replicated in other areas of the region. These efforts will yield additional benefits, including the preservation of biodiversity, water and food security, and the protection of traditions, knowledge systems, and cultures. They will also support livelihoods dependent on local flora and fauna in indigenous and community-inhabited villages and enhance resilience to frequent floods and erosion.







Clean Energy

Clean energy is vital for climate change mitigation, as it reduces greenhouse gas emissions by replacing fossil fuels with renewable sources like solar, wind, and hydro power. Transitioning to clean energy helps decrease air pollution, enhances energy security, and supports sustainable development. By investing in clean energy technologies, we can significantly cut carbon emissions, curb global warming, and build a more resilient and sustainable future.

At Climate Reality, we are actively pursuing partnerships with organizations to promote clean energy solutions. By collaborating closely with diverse stakeholders, we aim to accelerate the adoption of renewable energy sources. Our initiatives are geared towards reducing carbon emissions, enhancing energy efficiency, and advancing sustainable practices globally. Through these partnerships, we strive to drive impactful change and pave the way for a cleaner, more sustainable energy future.



Climate Finance: Investing In India's Energy Transition

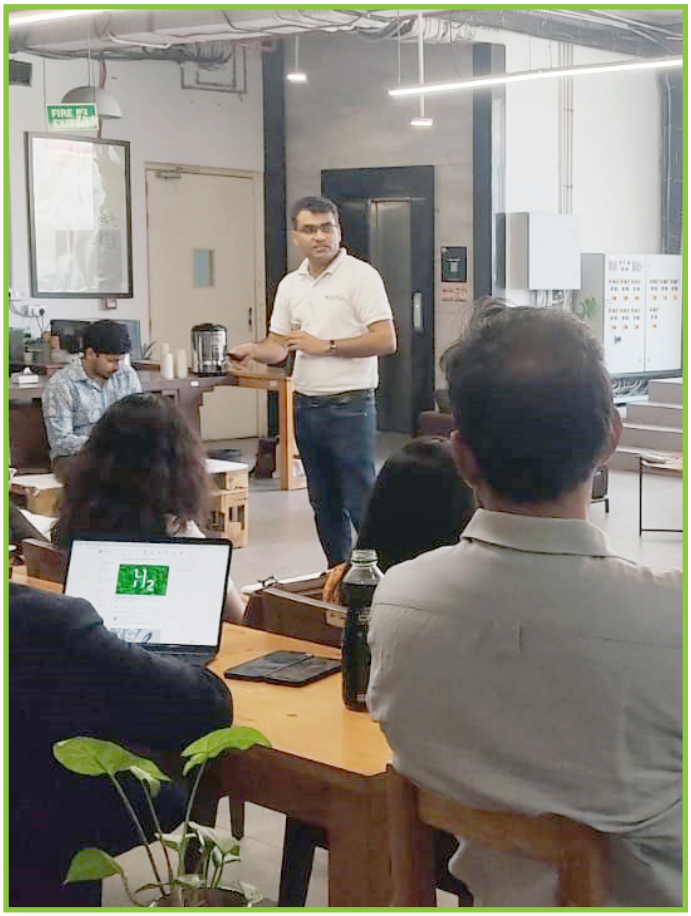
On 1st June, The Climate Project Foundation was invited by Sangam - Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), a flagship initiative of Niti Aayog, the Government's policy institute to support and nurture budding talents on climate resilient technologies.

The program started with Sreyashee Das, CEO of AIC-Sangam sharing the ideology behind starting the center and how it is helping nurture new talent in finding tech-based climate change solutions. Bhavesh Swami represented TCPF and shared bilateral, multilateral, and various government schemes available under the banner of 'Climate Finance' with World Bank, IFC, and SIDBI offering money to such projects and manufacturing entities.

The audience was awe-inspired to learn how two million tons of carbon was saved via the project's cumulative lifetime with clean energy initiatives.

Later, a panel cum interactive Q and A happened where Sreyashee and Bhavesh were joined by Riya Saxena of RMI, India, Manisha Mukherjee of Nangia Anderson, India, Rayann Shingati of Transition VC along with Shikhita Gupta, a fellow Climate Reality Leader and manager at AIC- Sangam.

The Climate Project Foundation promised to introduce these tech start-ups or budding entrepreneurs from its GCP program to the network and vice- versa.





EV Update Media National Summit 2023

Electric Vehicles are no more a luxury but have emerged as a mainstream mobility solution. With their market share growing in double digits, it is even more important that the missing links of new technology development, charging augmentation, right information around safety and standards be deliberated upon. The Climate Project Foundation joined hands with EV Update Media and brought these stakeholders at the National EV Summit on 23rd Aug 2023.



The two day event was organized to create awareness and bring out the positive change towards just transition towards our net zero goals through EV promotion. On day 1,
Mr. Aditya Pundir, in his inaugural address reiterated the importance of the low carbon development path and how more research in the EV space would accelerate the 'Just Transition' path. He was joined by Mr. Vaibhav Dange, Senior Advisor to the Ministry of Road Transport, who threw light on initiatives taken up by the government in the space of EV promotion.

On day 2, the focus was on bridging the gap between new ventures, their mentorship and funding opportunities. TCPF collaborated with Sangam – Atal Innovation Centre who came on board for the 'EV Update Investors' Meet' to gauge the potential technologies/ solutions along with other VC fund managers. Entrepreneurs joined in from India and GCC countries, with focus on EV two wheelers, cars, battery cells, software integration and similar other aspects. Three proposals have been shortlisted for round two, deliberating on market projections and their methodology to approach the markets after the test phase.





Awareness, Advocacy and Partnerships

The Climate Project Foundation has been actively engaging in awareness and advocacy for climate change. We started the Climate Change Awareness Program to make people aware and sensitize them about climate change to trigger individual actions. Under this program, the well- trained and expert Climate Reality Leaders give customized and curated presentations on the science, impacts and solutions of Climate change.

Through this program, we collaborate with our partners to organize and conduct presentations. We have been proactively engaging businesses, commercial associations, government, media houses, educational institutions, and resident communities in climate change conversations.

AWARENESS AND ADVOCACY

24 Hours of Reality

During the first week of December, stakeholders from around the world convened in Dubai for the annual United Nations climate summit, known as UNFCCC - CoP (Conference of Parties). The Climate Reality Project, led by Al Gore, engaged in dialogues with world leaders, youth activists, Indigenous peoples, and Climate Reality Leaders.



Mr. Gore emphasized three key points for CoP 28 attendees: phasing out fossil fuels, reducing emissions, and tripling renewable energy efforts, with an additional focus on accelerating Climate Finance, including the operationalization of the Loss and Damage Fund. Mr. Gore emphasized on the urgency of addressing the fossil fuel crisis and hosted a dinner to facilitate networking among Climate Leaders. India and South Asia were well represented at CoP 28, with leaders participating as observers, media reporters, and representatives from civil society and faith-based organizations.

Concurrently, the '24 Hours of Reality' event, led by Mr. Gore, featured discussions on critical topics such as Just Transition, Zero Emission Vehicles, Nature-based Solutions, and Building Green Communities. The India and South Asia team showcased efforts to establish Green Campuses, fostering sustainability practices that extend to entire communities through initiatives like waste and water management.



Igniting Change and Empowering Women with Improved Chulha

सुधारित चूल्हा, सुधारित जीवन

TCPF is assisting Maharashtra Foundation in the implementation of the health and women empowerment domain of the Pancham Project. In rural areas, indoor air pollution due to usage of traditional chulhas poses significant health risks, especially to women, elderly and infants. To make women aware about these risks and train them about making their own improved chulhas, The Climate Project Foundation collaborated with MG Green Solution, Pune to conduct a 05 days long workshop.



The workshop was attended by the women from the self-help groups of the village Kusumbi in Satara district where these women were trained by the experts on building 03 different types of improved chulhas namely- Laxmi, Bhagyalaxmi and Grahlaxmi chulha that caters to different needs of cooking food without deteriorating indoor air quality. Twelve improved chulhas were installed during the training, improving both the families' and their own health and also enabling women to start a small business.

These women will now train the other women of their village to build improved chulhas and generate income for their household. This program has not only empowered the women of Kusumbi by providing them with

This year, The Climate Project Foundation (TCPF) collaborated with the Maharashtra Foundation, New York in its initiative 'Project Pancham'. The "Pancham" initiative by the Maharashtra Foundation, New York is dedicated to fostering vibrant villages through comprehensive development projects focused on Health, Education, Environment, Poverty reduction, and Women Empowerment. Spearheaded, monitored, and financed by the Maharashtra Foundation.

employment but also provided them and their families with a better indoor environment.

To date, more than 50 traditional chulhas have been replaced with improved versions, showcasing the success and scalability of the initiative. The aim of the project is to build improved chulhas in 100 houses and similarly train other women of the village making them empowered and provide them with a healthier indoor environment.

This initiative not only promotes sustainable practices but also enhances the quality of life for the community, making a significant positive impact in the lives of rural women of Maharashtra.







Earth Day 2023

On April 22nd, Earth Day 2023 was celebrated with the theme "Invest in Our Planet," drawing enthusiastic participation from young people across South Asia. The event was a collaboration between Earth Day India, the Association of Professional Social Workers & Development Practitioners (APSWDP), Chitkara University, and The Climate Project Foundation.



Ms. Neela Mazumdar from Earth Day Networks highlighted the historic evolution of Earth Day and its global impact. Mr. Bhavesh Swami from TCPF emphasized the need for a similar movement in the Indian subcontinent, showcasing TCPF's efforts through the Climate Reality Leaders' network, the Green Campus Programme, and afforestation projects. Dr. Charu Khosla from Chitkara University discussed the benefits of the Green Campus Programme in promoting sustainable practices among students. Mr. Hitesh Gulati, a senior Climate Reality Leader, shared his success in implementing green practices. Dr. Vani Parvez, the webinar's moderator, pledged to expand the program to other campuses in Northern India.

Training Program on SDGs and Low Carbon Pathway

On January 25th, Hare Krishna Exports Group in Mumbai organized a training program focusing on SDGs, ESG principles, and pathways to achieve sustainability goals. Bhavesh Swami from TCPF led the session, beginning with an ice-breaking activity to understand participants' roles and discuss how embracing sustainability can enhance business growth and reputation.



Mr. Ratnesh Jha, Executive Director of UN Global Compact, elaborated on the relevance of SDG goals such as gender equality, water management, health, and education across operations at Dholakia group. Dr. Subhash Mail, VP-HR, and Mr. Paresh Patadia, Sr. Manager – Admin of HK Design expressed gratitude and committed to regular meetings every three months to further integrate green practices within their organizational framework.

World Environment Day

The Climate Project Foundation and Mobius Foundation celebrated World Environment Day by engaging over 150 teams from South Asia of the Youth For Earth (Y4E) championship, focusing on finding local solutions to climate crises. With this year's theme centered on SDG 13 - Climate Action, participants shared their ideas for environmental betterment with enthusiasm.



Ms. Smruti Sweta Samantray of TCPF inaugurated the event, joined by Mr. Aditya Pundir and Mr. Shrawan from Mobius Foundation, who inspired attendees with actionable strategies to combat climate change. Mr. Bhavesh Swami provided insights from last year's entries, offering valuable guidance on project ideas, submission processes, and evaluation criteria. Excited participants eagerly sought advice on project submission criterias showing their zest to win.

World EV Day

On September 9th, The Climate Project Foundation and Ola Mobility Institute (OMI) Foundation celebrated World EV Day, gathering stakeholders from the EV industry to discuss its maturation. The webinar began with Aishwarya Raman, Executive Director of OMI, highlighting India's rapid EV market growth followed by Akash Gupta, CEO of Zypp Electric, focusing on vehicles with heavier payloads and increased mileage per charge.



The next session was taken by Aditya Pundir, Director of The Climate Reality Project India & South Asia, where he highlighted collaborations with the government to promote electric vehicle schemes. Dr. Annika Bose Styczynski from OP Jindal Global University discussed the development of the Green Jobs vertical within the electric vehicle sector. Ashish Kundra, IAS, discussed the lease model's success in Delhi's Department of Transport, while Narendra Nath Veluri, IFS, highlighted Kerala's 'Water Metro' concept. Mr. Vishnu V., IAS, shared insights on Tamil Nadu's manufacturing incentives, and Dr. Christoph Wolff from Smart Freight Centre discussed international collaborations and tech transfer opportunities. The event was hosted on Twitter/X Spaces, and was well-received by over a hundred participants.

World Wetland Day 2024

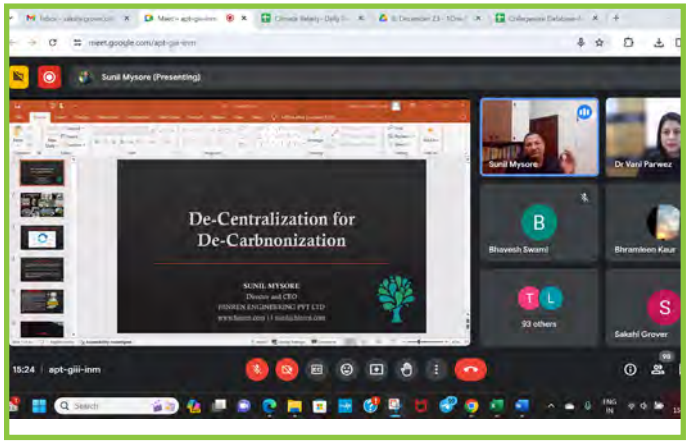
The Climate Project Foundation organized a webinar on February 2nd to commemorate World Wetlands Day. The webinar aimed to address the reasons behind the decline of wetlands, the impacts of climate change on these ecosystems, and proposed solutions for their conservation, protection, and restoration.



With over 700 registrations, the webinar attracted more than 530 participants, predominantly youth, underscoring their growing interest in understanding environmental issues and solutions. Distinguished speakers enriched the session: Mr. Raj Mohan, National Coordinator for Reforestation at The Climate Project Foundation, emphasized the urgency of wetland conservation and its ecosystem-wide implications. Ms. Sumaiyah Mamun, a Climate Reality Leader and urban planning expert, discussed restoration techniques, green initiatives, and strategies for adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change on wetlands. The webinar concluded with an interactive Q&A session with experts and a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Sakshi Grover, Environment Consultant at The Climate Project Foundation.

National Energy Conservation Day 2023

On December 15th, a webinar was organized by The Climate Project Foundation in collaboration with Chitkara University and the Association of Professional Social Workers & Development Practitioners (APSWDP) to commemorate National Energy Conservation Day. The webinar, themed 'Mission LifE: A low carbon pathway via energy conservation', aimed to highlight opportunities in the energy sector for youth and promote energy-friendly entrepreneurship.



Bhavesh Swami from TCPF discussed emission reduction strategies and presented India's current energy capacity through informative graphs. Mr. Sunil Mysore, National Coordinator for clean energy, emphasized the importance of decentralization for decarbonization, advocating for small-scale and individual solutions in the clean energy sector to ensure a sustainable future. The webinar attracted 120 participants, primarily comprising students and faculty members.

Sustainability Fashion And Climate Justice At NIFT

On 1st February 2024, National Institute of Fashion Technology – Bhubaneswar, Odisha conducted a panel discussion on Climate Justice and Sustainable Fashion. The panel discussion began with how fashion, especially the fast fashion industry impacts global GHG emissions making it imperative to look at the triple bottom line (People, Planet & Profit) in a more balanced way.



The session was designed by Professor Dr. Binay Bhushan Jena for the students and faculty members of the institute. He is well known for establishing the Farm to Fashion concept at NIFT-Bhubaneswar.

Mr. Prafulla Dhal, National Coordinator – Climate Disaster and Livelihood, The Climate Project Foundation; and Ms. Smruti S Samantray, Manager – Communications and Collaborations, The Climate Project Foundation were invited as the panelists, among others.

Mr. Dhal spoke about the need for climate change mitigation in Odisha and how climate justice can be aligned with it. Ms. Samantray spoke about how design students can contribute towards the journey of sustainability and bring in an impactful transformation in the purchasing behavior of the society while shedding light on green jobs.



World Water Day

To mark World Water Day 2024, themed "Water for Peace", TCPF and Development Alternatives co-organized a roundtable with water sector professionals from fifteen organizations. The event aimed to tackle key issues in water management and trigger dialogue on promoting peace through sustainable practices. It featured sessions like a trialogue 2047 panel discussion and an evening musical performance titled 'Water & Culture,' attracting over 150 attendees.

Mr. Ashish Tiwari, Secretary of DOEFCC, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, delivered the keynote, emphasizing the need for effective water resource management and cost-effective technologies for wastewater treatment. Moderated by senior Climate Reality Leaders Ms. Fawzia Tarannum and Ms. Swayam Prabha



Das, the roundtable facilitated inclusive discussions among experts, policymakers, and practitioners. Mr. Bhavesh Swami highlighted TCPF'sv Green Campus Programme, showcasing community-led water rejuvenation efforts in Maharashtra replicated across 100 villages, emphasizing collective action in addressing water challenges and promoting peace through sustainable management practices.

Jal Utsav

The Climate Project Foundation was honored to participate in the inaugural 'Jal Utsav' in Amreli, Gujarat, a three-day festival celebrating water resources and their transformative impact on communities. From November 15th to 18th, Mr. Bhavesh Swami, Lead for Clean Energy Policy and Engagements at TCPF, represented the organization at this event, which included a state-level function inaugurated by Governor Sh. Acharya Devavrat and the Chief Minister.

The second day of Jal Utsav featured field visits and community interactions, demonstrating how interventions have enhanced livelihoods through improved agriculture and horticulture practices. The event concluded with a roundtable discussion emphasizing the critical



role of robust governance, timely interventions, policy enforcement, community engagement, technological innovation, and advocacy in promoting sustainable water management practices. These discussions underscored the importance of collaborative efforts and effective policy frameworks to ensure the long-term health and sustainability of water resources in the region.

SOCIAL MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

At The Climate Project Foundation (TCPF), we ensure that our communication activities align with our programs; generate awareness and carry out mitigations; and highlight successful partnerships with the Climate Reality Leaders and other organizations.

Our comprehensive communication strategies aim to foster a sustainability-led mindset, emphasizing collective responsibility & climate action, keeping in view scenarios in India and global arenas; Global South and country wise scenarios. We thrive on creativity, storytelling, inclusive approach and positive transformation.

In 2023-24, we worked on 20+ social media campaigns driven for India and some south asian countries along through approx. 500 posts and stories. Some of our key campaigns were: COP28, Blue Economy, Women's Day, Plastic Pollution, Green Campus Programme success stories, Recap 2023, GCP in Kashmir, Youth For Earth 2023 & 2024 editions, ICSE '24, Empower & Connect, Making a Difference, etc. Other than this, we also shared climate change news based on South Asia with our audiences. One of the major renaissances we created is establishing ourselves on the LinkedIn platform and garnered good attention, organically.

The communications team supported 120+ activities related to the Green Campus Programme (GCP) across India, and in Bangladesh and Nepal. Additionally, for the same, the team created impact stories, and case studies-booklet on success stories; supported in making a foray into Odisha through Principals' Conclave and emphasized the humongous amount of work done in Maharashtra and Kashmir. The team also built an online sustainability education portfolio for the organization, and mentored two GCP-Kashmir members to produce



research-based articles.

The communications team promoted 40+ curated events of TCPF via social media, newsletters, Telegram, WhatsApp, and website. Major online events were live-streamed on Zoom and YouTube. The team has also supported in the preparation of TCPF's Annual Report and report of GCP in Kashmir; curated Odia content & resources; supported in the development of the website and mentored 5 interns.

The team has produced 20+ blogs and 6 bi-monthly newsletters featuring impact stories during FY 2023-24. It has also been able to put the spotlights on our programs and events through 30+ media coverages.

Some of the new initiatives undertaken by the Communications Team:

Through a mentorship program for research interns from Kashmir, we developed 4 whitepapers on saffron production, sustainable lifestyle, walnuts, biodiversity richness, and how nature influences childhood in Pampore

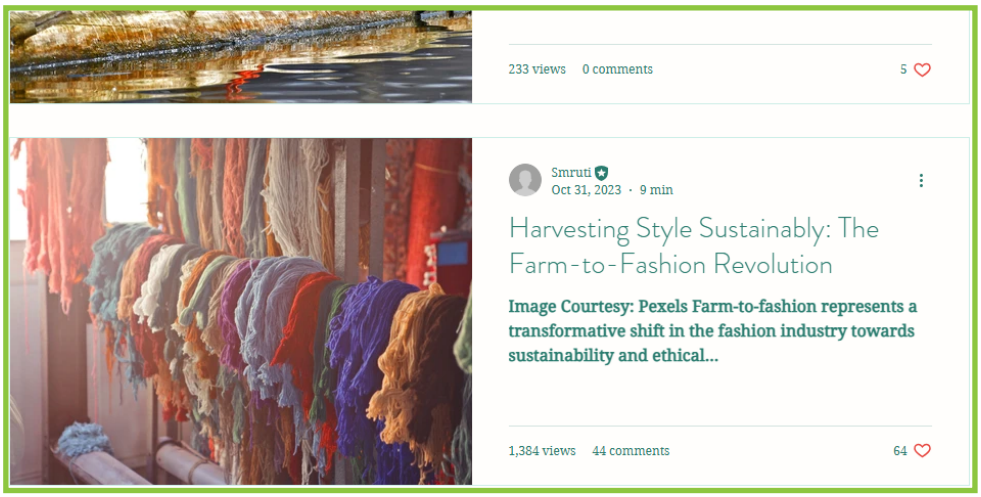
- highlighting unique environmental & cultural aspects of Kashmir, and contributing valuable insights into sustainable practices and local biodiversity.

The communications team has spearheaded 4-5 collaborative initiatives, including a) Climate Summit with CII-Young Indians and The Design Village in Noida; b) a panel discussion on Climate Justice and Sustainability at NIFT-Bhubaneswar; c) Principals' Conclave in Odisha; d) an Earth Day 2023 webinar with Early Childhood Development Forum (ECDF) in Assam, with whom, a session on Green Jobs was also conducted to promote sustainable career opportunities.

Following the patterns set by the communications team in the previous financial year, this year too the team focused on creating a balanced mix of static and audio-visual content, releasing over 90 AV/Reels for better engagement.

Operating across different geographies, we used vernacular languages like Marathi, Kashmiri, and Odia, alongside English and Hindi, to strengthen stakeholder-community communication. Leveraging digital tools and AI prompt engineering, especially on social media, enhanced our reach and engagement.









CONTENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

At Climate Reality, we strive towards developing engaging and informative content on climate change awareness and education to equip our stakeholders with the knowledge to understand and address the impacts of climate change. It helps in driving informed action and brings about a sustainable behavioral change which is crucial for our planet's future.

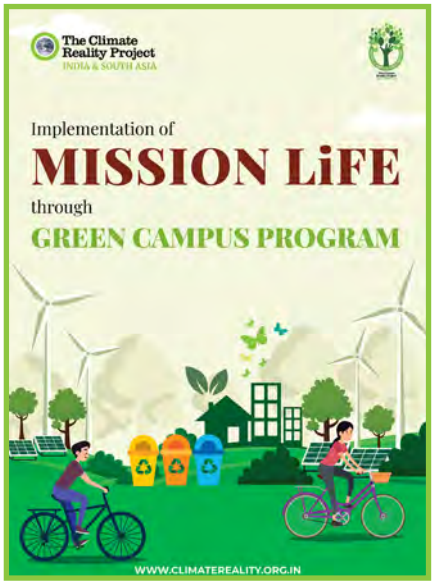
This year, we significantly expanded climate change education and awareness initiatives by developing content in multiple regional languages, including Bangla (India & Bangladesh), Odia, and Marathi other than Hindi & English. This inclusive approach ensured our materials reached and resonated with a broader audience (especially in rural areas), to inculcate a deeper understanding of climate issues across diverse communities.

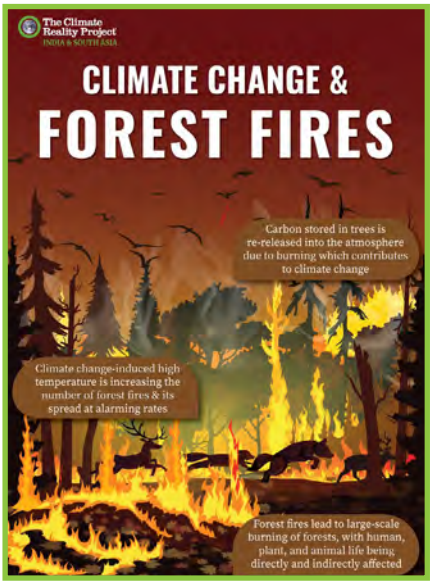
We created visually engaging posters, infographics, booklets for junior and senior students (waste & water management, biodiversity & energy conservation, and air quality), activity books, interactive quizzes, flashcards on state birds (Maharashtra & Kashmir), brochures, banners, multimedia content, social media posts and carousels that talked about the local impacts of climate change and practical hands on solutions.

To make this content accessible to our targeted audience, we developed microsites exclusive to our stakeholders in each region (Maharashtra, Kashmir, Odisha, Bangladesh) in their native languages. These microsites are tailored to address the specific needs and interests of the local communities, providing relevant information about our programs, resources, and opportunities for involvement. We also developed & published bimonthly Newsletters to take the climate change message forward and highlight the inspiring work done by our Climate Reality Leaders.

We received positive feedback from communities, educators, and local leaders and have been overwhelmingly encouraging. The content was appreciated for being accessible and relatable, which empowered them to take meaningful action against climate change which validates our inclusive, localized awareness approach and reinforces our commitment to expand these efforts.



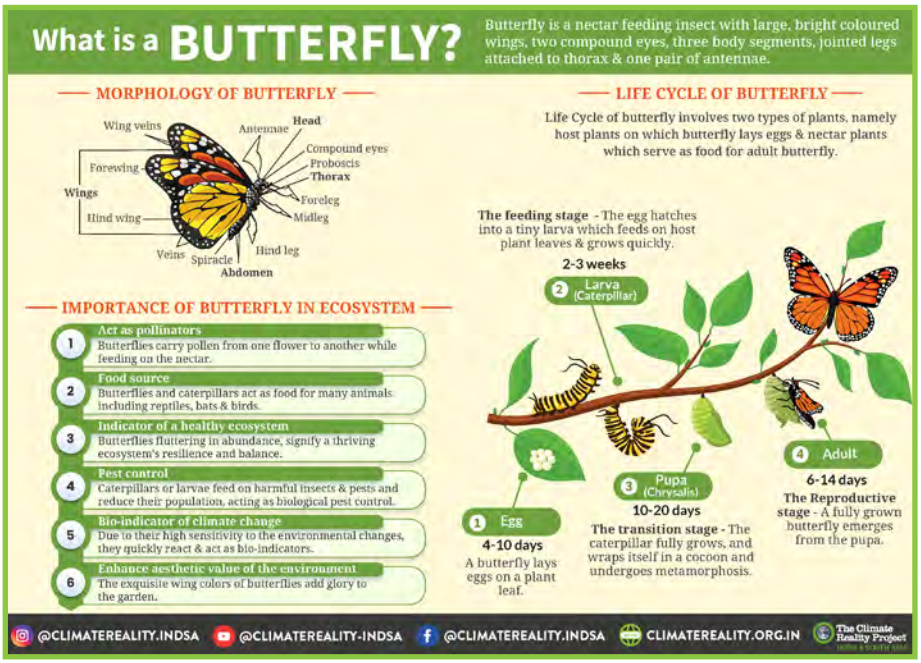


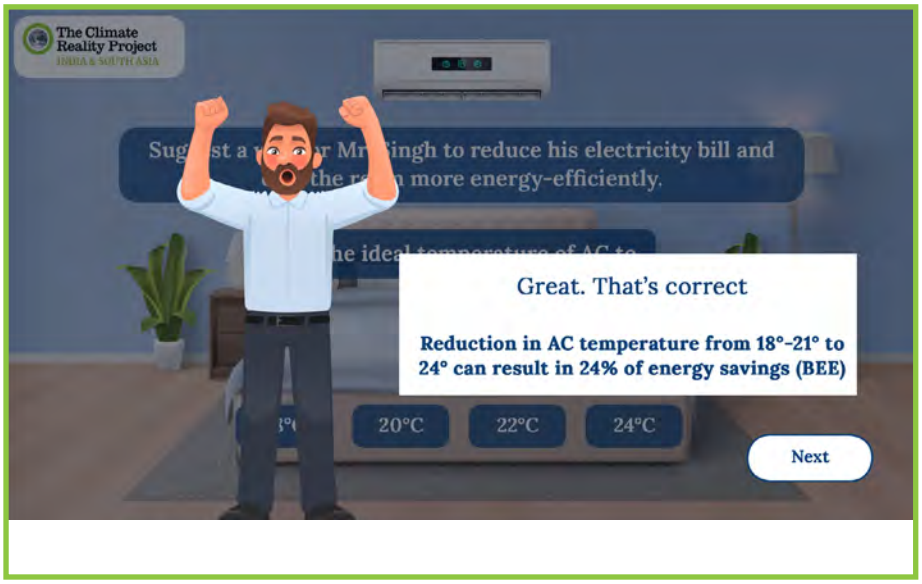



The Climate Reality Project
INDIA & SOUTH ASIA
पारंपारिक चूल वापरून जर तुमच्या घरातील भिंतीवर काजळी जमा होवून भिंती एवढ्या काळ्या होत असतील तर विचार करा या काजळीचा तुमच्या व तुमच्या कुटुंबाच्या सदस्यांच्या आरोग्यावर काय परिणाम होत असेल?


স্বাস্থ্যের উপর
যানবাহন দূষণের প্রভাব
মানসিক সক্ষমতা কমে যাওয়া
অ্যাজমা ব্রঙ্কাইটিস, নিউমোনিয়া
হৃদরোগ
অকাল মৃত্যু
কার্বন মনোক্সাইড
নাইট্রোজেন ডাই অক্সাইড
হাইড্রোকার্বন
সালফার ডাই অক্সাইড
ওজোন
পিএম 2.5


The Climate Reality Project
INDIA & SOUTH ASIA
ग्रीन कॅम्पस प्रोग्रॅम
पुस्तिका
प्राथमिक शाळांसाठी


What is a BUTTERFLY?
Butterfly is a nectar feeding insect with large, bright coloured wings, two compound eyes, three body segments, jointed legs attached to thorax & one pair of antennae.
MORPHOLOGY OF BUTTERFLY
Wing veins
Antennae
Head
Compound eyes
Proboscis
Thorax
Foreleg
Midleg
Hind leg
Abdomen
Forewing
Wings
Hind wing
Veins
Spiracle
IMPORTANCE OF BUTTERFLY IN ECOSYSTEM
1 Act as pollinators
Butterflies carry pollen from one flower to another while feeding on the nectar.
2 Food source
Butterflies and caterpillars act as food for many animals including reptiles, bats & birds.
3 Indicator of a healthy ecosystem
Butterflies fluttering in abundance, signify a thriving ecosystem's resilience and balance.
4 Pest control
Caterpillars or larvae feed on harmful insects & pests and reduce their population, acting as biological pest control.
5 Bio-indicator of climate change
Due to their high sensitivity to the environmental changes, they quickly react & act as bio-indicators.
6 Enhance aesthetic value of the environment
The exquisite wing colors of butterflies add glory to the garden.
LIFE CYCLE OF BUTTERFLY
Life Cycle of butterfly involves two types of plants, namely host plants on which butterfly lays eggs & nectar plants which serve as food for adult butterfly.
The feeding stage - The egg hatches into a tiny larva which feeds on host plant leaves & grows quickly.
2-3 weeks
2 Larva (Caterpillar)
3 Pupa (Chrysalis)
10-20 days
The transition stage - The caterpillar fully grows, and wraps itself in a cocoon and undergoes metamorphosis.
4 Adult
6-14 days
The Reproductive stage - A fully grown butterfly emerges from the pupa.
1 Egg
4-10 days
A butterfly lays eggs on a plant leaf.
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more energy-efficiently.
Great. That's correct
Reduction in AC temperature from 18°-21° to 24° can result in 24% of energy savings (BEE)
20°C
22°C
24°C
Next


গাছের গোড়াবন্ধন
গাছের বিজ্ঞসর চলন এবং প্রয়োজনে বাধা
জল প্রবেশ বাধ্য
মাটির পৃষ্ঠের সজার
শিকড়ে বায়ুচলাচল বাধ্য
শিকড় কুকিড় হওয়া এবং দুর্বল হয়ে যাওয়া



Climate Reality Leaders

Climate Reality Leaders are a diverse group of passionate individuals who have come together to solve the greatest challenge of our time i.e., 'climate crisis'. These leaders come from all walks of life like activists, educators, cultural leaders, organizers, scientists, or storytellers committed towards building a sustainable future together.

Climate Reality Leaders are personally trained by the Nobel Laureate and former Vice President of the USA Al Gore and learn from the world-renowned scientists and communicators during Climate Reality Leadership Corps. There are more than 45000 Climate Reality Leaders across the globe who are working for just climate solutions worldwide. The India branch supports over 1500+ trained Climate Reality Leaders from India and South Asia region, who are taking climate actions at different levels.

Knowledge Exchange event, Phillipines

A Branch retreat cum knowledge exchange event was organized by The Climate Reality Project in the Philippines. The objective behind the retreat was to exchange the learnings from the successful programs from each branch and opportunities for cross branch collaboration. From the India & South Asia branch Mr. Aditya Pundir and Bhavesh Swami joined the event held from 8th to 11th May 2023.

The Green Campus Programme from the India and South Asia branch has garnered attention internationally for its efforts in promoting sustainability and environmental consciousness within educational institutions. The other branch staff members showed a keen interest in understanding how the program can be customized and replicated and also how student exchange sessions can be planned adding value to the collaborating avenues.

The branch meet was an enriching experience which provided valuable insights and inspiration to fuel our collective efforts in addressing the climate crisis. From thought-provoking discussions on the latest climate science to practical strategies for advocacy and action, participants gained a deeper understanding of the urgency and complexity of the challenges we face. We learned the importance of grassroots mobilization, community engagement, and advocacy in driving meaningful change.





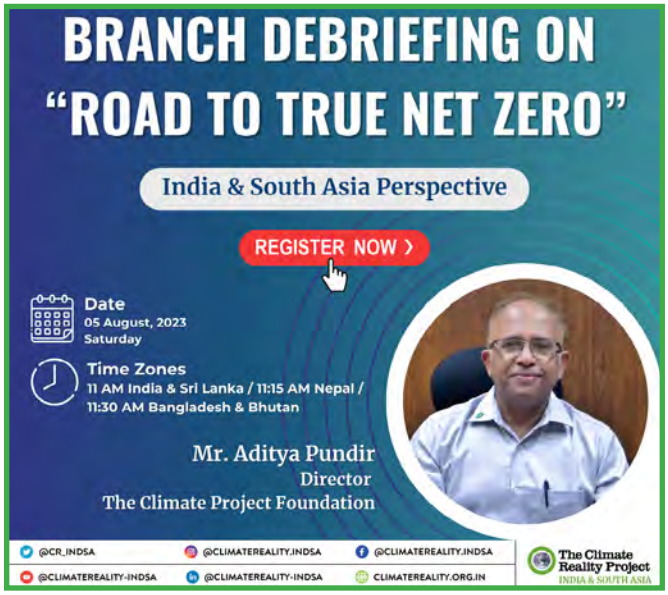


Session on 'Road To True Net-Zero'

On 5th August, a session was organized for the Climate Reality Leaders to revisit the 'Road to true Net-zero' vision of Al Gore, Former Vice-President of USA, Founder of The Climate Reality Project and Climate Reality CEO, Phyllis Cuttino.

Mr. Aditya Pundir, Director, The Climate Reality Project-India and South Asia, began the session by introducing the four thrust areas under which all the branches will be aligning their programs. He discussed and elaborated on the implementation of programs from the South Asia perspective under the four areas - Emission reduction, Reducing Green washing, Just Transition (Green Finance) Reforming the global financing system, International cooperation to COP.

It was followed by an open ended Q n A session where discussion centered around our programs, four areas and role of climate reality leaders. Concurrently on how to align the efforts and work towards a more sustainable and resilient future for the region and its communities.



Climate Reality Leaders Meet up, Bangladesh

On October 16th, The Climate Reality Project India and South Asia organized a meeting for Climate Reality Leaders in Bangladesh, led by Mr. Aditya Pundir and Mr. Zahurul Haque. The focus was on how Bangladesh can achieve its net-zero goals through systematic execution.

Thirteen Climate Reality Leaders from Bangladesh attended and were briefed on the new global net-zero plan by Chairman Al Gore, aiming for 2050. They also received updates on ongoing programs in India and shared their thoughts to ensure alignment with local conditions, fostering a collaborative effort to tackle climate change in the region.

As the way forward, the main points of discussion were to enhance climate education through the Green Campus Program, train teachers on climate change mitigation, collaborate with coastal schools on adaptation strategies, and establish a national coordinators' committee in Bangladesh to mentor climate reality leaders.



ACTS OF LEADERSHIP



ANAND PENDHARKAR

Climate Reality Leader

Anand Pendharkar, a Climate Reality Leader, co-Authored 'Climate Actioneers' Primer: A Beginners' Toolkit' with Mr. Rahul Palekar and Amruta Padgaonkar, launched it on 16 September in Mumbai followed by another release on 19th September 2023 in Delhi at the International Conference for Sustainability Education.

It is a freely accessible book having 600 climate actions one could take towards the greening of our Earth. It is a comprehensive Guide to tackling Climate Change that is all about having no-excuse solutions for all the planet-dwellers. The book is a testament to the authors' deep commitment to addressing climate change, and is supported by Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, India office, as part of their social-ecological transformation work.



SUNIL MYSORE

Climate Reality Leader

Climate Reality Leader Sunil Mysore contributed to the recent paper by the International Institute for Sustainable Development highlighting the opportunities and challenges in scaling up Agrivoltaics (the simultaneous use of areas of land for both solar panels and agriculture) in India.

The report provides solutions to the potential challenge India might face owing to the lack of land resources to be utilized between renewable energy and agriculture. It showcases agrivoltaics as a medium to increase crop yield. It also focuses on case stories from stakeholders who are a part of the agricvoltaics ecosystem.



PRAFULLA DHAL

National Coordinator,
Climate Disaster & Livelihoods

Dr. Prafulla Dhal, our senior Climate Reality Leader, collaborated with women stakeholders to combat climate change. He mentored self-help groups in projects like solar irrigation, mushroom cultivation, and vermicomposting, fostering community engagement and local climate solutions.

His eco-walks for sustainable coastal ecosystems engaged 1100 village-based organizations, covered 700 km, and interacted with 2000 schools/colleges and farmers' producer organizations (FPOs), benefiting 600,000 rural communities over 4 months. Launching from Ganjam to Balasore via Puri, Khordha, Jagatsinghpur, and Bhadrak, his efforts in Odisha hold nationwide replication potential, making his projects exemplary.



ALKA TOMAR

National Coordinator,
Media

Under the guidance of Climate Reality Leader Alka Tomar, the Centre for Environment Communication (CEC) and the Centre for Youth (C4Y) have successfully empowered more than 500 Hindon Youth Climate Champions of Change (HYCCC) in rural Western Uttar Pradesh. These champions, drawn from farming communities, actively engaged in various activities aimed at raising awareness about critical issues such as river pollution in the Hindon River, climate change impacts, and water security concerns.

The initiatives undertaken included the development of bilingual climate modules, conducting inter-district quizzes, organizing capacity-building workshops, and hosting the Hindon Climate Action Mela. These efforts collectively strive towards promoting sustainable natural resource management practices.



KETNA ATUL MATKAR

Climate Reality Leader

Climate Reality Leader and Dr. Ketna Atul Matkar focuses on building the capacity of municipal officials and elected representatives in solid waste management and sanitation under Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0. She actively participated in conferences and workshops, discussing Circular Economy and Solid Waste Management to promote sustainable practices.

Dr. Matkar also engaged with students, advocating for climate change education and empowering students for positive climate action. She facilitated workshops to train Master Trainers in sustainable lifestyles and climate change mitigation. Her role as an Expert Reviewer for the AR6 Synthesis Report and her academic publications highlight her significant impact and influence.



AJAY MITTAL

Climate Reality Leader

Climate Reality Leader Ajay Mittal started an online petition for safe disposal guidelines of PVC banners during festivals gained over 3,600 signatures and media support. In response, the West Bengal Pollution Control Board (WBPCB) issued an October 17, 2023 notification directing Durga Puja organizers to dispose of PVC banners properly, banning those less than 100 microns thick, and requiring handover of used banners to Registered Plastic Waste Processors.

Additionally, the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) warned puja committees against installing road-blocking hoardings. These measures aim to reduce hoardings and ensure proper disposal, preventing landfill waste.



MEGHNA JOSHI

Climate Reality Leader

Climate Reality Leader, advocate, and the founder of SWAN Livelihood, Meghna Joshi drove the 'Mera Business Programme,' empowering rural micro women entrepreneurs in Haryana. Training over 200 women, she fosters sustainable livelihoods, backed by ACIC Foundation and BML Munjal University.

Expanding to Rajasthan, Meghna collaborated with agencies like Hinduja Foundation, Ambuja Cement Foundation, and Ashok Leyland Group. With a focus on skill development, women's empowerment, and community impact, she's influenced 5,000+ individuals. For her exceptional contribution, she was awarded the 'Ambassador for Good' by Global Women for Good and 'Exceptional Women of Excellence' by Women Economic Forum.



DEEKSHA CHOPRA BHATIA

Climate Reality Leader

Climate Reality Leader Deeksha volunteered as a district coordinator for Big Butterfly Month in September 2023. Throughout the month-long event, she was engaged in various activities aimed at celebrating butterflies and fostering a love for nature among children. The activities were primarily with the school children of government owned primary schools in central Delhi.

The event saw the enthusiastic participation of around 200 children. The activities were designed to be both educational and fun, promoting awareness about butterflies, encouraging a deeper connection with nature, instilling a lasting love for the natural world in the young participants.



SEEMA PUROHIT

Climate Reality Leader

Seema Purohit, a dedicated Climate Reality Leader, has recently made significant contributions to environmental education. Her book on millets, specifically aimed at children, has garnered widespread acclaim and was awarded the Best Teaching Resource Book at the prestigious Enlit Book Fest 2024. This accolade highlights the book's effectiveness in making the subject of millets both engaging and educational for young readers.

In addition to her literary achievements, Seema Purohit has been active in spreading awareness and knowledge about climate change. She conducted a comprehensive workshop for teachers, focusing on various critical aspects of climate change.



RITURAJ PHUKAN

National Coordinator, Biodiversity

Climate Reality Leader & National Coordinator for biodiversity conservation, Rituraj Phukan has been associated with Climate Reality for over 10 years since his training in Istanbul in 2013. He recently gave an interview to Denkhausbremen, a German charitable organization dedicated to environmental justice. He discussed the impact of climate change on indigenous people, highlighting how their cultures and management practices can help restore and preserve degraded natural lands, and emphasized the value of indigenous practices for modern societies.

His article, "Being Hopeful about COP28," was featured in the Assam Tribune where he shared his views on the Loss & Damage Fund, the IPCC synthesis report, rising temperatures, and the preparedness needed before he headed to Dubai for COP28.



VIDHI VORA

Climate Reality Leader

Climate Reality Leader Ms Vidhi Vora participated as a panelist at the 3rd Plastic Recycling Conference Asia 2023, engaging in a discussion on 'The Today & Tomorrow of Plastics Circularity to Achieve Sustainable Goals.' The panel, expertly moderated by the esteemed Circular Economy leader Prabhjot Sodhi, addressed essential aspects for transitioning to circular systems, encompassing more than just plastics.

Key highlights from the conference include the necessity of formalizing the unorganized recycling sector to establish a circular economy, the role of city-level frameworks and state-level legislation in improving material management, and the importance of prioritizing reuse and refill alongside recycling. The potential of a circular economy to create numerous job opportunities across various sectors was emphasized, as was the need for sustainable production to be supported by responsible consumption.



DR. NANDINI DESHMUKH

National Coordinator,
Climate Education

Dr. Nandini Deshmukh, National Coordinator for Climate Education at The Climate Project Foundation, has over 30 years of experience as an academician, inspiring students in environmental conservation. Trained as a Climate Reality Leader in Istanbul in 2013, she has actively worked with colleges and institutes in western Maharashtra to combat climate crises.

Recently, Dr. Deshmukh was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award by Mumbai Tarun Bharat at the Species & Habitats Warriors Awards 2023. This recognition celebrates her remarkable contributions to environmental projects in Maharashtra, focusing on preserving species and habitats. As a leading figure in climate education, her unwavering commitment continues to inspire others in the field.



PARDEEP KARUTURI

National Coordinator,
E-Mobility

Climate Reality Leader & National Coordinator for E-Mobility, Pradeep Karuturi co-authored a policy brief for the G20 on building a resilient electric vehicle battery value chain within a circular economy. The recommendations will be presented to G20 working groups, ministerial meetings, and the leader's summit to help the G20 implement concrete policy measures.

The document suggests defining responsibility for end-of-life batteries in national EV policies, establishing uniform regulations for efficient battery tracking, setting up a global fund for technology innovation, and developing global design standards for safe battery recycling. It also recommends creating an international committee for effective monitoring and industry consensus.



DR. NITA GANGULY

National Coordinator,
Waste Management

Climate Reality Leader and National Coordinator for waste management, Dr. Nita Ganguly hosted an in-person session at the TechM Hinjewadi Amphitheatre on World Environment Day, showcasing DIY methods for creating home cleaning solutions and compost. As an example, she demonstrated her own DIY project using wick drip irrigation to efficiently water plants with a single bottle sustaining them for a week.

During the event themed "Mission LIFE: A Roadmap to Sustainability with Practice and Partnership in Action," Dr. Nita Ganguly delivered a plenary session highlighting the interconnectedness of environmental challenges, scientific insights, and community engagement in driving climate action. Her session underscored the importance of collaborative efforts to achieve sustainability goals. As part of her sustainable initiatives, she also donated 104 saplings to Palghar for a plantation drive.



NITISH BAROLE

Climate Reality Leader

Climate Reality Leader Nitish Barole participated in the “Flood Green Guide Youth Champions Program” by WWF, which engages youth at the forefront of the climate crisis. As one of nine young leaders from Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean, he contributed to incorporating youth knowledge and ideas into climate action strategies.

The workshop featured a site visit to Colombo’s urban wetlands, including Diyasura Park, to observe nature-based flood management in action. It also focused on community capacity building, establishing youth-focused spaces, and securing targeted funding for climate resilience initiatives.



NIKHIL KAMATH

National Coordinator, Communications

Climate Reality Leader & National Coordinator for Communications, Nikhil Kamath has significantly contributed to environmental education and advocacy through various speaking engagements and mentorship programs. He was a featured speaker at the World Environment Day Webinar on June 5, 2023, and the Climate Change Summit on October 5, 2023, discussing “Green Jobs: Weaving Sustainability & Future Prospects Together.”

Kamath also participated in the Asian Environmental Youth Network Mentorship Program, guiding students from Nepal and Delhi in communication, writing, and international relations in the environmental sector. As a team member of the “Politics for the Planet” campaign, he helped inform voters in Asian countries about their candidates’ climate agendas for the 2023-24 elections. His efforts have been recognized on the Reality Hub by the HQ, and he is featured on the AEYN website under Asia’s Earth Heroes.



ELSIE GABRIEL

National Coordinator,
Ocean Conservation

Elsie Gabriel, National Coordinator for Ocean Conservation for Climate Reality Project India and South Asia, has been deeply engaged in global initiatives focused on ocean conservation and literacy. She has actively participated in numerous United Nations conferences, including the Ocean Decade Conference in Barcelona and Athens, advocating for sustainable marine practices.

Her efforts also extend to engaging with young professionals on environmental policies. Additionally, Gabriel led innovative projects on Kadmat Island, such as marine plastics recycling, and launched accessible ocean sustainable tourism initiatives, promoting inclusive diving tourism across various regions including Maldives and Jamaica. Gabriel's contributions have earned her recognition as a UNESCO Green Citizen for her impactful ocean literacy projects.



TASNIA AHMED

National Coordinator,
Youth Mobilization

Climate Reality Leader & National Coordinator from Bangladesh, Tasnia Ahmed was involved in the NDC review "Taking Stock: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Climate Commitments," as a UNFPA Youth Advisor on Climate Action, SRHR, and Gender Committee, in collaboration with Queen Mary University of London.

Tasnia co-authored this global review examining how NDCs in Asia and the Pacific address Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) issues since the Paris Agreement's first global stocktake in 2023. The report offers recommendations to enhance future submissions by improving impact, commitments, budget allocation, and essential actions, coinciding with the 30th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD).

The Climate Project Foundation

513-516, 5th Floor, Narain Manzil,
Barakhamba Road, New Delhi - 110001

Write to us at: india@climatereality.com

www.climatereality.org.in



The Climate Reality Project®

INDIA & SOUTH ASIA

Reach us at :

climatereality.indsa

@CR_INDSA

climatereality.indsa

climatereality-indsa

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