



Pre-Conference Webinar Series

28th- 30th April 2020

Overview:

Adaptation Futures is the flagship event of the World Adaptation Science Program, which is one of the four components of World Climate Programme (WCP) based on the World Meteorological Organisation Congress XVI Resolution 18. The sixth edition of this conference, Adaptation Futures 2020, was scheduled to be co-hosted by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and the World Adaptation Science Program (WASP) in New Delhi from 27th – 30th April 2020, however, in view of the alarming levels of spread and severity of the COVID-19 outbreak, has been postponed 28 September – 1 October, 2020.

The conference will be hosted under the broad rubric of '*accelerating adaptation action and knowledge to support action*', which will be an ideal opportunity to generate a significant dialogue around actionable solutions and move the international cooperation further to realising the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Given the postponement of the actual events, this series of webinars have been designed as a precursor to the conference, highlighting the need to accelerate adaptation in today's uncertain times an additional platform to feed into the global adaptation dialogue. This series of webinars will focus broadly on the issues of Climate Change, Adaptation Action, Health and Climate Justice, and will take place over three days, from 28-30 April, to incorporate participation from across the globe.

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Day 1 – 28 April 2020: Advancing the Adaptation Agenda in Times of Uncertainty

Adaptation to climate change is essential and it is the only response available for the impacts that will occur over the next several decades before mitigation measures can have an effect. Societies, organisations and individuals have been adapting to changing conditions for centuries, but the advent of climate change brings new challenges. The future is plagued with substantial uncertainties, which makes anticipatory adaptation difficult. The fact that we have partial knowledge of future climate is in itself a new challenge. The Covid-19 emergency has ushered in a new era, where it has become all the more essential to adapt to and plan for an uncertain future.

This is the dialogue we wish to foster through this webinar, focusing on advancing the adaptation agenda through our six conference themes: Governance of adaptation, Limits to adaptation, Fairness and Equity in Adaptation, Knowledge for Action, Nature Based Solutions and Financing Adaptation.

Day 1 – 28th April 2020

<p>16:00 – 16:35 IST 20:30 – 21:00 AEST 12:30 – 13:00 CET 06:30 – 07:00 EST</p>	<p>Setting the Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr Kavya Michael, <i>Associate Fellow TERI; Co-Chair, Organising Committee, Adaptation Futures 2020</i> <p>Welcome Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr Ajay Mathur: <i>Director General, TERI; Co-Chair, Steering Committee, Adaptation Futures 2020</i>• Mr C K Mishra: <i>Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Chair, Steering Committee, Adaptation Futures 2020</i>• Dr Jian Liu: <i>Chief Scientist, UNEP; Co-Chair, Steering Committee, Adaptation Futures 2020</i>• Prof Mark New: <i>Director, African Climate and Development Initiative, University of Cape Town, South Africa</i>
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Panel Discussion: Advancing the adaptation agenda in times of uncertainty

Successful adaptation action must be temporally and geographically contextual, while simultaneously building future resilience that takes into account the multiple unknowns and uncertain futures. This panel discussion shall, thus, seek to deconstruct the advancing of adaptation agenda in times of uncertainty – bridging the gaps between science, policy and practice perspectives.

Facilitator

- Mr R R Rashmi: *Distinguished Fellow and Programme Director, Earth Science and Climate Change, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI); Member, Steering Committee, Adaptation Futures 2020*

Panellists

16:35 – 17:35

- Mr Aromar Revi: *Director, Indian Institute for Human Settlements*
- Ms Ania Grobicki: *Deputy Director for Adaptation, GCF; Member, Science Committee, Adaptation Futures 2020*
- Mr Arghya Sinha Roy: *Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist (Climate Change Adaptation), Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, Asian Development Bank*
- Ms Marylaure Crettaz: *Head of International Cooperation and Counsellor, Embassy of Switzerland, India*
- Dr Johanna Nalau: *Adaptation Science Theme Leader, Cities Research Institute, Griffith University, Gold Coast; Member, Science Committee, Adaptation Futures 2020*

17:35 – 17:50

Q&A

17:50 – 18:00

Closing Remarks:

Dr Anand Patwardhan: *Professor, School of Public Policy, University of Maryland; Chair, Science Committee, Adaptation Futures 2020*

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Day 2 - 29 April 2020: Adaptation with a Human Face

The webinar on 29 April 2020 will focus on 'adaptation with a human face'. Climate change is often seen as a remote, abstract problem expressed in terms of temperature change of mere degrees, or in sea-level rises predicted decades into the future, and is often lost in number and figures, but it most often brings with it a human cost. Climate change is happening now and it is destroying livelihoods, infrastructure and communities, forcing people to move from their homes, towns and countries around the world. The planet's poorest and most vulnerable are suffering the worst effects, despite having contributed the least to its cause. Climate change is a primary threat to our natural environment, but is most essentially a human rights issue, threatening livelihoods, development and security. Through this virtual event, we aim to view climate change adaptation through a human lens, furthering the discourse on safeguarding the rights of the most vulnerable people and on ensuring the equitable and fair sharing of burdens and benefits of climate change and its impacts. This dialogue will also highlight that the urgent action needed to adapt to climate change must be based on community-led solutions.

Day 2 – 29th April 2020

<p>16:00-16:30 20:30 – 21:00 AEST 12:30 – 13:00 CET 06:30 – 07:00 EST</p>	<p>Setting the Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr Kavya Michael, <i>Associate Fellow TERI; Member, Adaptation Futures 2020 Science Committee</i> <p>Welcome Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr Maarten Van Aalst: <i>Director, Climate Centre, IFRC; Member, Steering Committee, Adaptation Futures 2020</i>• Mr Mikko Ollikainen: <i>Manager, Adaptation Fund</i>• Dr Debra Roberts: <i>Head, Sustainable and Resilient City Initiatives Unit in eThekweni Municipality, Durban, South Africa (TBC)</i>
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Panel Discussion: Adaptation with a Human Face - Moving Towards Climate Justice

Climate change is happening now, and it is destroying livelihoods, infrastructure and communities, forcing people to move from their homes, towns and countries around the world. The planet's poorest and most vulnerable are suffering the worst effects, despite having contributed the least to its cause. The panellists will view climate change adaptation through a human lens, furthering the discourse on safeguarding the rights of the most vulnerable people and on ensuring equitable and fair sharing of the burdens and benefits of climate change and its impacts. This dialogue will also highlight the role of community-led solutions, knowledge sharing and empowerment for local action.

Facilitator

16:30-17:30

- Dr Saleemul Huq: *Director, ICCCAD, Independent University, Bangladesh; Senior Fellow, IIED, London; Member, Adaptation Futures 2020 Science Committee*

Panellists

- Dr Richard Klien: *Senior Research Fellow, SEI*
- Prof. Coleen Vogel: *Distinguished Professor, University of the Witwatersrand*
- Mr Ashish Chaturvedi: *Director-Climate Change, GIZ India*
- Ms Georgina Cundill Kemp: *Senior Program Officer, IDRC, Canada; Member, Adaptation Futures 2020 Science Committee*
- Mr Liviu Stirbat: *Deputy Head, Adaptation Unit, DG-CLIMA*
- Ms Christina Chan: *Climate Resilience Director, World Resources Institute*

17:30 – 17:45

Q&A

17:45 – 18:00

Closing Remarks:

Dr Youssef Nassef: *Director, Adaptation Division, UNFCCC; Member, Steering Committee Adaptation Futures 2020*

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Day 3 – 30 April 2020: Climate Change and Health

As COVID-19 ravages through the global economy, challenging and shattering decade old ‘economy first’ stand of the countries of the world, there are few constants and parallels to be drawn with climate emergency. While it is too early to suggest possible linkages of COVID-19 to climate change, the pandemic especially brings to the fore, the exacerbated vulnerabilities to the lives and livelihoods of the already marginalised (urban poor, migrant population, farmers, informal economy workers) and displaced. This panel seeks to emphasize on these pressing issues of climate shocks/change, its overlapping impacts with the uncertainties stemming from disasters and the role of adaptation in addressing the same, while addressing few key challenges like:

- The need to focus on climate change adaptation through the lens of justice and access, while simultaneously acknowledging its intersectionality with the broader developmental parameters of health and sanitation, poverty, good governance etc,
- The need for an inherent flexibility in adaptation policy for decision making under uncertain times.
- Investments in disaster risk resilience such that it addresses effects of climate emergencies

Day 3 –30th April 2020

19:30 – 19:45 IST 23:00 – 23:15 AEST 16:00 – 16:15 CET 10:00 – 10:15 EST	Setting the Context <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms Swati Pillai, <i>Research Associate, TERI; Member, Secretariat, Adaptation Futures 2020</i> Welcome Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prof Mark New: <i>Director, African Climate and Development Initiative, University of Cape Town, South Africa</i>• Mr John Roome: <i>Senior Director, Climate Change, World Bank (TBC)</i>
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19:45 – 21:00 IST	<p>Panel Discussion: <u>Climate Change and Health</u></p> <p>As the world faces one of the greatest and most wide-spread health crisis of modern times, there is increasing concern over its possible linkages to climate change as well as what other implications to health, that climate change may have. This panel discussion would focus on these pressing issues of climate change, its impact on health and the role of adaptation in addressing these issues.</p> <p><u>Facilitator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr Kristie Ebi: <i>Professor, Department of Global Health, University of Washington; Member, Science Committee, Adaptation Futures 2020</i> <p><u>Panellists</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms Suruchi Bhadwal: <i>Senior Fellow, TERI; Co-Chair, Organising Committee, Adaptation Futures 2020</i>• Dr Niranjan Saggurti: <i>India Head, Population Council</i>• Prof Christopher Gordon: <i>Country Engagement Lead - Ghana, CDKN</i>• Dr Sari Kovats: <i>Associate Professor, Faculty of Public Health and Policy, LSHTM</i>• Dr Rosalind West: <i>Climate Science & Services Advisor, UK Department for International Development</i>
21:00-21:15 IST	<p>Q&A</p>
	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr Anand Patwardhan: <i>Professor, School of Public Policy, University of Maryland; Chair, Science Committee, Adaptation Futures 2020</i>

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