

**International Conference on Sustainability Education
9-10th September 2019
India Habitat Centre, New Delhi**

Global Warming to Global Cooling– A Changing Paradigm for Education

Panel Discussion



Organizer: Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) in Collaboration with the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Date and Time (90 Minutes) –10th September (1130 to 1300 Hrs.)

Background

The problem and impacts of climate change are now being realized globally as a crisis on a global scale. There is now an unprecedented awakening for climate actions to avoid the impending catastrophic situation to humanity and much of the world's remaining ecosystems. This urgency has reflected in the discussions and demands for declaring a **Climate Emergency!**

Climate change as SDG Goal 13 cannot be seen in isolation but as a cross-cutting issue that impacts all other Goals. UN report has reported that the year 2018 was the fourth warmest year on record. Levels of carbon dioxide concentrations continued to increase in 2018. Ocean acidity is 26 per cent higher than in pre-industrial times and is projected to increase by 100 per cent to 150 per cent by 2100 at the current rate of CO₂ emissions. It is a complex challenge that is cross-cutting and important to achieve the sustainable development agenda. The impacts of Climate Change are already threatening to reverse many of the gains that have improved people's lives due to their vulnerabilities to natural disasters.

As per the UN Secretary-General, the challenge requires a faster & more ambitious response to unleash the social & economic transformation needed to achieve 2030 goals. The response has to come from all, the governments, cities, regions, businesses and investors. UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Liu Zhenmin has

warned that the clock for taking decisive actions on climate change is ticking. Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary UNFCCC expressed similar sentiments at the Bonn Climate Conference in June 2019.

“People are demanding results—whether that’s online or in the streets—and we must show we are taking responsibility. The Paris Agreement is clear: this is our job. We have the mandate to do this. We must deliver.”

Traditionally education has been seen as a driver of change and also as a driver of drivers of change. The formal education systems have been an instrument to build a generation with the literacy defined by the expectations of the society. The Climate Emergency has challenged the traditional ways and time scale educational systems have been working with. It requires education to facilitate the transformation in a relatively short time towards ‘Global Cooling’.

About the Session

The session will discuss the changing paradigm for Education for Sustainable Development to identify priority actions that have impacts in the short term and to achieve the agenda 2030.

The session will discuss and deliberate on the following Questions

1. How does the role of Education changes in the paradigm of Climate Emergency? What are the transformations Educations System need to go through?
2. What constitutes effective Climate Change education? What are the key Literacy Outcomes in this changing paradigm requiring radical action for Global Cooling?
3. How formal educational systems can help in influencing all sectors of our economy - energy, agriculture, land use, and industrial process?
4. How can we move from an incremental progress mindset to Leap Frogging?
5. How can we raise large scale awareness for civic action – demand governments to declare an emergency and put resources in place to help reduce carbon emissions?
6. What are the Global Benchmarks, Priority Actions for ESD to achieve the Agenda 2030?

Panelists

1. Ms Adriana Valenzuela, UNFCCC Focal point for climate education and youth. (Participation through Video Link)
2. Ms Chandrika Bahadur is, President of the SDSN Association

3. Prof Martin Siegert, Faculty of Natural Sciences, The Grantham Institute for Climate Change
4. Ms Karuna Singh, Country Director - India. Earth Day Network
5. Ms Livleen K Kahlon, Associate Director, Environmental Education and Awareness
6. Mr Abhijit Paul Zacharia, Program Manager, CSR at WIPRO Foundation
7. Dr Pramod Kumar Sharma, Senior Director of Education, FEE

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