

Winter School on Society, Nature and Sustainability

24, 25 & 27th January 2022

(Organised by Natural Resources and Governance Programme,

School of Livelihoods and Development, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Hyderabad)

Environmental problems today are complex, dynamic and global in nature. From climate change to deforestation, from biodiversity loss to water scarcity, the contemporary ecological landscape is characterized by cross-cutting and rapidly evolving issues. The picture is further complicated by myriad interconnections between ecological challenges and intricate social processes and dynamics. The relationship between climate change and migration patterns; the link between environmental vulnerability and gender relations; the connection between the empowerment of indigenous communities and the sustainable use of natural resources; these are some of the questions that societies like India are confronted with in contemporary times.

Unpacking and addressing these issues requires an analytical repertoire that is responsive to this many-layered interweaving of the social and the ecological. The environmental professional or researcher of today needs to be equipped with conceptual and methodological tools that help make sense of society-nature interactions and the various contradictions and possibilities they present. Sustainable development practitioners today need perspectives, practices and policy designs that enable them to holistically approach intersectional areas like climate change and urban planning, forest degradation and local institutional governance, conservation and displacement of communities, and coastal ecologies and loss of traditional livelihoods.

In view of these contemporary needs, the M.A. Programme in Natural Resources and Governance at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Hyderabad (Off-Campus), is offering a **Winter School on Society, Nature and Sustainability**. This three-day online school, to be held on **January 24, 25 and 27, 2022**, is primarily intended for students currently undergoing their undergraduate programmes of study in various disciplines, or those who have recently finished the same, and are interested in pursuing issues of sustainability and the environment. The winter school will:

1. Introduce participants to current and emerging conceptual paradigms in engaging with socio-ecological dynamics.
2. Provide them with an analytical view of policy problems and choices in key areas of environmental governance in India.
3. Expose them to cutting edge tools and techniques in cross-disciplinary environmental and social analysis.
4. Feature a discussion by environmental professionals and researchers on possible career paths in sustainable development and environmental governance.

On completion of the winter school, each participant will receive a certificate acknowledging their participation. Participation in the winter school is free of charge.

The [MA in Natural Resources and Governance](#) at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Hyderabad (Off-Campus), is a two-year Masters' programme, which since 2015 has been training students in both theoretically rigorous and practically intensive investigation of environmental and natural resource issues. The programme is offered in partnership with the Foundation for Ecological Security.

Programme Schedule

Day 1 (24 Jan 2022, Monday) 4 PM to 6.30 PM IST:

Sustainability and Social Dynamics: Emerging Concerns

Two Geographies: A story of 25 years in environmental research and journalism
Environmental Justice: Conflict, Equity, Resolution

Socio-Ecological Perspectives: Approaches to the Human-Environment Relationship

Session Moderator: **Bibhu P Nayak**, TISS Hyderabad

Pankaj Sekhsaria
CTARA, IIT Bombay

Arjun Sengupta
TISS, Hyderabad

Johny Stephen
University of Manitoba

Day 2 (25 Jan 2022, Tuesday) 4 PM to 6.30 PM IST:

Methods, Practices and Approaches: Emerging Pathways and Opportunities

Problems and Techniques: The Evolving Environmental Toolkit

Session Moderator: **Suparana Katyaini**, TISS Hyderabad

Panel Discussion on Careers in Sustainability Sector

Session Moderator: **Nikita & Aayush**, TISS, Hyderabad

Mihir Mathur
DESTA LLP

Suchita Jain
SaciWATERs

Seema Sastry and Sanoop V
FES

Madhuri Mandal
Daskhin Foundation

Anindya Das
GIZ-India

Anupama Nair
Future Earth South Asia

Aniket Shaw
TERI

Day 3 (27 Jan 2022, Thursday) 4 PM to 6.30 PM IST:

Governance, Policies and Institutions

Environmental Governance in India

Reviving the Commons

Session Moderator: **Arjun Sengupta**, TISS, Hyderabad

Panel Discussion on India's Sustainable Future: Critical Questions and Challenges

Session Moderator: **Krithi S**, TISS, Hyderabad

Geetanjoy Sahu
TISS Mumbai

Swapnasree Sarangi
FES

Mansee Bal Bhargava
EDC, Ahmedabad

Ashwini K Swain
CPR New Delhi

Lavanya Suresh
BITS Hyderabad

Aravindhnan Nagarajan
Azim Premji University

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