



WORLD SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT 2025

PARTNERSHIPS FOR ACCELERATING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

March 5-7, 2025

India Habitat Centre, New Delhi



WORLD SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT

(MARCH 5-7, 2025)

Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003

DRAFT SUMMIT PLENARY AGENDA (CONFIRMED SPEAKERS ONLY)

Version – 29th January 2025

The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual flagship multi-stakeholder event organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). As the only independently convened international summit on sustainable development and the environment based in the Global South, WSDS provides a unique platform for global leaders and thinkers to come together and address pressing global challenges. The summit aims to deliver long-term solutions for the benefit of global communities, with the Act4Earth initiative playing a pivotal role in extending its reach. Act4Earth fosters closer engagement with stakeholders and promotes collective action through policy research and dialogue, enhancing the summit's impact. WSDS plays a critical role in fostering research and dialogue that reinforce and strengthen commitments at all levels. This approach aims to enhance ambition and drive meaningful action, creating a pathway toward a more sustainable and equitable world for both present and future generations.

The urgency for transformative action cannot be overstated. The first global stock-take has revealed alarming data: achieving the ambitious temperature goals will require a 43% reduction in global emissions by 2030. However, the current nationally determined contributions are projected to lead to only a 2% reduction. Similarly, the mid-point review of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) highlights significant challenges. Out of 169 targets, only 13% are on track, while 18% are not even being monitored. These findings reveal critical gaps, not only in implementation but also in the availability of data to measure progress effectively.

*The challenges confronting the world are complex and interconnected, necessitating collective action on an unprecedented scale. Partnerships hold the key to addressing these issues by accelerating problem-solving and fostering implementation. By sharing responsibilities and enabling collaboration, partnerships bring together resources, expertise, and innovative ideas to drive sustainable solutions. Recognizing this, the theme of the World Sustainable Development Summit 2025 is: **Partnerships for Accelerating Sustainable Development and Climate Solutions**. This theme underscores the importance of cooperation in tackling the multifaceted challenges of our time. By uniting global leaders and stakeholders, the summit seeks to drive enhanced commitments, informed policies, and collaborative frameworks for a more sustainable and equitable future.*

Ministerial participation under protocols – this will be added in the Agenda closer to the Summit Date

Day 1 5 March 2025 Wednesday	
8:30 am onwards	Registration
9:30 – 11:00 am	Thematic Tracks (Group A)
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Thematic Tracks (Group B)
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Lunch
2:00 – 3:30 pm	Thematic Tracks (Group C)
4:00 – 5:30 pm	Transition to external venue (TBD)
8:30 am	Registrations
6:30 – 7:30 pm	<p>Inaugural (Under Protocols)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hon'ble Bhupender Yadav, Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, India • Mr Nitin Desai, Chairman, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) • Dr Vibha Dhawan, Director General, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) • Dr Shailly Kedia, Curator-WSDS, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) <p><i>Conferment of Sustainable Development Leadership Award</i> <i>Launch of TerraGreen Special Issue</i></p>

Day 2 6 March 2025 Thursday	
8:30 am	Registrations
10:00 – 11:30 am	<p>Healing Nature, Ocean and Ecosystems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brahma Kumari Sister Shivani, Brahma Kumaris • Dr Pema Gyamtsho, Director General, The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development • Prof Petteri Taalas, Director General, The Finnish Meteorological Institute • H.E. Mr Thoriq Ibrahim, Minister Climate Change, Environment and Energy, Maldives • Dr Nisha Bakker, Director of Partnerships, The Ocean Cleanup • Dr. Dindo Campilan, Regional Director for Asia & Hub Director for Oceania, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) • Mr Ranjit Barthakur, Founder & President, Balipara Foundation • Ms Suruchi Bhadwal, Senior Fellow & Director, The Energy and Resources Institute <p><i>Chair: Dr Vibha Dhawan, Director General, The Energy and Resources Institute</i></p>

12:00 – 1:30 pm	<p>Bridging the Financing Gap for Climate Action and Sustainable Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Sujata Gupta, Director, Asian Development Bank • Mr Manish Chourasia, COO, Tata Capital Limited • Ms Geeta Aiyer, President and Founder, Boston Common Asset Management • Ms Tatiana Lipskaia, Senior Vice-President for ESG, Sberbank • Dr Jennie Dodson, Senior Director, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) • Ms Priya Shankar, India Director, Climate and Environment Program, Bloomberg Philanthropies <p><i>Chair: Ambassador Manjeev Singh Puri, Distinguished Fellow, The Energy and Resources Institute</i></p>
1:30 – 2:30 pm	Lunch
2:30 – 4:00 pm	<p>NDC 3.0 and Multilateralism on the Road to COP30 and COP33</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Jim Skea, Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change • H.E. Mr Mattias Frumerie, Climate Ambassador & Head of Delegation to UNFCCC, Swedish Ministry of Climate and Enterprise • Dr Henning Wuester, Director, Initiative for Climate Action Transparency • Ms Helen Clarkson, Chief Executive, The Climate Group • Ms Anne Jellema, Executive Director, 350.org • Ms Heeta Lakhani, Founder & Director, The ClimAct Foundation • Mr Ali Mohamed, Chair, African Group of Negotiators (AGN) and Special Climate Envoy for Kenya <p><i>Chair: Mr R R Rashmi, Distinguished Fellow, The Energy and Resources Institute</i></p>
4:30 – 6:00 pm	<p>Powering the Future through Sustainable Energy Transitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General, The International Solar Alliance • Ambassador Arne Walther, Former Secretary General, International Energy Forum • Prof Jeffrey D Sachs, Director, Center for Sustainable Development in the Earth Institute, Columbia University • Prof Hoesung Lee, Former Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change • Ms Amanda Maxwell, Managing Director, Global Division, Natural Resources Defense Council • Ms Mansi Madan Tripathy, Vice President & Country Chair, India, Shell India Markets Pvt Ltd • Mr Ajay Shankar, Distinguished Fellow, The Energy and Resources Institute <p><i>Moderator: Ms Urmi Goswami, Assistant Editor, The Economic Times</i> <i>CBET Announcement</i></p>
6:30 – 7:30 pm	Cocktail Dinner

8:30 am	Registrations
10:00 – 11:30 am	<p>Building Infrastructure for a Resilience Dividend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Union Cabinet Minister, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India • Mr Amit Prothi, Director General, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure • H.E. Mr Indra Mani Pandey, Secretary General, BIMSTEC • Dr Madhav Karki, Chief Advisor, Minister of Forest, Environment and Climate Change, Government of Nepal • Mr Ibrahim Cheikh Diong, Executive Director, The Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage • Mr Shekhar Singh, Municipal Commissioner, Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation • Mr Sanjay Seth, Senior Fellow & Senior Director, The Energy and Resources Institute <p><i>Moderator: Ms Teena Jha, Journalist, Sansad Television</i></p>
12:00 – 1:30 pm	<p>CEO Exchange: Green Leap through Technology and Innovations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Prachi Shevgaonkar, Founder, Cool The Globe • Ms Elisabeth Faure, Representative and Country Director, World Food Programme, India • Mr Manoj Sinha, Chief Executive Officer and Co-founder, Husk Power Systems • Mr Srivatsan Iyer, Global CEO, Hero Future Energies • Mr Andrew Prag, Managing Director, We Mean Business Coalition • Dr Dipankar Saharia, Senior Director, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) • Vertiver • MBRDI • ADB <p><i>Launch of report on wastewater treatment</i></p>
1:30 – 2:30 pm	Lunch
2:30 – 4:00 pm	<p>Achieving Sustainable Development through Integrated Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Dr Rola Dashti, Executive Secretary, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) • Mr Md. Golam Sarwar, Secretary General, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation • Mr Hiroshi Ono, Executive Director, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) • Dr Julie Reviere, Country Director, GIZ India • Dr Soumya Swaminathan, Chairperson, M S Swaminathan Research Foundation • Ms Dechen Tsering, Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, United Nations Environment Programme • Mr Shombi Sharp, United Nations Resident Coordinator in India, United Nations • Prof Anand Patwardhan, Professor, School of Public Policy, University of Maryland • Dr Prodipto Ghosh, Distinguished Fellow, The Energy and Resources Institute <p><i>Youth Announcement</i></p>

4:30 – 6:00 pm	<p>Valedictory: WSDS@25 and Driving Impact through Multistakeholder Dialogues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Dia Mirza, Goodwill Ambassador, United Nations Environment Programme • Mr Martin Raiser, Vice President for South Asia Region, The World Bank • Mr Nitin Desai, Chairman, The Energy and Resources Institute • Dr Vibha Dhawan, Director General, The Energy and Resources Institute • Dr Shailly Kedia, Curator-WSDS, TERI <p><i>Act4Earth 2025 Manifesto</i></p>
6:30 – 7:30 pm	<i>Tea-Coffee</i>