



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

AGENDA

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS

Version – 6th March 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.*

8:00 am onwards	Registration
9:30 – 11:00 am	<p>Thematic Tracks (Group A)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greening the Future: Sustainable Solutions for Environmental Remediation (<i>Juniper</i>) • Driving Industry Transition: Focus on Cement Sector (<i>Maple</i>) • Context-Specific Carbon Finance Standards: Aligning with India's Agroforestry Potential (<i>Tamarind</i>) • Growth of Per Capita Energy Consumption in India: Role of LiFE Initiative (<i>Jacaranda 1</i>) • Financing Critical Mineral Acquisitions – De-Risking Investments & Strengthening Financial Ecosystems (<i>Jacaranda 2</i>) • Accelerating India's Pathways to Sustainable Transport and Emission Reductions through Transport-specific NDCs (<i>Silver Oak 1</i>)
15 mins	Transition time
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	<p>Thematic Tracks (Group B)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Finance: Accelerating India's Decarbonisation Journey (<i>Juniper</i>) • Unlocking Opportunities for SME Financing and Capacity-building in Emerging Markets (<i>Marigold</i>) • Science and Policy Action on Reducing Plastic and Chemical Waste in the Marine Environment (<i>Magnolia</i>) • Putting Gender at the Heart of India's Clean Energy Transition (<i>Seminar Hall</i>) • Advancing Building-Integrated Photovoltaics (BIPV) Manufacturing in India (<i>Silver Oak 1</i>) • Integrated Approach Towards Achieving Energy Efficiency and Thermal Comfort Through Active and Passive Interventions (<i>Jacaranda 1</i>) • Transforming Finance for Low-Carbon Transition (<i>Jacaranda 2</i>) • Watershed Management for Agricultural Resilience: Challenges, Solutions, and Sustainable Development (<i>Tamarind</i>) • Agriculture Sustainability through Advanced Technologies and Innovations to Achieve Food Security and Heal Our Planet (<i>Casuarina</i>) • People-Centric Transition for Energy Equity (<i>Gulmohar</i>) • Grassroot Action for Ecosystem Restoration through Implementation of Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in India (<i>TERI Social Room</i>)
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Lunch
2:00 – 3:30 pm	<p>Thematic Tracks (Group C)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustaining Change: Public-Private Partnerships for Climate-Resilient Eco-Villages (<i>Magnolia</i>) • Accelerating Transformation: SDG Implementation and Climate and Biodiversity Goals (<i>Juniper</i>) • Building A Global AgriStack: Boosting Climate-Resilient Agriculture and Food Security through Digital Public Goods and Infrastructure (<i>Amaltas</i>) • Investing in Nature: Financing Forest Landscape Restoration in India (<i>Tamarind</i>) • India as a Global Green Leader – International, National, and Local Possibilities and Trade-offs in Just Energy Transition (<i>Casuarina</i>) • Decarbonizing India's Electricity Sector – Facilitating Energy Transition through Emerging Storage Technologies and Solutions (<i>Gulmohar</i>) • CSR's Role in Ecological Conservation (<i>TERI Social Room</i>) • Delivering Finance and Investment to Achieve Low-Carbon Transition (<i>TERI Board Room</i>) • Building Leadership for Carbon Neutrality in Higher Education Institutions (<i>Jacaranda 1</i>) • Beyond Blueprints: Reimagining Climate-Resilient Cities through Living Labs and Digital Democracy (<i>Jacaranda 2</i>) • Partnerships for a Greener Future: Role of Environment Education in Schools (<i>Silver Oak 1</i>)

4:00 – 6:00 pm	Networking and Expo Visit (Refreshments will be served)
6:00 – 7:00 pm	<p>Inaugural: Partnerships as an Accelerator for Sustainable Development</p> <p><i>Lighting the Lamp</i></p> <p><i>Felicitation</i></p> <p><i>Welcome Address</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Nitin Desai, Chairman, The Energy and Resources Institute <p><i>Theme Address</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Vibha Dhawan, Director General, The Energy and Resources Institute <p><i>Inaugural Address</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shri Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change <p><i>Announcement: Sustainable Development Leadership Award 2025</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Dr Bharrat Jagdeo, Hon'ble Vice President of Guyana • H.E. Ms Marina Silva, Hon'ble Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Brazil <p><i>Keynote Address</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Brigadier (Retd) Mark Phillips, Prime Minister, Guyana <p><i>Keynote Address</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Ms Marina Silva, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, Brazil <p><i>Launch of TerraGreen WSDS Special Issue</i></p> <p><i>Vote of Thanks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Shailly Kedia, Curator, World Sustainable Development Summit, TERI
7:00 – 9:00 pm	Dinner

8:00 am	Registrations
9:30 – 9:35 am	<p>Setting the Stage by Dr Vibha Dhawan, Director General, TERI</p> <p><i>Global Leadership Message</i> H.E. Mr Michael Bloomberg, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Climate Ambition and Solutions (video)</p>
9:35 – 10:00 am	<p>Invocation: Spirituality and Sustainable Development</p> <p>Brahma Kumari Sister Shivani, Brahma Kumaris</p>
10:00 – 11:30 am	<p>Leadership Panel: Healing Nature, Ocean and Ecosystems</p> <p><i>Chair: Dr Vibha Dhawan, Director General, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Pema Gyamtsho, Director General, The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development • Prof Petteri Taalas, Director General, The Finnish Meteorological Institute • H.E. Ms May-Elin Stener, Ambassador of Norway to India, Royal Norwegian Embassy in New Delhi • 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 Forester, Balipara Foundation • Ms Suruchi Bhadwal, Senior Fellow & Director, TERI • Mr Vidar Helgesen, Executive Secretary, UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (video message)
15 mins	Break
12:00 – 1:30 pm	<p>Leadership Panel: Bridging the Financing Gap for Climate Action and Sustainable Development</p> <p><i>Chair: Ambassador Manjeev Singh Puri, Distinguished Fellow, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr Yutaka Matsuzawa, Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, Japan • Ms Priya Shankar, India Director, Climate and Environment Program, Bloomberg Philanthropies • Dr Sujata Gupta, Director, Asian Development Bank • Mr Manish Chourasia, COO, Tata Capital Limited • Dr Jennie Dodson, Senior Director, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) • Mr Sankar Chakraborti, Group CEO, Acuité Group • Ms Heeta Lakhani, Founder & Director, The ClimAct Foundation • Ms Ilka Hirt, Deputy Director-General for International Policy, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Germany
1:30 – 2:30 pm	Lunch

2:30 – 4:00 pm	<p>Ministerial: Multilateralism on the Road to COP30 and COP33</p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Mr R R Rashmi, Distinguished Fellow, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Jim Skea, Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (Science Leadership Address) • H.E. Ms Marina Silva, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Brazil (Ministerial Address) • H.E. Mr Aain Bahadur Shahi Thakuri, Minister, Ministry of Forest and Environment, Nepal (Ministerial Address) • H.E. Dr. Muaviyath Mohamed, Minister of State for Tourism and Environment, Maldives (Ministerial Address) • Ms. Jennifer Lee Morgan, State Secretary and Special Envoy for International Climate Action at the Federal Foreign Office, Federal Republic of Germany (virtual) • H.E. Mr Andreas Bjelland Eriksen, Minister of Climate and the Environment, Government of Norway (video message) • Ms Helen Clarkson, Chief Executive Officer, Climate Group • Ms Anne Jellema, Executive Director, 350.org
15 mins	Break
4:30 – 6:00 pm	<p>Leadership Panel: Powering the Future through Sustainable Energy Transitions</p> <p><i>Launch of TERI Energy & Environment Data Diary and Yearbook (TEDDY)</i></p> <p><i>Moderator: Ms Urmi Goswami, Assistant Editor, The Economic Times</i></p> <p><i>In Discussion</i></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 • Ms Amanda Maxwell, Managing Director, Global Division, Natural Resources Defense Council • Ms Seema Paul, Program Director, India, Sequoia Climate Foundation • Ms Mansi Madan Tripathy, VP, Shell Lubricants Asia Pacific & Chairperson, Shell Group of companies India • Ms Shweta Pandey, Vice President, Legal and Compliance, Mercedes-Benz Research and Development India Pvt. Ltd. • Ms Laura Aylett, Head of Climate and Energy, British High Commission, New Delhi • Mr Ajay Shankar, Distinguished Fellow, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) • Dr Ritu Mathur, Director, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) • Prof Jeffrey D Sachs, Director, Center for Sustainable Development in the Earth Institute, Columbia University (virtual) • Prof Hoesung Lee, Former Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (virtual)
7:00 – 9:00 pm	By Invite Only: Fireside Chat with IPCC Chair, Prof Jim Skea Cultural Evening Dinner
7:00 – 9:00 pm	By Invite Only: CEO Forum

9:00 am	Registrations
9:30 – 9:55 am	Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between CONCOR & TERI
10:00 – 11:30 am	<p>Leadership Panel: Building Infrastructure for a Resilience Dividend</p> <p><i>Moderator</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Teena Jha, Journalist, Sansad Television <p><i>In Discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Amit Prothi, Director General, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure • Dr Madhav Bahadur Karki, Expert Member, Environment Protection and Climate Change Council, Government of Nepal • Mr Shekhar Singh, Municipal Commissioner, Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation • Mr Santhosh Muzumdar, Director, Government Relations and Sustainability, Johnson Controls • Mr Shoubhik Ganguly, Senior Adviser – Infrastructure and Climate Finance, FCDO, British High Commission, New Delhi • Mr Sanjay Seth, Senior Fellow & Senior Director, TERI • Ms Mio Oka, Country Director, India Resident Mission, Asian Development Bank
15 mins	Break
12:00 – 1:30 pm	<p>Ideas Forum: Green Leap through Technology and Innovations</p> <p><i>Announcement of partnership on Atal Innovation Mission</i></p> <p><i>Moderator: Ms Shweta Kothari, Senior Editor, TV9 Network</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Prachi Shevgaonkar, Founder, Cool The Globe • Mr Srivatsan Iyer, Global CEO, Hero Future Energies • Mr Andrew Prag, Managing Director of Policy, We Mean Business Coalition • Ms Chhaya Bhanti, Founder, Vertiver • Mr Himal Tewari, CHRO, Chief – Sustainability & CSR, The Tata Power Company Limited • Dr Dipankar Saharia, Senior Fellow & Senior Director, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)
1:30 – 2:30 pm	Lunch

2:30 – 4:00 pm	<p>High-level Plenary: Achieving Sustainable Development through Integrated Action</p> <p><i>Chair</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Shombi Sharp, United Nations Resident Coordinator in India, United Nations <p><i>Leadership Video Messages</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Li Junhua, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs • Dr Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) <p><i>In Discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Dr Purvi Mehta, Senior Advisor, Global Growth and Opportunities, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation • Ms Dechen Tsering, Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, United Nations Environment Programme • Prof Anand Patwardhan, Professor, School of Public Policy, University of Maryland • Dr Prodipto Ghosh, Distinguished Fellow, TERI
15 mins	Break
4:30 – 6:00 pm	<p>Valedictory: WSDS@25 and Driving Impact through Multistakeholder Dialogues</p> <p><i>Chair's Remarks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Nitin Desai, Chairman, TERI <p><i>Global Leadership Video Message</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Amina J. Mohammed, United Nations Deputy Secretary-General <p><i>Keynote Address</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Dia Mirza, Actor, Producer, UNEP Goodwill Ambassador; UN Secretary General's Advocate for SDGs • Mr Martin Raiser, Vice President, The World Bank <p><i>Felicitations of winners of Youth Climate Conclave & Presentation of The Youth Pledge</i></p> <p><i>Act4Earth 2025 Manifesto and Acknowledgments: Dr Shailly Kedia, Curator, World Sustainable Development Summit, TERI</i></p> <p><i>DG's Closing Address</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Vibha Dhawan, Director General, TERI
6:00 – 7:00 pm	High Tea