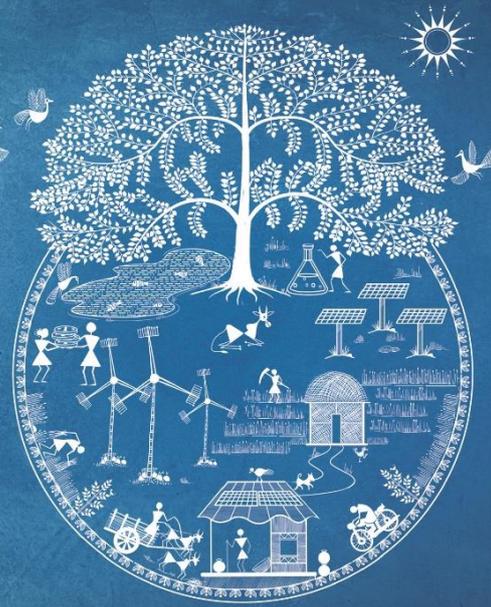




WORLD SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT 2023

MAINSTREAMING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE FOR COLLECTIVE ACTION

February 22-24, 2023
New Delhi



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation,
Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection



Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for Sustainable Development **23 February 2023 (Thursday) | 4:00 pm- 5:30 pm (IST)/12:00 – 1:00 pm (CET)** **Casuarina Hall, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi**

Concept Note

At the halfway point of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, global efforts need to ramp up significantly in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. As the world is facing a triple planetary crisis of climate change, loss of nature and pollution, progress in environmental goals and integrated solutions are crucial. Nature based solutions” (NbS) are being increasingly promoted to synergistically address climate change, biodiversity loss and other societal challenges. Recently both the G7 as well as G20 have highlighted NbS. According to UNEA-5 Resolution ‘Nature-based Solutions for Sustainable Development’ NbS are defined as actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems which address social, economic and environmental challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services, resilience and biodiversity benefits. NbS are identified as one of the cost-effective localised options for mitigation as well as adaptation to tackle impacts of climate change and to tackle biodiversity loss. For example, the Compendium of Contributions- Nature based Solutions developed for the UN Climate Action Summit 2019 provides summary of over 190 NbS case studies across globe, geographical and administrative scales and representing diverse ecosystems and communities. Most of these solutions are building upon the traditional wisdom and techniques of communities. It needs to be ensured that appropriate social and environmental safeguards are put in place so that those actions are not only inclusive and sustainable for Indigenous Peoples and local communities, but also ensure environmental integrity, especially providing clear benefits for biodiversity. NbS generally have multiplier effects such as integrated watershed management resulting in soil and water conservation, improving agriculture productivity, enhancing tree cover, and strengthening livelihoods in a cost-effective manner.

With the increased interest in and political support for NbS, together with the adoption of a multilaterally agreed definition of the term by the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), the

opportunity now exists for scaling up of the use of NbS. The event therefore aims to showcase the increasing action on NbS and ask what is necessary to ramp up ambition and integrate nature and NbS in domestic and international plans and policies. The event will discuss efforts to mainstream NbS in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and showcase examples from Germany and India. Under its G7-presidency in 2021, Germany put forward the discussions on further promoting the implementation of NbS . Domestically, Germany is working on a Federal Action Plan on Nature-based Solutions for Climate and Biodiversity and will share its experiences and insights in developing a NbS policy in the event.

Looking at India, the event will explore how Nature-based Solutions can form a cost effective, decentralized and customized bouquet of options for enhancing biodiversity, climate action and achieving sustainable development and the Agenda 2030.

About the World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS)

The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual flagship Track II initiative organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). Instituted in 2001, the Summit series has a legacy of over two decades for making 'sustainable development' a globally shared goal. The only independently convened international Summit on sustainable development and environment, based in the Global South, WSDS strives to provide long-term solutions for the benefit of global communities by assembling the world's most enlightened leaders and thinkers on a single platform. The 22nd edition of the annual flagship event is being held from 22-24 February 2023 in New Delhi. The Summit deliberations will focus on the umbrella theme: Mainstreaming Sustainable Development and Climate Resilience for Collective Action.