

# COMMONS CONVENING

2024

Day 2: Wednesday, August 28, 2024

Time	Session Code and Title	Session Details	Panelists	Location
9:00 - 10:00	Registration			Ground floor
10:00 - 11:15	Plenary 2.1 Connecting Samaaj, Sarkaar, Bazaar	This session will explore the need for a paradigm shift from top-down governance to community-led solutions to address global systemic failures. As global governance, financial systems, and geopolitical structures break down, the session will explore the importance of local, community-based governance to tackle issues like inequality, environmental degradation, and social disharmony. The discussion will cover aspects associated with an "unlearning" of siloed, unsystematic approaches and highlight the crucial role of strengthening local governance and community collaboration to realise the potential of Commons.	Jahnvi Andharia, Director and Research Fellow, Institute of Social Studies Trust Mekhala Krishnamurthy, Professor, Ashoka University Thomas Isaac, Former Finance Minister, Kerala  <b>Chair:</b> Arun Maira, Former Member, Planning Commission of India; Former Chairman, Boston Consulting Group, India	Bhim
11:15 - 11:45	Coffee Break & Networking			First floor
11:45 - 13:00	Roundtable 2.1 A Collaborating for FRA: Lessons from States		A B Ota, IAS (Retd), Director and Special Secretary, SCSTRTI & Odisha State Tribal Museum, Odisha Ashmita Kabra, Professor, Dr. Ambedkar University, Delhi Chetna Latkar, BRLF Manjeet Bal, Senior Programme Manager, Foundation for Ecological Security Michael Islary, Senior Program Associate, World Resources Institute India Rajendra Bharud, IAS, Commissioner, Tribal Research and Training Institute, Government of Maharashtra Milind Thatte, Founder Director, TEER Foundation Johnson Topno, Executive Director, PHIA Foundation Uttam Kumar Sahoo, Deputy Director, TRTI, Odisha  <b>Moderator:</b> Sreetama Guptabhaya, UNDP	Conference Hall 1
	Panel 2.1 B Landscape Governance Partnerships: Role of Multi-Actor Platforms	This session introduces the Multi-Actor Platform (MAP) model as one approach to collaborative landscape governance, bridging critical gaps between community, government, and market actors. Panelists, who are also conveners of such initiatives, will explore how MAPs facilitate collaboration among diverse stakeholders and address the unique challenges of sustaining these initiatives. Join us to help build a community of practice working on collaborative approaches to landscape governance, exchanging lessons, experiences and innovations.	Akshay Roongta, Co-founder and Partner, Ooloi Labs Dhammasheel Ganvir, IFS, Chhattisgarh Forest Department and Director, Jungle Safari, Raipur Madhuri Mondal, Senior Programme Officer, Dakshin Foundation Pramel Gupta, National Anchor, National Coalition for Natural Farming Swapna Sarangi, General Manager, Foundation for Ecological Security  <b>Moderator:</b> Blake Ratner, Collaboration for Resilience	Conference Hall 2
	Roundtable 2.1 C Collaboration for NTFP Value Chains: Challenges & Opportunities	This workshop will explore the potential of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) to enhance the livelihoods of tribal women and contribute to inclusive economies. The session will examine the challenges faced by the NTFP sector, such as resource depletion, poor market linkages, and policy complexities. Participants will discuss innovative approaches and institutional models for public-private partnerships, aiming to strengthen the sector and improve income resilience in regenerative landscapes. The outcome will focus on actionable insights for leveraging NTFPs to build inclusive and sustainable economies	Workshop anchored by Vrutti and Common Ground for a curated group  <b>Moderator:</b> Shiv Kumar, Co-founder, Catalyst Management Systems	Nalanda

Time	Session Code and Title	Session Details	Panelists	Location
11:45 - 13:00	<p><b>Workshop 2.1 D</b></p> <p><b>Leveraging Data and Technology for Community-led Governance of Commons (Part I)</b></p>	<p>The workshops (Parts I and II) explore how technology and data infrastructure can empower communities with access to relevant information for local action on Commons. While many initiatives exist, they remain isolated or small-scale. We aim to identify open-source solutions and infrastructures that allow diverse actors across sectors to contribute and co-create context-appropriate tools. The workshops will focus on empowering communities with knowledge, designing community-centric data tools, and developing a collaborative open ecosystem for locally-led, context-based planning and action on a larger scale.</p>	<p>Open workshop curated by IIT Delhi, Platform Commons, Landstack and Common Ground</p>	VIP Lounge
13:00- 14:00	Lunch			First floor
14:00 - 15:15	<p><b>Panel 2.2 A</b></p> <p><b>Bringing Back the Focus on Area-based Planning: Reimagining the Building Blocks</b></p>	<p>This session focuses on reimagining area-based planning to address climate change and the specific needs of different agroecological contexts. Building on the previous day's discussions, the session will explore how to reintegrate area-based planning into current policies, programs, and funding streams, including CSR and impact finance. Focussing on inter-departmental coordination and agroecological alignment, the discussion will aim to establish a collaborative framework for implementing area-based approaches, paving the way for sustainable development and resilient landscapes.</p>	<p>Abi Tamim Vanak, Director, Centre for Policy Design, ATREE</p> <p>Aruna Pandey, Head - Research, MEL and Capacity Building, Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation</p> <p>NC Narayanan, Professor, Centre for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas, IIT Bombay</p> <p>Raghunathan Naryanan, Founder and Chief Mentor, Vrutti</p> <p>Rajesh Mit, Integrator, PRADAN</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Sudarshan Iyengar, Scholar of Gandhian Studies and Former Vice Chancellor of Gujarat Vidyapith</p>	Nalanda
	<p><b>Panel 2.2 B</b></p> <p><b>Strengthening the Custodianship of Gram Panchayats over Community Resources</b></p>	<p>This panel examines the critical role of Panchayats in managing natural resources, exploring strategies to strengthen their effectiveness as local governments. Discussion will focus on leveraging existing mechanisms, enhancing financial autonomy, fostering inter-institutional collaborations, and improving community engagement. The aim is to empower Panchayats as accountable custodians of resources, in line with constitutional vision and sustainable development goals.</p>	<p>Abhay Kumar, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Rural Development &amp; Panchayati Raj, Rajasthan</p> <p>Uma Mahadevan, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Panchayati Raj Department, Karnataka</p> <p>Vikas Anand, IAS, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India</p> <p>Santosh Kumar Satapathy, IAS (Retd.), Chief Advisor to the Governor of Odisha</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> SM Vijayanand, IAS (Retd.), Former Chief Secretary to the Government of Kerala</p>	Samrastha
	<p><b>Panel 2.2 C</b></p> <p><b>Financing Innovations for Landscape Climate Action: Lessons, Leverage Points, and Challenges</b></p>	<p>Are top-down climate finance models failing local communities? Can traditional knowledge systems revolutionise existing market-based instruments? This session will explore innovative funding mechanisms, analyse successful grassroots initiatives, and craft strategies to support local communities in shaping climate pathways.</p>	<p>Kavita Mehta, Executive Director, Sahjeevan</p> <p>Pooja Trivedi, Lead, Collaboratives, Catalyst Group</p> <p>Siddhartha Dhahi, Co-Founder, Centre for Grower-centric Eco-value Mechanisms</p> <p>Sreejan Dutta, Manager (Venture Philanthropy), LGT Wealth India</p> <p>Tambor Lyngdoh, Founding Chairman, Synjuk</p> <p>Varghese Paul, USAID</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Jinu George, ClimateRISE</p>	Conference Hall 1
	<p><b>Workshop 2.2 D</b></p> <p><b>Freshwater Futures: Pathways to Collective Conservation Action</b></p>	<p>This workshop aims to strengthen freshwater ecosystem (FWE) conservation in India by fostering cross-sectoral collaboration and integrating diverse perspectives. Beginning with an introduction to the Alliance for Conserving Freshwater Ecosystems and its vision, FWEs will be contextualised within the larger narrative of ecosystem conservation, restoration, and management, along with connected thematic areas.</p>	<p>Open workshop curated by the Alliance for Conservation of Freshwater Ecosystems</p>	VIP Dining Hall
15:15 - 15:45	Coffee Break & Networking			

Time	Session Code and Title	Session Details	Panelists	Location
15:45 - 17:00	<b>Panel 2.3 A</b>  <b>Community Stewardship and Indigenous Knowledge: The Way Ahead</b>	<p>This panel explores community stewardship models and their recognition gaps, strategies to increase state and market acknowledgment, barriers to climate finance, and pathways for integrating indigenous knowledge in conservation. It examines current challenges in community-led environmental efforts, proposing solutions to enhance support, funding, and inclusion of traditional practices in policy-making and implementation.</p>	<p>Amba Jamir, Independent Researcher</p> <p>Dimgong Rongmei, Executive Director, Realm of Nature Based Actions</p> <p>Gazala Paul, Executive Director, Samerth Trust</p> <p>Pravanjan Mohapatra, Principal, Intellectap</p> <p>Tushar Dash, Independent Researcher</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Pranab Ranjan Choudhury, CEO and Cofounder, Landstack</p>	Nalanda
	<b>Panel 2.3 B</b>  <b>Agri Land Commons: Gramdan</b>	<p>The session will explore the challenges and opportunities of the Gramdan Act in promoting village autonomy and collective land ownership. It will examine how the Act can be revitalized in the current legal and social landscape.</p>	<p>Devaji Tofa, Community Leader, Mendha Lekha</p> <p>Mithu Lal Gurjar, Gramdan Adhyaksh, Gangrar, Rajasthan</p> <p>Mohan Hirabhai Hiralal, Consultant</p> <p>Parag Cholkar, Trustee, Vidarbha Bhoodan Gramdan Sahayog Samiti</p> <p>Satish Gogulwar, Founder Trustee and Convener, Amhi Amchya Arogyasathi</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Sudarshan Iyengar, Scholar of Gandhian Studies and Former Vice Chancellor of Gujarat Vidyapith</p>	Conference Hall 1
	<b>Panel 2.3 C</b>  <b>Landscapes and Farming Systems Interactions</b>	<p>Does addressing the complex challenges faced by smallholder farmers require a systems approach, rather than focusing solely on individual farm parcels? How do we strengthen institutional arrangements and enhance the capacities of bodies like Gram Panchayats to tackle these issues from a systems perspective? How do we foster strong collaborative actions to influence policy and seize emerging opportunities? Join us to express, explore, and engage in finding scalable solutions.</p>	<p>Aniruddha Brahmachari, Rainforest Alliance</p> <p>Archana Chatterjee, Mangroves for the Future National Coordinator, IUCN India</p> <p>Archana Singh, Integrator, PRADAN</p> <p>Prashant Mehra, Co-founder, Platform Commons Foundation</p> <p>Sabyasachi Das, Director, WASSAN</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Pramel Gupta, National Anchor &amp; CEO, National Coalition for Natural Farming</p>	Samrastha
	<b>Panel 2.3 D</b>  <b>Extensive Livestock Systems in India: Opportunities and Challenges</b>	<p>India's livestock production, dominated by extensive systems including pastoral and agro-pastoral methods, plays a crucial role in the country's agricultural output. These systems, characterised by efficient use of diverse grazing resources and crop residues, demonstrate low-carbon, flexible, and cost-effective production. Despite misconceptions about efficiency, these methods offer significant benefits that warrant further evidence-based recognition.</p>	<p>Balaram Sahu, Pathe Pathshala</p> <p>Ilse Köhler-Rollefson, Co-founder, Camel Charisma</p> <p>Purushottam Sharma, Head, Division of Plant Animal Relationship ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi</p> <p>Natasha Maru, Global Lead for Rangelands and Pastoralists, International Land Coalition</p> <p>Purnendu Kavoori, Founder, Centre for Social Ecology</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Bhavana Rao, Senior Consultant. FES and Coordinator Rainfed Livestock Network</p>	Conference Hall 2