

Earth Day 2021

Climate Literacy Conclave for South Asia

April 15 & 16, 2021, 11:00 to 13:00 hrs IST (GMT + 5:30)

Introduction

Education is an essential element of the global response to climate change. It helps people understand and address the impact of global warming, increases “climate literacy” among young people, encourages changes in their attitudes and behaviour, and helps them adapt to climate change related trends. If literacy can be defined as competence or knowledge in a specific area, then climate change literacy is competence or knowledge in the area of climate change, its impacts, and its solutions.

The Biden Administration has decided to convene a global climate summit on Earth Day 2021. Many important environmental events have happened on Earth Day since 1970, including the recent signing of the Paris Agreement, as Earth Day continues to be a momentous and unifying day each and every year. They are planning to host world leaders in a climate summit on Earth Day and it is a sign of the new president’s commitment to not just re-join the Paris carbon-cutting accord but also strengthen it.

On the similar lines and to honour the anniversary of Earth Day on 22nd April 2021 Mobius Foundation, The Climate Reality Project India and Earth Day Network is organizing 2 days **Climate Literacy Conclave for South Asia with policymakers and My Future My Voice Youth**. Climate Literacy presents information that is deemed important for individuals and communities to know and understand about Earth’s climate, impacts of climate change, and approaches to adaptation or mitigation.

The COP26 UN climate change conference set to take place in Glasgow in November 2020 has been postponed due to COVID-19. Dates for a rescheduled conference in 2021, have been set to 1-12 November. This is the most important climate summit since the landmark Paris Agreement was agreed at COP21 in 2015. Climate Literacy conclave for South Asia will be precursor to COP26 event.

Day 1 (15th April 2021, Thursday) – Climate Literacy Conclave for South Asia with Policy makers

Climate-related decisions are being carried out by almost every state and local government leaders and agencies, businesses and individual citizens. Policy makers must contend with the availability and quality of information, the efficacy of proposed solutions, the unanticipated consequences resulting from decisions, the challenge of implementing chosen actions, and must consider how to sustain the action over time and respond to new information.

The panellist and speakers will be influencers (Ministries, large NGOs, Academic Institutions), policymakers from the South Asian countries like India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan and Maldives invited to the session. They will be discussing the Climate Literacy and its importance.

Day 2 (16th April 2021, Friday) – Climate Literacy Conclave for South Asia with My Future My Voice Youth

Earth Day Network strongly believes in the power of youth to take the Climate Change movement forward. #MyFutureMyVoice youth from South Asian Countries are doing the excellent work that has a positive impact on Climate and our environment. They will be invited to speak on the importance of Climate Literacy and to present their work in 2 to 3 minutes each and influence the world that change starts from them.

Participation

We are inviting people who are committed environmentalists, educators, youth, policy makers, administrators and experts in climate literacy and education to share their recorded video messages on the importance of climate literacy and climate education.

These messages will be uploaded on the website to showcase the voices around the South Asia and will be shared with world leaders and decision makers.

Questions to be addressed in your message:

- What you understand by climate crisis and how you perceive it. (please feel free to give examples from your life experiences and region)
- According to you, what role climate education can play in sustainable future and healthy planet.
- What is the current thought process and is there any action being taken by governments, NGO's or educational societies in your country?
- What is your message for world leaders and decision makers to strengthen climate education and step-up climate action?

Points to remember while writing or video recording your message:

- Please include your name, profession and organization you are working with in your message.
- The length of video message should be between 1 to 5 minutes.
- The message in video or text should be in English.
- The last date for submission of the video is 8th April 2021.
- In case recording video message is not feasible, you can also send your message in written format (not exceeding more than 500 words)
- Please keep a check on background noise while recording your message, check your volume and make sure camera focus covers your face (portrait length).
- In case you are recording the message in your vernacular language, please share your script in English with the video.
- Please stick to the above-mentioned questions and its aspect and time frame.