



MOBIUS FOUNDATION

QUARTERLY BULLETIN

Quarterly 3

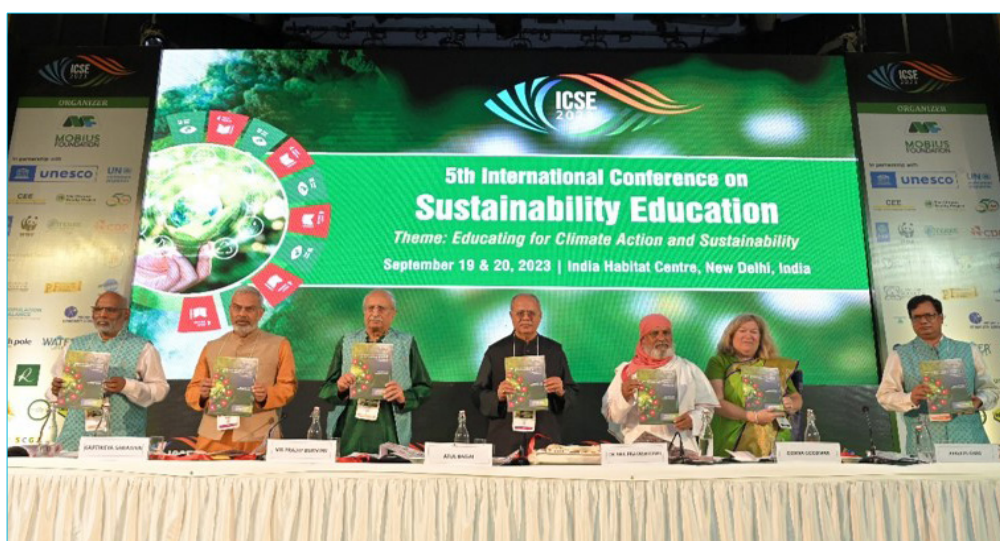
July - August - September 2023

“
*Education is
key to the global
integrated
framework of
Sustainable
Development
Goals (SDGs).*”

– Mr. Pradip Burman
Chairperson, Mobius Foundation



5th International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE) 2023



The 5th International Conference on Sustainability education (ICSE) 2023 organized by Mobius Foundation in partnership with some of the key environmental organizations was a resounding success. The conference was held at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi on 19th and 20th September 2023. This pivotal event resonated with urgent calls for immediate climate action and a steadfast commitment to sustainability. It has united a diverse cohort of government organisations, national and international civil society organisations, educators, students, youth groups and environmentalists. The conference featured 18 parallel thematic sessions and 6 plenary sessions and explored diverse facets of sustainability. The conference was attended by 750+ participants physically and thousands virtually through various social media platforms including YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram.

Sessions of the conference can be accessed on YouTube link:
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCUFPSpxZa3jdHeMA96bFi0QpwRiNXR0x>

The conference began with a captivating welcome song performed by the students of Gyan Anant Vidyalaya. Dr. Ram Boojh, CEO, Mobius Foundation, set the tone by reaffirming the foundation's unwavering commitment to a sustainable future. Further to the welcome address, the eminent panellists contributed to an insightful discussion on the overarching theme of the conference 'Educating for Climate Action and Sustainability'.



The line-up of sessions includes discussions on-Private Sector's Engagement in Climate Action, Closing the Loop-Empowering Climate Action through Circular Economy Education, Women Writers in Sustainability-Old Dilemmas, New Realities, Moving towards Sustainable Development through Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment), Intergenerational Dialogue on Re-imagining Education for a Climate Resilient Future etc. A major highlight was the introduction of the South and Southeast Asia Network for Environmental Education (SASEANEE), which aims to collaboratively address environmental challenges across political borders with various international environmental organizations.

Another special plenary session on 'VIRAM: Agenda Sustainability-Population, Climate Action and Sustainable Development: Role of Education and Empowerment' was organised in partnership with Population Foundation of India, Population Matters and Population Balance. The overall objective of the session was to trigger a dialogue among the participants by sharing their knowledge and experiences on the challenges posed by climate change. They also made recommendations, keeping women and girls at the centre of discussion.

Session summaries and recommendations were shared during the closing ceremony. Mr. Pradip Burman, Chairman of the Mobius Foundation, fervently advocated for immediate, decisive actions for environmental conservation. Distinguished panellists shared valuable insights on the pivotal roles of migration and private sectors in achieving sustainability goals aligned with the 2030 agenda.

The conference, with its inclusive approach, served as a potent call to action, marking a significant step towards a sustainable and resilient future. It united diverse themes and dialogues, fostering innovative solutions and also unified viewpoints on global challenges.



Youth for Earth 2023



Mobius Foundation is delighted to announce the remarkable success of the 'Youth for Earth' 2023 campaign. This achievement not only received an overwhelming response but also emphasized the crucial role of youth in moulding our future. 195 teams from India and South Asia participated in the campaign, submitting projects under diverse categories on the theme of climate action and sustainability. An esteemed panel of jury members, actively engaged in the field of sustainability and the environment, evaluated the entries.

Five outstanding contributors from the junior category and five from the senior category were awarded cash prizes during the 3-plenary session of 5th International Conference of Sustainability Education (ICSE) held at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi on 19th and 20th September 2023. The felicitation ceremony was graced by distinguished personalities, including Mr. Pradip Burman, Chairman, Mobius Foundation, Dr. Ram Boojh, CEO, Mobius Foundation, and Mr. Aditya Pundir, Director, The Climate Project Foundation.



The event witnessed active participation from youth, who received their awards and certificates during the conference. The success of the conference was resonating with energy and a collective commitment to sustainable education. The presence of dignitaries, supporters, students, engaged youth participants, partners, and delegates. Their insightful discussions, contributed significantly to making this conference an immense success.

Congratulations to all the winners! Your dedication, involvement, and innovative contributions have truly made a lasting impact on the journey towards a more sustainable and environmentally conscious future.



100 School Program: Empowering Underprivileged Girls through Education

Mobius Foundation is thrilled to announce the signing of a momentous Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Mobius Foundation and the Lotus Petal Foundation, marking the official commencement of “100 School Project.” This project is a vital step towards providing quality education to underprivileged rural girls in Chitrakoot, Uttar Pradesh, and Sheopur and Satna in Madhya Pradesh.



TIGER TALK: A Roaring Dialogue on Tiger Conservation

Mobius Foundation organized an event ‘TIGER TALK: a roaring dialogue on tiger conservation’, to raise awareness about the challenges that tiger conservation is facing and to reflect on the potential solutions and innovations which could resolve them. The event took place on 4th August 2023, at Bikaner House, New Delhi, where esteemed experts- Dr. M. K. Ranjitsinh, IAS (Retd.), Dr. S. P. Yadav, Member Secretary, National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), Dr. Sejal Worah, Programme Director, WWF India and Mr. Praveen Garg, President, Mobius Foundation discussed the latest detailed tiger census data and brainstormed creative solutions to finance tiger conservation. The event also displayed curated tiger photography of renowned photographers from across the country.



Aakar



MF Project Aakar completed one year of 'Phase 4'. Over the past year, this initiative has employed a multifaceted approach, including door-to-door counselling, health check-up camps, impactful awareness campaigns, and the widespread distribution of contraceptives.

Key Achievements

- ▶ **Extensive Reach** : The project successfully covered over 9,000 households in 100 villages, ensuring a wide outreach to the target group.
- ▶ **Education and Awareness** : Through surveys and counseling, the project identified the need for education and awareness among newly married couples and those with children. Various myths and misconceptions surrounding family planning were addressed.
- ▶ **Community Engagement** : Events like Khushal Parivar Divas, Baithaks, and Aavahan Mela helped engage the community and influence them positively towards family planning.
- ▶ **Pride in Adoption** : Champion MaaBaap Cards were distributed to couples who adopted family planning measures, fostering a sense of pride and responsibility.

Impact

- Quality family planning services increased in Bahraich and Shravasti districts of Uttar Pradesh.
- Contraceptive usage among the population increased significantly.
- Myths and misconceptions about family planning were dispelled through banners, hoardings, and tin plates placed in villages.
- Government initiatives, such as NSV and FST, were facilitated, with 263 FSTs and 31 NSVs conducted.
- 16 women were empowered to plan their families using reversible contraception methods.

Overall, the "Aakar" project made substantial progress in educating and empowering the transgender community in Shravasti and Bahraich district of UP regarding family planning and contraceptive measures.



Articles

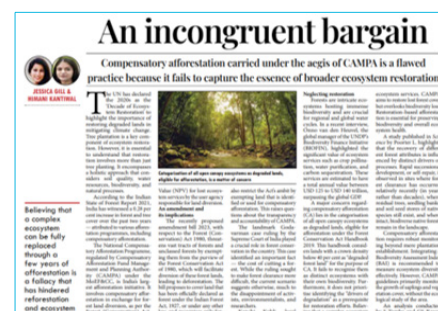
An Incongruent Bargain

'An Incongruent Bargain' highlights how compensatory afforestation carried under the aegis of CAMPA, is a flawed practice. It also emphasizes the fact that restoration entails a comprehensive approach that involves ecological study beyond just tree plantation. The article also suggests some ecological and biodiversity-centric approaches towards holistic conservation and restoration of forest cover areas.

Author: Ms. Jessica Gill, Senior Research Associate, Mobius Foundation, and Ms. Himani Kantiwal, Junior Research Associate, Mobius Foundation

Published in: Millennium Post, 6th July 2023

Link: <https://www.millenniumpost.in/opinion/an-incongruent-bargain-524547>



Rooftop Gardening: Towards Sustainability

Rooftop Gardening: A Step Towards Sustainability highlights urban environmental challenges and the potential of rooftop gardening to combat them. With Delhi's green cover falling below recommended levels, rooftop gardening offers opportunities to enhance biodiversity, improve air quality, and reduces heat island effects. Successful initiatives and policies by the Delhi government and other states demonstrate the potential for sustainable urban agriculture, promoting food security and community engagement. Embracing rooftop gardening can make cities greener, more resilient, and sustainable.

Author: Dr. Deepti Rai, Senior Research Associate, Mobius Foundation, and Dr. Arun Kumar, Research Associate, Mobius Foundation

Published in: Lokmat Times, 24th July 2023

Link: <http://epaper.lokmat.com/lokmattimes/main-editions/Aurangabad%20Main/2023-07-24/6>

Imperilled Kidneys of nature

'Imperilled Kidneys of nature' thoroughly examines key aspects of India's wetlands, encompassing their present condition, government regulations, and conservation efforts. It suggests some important grassroots strategies for conserving and protecting wetlands facing increasing anthropogenic threats. The article also highlights the need to prioritize smaller wetlands which otherwise remain in shadow as the larger wetlands get the lion's share of attention and funds.

Author: Mr. Pradip Burman, Chairman, Mobius Foundation, and Dr. Sandip Tanu Mandal, Research Associate, Mobius Foundation

Published in: Millennium Post, 2 Aug. 2023

Link: <https://www.millenniumpost.in/opinion/imperilled-kidneys-of-nature-527751#:~:text=Wetlands%2C%20one%20of%20the%20most,wetlands%20have%20vanished%20since%201700.>

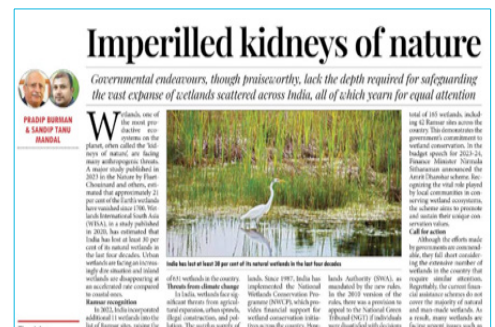
Greening the State Finances

India's green transition would require a large amount of capital expenditure, the renewable transition alone will require Rs. 158 lakh crores. This can be accomplished by increasing our capital expenditure, but the majority of this investment must come from the states, because their share in capital formation is higher than the central government. An analysis of state fiscal behavior revealed that, their share in capital expenditure and their development expenditure has been growing over the years and they are moving away from bank lending towards the financial markets. Thus, by improving their access to green capital through financial instruments like green bonds, state expenditure can be directed towards the development of green infrastructure.

Author: Mr. Praveen Garg, President, Mobius Foundation, and Mr. Pawan Jai Singh Rathore, Research Associate, Mobius Foundation

Published in: Millennium Post, 2 Sept. 2023

Link: <https://www.millenniumpost.in/opinion/greening-the-state-finance-531349#:~:text=The%20Reserve%20Bank%20of%20India,finance%20projects%20that%20contribute%20positively>



Gyan Anant Vidyalaya (GAV)



Gyan Anant Vidyalaya organized inter-plantation programme under the direction of Dr. Poonam Minhas, Principal, GAV. The students brought different types of plants like Vat, Shisham, Peepal, Amla, etc. and enthusiastically participated in the programme. Dr. Poonam Minhas encouraged students to plant more saplings, not only in school but also in or near their home, so that the balance of the nature could be maintained and all the resources we have been getting in the form of forest wealth should continue to be received in the future. At the end of the program, Mrs. Sarika, Vice Principal, GAV also expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the entire school family for successfully organizing tree plantation programme while explaining the utility and importance of trees in the context of the environment.



Wisdom Hour

MF in its wisdom hour has covered another two episodes of Our Planet, a British nature documentary, narrated by David Attenborough.

The episode 5 titled 'From Desserts to Grasslands' follows desert elephants seeking sustenance, bison roaming North American grasslands and caterpillars living the good life underground.

Further, episode 6 'The High Sea' shows Venture into the deep, dark and desolate oceans that are home to an abundance of beautiful -- and downright strange -- creatures.



Environmental Days

October 2023

- 02 | World Farm Animal Day
- 03 | World Habitat Day
- 04 | World Animal Day
- 05 | Energy Efficiency Day
- 13 | International Day for Disaster Reduction
- 14 | World Migratory Bird Day
- 16 | World Food Day
- 20 | International Sloth Day
- 24 | International Day of Climate Action

November 2023

- 29 | International Jaguar Day

December 2023

- 04 | International Cheetah Day
- 04 | Wildlife Conservation Day
- 05 | World Soil Day
- 11 | International Mountain Day
- 14 | Monkey Day

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