



Concept Note

With more than three years into India's National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), central and state governments have taken multiple mitigation measures to reduce air pollution. However, the emergency called again this winter due to Delhi's pollution index touching 23 times more than WHO's safety limits, is proof that the problem is much more complex. Air pollution management in India requires a multi-institutional approach integrating technological and long-term solutions at the core. With just two years remaining to meet India's NCAP targets of reducing up to 30% particulate matter levels in more than 130 non-attainment cities, time is running out fast.

The National Knowledge Network (NKN) was established two years ago to create a network of academic knowledge partners who can support the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in facilitating research and act as an advisory body for improved implementation of the NCAP at the ground level. While Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) have been signed with more than 100 Institutes of Repute (IoRs) across the 23 states where NCAP is applicable, the frameworks of engagement need to be shaped better for smoother institutional engagement.

Recent ground research proves that there is a disconnect in the understanding of the relevance and scale of the problem in the ULBs and their role and awareness in tackling this crisis. The gaps in these linkages towards effective ground implementation are one of the key factors which require strengthening.

While India's environment ministry has assured stricter standards for the country following the World Health Organisation's revised air quality standards in 2021, the challenge remains in implementation, compliance, resource allocation and budgetary disbursement. Multidimensional coordination is required along with political will and administrative compliance and action for effective mitigation.

With the countdown to NCAP, **Climate Trends invites you** to a discussion with key implementing agencies responsible for managing India's air pollution crisis, to understand the progress being made under the NCAP, across a range of parameters like air quality monitoring, capacity building of implementing agencies, policies for mitigation efforts, recruitment of well-trained staff, resource deployment, transparency in data and public awareness efforts to control the health impacts.

A Discussion:

ROAD TO MEETING INDIA'S NATIONAL CLEAN AIR GOALS

Hurdles and Solutions

Wed
May
04
2022 | 11:30 am -
01:30 pm

Connect on **zoom**

Agenda

Welcome and Introduction

Aarti Khosla, *Director, Climate Trends*

Keynote Address: Road to meeting india's clean air goals

Shri Satyendra Kumar, *Director, MoEFCC*

Special Addresses:

Challenges of managing India's clean energy transition

Dr. Prashant Gargava, *Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board*

Challenges and pathways for one of India's most polluted state, Uttar Pradesh

Shri Ashish Tiwari, *Secretary, DoEFCC, Uttar Pradesh*

Progress being made under NCAP

Prof. S N Tripathi, *Coordinator, National Knowledge Network;*

Civil Engineering Department, IIT Kanpur & Steering Committee member, NCAP, MoEFCC

Session 1: Institutional engagement: How can the NKN structure be strengthened for effective implementation from local authorities

Moderator: Aarti Khosla, *Director, Climate Trends*

Speakers: Dr. Sagnik Dey, *Professor, IIT Delhi's Centre for Atmospheric Sciences*

Dr. Ravindra Khaiwal, *Professor, PGIMER Chandigarh*

Dr. Govind Pandey, *Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Madan Mohan Malaviya University of Technology, Gorakhpur*

Dr. Abhijit Chatterjee, *Associate Professor, Bose Institute, Kolkata*

Dr. V. Vinoj, *Assistant Professor, School of Earth Ocean and Climate Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar*

Dr. Kirpa Ram, *Assistant Professor, Banaras Hindu University*

Dr. Sameer Patel, *Assistant Professor, IIT Gandhinagar*

Dr. Abhishek Chakraborty, *Assistant Professor, IIT Bombay*

Session 2 : Addressing the institutional gaps: Takeaways from implementing agencies

Moderator: Aarti Khosla, *Director, Climate Trends*

Speakers: Dr. V M Motghare, *Joint Director, Air, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board*

Dr. M P George, *Scientist, Delhi Pollution Control Board*

Dr. Nihar Sahoo, *Chief Environmental Officer, Odisha State Pollution Control Board*

Shivasharanappa G N, *Commissioner, Kanpur Municipal Corporation*

Atul Goyal, *President, United Residents Joint Action*

Dr. Pratima Singh, *Research Scientist, CSTEP*

Ritwick Dutta, *Founder, Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE)*

Floor open for moderated Q&A

Wrap-up & thanks Gunjan Jain, Climate Trends