

**Exploring a Sustainable Future
A Workshop at Auroville
December 8–14, 2013**

What is the workshop about?

'Exploring a Sustainable Future' introduces some of the Auroville technologies and explores an integral approach to sustainable practices. This includes exploring inner sustainability, without which humanity will not be able to achieve a permanent change of consciousness. A number of such workshops have been organized in Auroville over the past 25 years. In recent times, we have been organizing one workshop every year.

The workshop includes theoretical sessions, practical demonstrations and site visits. In the classroom sessions, we will cover topics such as the environmental crisis, concepts of sustainability, water harvesting, wastewater treatment, solar energy, earth construction, food, community-building and wellness. We will take you on visits to see practical applications of sustainable principles. You will also get an opportunity to experience activities that explore the inner dimension.

We presume that you are coming to the workshop because you are concerned with the state of the world and are looking for solutions. We will do our best to widen your perspectives – about the world, the state of the environment, your society, your lifestyle, and yourself. It is YOUR task, however, to translate the learning into positive action after the workshop. We believe that ideas, technologies, and practices are less crucial than the effort to change one's mindset.

The workshop will be an intensive one with sessions from 8.45 am to 9.00 pm every day. You will have some group assignments too.

What will the workshop NOT cover?

The workshop is not a detailed training programme on any of the technologies being experimented with in Auroville. If you only want to learn the technology of earth construction, ferrocement, solar energy, etc., please skip this workshop and look for the specialized courses offered from time to time in Auroville.

Who will be the workshop faculty?

The sessions will be handled by an interdisciplinary group of Auroville residents, assisted by some external faculty.

What has been the impact of the previous workshops on the participants? Can I get in touch with any of them?

Many of our alumni have made changes in their lives and taken action to conserve the environment and build communities, based on what they learnt in the workshop. Recent batches have an active email group and we can forward your queries to them.

Any other details?

The workshop is limited to 25 participants and will be conducted in English. Boarding and modest shared accommodation will be provided in Auroville at the Centre Guest House, Centre Field, located at the very centre of Auroville not far from Matrimandir.

Participants are expected to arrive on **Sunday 8th December 2013 before 4 pm** and leave on **Saturday 14th December after lunch around 2 pm**. The workshop will begin with an introductory session after dinner at 7.30 pm on Sunday, 8th December.

During the workshop, we will give you an introduction to the Matrimandir and you can view it from a distance. Unfortunately, groups are not permitted to enter the area. Those who wish to meditate in the inner chamber should arrange the visit either before or after the workshop. For details, check the site: http://www.auroville.org/thecity/matrimandir/mm_access_policy.htm.

During the workshop, there will be no time or occasion to visit Pondicherry or do any shopping. Please arrange such visits before or after the workshop.

Could I bring others with me as non-participants?

We are sorry we cannot accommodate non-participant family members, children, or friends. You are welcome to visit Auroville with them on another occasion.

What is the workshop fee and how does one make the payment?

The workshop fee is **Rs.12500/-** including boarding and lodging from **Sunday evening (8th December) until Saturday afternoon (14th December)**. Please make the payment through a crossed cheque or a draft payable to 'Auroville Maintenance' at Puducherry (Pondicherry). We are unable to accept direct bank transfer.

If you are very keen on attending the workshop, but cannot afford the full fee, please give us reasons why we should offer you a partial scholarship.

How do I register for the workshop?

For registration, kindly complete the attached application form and send it by email to avworkshop2013@gmail.com. Send a hard copy of the form with your cheque/draft to:

Center Guest House
Centre Field
Auroville
Tamil Nadu 605101
Tel: (0413) 2622 155; (0413) 2622 708

Who will answer queries I may have?

Please send an email to avworkshop2013@gmail.com. If at all necessary, call Prof.R.Rajagopalan, who is a member of the workshop team. He lives in Bangalore and his mobile number is 094488 49591 (Email: rrgopalan2005@gmail.com).

You can also call Mr.Saravanan at Center Guest House (0413 2622 155).

Applications and payment should reach us latest by November 15, 2013. You will receive an immediate email confirmation. If your application is received after we are full, we will have to regretfully return your cheque.

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Application Form**

Name: _____

Gender: Male / Female

Age: _____

Educational background:

Current occupation:

Previous occupation:

Residential address	Office address

Preferred email id: _____

Alternate email id: _____

Telephone Nos:

Residence	Workplace
Landline with STD code:	Landline with STD code:
Mobile:	Mobile:

Cheque/Draft No and Bank:

In order to help us design the group assignments, please answer the following questions:

1. What do you expect to learn from the workshop?

2. Where do you live? (apartment, house, gated community, official quarters, campus accommodation, etc.)

3. What are the most serious environmental and other problems of your community or neighbourhood?

4. What are the most serious environmental and other problems connected with your workplace and its location?

5. Would you like to involve yourself actively in solving any of the issues you have listed above? If you are already involved in any environment-related activities in your home, community, workplace, or any institution, please give a brief description.

6. Are you contented with your current occupation and/or way of living? Are you contemplating any changes?