

Second International Conference on
**ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION, CLIMATE CHANGE
AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

3-5 October 2013

Focal Theme

**Climate Change,
Aquatic Ecosystems and Food Security**

Special Session

Ecosystem Restoration, with special reference to
wetlands of India



www.ecocasd2013.in

Organized by



**Department of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries
University of Kerala , Thiruvananthapuram, India**



**Directorate of Environment & Climate Change
Govt. of Kerala**

In collaboration with

Ambo University, Ethiopia

Centre for Marine Biodiversity, University of Kerala
Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Kerala
AET Institutions, Bangalore
Sree Ayyappa College for Women, Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu





Background

Ecosystems, from forests and freshwater to coral reefs and soils, deliver essential services to humankind estimated to be worth an amount comparable to World Gross National Income. Yet, nearly two-thirds of the globe's ecosystems are considered degraded as a result of degradation, mismanagement and a failure to invest and reinvest in their productivity, health and sustainability. With burgeoning populations of human beings, currently over 60% of ecosystem services and their biodiversity are degrading, compromising sustainability, well-being, health and security. Environmental degradation, particularly climate change, is augmenting the impact of natural disasters, thus seriously affecting food security ensured through the sustainable production of agricultural crops, livestock and fisheries. The loss of ecosystems and the biodiversity underpinning them is a challenge to the very human survival, particularly to the world's poor and thus for the attainment of the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals.

Sustainable development is a certain compromise among environmental, economic, and social goals of community, allowing for wellbeing for the present and future generations. Designing appropriate policies and strategies that lead to conservation of natural ecosystems and biological diversity and ecologically sustainable development is not an option but a necessity.

With expanding population and increasing human needs, the only way to plan sustainable development and alleviating poverty is ecosystem conservation and restoration. Effective conservation is the cheapest and most optimal option for securing ecosystem services and restoring degraded ecosystems is a key challenge and ecological restoration is a critical component in the application of an ecosystem approach to management.

This International Conference on Ecosystem Conservation, Climate Change and Sustainable Development (ECOCASD 2013) will be a rendezvous of those researchers and academicians working on cutting edge areas of ecosystem management and sustainable development. Further, this Conference will provide an excellent opportunity to invoice practitioners who would like to enhance their knowledge and interchange their ideas regarding environmental sustainability and management, status of ecosystems and biodiversity, linkages between natural resources and food security, restoration of degraded ecosystems, waste management, water management, eco-economics, sustainable tourism, etc. The focal theme selected for the Conference is "Climate Change, Aquatic Ecosystems and Food Security", which focuses on the implications on climate change in aquatic ecosystems and the implications of the same in aquaculture, fisheries and food security. This conference will discuss the strategies for ecosystem conservation in the context of climate change and will forward recommendations towards sustainable management of the resources so that the health of the natural capital is maintained for the future generations.

Focal Theme

Climate Change, Aquatic Ecosystems and Food Security

Special Session

Ecosystem Restoration, with special reference to wetlands of India
(*Invited papers only)

Themes

- 🌿 Natural Resources, Biodiversity, Food Security and Conservation
- 🌿 Climate Change Implications on ecosystems and food security
- 🌿 Impact of Climate Change on Coral Reefs
- 🌿 Harmful Algal Blooms
- 🌿 Eco-restoration and Sustainable Development (case studies only)
- 🌿 Environmental Biotechnology
- 🌿 Ecosystem Health Assessment and Monitoring
- 🌿 Aquaculture and Food Security
- 🌿 Sustainable Fisheries Management
- 🌿 Water Resource Management for Sustainable Development
- 🌿 Science and Technology for Ecosystem Management
- 🌿 Waste Management and Sustainable Development
- 🌿 Responsible Tourism
- 🌿 Economic Evaluation of Ecosystems and Services
- 🌿 Information, Communication and Technology for Ecosystem Management and Sustainable Development

Participants

Researchers and teachers from academic and research institutions, students and research scholars, stake holders and other non-academics interested in conservation and sustainable development

Organisation

The conference will include key-note lectures by international experts in the field, plenary lectures and parallel working thematic presentation by researchers and poster presentations.

Side-events may be organized by institutions or networks who wish to continue specific discussions. The organisers will provide required logistical support for these side events.

Abstract

Abstracts can be submitted as email attachment or through on-line registration (www.ecocas2013.in). All abstracts will be reviewed by an international panel of experts and will be selected either for oral or poster presentation. To avoid use of paper and to save energy we allow only online submission of paper. At least one author should register by paying the required registration fee. Only registered participants will be allowed to attend the Conference.

Both abstracts of oral and poster presentations will appear in the book of abstracts. The conference proceedings with full papers and posters will be published by leading publishers in India along with University of Kerala. The papers recommended by the reviewers will appear in the special issue of Journal of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries (ISSN 2321 – 340X). Only original research papers will be considered for oral/poster presentations.



Guidelines for Abstracts

Important notice: Abstracts that are not formatted according to our guidelines will not be considered for selection. Abstracts must be submitted in English. The number of abstracts per presenting author is limited to one in each theme.

The abstract(s) should not have more than 1000 words and should be uploaded on website or sent as email attachment. The following information may kindly be noted while preparing the abstract:

The title of the paper centered with bold capital letters (14 font Times New Roman)

Name of the author(s) centered in bold letters (12 font Times New Roman)

Address(es) of the author(s) with area code, phone and fax numbers and e mail. The name of the corresponding and presenting authors should be specifically mentioned (12 font Times New Roman- normal font).

Keywords (5-10), avoiding duplication with the title

A 1000 word abstract must contain precise information including brief introduction, objective of the paper, methodology, highlights of results and conclusion (12 font Times New Roman- normal, justified)

The paper should be single spaced with 2.5 cm margins on all sides.

Guidelines for full papers will be provided to authors once their abstracts have been selected.

Awards

The ECOCASD 2013 offers Padmasree Prof. N. Balakrishnan Nair Award for “Environmental Excellence” for Scientists who have made significant contribution in the field of Ecosystems and Sustainable Development. The award carries a gold medal with a citation. Interested candidates are requested to send their detailed Bio-data with three page write up about their contribution to the subject. They should also submit an abstract and full paper for presentation at the conference. The awardee will be invited to give a special lecture at the ECOCASD 2013.

Fellowships

The Society for Advancement of Biological Sciences, Bangalore, India offers the Society Annual Fellowships for the eminent scientists who are working in the field of biological sciences. The fellowship includes Society Gold Medal and Citation.

Best Paper Presentation Award

The International Conference ECOCASD 2013 offers best research paper presentation award in each theme (one oral and one poster) to encourage the young scientists to take up new innovations in their research work. The award includes the best paper presentation award certificate with conference memento.

Key Dates/Deadlines

Submission of Abstract	:	15 August 2013
Notification to authors	:	20 August 2013
Submission of full paper	:	31 August 2013
Registration	:	31 August 2013

Accommodation and Travel for international delegates

ECOCASD-2013 will not provide funds for international travel. The participants are requested to mobilize their own funds for travel. However, accommodation will be arranged to participants who pay required fee for various categories of accommodation. Local transportation and food will be provided to the participants who register with full payment and request for accommodation.

Contact Address

ECOCASD 2013

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Department

Registration Fee*

International Delegates: 200 US \$ (Developed countries)
International Delegates: 100 US \$ (Developing countries)
Indian Delegates (Faculty): Rs. 2000
Indian Delegates (Students): Rs. 1000

*There is NO SPOT REGISTRATION for the Seminar and all the participants should register before due date.



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Department of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries, University of Kerala

One of the first 16 Universities in India, the University of Kerala was founded as the University of Travancore in the erstwhile princely state of Travancore in 1937. The oldest teaching-cum-research department of the University of Kerala, the Department of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries had its inception in 1938 as the Marine Biology and Fisheries Laboratory and Aquarium of the erstwhile Travancore University. In 1972 the laboratory was renamed as Department of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries and it widened its research activities to different aspects of freshwater, brackishwater and marine habitats. This is the first research and teaching department under any University in Kerala to be elevated to the Status of Centre of Advanced Studies (CAS) by the University Grants Commission. The Department also was awarded FIST by Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India and has also received equipment grant from DOD, Govt. of India and Infrastructure Development Grant from UGC, in addition to research funding from various State and Central agencies, and from International institutions like IDRC, Canada; University of Leiden, The Netherlands. This Department is offering M. Sc., M. Phil. and Ph. D. courses in Aquatic Biology and Fisheries. This department has so far produced around 300 Ph. D., 323 M. Phil. and 206 M. Sc. Degrees. The department has published over 2,100 research papers in peer reviewed journals, besides 23 books and several other publications. The wide areas of research in the Department include Aquatic Ecology, Aquaculture, Fish Biology, Fish Genetics, Aquatic Microbiology, Taxonomy, Biodiversity Documentation and Informatics, Marine Natural Products, Marine Chemical Ecology, Harmful Algal Blooms, Fish and Shellfish Pathology and Molecular Taxonomy. The Department is celebrating Platinum Jubilee in 2013.



Directorate of Environment & Climate Change

The Department of Environment and Climate Change (DoEC) under Environment Department of Government of Kerala was constituted in December 2010 to encourage and promote environment and Climate Change related activities in the Kerala and the then Environment Management Agency, Kerala is declared as the Directorate of Environment and Climate Change under the Environment Department, Government of Kerala. The Main functions of the Department are to: (i) Take up State level environmental development programmes and implement them in collaboration with appropriate agencies; (ii) Take up State level developmental programmes; (iii) Activities related to National Action Plan on Climate Change; (iv) Exercise administrative control of all environmentally related institutes being established in the State; (v) Investigate and take appropriate action on complaints related to Environment (Protection) Act 1986; (vi) Conduct environmental appraisal at planning level related to the development schemes of the State Government; (vii) Scrutinize the environment related proposals prepared by Government/ non-Governmental organizations; and (viii) Involve in various environmental technology activities of Local Self Government institutions, information on environmental technologies and develop a database system. The Department shall also be the nodal Department to co ordinate with other departments on matters related with Environment, awareness generation, Climate Change management etc.



Department of Biology, Ambo University, Ethiopia

Ambo University is one of the foremost higher learning institutions with significant contributions in Ethiopia's overall development by building the capacity of development agents through short, medium and long term trainings in various fields since its establishment in 1939. The University has a long standing experience in research and extension on viable technologies including poultry, dairy, horticulture, forestry, etc and is playing a significant role in improving the livelihood of local community. Currently, the University is effectively running 38 undergraduate programs in various fields and 10 PG programs. Ambo University envisions becoming a renowned university of choice in Eastern Africa advancing knowledge with a balanced approach to research and education towards human development, valuing professionalism, excellence and social progress. A separate department of Biology came into existence under the University 1995 with a vision of becoming one of the strong academic departments in the country, contributing to its development goals through producing competent and responsible professionals in biology and related fields. It launched two second degree programs namely Environmental Sciences and Aquaculture and Fisheries for the first time in the country in 2001 and 2002 respectively. The Department also organizes conferences, workshops and training programs. Overall, it is doing its level best in strengthening the existing programs and produce competent citizens, designing more curricula on related relevant programs at both levels and assisting the development of the country through capacity building. Further, the department is working to create collaborations with local as well as international institutes/organizations.