



## WSDS-ACT4EARTH

### *National Roundtable: Road to Baku*

**Date: 17th September 2024 (Tuesday) | Time: 10:30 am to 12:30 pm**

**Venue: TERI, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi**

### **Bio-notes**

---

**Mr. Naresh Pal Gangwar** is an officer of Indian Administrative Service 1994 batch of Rajasthan cadre. He possesses Bachelor of Technology in Electronics & Communications from IIT, Roorkee and Masters degree in Communication and Radar Engineering from IIT, Delhi and in Economics from University of Rajasthan and Advanced Diploma in Financial Services & Legislations from National Academy of Legal Studies & Research, University of Law, Hyderabad.

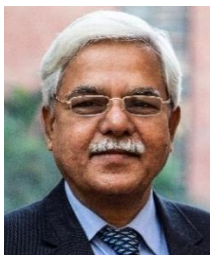
Mr. Gangwar as Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, heads important divisions like Climate Change, International Cooperation, Control of Pollution (Air & Water), Carbon Markets, Hazardous Substances Management Division dealing with Chemical & Waste Management, Resource Efficiency & Circular Economy.

He is Lead Negotiator for India to UNFCCC; Paris Agreement and Kyoto Protocol. He is also Lead Negotiator for India on Inter-Governmental Negotiating Committee for International Legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, Strategic Approach for International Chemicals Management (SAICM), Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata Conventions.



He has been instrumental in bringing in several policy reforms in respect of Extended Producers Responsibility framework for Management of Plastic Packaging Waste, Electronic & Electrical Waste, End of life Tyre Waste, Used Oil and Battery Waste. He is also steering implementation of National Clean Air Programme for improving air quality in selected cities in India and Green Credit Programme for incentivizing pro-environmental actions.

Mr. Gangwar has long experience of working in Energy, Education, Industry and Agriculture sector as Principal Secretary in Government of Rajasthan. He was instrumental in bringing key policies in Power sector including development of solar energy and establishment of Solar Park at Bhadla, Jodhpur, Rajasthan in the initial phase of National Solar Mission during his tenure as Principal Secretary, Energy, Rajasthan, Chairman & Managing Director of Rajasthan Renewal Energy Corporation and several other utilities of power sector during the period 2009-2013 and 2019. Further, major policy reforms were brought in during his tenure as Principal Secretary, Education during the period 2014-2018. Mr. Gangwar also headed Agriculture and Industries department of Government of Rajasthan as Principal Secretary.



**Mr Rajani Ranjan Rashmi** is a Distinguished Fellow at the Energy and Resources Institute, Delhi where he works on climate change policy, strategy and low carbon growth issues. Mr Rashmi is a senior retired IAS officer of 1983 batch from Manipur Cadre with over 35 years' experience of public service. He was India's key climate negotiator for several years and was involved with climate change policy making in India in the run up to and after the Paris Agreement during 2007-2017. He held the position of Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Climate Change, Govt of India and later the Chief Secretary, Govt of Manipur. Mr Rashmi has taught climate change modules at the TERI SAS and other institutions. Besides, he is also a Member of the Technical Advisory Body of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and the Environment Advisory Group of the National Human Rights Commission. He writes regularly in journals and newspapers on climate change.



**Dr Satyendra Kumar** is the Director, Hazardous Substances Management (HSM) Division, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India.



**Mr Atin Biswas** is a practitioner in the space of environmental governance with more than 28 years of experience dealing with issues of solid waste management and circular economy. During his professional journey, Atin has worked extensively with Government of India, state governments, urban and rural local governments for institution building, reforms and systems development through research, capacity building and advocacy. Atin is currently working with Centre for Science and Environment as Programme Director for Solid Waste Management and Circular Economy Unit and leading the work in India and the global south.



**Mr. Jai Kumar Gaurav** is a Climate Change sector professional with around 16 years of diverse experience with bi-lateral, multi-lateral organizations, NGOs and private sector. He is currently working as Senior Advisor-Climate Change and Circular Economy in GIZ India. He is also Project Manager of the "Waste Solutions for a Circular Economy in India" project funded by the Mitigation Action Facility (MAF) supporting adoption of low carbon waste management technologies including biomethanation. Prior to GIZ he has worked with Adelphi GmbH, International Development Enterprises India (IDEI), United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and Sindicatum Carbon Capital on climate change mitigation and adaptation projects. His research interests are interdisciplinary and relate to political economy, technology and financing. He holds a Masters in Climate Change and Development from the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK for which he was awarded the Commonwealth Scholarship.



**Mr Asim Sharma** is working as a Senior Expert – Sustainable Finance at WWF India. Asim has over 16 years of experience across credit rating and project finance, consulting, program management and business development in environment, climate change, sustainability, clean energy and infrastructure sectors. Prior to his current role at WWF India, he was associated with FICCI, India Ratings & Research (Fitch group), Minda Industries and IL&FS group. Asim has an MBA from TERI University and B.Tech from U.P. Technical University



**Ms Chhavi Mahaur** is a Master's graduate from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai. She holds a Masters degree in social work with a specialization in Public Health. Her research experience encompasses both qualitative and quantitative methods, focusing on health, human rights, and advocacy. She has also gained valuable experience in corporate social responsibility (CSR), particularly in health and women's empowerment. Currently, she is working in Sustainable Food Systems at the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), concentrating on agriculture-climate connections. Her expertise bridges social work, public health, and environmental sustainability with a human lens.



**Dr. Janak Raj** is a Senior Fellow at the Centre for Social and Economic Progress, a New Delhi-based think tank, where he has been working on climate finance and MDB reforms. In his long career spanning close to four decades, he has held several important positions, including as Executive Director in the Reserve Bank of India (RBI); a member of the statutory Monetary Policy Committee of the RBI; Senior Adviser in the Office of the Executive Director India, International Monetary Fund, Washington DC; and Senior Consultant, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance. He has also served as a director on the Governing Board of the BSE (formerly Bombay Stock Exchange). He has been a member of several Committees/Working Groups constituted by the RBI, Bank for International Settlements, and Securities and Exchange Board of India. He has authored several articles/op-eds. in monetary policy, banking, capital market, inter-linkages between human development and economic growth, among others, in reputed economic journals/financial dailies. He holds a Ph.D. degree from the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay.



**Mr Syed Arslan Ali** is a post graduate in Economics from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. He is currently serving as a Research Assistant at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), focusing on the areas in global economic development and sustainability initiatives. He has contributed to the UN Global Pilot Program on Science, Technology, and Innovation for Sustainable Development Goals (STI for SDGs) and served as the Research Coordinator for Think 20 (T20) Task Force 3 (LiFE, Resilience, and Values for Wellbeing) during India's G20 Presidency in 2023. He is currently focused on exploring the LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) economy, which involves assessing how policy frameworks can promote environmentally conscious lifestyles at both individual and community levels, while driving broader socio-economic transformations. His work also delves into the role of Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly through fostering innovation ecosystems that address key global challenges such as climate change, inequality, and sustainable consumption and production.



**Ms Sehr Raheja** is a Programme Officer for the Climate Change Programme at the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE). Her research focuses on climate finance and the politics of climate change. She earned a Bachelor's in Media Studies from the Symbiosis Institute of Media & Communication in 2017 and later worked as a campaigner for the Coastal Resource Centre, Chennai, focusing on the Save Ennore Creek campaign to protect the ecologically fragile area from industrial pollution. She briefly worked with the Chhattisgarh based grassroots movement Hasdeo Arand Bachao Sangharsh Samiti (HASS) in 2018. She then joined Manthan Adhyayan Kendra, Pune as a researcher, studying the social and environmental impacts of coal-based power generation, particularly focusing on water-related issues and coal ash. Sehr is interested in critical examinations of the energy transition and climate justice.



**Ms Shubhi Goel** is a strong Subject Matter Expert on carbon market, climate finance. Ms. Goel has 4+ years of industry experience across policy suggestions, climate finance and consulting organizations, the last of which was with Carbon Markets Association of India as a Joint Secretary for carbon markets consulting. Her focus is currently on the carbon markets domain, where she studies the different market instruments present and the significance of their environmental integrity and boundaries. Her work involves analyzing the design features for an effective and successful Emission Trading Scheme in India. She holds a master's degree in Climate Science and Policy from the TERI School of Advanced Studies. Earlier, she was working with the Earth Science and Climate Change Division which undertakes research in various climate change fields at TERI. Her work broadly revolves around international climate policy, negotiations, cooperation, transparency, carbon market and climate finance. Her niche areas of expertise also include international climate finance, carbon markets, and industrial decarbonization.



**Mr Sumit Prasad** leads the Climate Negotiations Programme and COP processes at CEEW. His research portfolio includes examining and assessing climate actions, capacity-building efforts related to transparency, ambition and transparency under the Paris Agreement, Loss and Damage, Global stocktake process, and other key issues of the Paris Agreement Rulebook. Sumit has authored the MRV chapter in India's second and third Biennial Update Report submitted to UNFCCC. And is nominated as a Roaster Group of Experts to UNFCCC by the Government of India.



**Ms Muskaan Kapoor** is a Program Associate in the Climate, Economics, and Finance Program at WRI India, where she focuses on corporate climate action and industrial decarbonization. Her role involves supporting Indian corporates in setting and achieving science-based targets and creating capacity and awareness around it. Before joining WRI India, Muskaan gained over three years of experience in sustainability and decarbonization working on diverse projects, including the design and research of disaster-resilient structures, green building certifications, and energy efficiency initiatives, working closely with BEE and ASSOCHAM during her tenures at Development Alternatives and Design2Occupancy Services LLP. Most recently, Muskaan was part of CDP India, where she played a crucial role in the SBTi Incubator program. Muskaan holds a Bachelor of Technology in Civil Engineering from Dayalbagh Educational Institute (DEI), Agra.



**Mr Dennis Baby** is a Junior Program Associate with the Climate, Economics and Finance Program at WRI India. His work with here primarily focusses on Energy policy modelling specifically for the Indian state of Maharashtra. He also handles all the internal communication within the program and assists the program communications team. Previously, he worked with The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) as a WSDS associate for their annual flagship event called World Sustainable Development Summit. He holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Sciences (H) from the University of Delhi.



**Ms Simran Sukhija** is a Research Analyst with the Climate Negotiations Team at CEEW. Her research focuses on climate accountability, transparency, and Article 6, as well as climate finance. Simran also conducts capacity-building assessments on the modalities, procedures, and guidelines associated with the enhanced transparency framework and monitors negotiations related to the Paris Agreement.



**Mr. Bholenath Vishwakarma** is a sustainability leader with over 30 years of professional experience in manufacturing and consulting across India and the United States. His background combines a strong foundation in science with a deep understanding of environmental policy. Bholenath holds a bachelor's degree in Chemistry and a postgraduate diploma in Environmental Technology. He furthered his studies at the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) at Columbia University, where he earned a Master's degree in International Affairs with a specialization in Environmental Policy (2008). Bholenath's professional experience is vast, encompassing collaborations with multinational corporations and multilateral funding agencies. He currently lends his expertise as a consultant and advisor to the ESG assurance and certification team at Bureau Veritas India. Previously, Bholenath played a key role in implementing sustainable public procurement (SPP) practices for the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) in partnership with UNEP India. His commitment to SPP extends to his involvement in a World Bank-funded market readiness project with TERI.

## TERI EXPERTS



**Dr Suneel Pandey** is Senior Fellow and Director, Circular Economy & Waste Management Division, TERI. In addition, he is also working as Adjunct Faculty at TERI School of Advanced Studies (TERI SAS). He has more than 30 years of consultancy/ research experience in the areas of municipal, industrial and hospital waste management, their linkage with climate change aspects and circular economy and resource efficiency, waste-to-energy issues, impact assessment, air, water and soil quality monitoring, site assessments, performance evaluation of ETP and institutional strengthening and capacity building. He has obtained his Ph. D. degree in hazardous waste characterization from Nagpur University while working as Project Fellow at NEERI, Nagpur. Prior to joining TERI, Suneel has worked for ERM India and at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology on development of landfill liner for containment of land disposed hazardous waste and deriving material balances and associated environmental pollution for Hong Kong region as part of Post Doctoral Research.



**Dr Shailly Kedia** is a policy researcher who is an Associate Director and Senior Fellow with the Centre for Sustainable Development Research and Leadership at The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). Since 2021, she is also the Curator of TERI's flagship initiative - the World Sustainable Development Summit. Dr Kedia is a multidisciplinary research professional with over 17 years of experience in policy research, outreach, and capacity building. Her areas of expertise include green budgeting, sustainable development policy, green growth, green public procurement, sustainable consumption and production, international organization, finance, and the interface between traditional and non-traditional security. She has pioneered the policy innovation of green budgeting.



**Ms Dorothy Ashmita Biswas** is a Research Associate at the Centre for Climate Change Research within TERI's Earth Science and Climate Change Division. In her role, she focuses on climate policy and finance, with a particular emphasis on multi-level finance flows, decarbonization pathways, and transition strategies. With five years of experience in the climate change, Ms. Biswas has worked extensively with various stakeholders, particularly policymakers, on both national and international climate policies. Her expertise extends to integrating diverse perspectives and fostering collaboration to drive effective climate action. Ms. Biswas holds a master's degree in Sustainable Development Practices from the

TERI School of Advanced Studies. Prior to joining TERI, she gained valuable experience working with the Council on Energy, Environment and Water and Sustainable Square, where she specialized in climate adaptation and sustainable development.



**Dr Manish Kumar Shrivastava's** research interests include theories and practices of justice with a particular reference to the interaction of energy, technology, and environmental policy in multi-level governance and fragmented society contexts. He has more than 15 years of experience in teaching and research. His current research focuses on financing and governance of decarbonization and just transition in India, the role of sub-national and non-state actors in scaling up climate action in developing countries; market-based mechanisms, mainstreaming gender justice in mitigation, and the role of frugality in sustainable development governance. He is an Associate Editor of the journal 'Climate Action'. In the past, he was also associated with the TERI School of Advanced Studies, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, and the Council for Social Development. He holds Ph.D. and M.Phil. Degrees in Science Policy and a Masters Degree in Economics from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.



**Dr Saswata Chaudhury** is Researcher (Senior Fellow) in The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi and Area Convenor of Centre for Energy Assessment and Modelling team of TERI. He has PhD degree in Economics from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. His area of interest includes Economic Development, Trade, Energy, Environment and Resources. He has more than 14 years of experience in Forecast analysis, large data handling (like NSS, NFHS data) and Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) Modelling. He has also wide experience in primary survey and multi-stakeholder approaches to research. He has a number of publications in reputed national and international journals. At TERI, currently, he is working on projects focusing on low carbon/net zero growth, energy demand assessment, carbon tax/pricing, just transition, renewable energy trade.



**Mr. Uday Veer Singh** is engaged with the Centre for Climate Change Research (CCCR) at The Energy & Resources Institute (TERI) as a Research Associate. His work areas include climate policy and diplomacy, climate finance research around innovative financial instruments, low-carbon mitigation pathways, and industrial decarbonization for sectors such as steel and cement. Mr. Singh holds a master's in public policy from the O.P. Jindal Global University, Haryana, and a B.A. in history and philosophy from Hansraj College, University of Delhi.



**Mr Amlan Mishra** is a Research Associate at the Centre for Climate Change Research at The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). His educational background includes a master's in international relations from the University of Sussex and a master's in economics from McGill University. He is currently engaged in research around adaptation, climate finance, international relations, just transitions, and climate justice. He has undertaken several projects around these topics, with publications on the operationalization of the Loss and Damage Fund, the potential for cities to engage in subnational multilateralism and the policy and governance aspects of Nature-based Solutions.



**Ms. Mandavi Singh** is a Research Associate in the Resource Efficiency and Governance Division at TERI, where she also leads as the Area Convenor of the Centre for Resource Efficiency and Governance (CREG). Her expertise lies in conducting environmental sustainability assessments, with a focus on Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and Techno-Economic Analysis (TEA) across a range of sectors, including automotive technologies, fuels, and defence ammunitions etc. With a master's degree in environmental sciences, she is well-versed in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and damage assessment. Ms. Singh has made notable contributions to the National Mission for Green Steel under the Ministry of Steel, emphasizing material efficiency in India's steel sector, and has also led numerous sustainability assessment projects across diverse domains.



**Ms. Apoorva Singh** primarily works on just transitions at TERI. She's extensively covered the eastern coal belt region of India, implementing socio-economic research projects at the grass-root level by collecting and analyzing data from a sociological lens. Basis this, she's helped develop a participatory, result-based and action-oriented framework for just transition that shall guide future policies and action in India. Through a pilot initiative in one of the coal-mining affected districts, her team has also successfully demonstrated how a just transition for the region would fructify as by establishing 50 women as business entrepreneurs through generation of alternative livelihood opportunities.



**Ms Pooja Sehbag** specializes in international climate politics and governance issues including the interface between international organizations, non-traditional security and climate change. She is working as a Research Associate at The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi. She has submitted her PhD thesis in International Organization division of the Center for International Politics, Organizations, and Disarmament (CIPOD) at the School of International Studies (SIS) in Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi. She has qualified for the National Eligibility Test in the International Relations and Area Studies discipline. She has a Masters in Philosophy (M.Phil.) degree in International Organization, CIPOD, SIS, JNU, where her dissertation was on the negotiations of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the role of major negotiating groups. She has a Master's degree in Politics with a specialization in International Relations from the School of International Studies, JNU, New Delhi and a Graduation degree in Psychology from Panjab University, Chandigarh.



**Mr George Mathew** is currently serving as a Project Associate at the Centre for Waste Management, focusing on solid waste management, plastic waste management, and circular economy solutions. He is involved in a study on Single-Use Plastics (SUPs) in Delhi, where he identifies, categorizes, and quantifies SUPs to propose alternatives and develop a reduction roadmap. His expertise includes conducting primary and secondary research, data collection, stakeholder mapping, and data analysis. With over a year of previous experience in environmental consulting in the wastewater field, George has honed his skills in preparing key technical documents such as Inception Reports, Feasibility Studies, and Detailed Project Reports for prestigious government projects, contributing to sustainable development initiatives.



**Ms Priya S Wali** is a Research Associate at TERI's Centre for Waste Management, where she is currently working on identifying gaps in Indian regulations and sustainability reporting standards (BRSR). Prior to her current position, Priya gained valuable experience in strategic communications, stakeholder engagement, and collaborative execution of sustainability initiatives. Her background includes academic projects, such as assessing industrial sustainability practices, field surveys and conducting water quality assessments, which have equipped her with a foundation in understanding of urban sustainability.



**Ms Madhuparna Maiti** is working as a Research Associate at The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). Her work spans at the nexus of environment, equity, and society. Her areas of research include climate policies, international development, South-South cooperations, food systems and socio-economics, green growth strategies such as green budgeting and green public procurement.



**Ms Ishita Srivastava** is working as a Research Associate with TERI's Centre for Sustainable Development Research and Leadership. Previously, she's worked with Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited and Chambers of Mr Anirban Bhattacharya in the domain of energy laws, arbitration and civil litigation. She's a public policy professional with a keen interest in the interface of sustainable development with environment, climate change & law. Ms Ishita has contributed to research work in the domain of green public procurement, climate negotiations and sustainable agriculture. She has specialized in law, public policy and is skilled in qualitative and quantitative policy research, program design & evaluation. She holds a Master's in Public Policy from O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonapat, Haryana.