

WSDS-ACT4EARTH

COP29 Compass Dialogue

Date: 5th September 2024 | Time: 3:00 pm to 5:30 pm Venue: TERI, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi

Bio-notes

Panel Discussion 1: Climate Finance | 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm



Ms Rajasree Ray is presently working as Economic Adviser in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and handling matters relating to Climate Change, Montreal Protocol implementation and Sustainable Coastal Management. Prior to this assignment, she was working as Economic Adviser in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India and was handling matters relating to climate change finance, sustainable development, agriculture and food management issues. She joined Government of India in 1995 and since then, deal with various subjects relating to natural resources, agriculture and food management issues. She joined Government of India in 1995 and since then, dealt with various subjects relating to natural resources, agriculture and food policy and climate change. Ms. Ray has been a member of the Indian negotiating team in the UNFCCC and other bodies such as G-20 working groups. Ms Ray was a member of the Inter-Governmental Committee on Sustainable Development Financing set up by UN General Assembly as a follow-up of Rio + 20 process and the Standing Committee on Finance established under the UNFCCC. She was also a member of the Indian delegation negotiated the Paris Agreement in December 2015. She was on the Board of the Green Climate Fund in 2018. She has authored several papers on issues related to Climate Change Adaptation, Vision for the GCF, Gender and Climate Change and Climate Change Financing.



Mr. R. R. 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 Ashish Chaturvedi is Head, Action for Climate and Environment at UNDP India. Ashish has been working on the topics of environment, climate change, and circular economy in India for over 18 years. His core expertise is in community-based adaptation, waste management, sustainable consumption and production, and environmental policy. Prior to UNDP, he has worked with research institutions and consultancies, most recently as the Director of Climate Change and Circular Economy with the GIZ, the agency responsible for implementing Indo-German technical cooperation. He has been involved in drafting policies and guidelines at the sub-national and national levels and supported the implementation of major schemes and programmes of the Government of India. Ashish is an avid action researcher and has published extensively in books, journals, and general interest magazines. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California, and his academic training has been in the field of political economy



Ms Yeshika Malik is a Climate Change Specialist at the World Bank, with a focus on the South Asia Region. With over a decade of experience in policy advocacy, stakeholder engagement, and the development of comprehensive climate adaptation and mitigation strategies, she has been instrumental in advancing the World Bank's climate agenda since 2018. Her expertise in mobilizing climate finance—both at national and sub-national levels—and in designing innovative financial instruments that focus on significantly strengthening community resilience and sustainable livelihoods in the face of climate risks. Prior to her role at the World Bank, Yeshika gained valuable experience at the Center for Study of Science Technology and Policy (CSTEP) and NITI Aayog, Government of India, where she focused on sustainable development and policy solutions. She holds a Master's degree in Economics from the University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom, which supports her analytical approach to tackling complex climate challenges.



Mr Arun Krishnan is a Manager at CPI's Delhi office, where he leads the India regional program of the Global Innovation Lab in Climate Finance. Arun also leads urban and transport initiatives at CPI India and works with the Cities for Climate Finance Leadership Alliance which is a coalition of leaders committed to deploying finance for city level climate action at scale by 2030. He has over 15 years of experience in deal advisory, climate/project finance, public policy, and public-private partnerships in the areas of climate change, urban infrastructure, transport, smart cities, and airports. Prior to CPI, Arun worked at McKinsey and KPMG. He is a visiting faculty at the Indian Institute of Management Kashipur where he also mentors startups. Arun holds a Master of Business Administration from Indian Institutes of Management, Ahmedabad and a Bachelor of Engineering from Anna University, Chennai.