



SCHOOL OF SUSTAINABLE
FOOD SYSTEMS

AAETI

NATIONAL CONCLAVE

SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS

October 27-29, 2025

Anil Agarwal Environment Training Institute,
Nimli, Rajasthan



AGENDA

DAY 1

MONDAY,
OCTOBER 27, 2025

ARRIVAL OF PARTICIPANTS

Sunday, October 26, 2025

Networking dinner: **7:30 PM onwards**

9:00-9:30 AM

Registrations

9:30-11:00 AM

INAUGURAL

Community Release of new books

Sunita Narain, Director General, Centre for Science and
Environment

Ajay Vir Jakhar, Chairperson, Bharat Krishak Samaj, New Delhi

Ramanjaneyulu G V, Executive Director, Centre for Sustainable
Agriculture, Hyderabad, Telangana

Sudhir Kumar Goel, Former Additional Chief Secretary
(Agriculture and Marketing), Government of Maharashtra

**11.00-11.30 AM: TEA BREAK AND GROUP
PHOTOGRAPH**

**SOIL HEALTH AND
CARBON CREDIT:
IMPROVING
PRODUCTIVITY
AND FARMER'S
INCOME**

SESSION 1
11:30 AM-1:00 PM

**STATE OF
INDIAN SOILS
AND WAYS TO
MEASURE AND
IMPROVE THEM**

SESSION 2
2:00-3:30 PM

**VOLUNTARY
CARBON
MARKET FOR
AGRICULTURE:
SCALE,
CONCERNS AND
OPPORTUNITIES**

Chair

Apoorva Oza, Global Lead-Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Resilience, Aga Khan Foundation

**Improving soil organic carbon in
Indian soils**

Mahesh C Meena, Principal Scientist, Division of Soil Science & Agricultural Chemistry, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Delhi

**Soil biological health and soil
organic carbon**

Sultan Ismail, Managing Director, Ecoscience Research Foundation, Chennai

**Enhancing soil health through state rural
livelihood programmes**

Shanlang F Lyngdoh, Chief Operating Officer – Livelihood, Meghalaya State Rural Livelihoods Society, Shillong

Open forum

1.00-2.00 PM: LUNCH

Chair

Sultan Ismail, Managing Director, Ecoscience Research Foundation, Chennai

How can carbon markets help farmers?

Srajesh Gupta, Co-founder and Anchor, Centre for Grower-centric Eco-value Mechanisms (C-GEM), Ahmedabad, Gujarat

**Learnings from carbon projects of
Grow Indigo**

Umang Agarwal, Chief Operating Officer - Carbon, Grow Indigo, Mumbai

**Varaha's perspective on scaling up
carbon projects**

Himanshu Chaturvedi, Manager-Projects and Strategic Alliances, Varaha, Gurugram, Haryana

**FARMER
PRODUCER
ORGANISATIONS
FOR A
SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURE**

SESSION 3
4:00-5:30 PM

**BIODIVERSITY
CONSERVATION
AND THE ROLE
OF FPOs**



**Standards and methodologies for soil
carbon credits**

Tara Sriram, Lead Program Officer, Natural Climate
Solutions, Verra

Open forum

3.30-4.00 PM: TEA BREAK

Chair

Jai Rana, Senior Scientist and Country Representative for India,
Alliance Bioversity-CIAT, CGIAR, New Delhi

**Seed conservation initiative of Sahaja
Samrudha**

AnandaTeertha Pyati, Founding Member, Sahaja Samrudha,
Mysuru, Karnataka

**CSA's initiative to conserve seeds through
FPOs**

Ramanjaneyulu GV, Executive Director, Centre for Sustainable
Agriculture, Hyderabad, Telangana

**TAPCOs' initiatives to conserve rice
varieties: Learnings and impact**

Rajesh Krishnan, Chief Executive Officer, Thirunelly Agri
Producer Company Ltd (TAPCO), Wayanad, Kerala

**Conserving millets and rice in tribal areas:
Nirmaan's perspective**

Akash Badave, Chief Executive Officer, Nirmaan, Dantewada,
Chhattisgarh

Open forum

7:00 PM ONWARDS

FIRST FOOD: CONCLAVE DINNER

Curated by **Vibha Varshney**, Head, Biodiversity
and Food Programme, CSE

DAY 2

TUESDAY,
OCTOBER 28, 2025

LIVESTOCK: MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION

SESSION 4
9:30-11:00 AM

GHG EMISSIONS FROM LIVESTOCK AND MITIGATION OPTIONS

ARAVALLI TREK: 6.00-7.00 AM

Chair

Amit Khurana, Director, Sustainable Food Systems programme,
Centre for Science and Environment

Livestock emissions and mitigation through feed and nutrition

Pradeep Kumar Malik, Head of Division, Bioenergetics and
Environmental Sciences Division, National Institute of Animal
Nutrition and Physiology (NIANP), Bengaluru, Karnataka

Emission mitigation in dairy cattle through breed improvement

D K Sadana, Founder, Indigenous Livestock Society, Karnal, Haryana

Climate-smart dairying: NDDB's initiative and its impact

Bhupendra Phondba, Senior Manager, National Dairy Development
Board (NDDB), Anand, Gujarat

Open forum

11.00-11.30 AM: TEA BREAK

Chair

R N Chatterjee, Director, ICAR-Directorate of Poultry Research,
Hyderabad, Telangana

Indigenous livestock and its role in biodiversity, climate and livelihood

Sabyasachi Das, National Coordinator, Revitalising Rainfed
Agriculture (RRA) Network, Hyderabad, Telangana

CARI initiatives to promote poultry breeds for livelihood

Jaydip Rokade, Senior Scientist (Poultry Science), ICAR-Central
Avian Research Institute (CARI), Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh

SESSION 5
11:30 AM-1:00 PM

RESILIENT BREEDS FOR IMPROVED BIODIVERSITY, CLIMATE, AND LIVELIHOOD

**IMPROVING
SAFETY NET FOR
FARMERS**

SESSION 6

2:00-3:30 PM

**DESIGNING
CROP
INSURANCE
TO ENSURE
MAXIMUM
BENEFIT FOR
FARMERS IN
CLIMATE-RISKED
TIMES**

SESSION 7

4:00-5:30 PM

**TECHNOLOGY AND
INNOVATION FOR
CROP INSURANCE**

Backyard and smallholder poultry: A sustainable model for livelihoods, biodiversity, and climate resilience

K S Grewal, General Manager - National Sales, KeggFarms Pvt Ltd, Gurugram, Haryana

Open forum

1.00-2.00 PM: LUNCH

Chair

Ajay Vir Jakhar, Chairperson, Bharat Krishak Samaj, New Delhi

PMFBY: Challenges and the need for improvement for greater adoption

Sudhir Kumar Goel, Former Additional Chief Secretary (Agriculture and Marketing), Government of Maharashtra

PMFBY implementation: Role of the crop insurance sector in claims settlements

Subhasheesh Rawat, Vice President - Claims, HDFC ERGO General Insurance, Mumbai, Maharashtra

Agriculture insurance as an effective safety net: What needs to be done for Indian farmers?

Kiran Kumar Vissa, Co-Founder, Rythu Swarajya Vedika, Hyderabad, Telangana

Crop insurance: Issues from the ground

Ashish Gupta, Co-founder, Gram Disha Trust, Mandi, Himachal Pradesh

Open forum

3.30-4.00 PM: TEA BREAK

Chair

Sudhir Kumar Goel, Former Additional Chief Secretary, (Agriculture and Marketing), Government of Maharashtra

Role of technology in improving agriculture insurance implementation

Sunil Kumar Dubey, Deputy Director, Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre, Delhi

YES-TECH for crop loss estimation: Learnings from Madhya Pradesh

Vidyabhushan Patle, Assistant Director (Crop Insurance), Department of Farmer Welfare and Agriculture Development, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

The rise of agtech-driven risk solutions

Aditya Shah, Global Director of Strategic Partnerships, Cropin, Bengaluru, Karnataka

Open forum

PANEL DISCUSSION 7:00-8:30 PM

SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS IN THE AGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE – AN AGENDA FOR ACTION

Co-chairs

Kavitha Kuruganti, Co-Convenor, Alliance for Sustainable and Holistic Agriculture (ASHA-Kisan Swaraj), Bengaluru, Karnataka

Ramanjaneyulu GV, Executive Director, Centre for Sustainable Agriculture, Hyderabad, Telangana

Panellists

Narendranath Damodaran, National Anchor, National Coalition for Natural Farming, Delhi

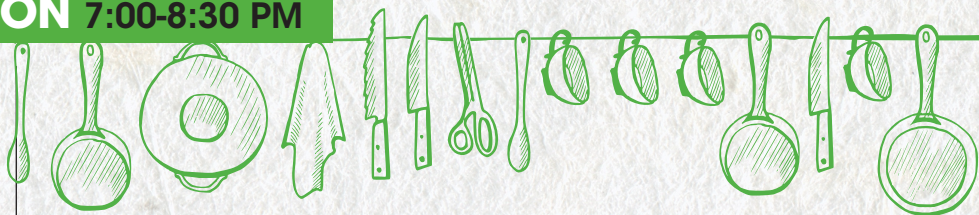
Rajinder Chaudhary, Advisor, Kudrati Kheti Abhiyaan, Rohtak, Haryana

Umendra Dutt, Executive Director, Kheti Virasat Mission, Faridkot, Punjab

Usha Soolapani, Director, Thanal, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

Madhur Gandhi, Project Coordinator, IFOAM - Organics International

Shirish Joshi, Co-convenor, Consortium of Agroecological Transformations



DAY 3

WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 29, 2025

ADAPTATION THROUGH WEATHER-CROP INFORMATION

SESSION 8

9:00-10:30 AM

EFFECTIVE WEATHER FORECASTING FOR AGRICULTURE

SESSION 9

11.00 AM-12:30 PM

AGRO-MET ADVISORIES FOR FARMERS' BENEFIT

CAMPUS TOUR: 6.30-7.30 AM

Chair

Laxman Singh Rathore, Former Director General of Meteorology, India Meteorological Department, Ministry of Earth Sciences, New Delhi

Improving farmers' access to forecasts and agro-weather advisories: IMD's perspective

Sheshkumar Goroshi, Scientist-E, Agro-Advisory Service Division, India Meteorological Department (IMD), Delhi

Skymet's approach to hyperlocal forecasting and its impact

Mahesh Palawat, VP - Meteorology and Climate Change, Skymet Weather Services, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh

WeatherCast Solutions: Approaches to and impacts of hyperlocal forecasting

Darshan Waghela, Senior Data Scientist, WeatherCast Solutions Pvt Ltd, Mumbai, Maharashtra

Open forum

10.30-11.00 AM: TEA BREAK

Chair

Ramanjaneyulu GV, Executive Director, Centre for Sustainable, Agriculture, Hyderabad, Telangana

Effective agro-weather advisories for farmers: What is needed?

Anand Sharma, Former Additional Director General/Scientist-G, India Meteorological Department (IMD), Delhi

Importance of District Agro-Meteorology Unit in Indian agro-weather advisory services

Manjeet, Subject matter specialist - Agrometeorology, KVK, Shikohpur, Gurugram, Haryana

Weather advisory initiatives by Punjab Agricultural University

K K Gill, Principal Agrometeorologist, Department of Climate Change and Agricultural Meteorology, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, Punjab

Automated weather advisories for farmers

Nitin Mukund Kumbhar, Thematic Lead, Agriculture, Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR), Pune, Maharashtra

Open forum

12.30-1.30 PM: LUNCH AND DISPERSALS



For more information, please write to: Gauri Arora
Sustainable Food Systems programme, CSE, gauri.arora@cseindia.org