GLOBAL SOUTH MEDIA BRIEFING

DESERTIFICATION

SEPTEMBER 5-8, 2019
NEW DELHI, INDIA

PROGRAMME AGENDA

DAY 1: September 5, 2019
REGISTRATION: 9.30-10.00 AM

10.00-11.30 AM: SESSION 1
Overview and Release of Down To Earth special issue

Welcome address and introductions
Soupamno Banerjee, Senior Director-Outreach and Publications, CSE

‘Rio’s step-child’ becomes a parent
Sunita Narain, Director General, CSE

Release of the Down To Earth special issue on desertification

11.30 AM-12.00 noon: TEA BREAK

12.00 noon-1.30 PM: SESSION 2
The Onward March of the Desert
Anchor: Richard Mahapatra, Managing Editor, Down To Earth

Stemming the flow
Dr P C Moharana, Principal Scientist (Geography), Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), Jodhpur, Rajasthan

Climate conundrums: Heat rise, dust storms and desertification
Dr S D Attri, Deputy Director General, India Meteorological Department (IMD), New Delhi
1.30-2.30 PM: LUNCH

2.30-4.00 PM: SESSION 2 CONTD.

The Onward March of the Desert

The mountain and the city: The case of the Aravallis
Chetan Agarwal, Independent Analyst and Senior Fellow, Centre for Ecology Development and Research, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

Unholy connect: Aerosols and desertification
Dr Krishna Achuta Rao, Associate Professor, Centre for Atmospheric Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi

4.00-4.30 PM: TEA BREAK

4.30-6.00 PM: SESSION 3

It’s all about Water and its Management

Setting the tone: The importance of water and its management
Sushmita Sengupta, Programme Manager, Rural Water and Sanitation, CSE

Dying wisdom: Relevance of traditional water harvesting systems
Sunita Narain, Director General, CSE

DAY 2: September 6, 2019

10.00-11.00 AM: SESSION 3 CONTD.

It’s all about Water and its Management

Extreme weather: Flood-drought equation and its role
Dr K J Ramesh, former Director General, India Meteorological Department (IMD), New Delhi

State strategies and measures: Case study of Rajasthan
Anju Bhalla, Joint Secretary, Union Ministry of Science and Technology and Central Nodal Officer, Jal Shakti, Pali, Rajasthan

11.30 AM-12.00 NOON: TEA BREAK

12.00 NOON-1.30 PM: SESSION 4

Between Frying Pan and the Fire: Plight of the Modern Farmer

Agriculture today and its role in desertification
Devinder Sharma, Independent Agriculture Scientist and Food and Trade Policy Analyst, Mohali, Punjab
The state of the African farmer: An appraisal

Dr Komutunga Everline, Senior Research Officer & Team Leader, Soils, agro-meteorology and environment programme, National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO), Kampala, Uganda

Moderator: Daniel Aghan Odongo, Secretary, MESHA-Kenya (Media for Environment, Science, Health and Agriculture), Nairobi, Kenya

1.30-2.30 PM: LUNCH

2.30-4.00 PM: SESSION 5

Forests, Land, Climate Change and Desertification
Anchor: Chandra Bhushan, Deputy Director General, CSE

REDD+ A global overview
Chandra Bhushan, Deputy Director General, CSE

On land tenures and plantations
Dr Geetanjoy Sahu, Assistant Professor, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, Maharashtra

On communities and conservation
Neema Pathak Broome, Coordinator, Conservation and Livelihoods Programme, Kalpavriksh, Pune, Maharashtra

A case study from Tamil Nadu
Piyush Manush, Activist and Plantation Specialist, Salem, Tamil Nadu

4.00-4.30 PM: TEA BREAK

4.30-6.00 PM: CONCLUDING SESSION

The Way Ahead
Pushpam Kumar, Chief Environmental Economist, UN Environment, Nairobi, Kenya
Sunita Narain, Director General, CSE

DAY 3-4: September 7-8, 2019
Field trip to Laporaya, Rajasthan