



NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MAINSTREAMING LIFE: BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENT & SUSTAINABLE URBAN HABITATS

30-31st of May, 2026

THEME 2026

SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities
& SDG 13 - Climate Action

DATE

30-31st of May, 2026

VENUE

EPCO Conference Hall, Paryavaran
Parisar E-5, Arera Colony, Bhopal (MP)

ORGANISING AGENCY

SNHC India

(Society of Nature Healers, Conservators and
Local Tourism Development) Bhopal

COLLABORATIVE AGENCY

Madhya Pradesh State Biodiversity Board, Bhopal

SCHEDULE

DAY-1 (30th May, 2026)

Time	Topics/Details and Speakers
08:30-09:15	REGISTRATION
09:15-10:00	INAUGURATION By Hon'ble Chief Secretary MP Govt (TBC), OR ACS Environment Dept. MP (TBC) OR ACS Urban Administration Dept. MP (TBC) OR Commissioner Cum Director, Town & Country Planning (TBC)
09:15-09:25	Introduction & Welcome of guests by Organizers
09:25-09:30	LIGHTING OF LAMP
09:30-10:05	Introductory remarks by the Guests, including the Keynote address by Mr. Jagadish Krishnaswamy , Dean School of Environment & Sustainability, IIHS, Bangalore
10:01-10:10	Memento distribution to dignitaries and Group Photo
10:10-10:50	TEA BREAK
	TECHNICAL SESSION -1
10:50-11:20	Mainstreaming LiFE through Living Landscapes: Building Climate-Resilient, Biodiverse and Healthy Urban Habitats by Mr. Chandrashekhar M Biradar , Earth System Scientist & Lead Global Green Growth CoP, Bangalore <i>Chaired by Mr. Jagadish Krishnaswamy, Dean School of Environment & Sustainability, IIHS</i>
11:20-11:50	Urban Biodiversity & Ecologically Sustainable City by Dr. Gautam Talukdar , Scientist F, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun Mr. R. Sreenivasa Murthy , IFS Retd, Former Member Secretary, MPSBB, Bhopal
11:50-12:20	Where Delhi went wrong in urban governance & tackling air pollution as an issue & what did it do right in last 2 decades Vs where does Bhopal stand & what can it learn to grow differently than Delhi by Ms. Jinita Varghese Programme Manager EnviroCatalysts <i>Chaired by Mr. K. Raman, Retd IFS, Former APCCF, MP</i>
12:20-12:50	Significance of Protected area inside a City by Dr. Sudesh Waghmare Member MP State Wildlife Board, Ex DCF MP Forest <i>Chaired by Mr. Jagdish Chandra, Retd IFS, Ex. Director Van Vihar, Bhopal MP</i>
12:50-13:45	LUNCH BREAK
	TECHNICAL SESSION -2
13:45-14:15	Impact of Sand Mining (Demand of Urbanisation and Development) on Riverine Ecosystem by Dr. Kumar Gaurav , Associate Professor, Dept. of Earth & Environmental Sciences, IISER Bhopal <i>Chaired by Dr. Vipin Vyas, Professor, and HOD Zoology & Applied Aquaculture, BU Bhopal</i>
14:15-14:45	Dying Rivers (City's lifeline on waterfront): Observation from the field by Mr. Saurav Popli , Associate Professor, Landscape, SPA Bhopal <i>Chaired by Dr. Faiyaz A Khudsar, Incharge Scientist, Biodiversity Parks Program, Delhi</i>
14:45-15:15	Conservation of Wetlands for Urban Resilience by Dr. Amit Dubey , Head Wetlands, WWF-India <i>Chaired by Dr. Surabhi Mehrotra, Astt. Professor and Planning MANIT, Bhopal, MP</i>
15:15-15:45	Why Water Narratives, Public Knowledge and Local Voices Matter for Climate-Resilient India by Mr. Ajay Mohan , Managing Editor, India Water Portal, Bangalore <i>Chaired by Mrs. Anuradha Shankar, IPS Retd, Ex. Special DGP MP</i>
15:45-16:35	A panel on Sustainable Cities: Moderated by Mr Debadityo Sinha, Lead Climate and Ecosystems, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, New Delhi Mr. Jagadish Krishnaswamy , Dean School of Environment & Sustainability, IIHS Dr. Anil Kumar Roy-FeRSA , Sr. Associate Prof., Faculty of Planning, CEPT, Ahmedabad Dr. Faiyaz A Khudsar , Incharge Scientist, Biodiversity Parks Program, Delhi Mr. Peeyush Sekhsaria , Team Climate & Ecosystems, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, Delhi
16:35-17:00	VALEDICTORY
17:00 Onwards	HI TEA



KEY SPEAKERS



**Mr. Jagdish
Krishnaswamy**

Dean, School of
Environment &
Sustainability,
IIHS, Bengaluru



**Dr. Chandrashekhar
M. Biradar**

Earth System Scientist
& Lead-Global Green
Growth CoP, Bengaluru



**Dr. Anil Kumar
Roy - FeRSA**

Sr. Associate Professor
Faculty of Planning, CEPT
University, Ahmedabad



**Dr. Faiyaz
A. Khudsar**

Incharge Scientist
Biodiversity, Parks Program
CEMDE, University of Delhi



**Dr. Gautam
Talukdar**

Scientist - F, Wildlife
Institute of India
Dehradun



**Mr. Debadityo
Sinha**

Lead (Climate &
Ecosystems), Vidhi Centre
for Legal Policy



**Mr. Saurabh
Popli**

Associate Professor
Landscape
SPA, Bhopal



**Dr. Sudesh
Waghmare**

Member MP State
Wildlife Board, Ex. Deputy
Conservator of Forests, MP



**Mr. Peeyush
Sekhsaria**

Sr. Associate Fellow -
Climate & Ecosystems
team, Vidhi Centre for Legal
Policy, New Delhi



**Ms. Jinitha
Varghese**

Programme
Manager
EnviroCatalysts
New Delhi



**Dr. Kumar
Gaurav**

Associate Professor
Department of Earth &
Environmental Sciences
IISER, Bhopal



**Dr. Amit
Dubey**

Head-Wetlands
WWF-India



**Mr. Ajay
Mohan**

Managing Editor
India Water Portal
Bangalore

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

This **Central India's Climate and Sustainability** conference is a premier high-level summit dedicated to converting India's global Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) vision into actionable urban policies and sustainable community habits. As rapid urbanization exposes cities to volatile climate impacts such as intensifying heatwaves and urban flooding, this conference serves as a critical convergence point for municipal leaders, central ministries, corporate CSR departments and grassroots NGOs. The event focuses on moving beyond theoretical discourse to deliver immediate, systemic solutions, driving localized behavioral shifts through Pro-Planet People (P3) networks and embedding nature-based solutions and circular economies directly into city master plans.

Within this collaborative ecosystem, the **Society of Nature Healers, Conservators and Local Tourism Development (SNHC India)** acts as the crucial grassroots implementation and awareness engine. Dedicated to healing ecosystems naturally, this non-profit brings extensive field-level expertise in urban biodiversity protection, wetland conservation, and eco-tourism. At the conference, SNHC India bridges the gap between high-level policy and citizen action by using tools like the **SNHC Journal** to educate the public on organic alternatives and habitat preservation. By training communities to protect their local ecosystems, the NGO ensures that the transition toward low-carbon cities remains deeply rooted in conserving India's natural heritage.



ABOUT MPSBB

Madhya Pradesh State Biodiversity Board has been constituted by the State Government as per the provisions of Biological Diversity Act, 2002 notified by the Government of India. Objectives of the Board being Conservation of biodiversity, Sustainable use of its components and Equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and associated traditional knowledge.

Board has an advisory role in promoting biodiversity concerns among various stakeholders. One of the focus areas of the board includes promotion of research and advocacy of policy in gap areas. The lesser known faunal species is one such gap area which needs focus and action.

OUTCOME

- **Urban Resilience Action Plan**-A blueprint for municipal bodies to transition cities into Sponge Cities by integrating nature-based solutions, decentralized waste management and circular water economies into city master plans.
- **Multi-Stakeholder P3 Alliance**- A formalized network linking NGOs, academic institutions and citizen groups to scale grassroots Pro-Planet People movements and standardize climate-literacy toolkits across urban communities.
- **Policy Communiqué to Government**- A comprehensive, data-backed policy recommendation document submitted to state and national urban development ministries to advocate for risk-informed, climate-resilient building codes.
- **National Youth LiFE Toolkit** - An open-source digital toolkit designed by youth leaders to gamify and track sustainable behavioral changes such as energy conservation and waste segregation among school and university students.
- **Green Tech & Innovation Sandbox**- A collaborative incubation platform established to bridge tech startups, research institutes, and municipal corporations, accelerating the pilot deployment of AI tools for real-time urban flood forecasting and energy management.

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNER



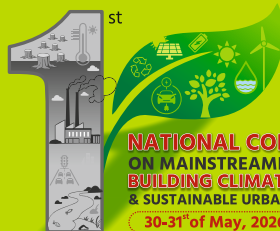
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