



5TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION (ICSE)

19-20 September, 2023

Venue: India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India

Theme – Educating for Climate Action and Sustainability

CONCEPT NOTE

Background

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges that humanity is facing today, causing extreme weather and climate catastrophes such as rising sea levels, melting glaciers, more frequent and intense disasters, and loss of biodiversity etc. In view of enormity of the adverse impacts of climate change, countries have reached an agreement to take urgent steps to limit the temperature rise below 1.5°C under the Paris Agreement in 2015. However, the recent IPCC Assessment Report (2023) has highlighted the unprecedented scale of the challenge required to keep warming to 1.5°C due to a continued increase in greenhouse gas emissions. The report underscores the need for education to galvanize urgent action by all the stakeholders, governments, civil society, businesses as well as general public to address the global climate crisis and achieve sustainability.

The pace and scale of what has been done so far, and current plans, are insufficient to tackle climate change. Therefore, it has become critical to educate about the enormity of the climate crisis and to take meaningful action to address on an urgent basis. This is also in line with the Goal 13, 6 and many other goals of SDGs, the India's New Education Policy 2020 and Mission Life of Government of India.

Education for climate action is critical because it can raise awareness and understanding of the causes, impacts, and solutions of climate change. Education can empower communities to take action, by providing them with the knowledge, skills, and motivation to reduce their carbon footprint thus promoting sustainable behaviour and lifestyles. To encourage collective action in order to address the global challenge of climate change, Mobius Foundation is organising the 5th **International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE)** on **19th and 20th September 2023** at **India Habitat Centre, New Delhi**, on the theme, **“Educating for Climate Action and Sustainability”**. The conference will mainly focus on the need to engage the participants toward a shift from dialogue to action for sustainability and to catalyse the transition to build the knowledge, skill and attitude needed to drive meaningful transformation towards climate action and sustainability. Previous 4 versions of ICSE have already created an active platform for networking and partnership. The ICSE has now become a crucial gathering for sustainability educators and professionals across the globe. The 5th ICSE will further build upon and consolidate the experience and strength of the network to meaningfully deliberate on the educational imperative of climate change and sustainability.

Objectives:

The overall objective of the conference is to inspire positive and constructive dialogue among the participants by sharing knowledge, skills, practical examples to motivate them to initiate innovative action through various programmes and activities. This will also include sharing of experience and strategies, curriculum, pedagogy, policies, and programmes to fostering leadership, advocacy and how education in both formal and non-formal settings can respond to climate crisis.

Following are some specific objectives of the conference:

1. To provide a platform for sharing good practices, ideas and examples related to climate action and sustainability through education and learning.
2. To highlight the importance of education as a powerful tool for promoting positive behavioural change to address climate change and sustainability challenges.
3. To empower and encourage youth to become climate and sustainability ambassador, in their communities and beyond.
4. To come up with a set of recommendations for joint projects/ ecopreneurs/ campaigns and actions for climate change and sustainability

Participants and format of the Conference - ICSE 2023

The 5th ICSE will be organized on September 19 (Tuesday) and 20 (Wednesday), 2023 through hybrid mode between 08:30 – 19:30 hrs at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India by Mobius Foundation in partnership with some of the key environmental organizations, UNESCO, UNEP, Centre for Environment Education (CEE), Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE, Copenhagen), The Climate Reality Project India, The Energy and Resource Institute (TERI), WWF India, TERRE Policy Centre etc.

The conference is expected to bring together around 300 participants physically (250 Indians + 50 Foreigners) and will be joined by thousands virtually from across the globe representing multi-disciplinary and diverse group of stakeholders including: policy makers, teachers and educators, young professionals, representative of schools and education networks, youth, scientists and technical experts, as well as individuals from the private sector and civil society. The event will be graced by eminent speakers/distinguished dignitaries via 6 plenary sessions including inauguration and closing ceremony. There will be sessions for contributed papers and posters from diverse fields and professions. Presentations and discussions will be organized in the form of panel interactions, working groups, workshops, symposia, round table by ICSE partners through 15 parallel thematic sessions in two days. There will be a special plenary for Youth4Earth campaign winners and young professionals. ICSE will also showcase special plenary on population stabilisation as part of Mobius Foundation's year-long campaign 'VIRAM: Agenda Sustainability' with India Today Group. The Conference will also facilitate display of exhibits, stalls, projects and practices by partners and delegates to showcase their work towards sustainability. There will be ample opportunities for interactions, networking, developing linkages and partnerships during cultural evenings, open sessions, poster presentation throughout the conference.

Outcome

The conference will provide a unique opportunity for educators, policymakers, and other stakeholders to come together to share their experiences, knowledge, and best practices on educating youth for climate action and sustainability. Through this conference, we hope to inspire and empower youth to act towards building a greener future. Together, we can make a positive impact on the planet and secure a sustainable future for generations to come.

Call for partnerships

5th ICSE 2023 offers opportunities for partnerships by reputed organizations/ institutions. Partnerships are open with sponsorship and in the form of technical support or both. 5th ICSE with its reach to a wider sustainability community will enable partners and sponsors in advancing their sustainability agenda and initiatives through recognition and connections. Last date to register for partnership/sponsorship is **31st July 2023**. We will welcome in kind technical and knowledge partnerships as well as sponsorship partners.

Call for parallel thematic sessions

5th ICSE 2023 invites proposals for organizing thematic sessions/tracks/special seminars/workshops on emerging sustainability education issues and concerns with focus on climate action. These sessions will normally be of 90 minutes duration with 4-5 speakers/panellists. Last date for session proposals is **31st July 2023**

Call for papers and posters

The conference offers opportunity for presentation of papers/posters during various technical sessions. An abstract of not more than 500 words in English can be submitted in the prescribed format available on the ICSE website. *Last Date for Abstract Submission: 31st July 2023*

- *Last Date for Full Paper Submission: 31st August 2023*

Contributed papers will be reviewed and published.

For further details please contact:

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