

## Summary

### National Training Programme on “Audit of Climate Change and Net Zero Initiatives” from 09<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 at iCED Jaipur

International Centre for Environment Audit & Sustainable Development (iCED) organized a 05 days’ National Training Programme on “Audit of Climate Change and Net Zero Initiatives” from 09<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at its own campus. A total of 19 participants from 07 field offices including 07 group officers, participated in the training programme. Ms. C P Veena, Research Associate, Earth Science and Climate Change Division, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) also joined the participants for group photo.



Group Photo during National Training Programme on “Audit of Climate Change and Net Zero Initiatives”

Dr. Nanda Dulal Das, Director (Training and Research) extended a warm welcome to the Additional Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General & Director General, Ms. Sayantani Jafa madam, Director (Administration), Shri Mehul Grover and all the participants. He highlighted that the training programme would cover a wide range of topics including climate change, renewable energy, green finance etc. He further requested ADAI & DG madam to deliver her welcome address.

Ms Sayantani Jafa, Additional Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General & Director General, iCED inaugurated the training programme. She welcomed all the participants. ADAI Madam emphasized the importance of the National Training Programme on “Audit of Climate Change and Net Zero Initiatives” and its role in creating awareness and imparting knowledge about the highly critical and relevant areas in Climate Change, which poses serious impediments towards achievement of Sustainable Development Goals by the year 2030.

ADAI madam informed the participants about iCED's significant role as a recent establishment as the Centre of Excellence on Audit of Blue Economy, iCED is now operationalizing the SAI India’s vision of upscaling knowledge and addressing critical issues related to the audit of Blue

Economy and proving to be an important instrumentality of global capacity building in the field of Environmental Auditing.



**Ms Sayantani Jafa, ADAI & Director General, iCED addressing participants**

She emphasized that climate change disproportionately affects the most vulnerable, including India, due to its vast population and diverse geography. The IPCC's 2023 Sixth Assessment Report warns that to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, greenhouse gas emissions must peak by 2025. Each degree of global temperature rise has severe consequences. Ensuring intergenerational equity and climate justice, with resource and technology transfer from developed to developing nations, are crucial for sustainable development. India faces climate challenges like rising temperatures, shifting monsoons, glacier retreat, sea-level rise, extreme weather, affecting agriculture, health and biodiversity compounded by its vulnerable coastline, agricultural reliance, and large population.

ADAI Madam highlighted India's significant commitment to combat climate change, outlining its goals of achieving net-zero emissions by 2070 and sourcing 50 percent of its energy from non-fossil fuel-based sources by 2030. She further emphasized the need for a pragmatic approach to environmentalism aligned with the concerns of the Global South. Further, ADAI Madam highlighted India's actions to meet these goals, including installing 500 gigawatts of renewable energy capacity, reducing emissions intensity and increasing forest cover. India's leadership during its G20 presidency and its proactive initiatives like the International Solar Alliance and Global Biofuel Alliance showcased its unwavering commitment to climate action, positioning it as a beacon for a low-carbon, sustainable future.

She also highlighted that we need to appreciate problematics in a macro-context - the issues of historical emissions, Big Agriculture and corporatization by global multi-nationals verses the genuine concerns of small farmers more attuned to natural bio-diversity practices; climate 'anxiety' and 'zero growth' agendas vis-à-vis the need of poorer countries of the Global South to keep pace and 'catch up' with the industrialized and developed Global North.

Further, she also briefed about outdoor activities like Shopping excursion to Bapu Bazar, the traditional market of Jaipur and Sports and other facilities at iCED Campus etc.

With this introduction, Ms. Jafa again warmly welcomed all the participants to iCED, expressing hope for a productive and engaging training programme and a pleasant stay on the campus.

During this five days' training programme, 09 experts from IA&AD and many other reputed organisations like The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI); National Power Training Institute, Faridabad; Malaviya National Institute of Technology (MNIT), Jaipur; Space Applications Centre (SAC), Ahmedabad; Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur and Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore etc. were invited to deliver the sessions.

Teaching methods during the training programme included both formal lectures as well as various individual and group exercises, etc. Details of the trainers and the sessions delivered during this programme are as follows.

Sl. No.	Sessions	Trainer/s
1.	Climate Change, Low Carbon Development and National Commitments	Ms. C P Veena, Research Associate, Earth Science and Climate Change Division, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)
2.	Auditing Renewable Energy Sector in India: Experience sharing	Shri Mehul Grover, Director (Admn.), iCED Jaipur
3.	Auditing Climate Change, Green Finance and Net Zero initiatives	Dr Nanda Dulal Das, Director (T&R), iCED Jaipur
4.	Overview of Climate Change and Renewable Energy	Dr. Sanjay Mathur, Professor, Malaviya National Institute of Technology (MNIT), Jaipur
5.	Net Zero Targets and Strategies: Navigating the Path to Carbon Neutrality	Dr Vivekanand, Assistant Professor, Center for Energy & Environment, Malaviya National Institute of Technology (MNIT), Jaipur
6.	Mapping and Modelling Climate Change Impacts on Ecosystems Using Remote Sensing and GIS Techniques	Shri Manish Parmar, Scientist/Engineer-SF, GSD/EPISA, Space Applications Centre (SAC), Ahmedabad
7.	Innovations in Integrated Renewables Market	Shri N K Ram, Senior Fellow, Renewable Energy Technology Application Division, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)
8.	Overview of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Framework with special reference to Climate Change	Mr. Mukesh Sharma, Professor, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur
9.	Climate Change and Net Zero as Drivers of Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Development: Challenges and Opportunities	Dr TV Ramachandra, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore



**Ms Sayantani Jafa, ADAI & Director General, iCED and Dr. Nanda Dulal Das, Director (T&R) during Group presentation**

**Team Wise Exercise:** - Team Wise Exercise was also given to the participants. All participants were divided into four groups of five participants in each group.

Shri Bhaskar Kalluru, Sr. DAG, Shri Amit Kumar, DAG, Shri Naseef Abdul Kader, DAG and Ms. Shweta Mishra, DAG represented their groups during this team exercise session.

**Ms. Sayantani Jafa, ADAI & DG, iCED**

evaluated the presentations given by all the groups of the participants during pre-valedictory session.

**Feedback:-** Feedback on course designing, the time required, content, knowledge and its delivery by the resource persons and facilities available at iCED was also collected from the participants through SAI Portal. The average feedback of the participants was 9.63 out of 10, which is very encouraging. Sessions on “**Auditing Climate Change, Green Finance and Net Zero initiatives**” was rated as the best.

### **Summing-up and valediction:**

Ms Sayantani Jafa, Additional Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General & Director General, iCED graced the valedictory session of the National Training Programme.

ADAI Madam, in her valedictory address highlighted that the sharing of knowledge and perspective during the Training Programme would surely aid in accelerating the learning trajectory forward and help you in utilizing the insights gained for environmental audit in a more systematic and effective manner.

ADAI Madam concluded the valedictory session by quoting the author Elizabeth Kolbert that “Neither optimism nor pessimism alters the fact that we live in an extraordinary moment. The choices that we’ll make —that we are making right now, without necessarily being aware of them— will determine the future of life for our children and their children and all the other species on earth for generations to come. This is the situation we’re in, and there’s no avoiding it, because, in the end, this marvellous, fragile planet is all we’ve got”.

She thanked all the experts and participants for their contributions in making this event a success and she desired to organize more sessions in near future to understand the topic more broadly.