



SOUTH CLIMATE CONCLAVE
S R I L A N K A C H A P T E R

WORLD OF CHANGE:
Impact of Rising Global
Temperature on South Asian
Agriculture and Water



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Dear Champions,



The Climate Action Champions Network (CACN) started with a dream. A dream that empowers mere individuals to take substantial climate action. A dream that is closer and closer to getting fulfilled every time we unite. After all, one cannot find innovative solutions to this critical problem by themselves. We must join forces as a community. With that mission, we are embarking on the journey of South Climate Conclave: Sri Lanka Chapter.

Designed to encourage collective action, the Sri Lankan chapter of the South Climate Conclave will focus on the most critical metric of climate change that we are feeling right now: rising temperature. The overarching theme of the conclave is World of Change: The Impact of Rising Global Temperature. The thematic area is expanded with a subtheme where we delve deeper into the impact of rising global temperature on agriculture and water, in the context of South Asia.

The current climatic trend of rising temperature all across the South Asian region has compelled us to engage in dialogues that will drive concrete policymaking initiatives in its wake. Moreover, this conclave hopes to assemble experts and learners from multidisciplinary fields whose knowledge and experiences will help the ideas materialize into action.

The three days of the South Climate Conclave: Sri Lanka Chapter have been planned to help you all network and learn while engaging in an array of fun activities—all within the backdrop of gorgeous Negombo. Enjoy your stay and good luck.

- RATUL DEV
Secretariat Lead, South Climate Conclave: Sri Lanka Chapter, CACN

An illustration featuring a central globe of the Earth with blue oceans and green continents. Surrounding the globe are several stylized hands in various colors: a yellow hand at the top, a light yellow hand on the right, a brown hand at the bottom, and a light green hand on the left. The hands are positioned as if they are holding or supporting the globe. The background is a light gray gradient.

OUR PARTNERS

GenLab

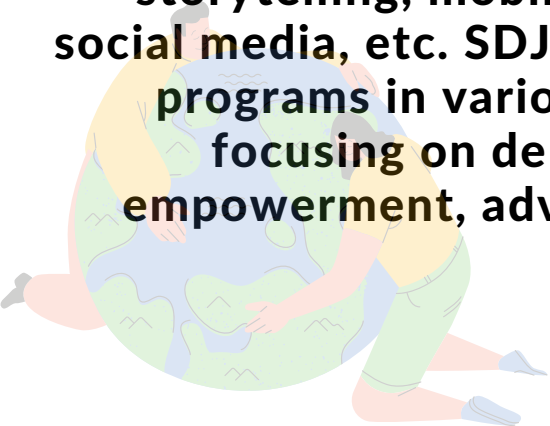


Gen Lab is a youth-led social enterprise dedicated to creating a platform for youth to engage in the social development process of their locality. Primarily focusing on SDG 5, 13, and 16, Gen Lab tries to envision a world that is inclusive, resilient and sustainable. Moreover, Gen Lab aims to empower people, particularly the youth, towards developing a peaceful, just and a sustainable world where actions are driven by innovation, integrity, and coexistence. With that aim, Gen Lab works on multidisciplinary issues – from gender equality to climate change, access to education, good governance – to aid policy reforms and be a catalyst to change through meaningful programs. Significantly, Gen Lab operates in three broad and interrelated thematic areas: peace and diversity, climate change, and gender equality. Within these three thematic areas, Gen Lab aspires to create social peace through various advocacy programs, seminars, as well as policy dialogues.



Sri Lanka Development Journalists Forum (SDJF)

Sri Lanka Development Journalist Forum (SDJF) has about 13 years of extensive experience in working with youth, civil society organizations, Women's organizations, academia and policy reformists, through a unique approach and theory of change. SDJF's priorities are focused on using innovative media tools for amplifying the voice of the excluded; strengthening community media; promoting inclusive development; and promoting the access to information and the culture of openness. SDJF has played a significant role in promoting equal education, inclusive development, rights of marginalized people affected by a natural disaster, climate change, and un-democratic developmental programs using various creative media tools such as storytelling, mobile journalism, cartoon expression, forum theatre, social media, etc. SDJF has developed and delivered several dozens of programs in various areas such as media development specifically focusing on democracy and governance, gender equality, youth empowerment, advocacy, digital security, digital citizenship, media literacy, pluralism and peace building.



SDJF

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OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION (ORF)

ORF (Observer Research Foundation) is an independent forum established in 1990 to critically examine the problems facing India and develop coherent policy responses during the period of India's transition to a new engagement with the international economic order. Over the past 30 years, ORF has played a seminal role in building political and policy consensus that enables India to interact with the world. ORF aims to encourage voices from all quarters, geographies, and gender and helps discover and inform India's choices by providing non-partisan, independent, well-researched analyses and inputs to diverse decision-makers in governments, business communities, academia, and civil society around the world. Its mandate is to conduct in-depth research, provide inclusive platforms, and invest in tomorrow's thought leaders today.



ORF

OBSERVER
RESEARCH
FOUNDATION

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Institute for Strategic and Socio-Economic Research (ISSR)



Institute for
Strategic and
Socio Economic
Research

Institute for Strategic and Socio-Economic Research (ISSR) is an independent, interdisciplinary, and non-profit think tank with an aim to create awareness on socio-economic development issues and influence public policy. The purpose of establishing ISSR in Nepal is to bridge the gaps by largely focusing on providing a forum for professional discourse with the vision to create and disseminate research-based knowledge that has the strength in influencing public policies in the interest of common people; sharing and disseminating research findings; and influencing major policy decisions both in the public as well as private sectors. ISSR plans to initiate collaborative regional, sub-regional, quadrangle, trilateral and bilateral studies. It intends to give priority to research, which has a global impact, in particular, those related to growth-enhancing policy research. Broadly, ISSR focuses on the socio-economic issues related to the implementation of the new Constitution of Nepal at the country level.



Nepal-US Alumni Network (NUSAN)

Nepal-U.S. Alumni Network (NUSAN) is a non-government organization thriving to develop as an umbrella organization of Nepali USG Alumni in Nepal. The primary goal of NUSAN is to promote the exchange of ideas, leadership, and innovation, with the ultimate aim of contributing to the betterment of society. NUSAN members share experiences and engage in activities to foster the development of Nepal and the United States. NUSAN's objectives encompass a range of goals, including enhancing cooperation among members, promoting meaningful interaction, utilizing experiences garnered from the exchange programs, encouraging cultural diversity, and exchanging views on Nepal-U.S. issues. NUSAN's endeavors to fulfill its goal through a wide range of activities, such as organizing leadership workshops, networking events, dialogues, collaborating with similar organizations, and publishing promotional materials. NUSAN remains firmly committed to promoting leadership, innovation, and community engagement to create a positive impact in society.

SUPPORTED BY



DRESS CODE

DAY 1 Comfortable and casual

DAY 2 Comfortable attire to walk around the site. Preferably quick-dry, lightweight fabrics for your walking t-shirts, pants and shorts, which will help wick moisture away from your skin and prevent you from becoming chilled or overheated. Remember not to leave nothing behind but your footsteps – When you're leaving the hotel, just about to start another walk, make sure you bring a bag with you – so no one leaves any litter behind.

DAY 3 Business formal

DAY 1/ SUNDAY
OUTDOORS IF WEATHER PERMITS

MAY 14

19.00 - 21.15

Soft Opening

Opening remarks from CACN Secretariat

19.00 - 19.15



DAY 1/ SUNDAY
OUTDOORS IF WEATHER PERMITS

MAY 14

19.00 - 21.15

Participatory Exercise - Voice of Water

Activity-based storytelling

Hors d'oeuvre

Walking and networking by the poolside/indoors



19.15 - 20.30

19.00 - 21.15



DAY 2/ MONDAY
FULLY OUTDOORS

MAY 15

09.00 - 18.00

Climate Oath

An oath inspired by the ethos of Planet Over Profit

09.00 - 10.00

Visit to the Mangrove Museum, Pambala, Kaakapalliya

Visiting the museum and scavenger hunt

10.15 - 18.00

Dinner

19.30

A stylized illustration of a hand holding a globe. The globe is composed of several light blue arrows pointing in different directions, symbolizing movement or change. Green leaves are scattered around the globe, suggesting nature or environmental themes. The hand is rendered in a soft, realistic style with a light skin tone.

DAY 3/ TUESDAY
HOTEL BALLROOM

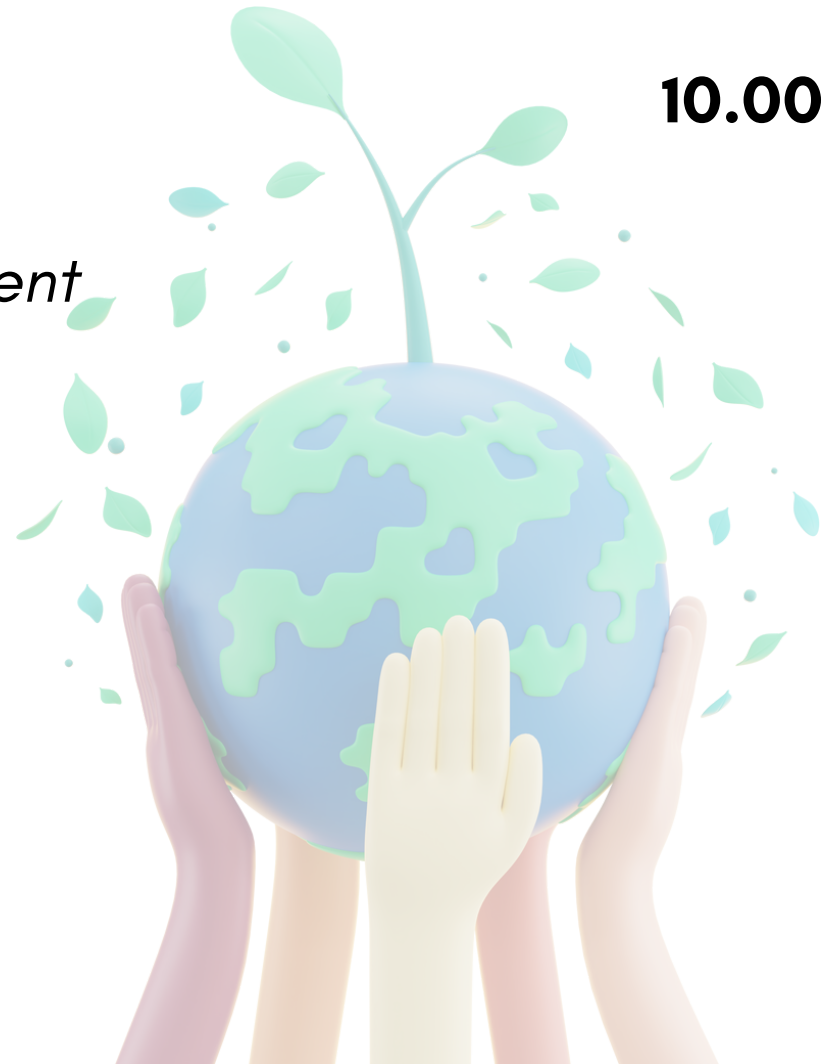
MAY 16

10.00 - 19.30

Welcome Note

Sharlina Hussain-Morgan
Director of Public Engagement
U.S. Embassy Dhaka

10.00 - 10.10



DAY 3/ TUESDAY
HOTEL BALLROOM

MAY 16

10.00 - 19.30

Plenary

Climate change endangers water and agriculture
in South Asia

Professor Buddhi Marambe

Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

Topic: Urgency of climate action to be a food-secured nation

Lareef Zubair

Principal Scientist for Foundation for Environment, Climate & Technology

Topic: Rapid climate and environmental change and disaster risk in South Asia - examples of impacts on water, agriculture and people

Matthew McCartney

Principal researcher at the International Water Management Institute

Water management for food security and climate change resilience

10.10 - 11.00



DAY 3/ TUESDAY
HOTEL BALLROOM

MAY 16

10.00 - 19.30

Break

11.00 - 11.20

Individual Session

11.20 - 12.30

Dennis Mombauer

Director of Research & Knowledge Management, SLYCAN Trust

Topic: The impact of the loss and damage fund on the youth of South Asia

Nalin Munasinghe

*Assistant FAO Representative (Programme) Food and Agriculture
Organization of the United Nations*

DAY 3/ TUESDAY
HOTEL BALLROOM

MAY 16

10.00 - 19.30

Climate Blitz

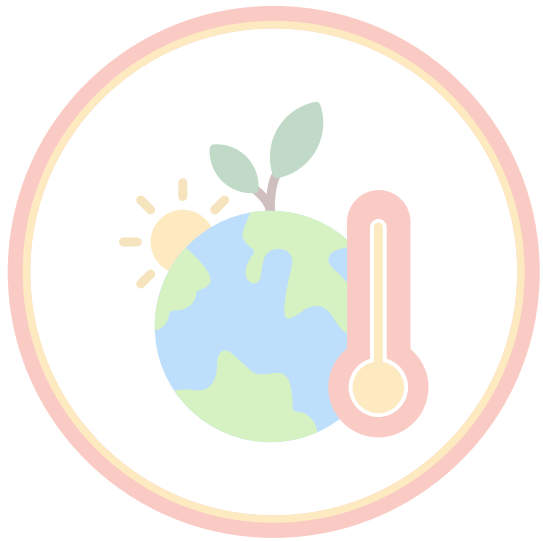
12.30 - 13.30

Presentation by CACN Champions

*Mohammad Shahadat Hossain
Climate Champion, Bangladesh*

Topic: Floating agriculture, an sustainable livelihood using locally available natural resources in low-lying, flood-prone and water-logged areas to support climate-vulnerable poor communities around the world.





DAY 3/ TUESDAY
HOTEL BALLROOM

MAY 16

10.00 - 19.30

Climate Blitz

Presentation by CACN Champions

12.30 - 13.30

Tasnia Khandaker
Climate Champion, Bangladesh
Topic: The enduring climate victims

Joe John George
Climate Champion, India
Topic: Disability inclusive disaster risk reduction

Sijal Pokharel
Climate Champion, Nepal
Topic: Indigenous and local water management technologies for climate resilient communities: A need for Intergenerational transfer of knowledge

DAY 3/ TUESDAY
HOTEL BALLROOM

MAY 16

10.00 - 19.30

Plant Based Lunch

13.30 - 14.30

Small Grant Discussion

14.30 - 15.00

Randall Quinn

Senior Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Specialist

US Department of State

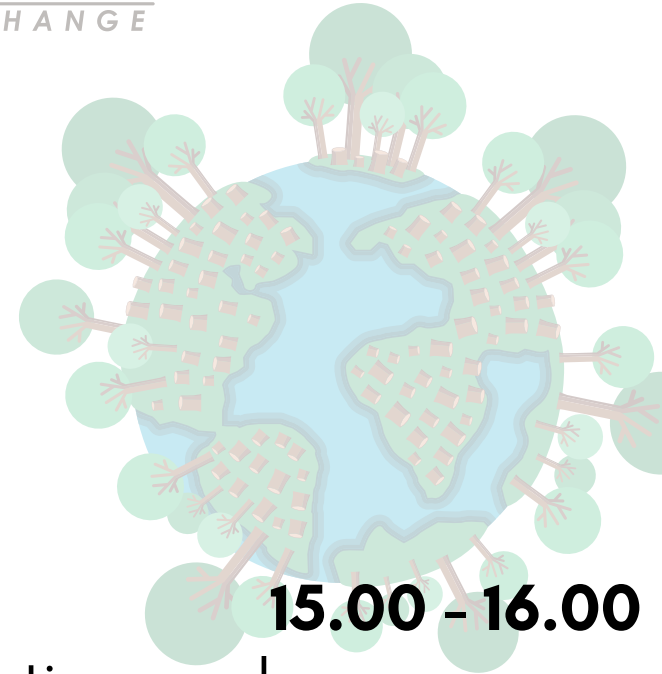


DAY 3/ TUESDAY
HOTEL BALLROOM

Climate
CHANGE

MAY 16

10.00 - 19.30



15.00 - 16.00

Plenary

Present and future of biodiversity, conservation, and sustainability in South Asia

Professor Sampath S. Seneviratne

Professor in Zoology

Department of Zoology and Environment Sciences, University of Colombo

Susantha Udagedara

Director-Seagrass and Climate Change Programme at Blue Resources Trust (BRT)

Topic: How climate change impacts seagrass and its benefits for resilience and mitigation

DAY 3/ TUESDAY
HOTEL BALLROOM

MAY 16

10.00 - 19.30

Climate Interactive

16.00 - 16.30

Participants to actively explore and discuss potential ways to address climate change

Formal Closing

16.30 - 17.00

Dinner

18.00 - 19.00



DAY 4/ WEDNESDAY

MAY 17

UNTIL CHECKOUT

Checkout

CACN Team to support the champions check out
and reach the airport



Jayanthi Kuru-Utumpala

CLIMATE OATH LEADER

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In 2016, Jayanthi Kuru-Utumpala made history by becoming the first Sri Lankan, and first Sri Lankan woman, to summit the Mount Everest. In recognition of this achievement, from 2016–2019 she was appointed the Goodwill Ambassador for Women's Rights by the Sri Lankan Ministry of Women's Affairs. In 2017, she was also included on the BBC's list of 100 inspiring and influential women from around the world. In 2019, she was selected by the Sri Lankan Parliament as one of the 12 'Women Change Makers of Sri Lanka'.

Jayanthi is an advocate for gender equality with 20 years of experience and a rock climber / mountaineer for nearly as long. She has worked at national, regional, and global levels as a technical advisor, advocate, trainer, researcher, and programme manager on issues relating to gender, gender-based violence, women's human rights, and more recently, women in sports.

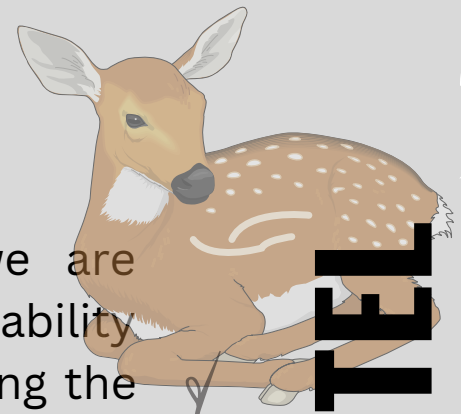
At our conference, Jayanthi will be reciting the climate oath with the goal of evoking a sense of resilience and unity about the shared future of our planet. The climate oath is a pledge to take action towards a sustainable future and work together to protect our planet for future generations. Her passion for activism and her dedication to inspiring others make her the perfect candidate to lead us in this pledge. We are grateful for her participation and look forward to her oath, originally written by Ramon Magsaysay Award winner Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed.

VENUE

At the South Climate Conclave: Sri Lanka Chapter, we are committed to not only discussing the importance of sustainability but also embodying it in every aspect of the event, including the venue. To ensure that our conclave is held at a sustainable hotel, we chose Jetwing Blue for its unwavering commitment to sustainability. Jetwing Blue holds the proud honour of being the first to establish a number of sustainable initiatives that have since been replicated across Sri Lanka.

Jetwing Blue's commitment to sustainability is evident in the various initiatives it has implemented, including a solar photovoltaic system and an effluent treatment plant. These initiatives have enabled Jetwing Blue to significantly reduce its carbon footprint and minimize its impact on the environment.

We are proud to partner with Jetwing Blue and hold our conference at their original home of Sri Lankan hospitality, which lives and breathes sustainability as an icon of responsible tourism on the western coastline. By holding our conference at Jetwing Blue, we can demonstrate our commitment to the cause and inspire others to prioritize sustainability in their own events and operations.



HIGHLIGHTS

VOICE OF WATER

Session Facilitator opens with the importance of storytelling in the form the narrative of Climate Change and how to tell effective Green Stories using various forms of media. The session will use Audio/Visual equipment to exhibit the best-case practices in climate storytelling. The objective of the session is to shift the focus from communicating the threatening nature of climate change to stories of 'doing'. The session plan includes various ice-breakers and energizers for the participants to get comfortable in sharing their personal experiences with climate change, especially issues related to water climate. The facilitator will ask participants to harness the power of storytelling to engage with climate change:

- Share how climate change has been impacting your community and communities around the world.
- Have meaningful conversations about these impacts.
- Put human faces to the abstractness of climate change.
- Connect the science of climate change to the stories of people out in the world.
- Create and share creative works that feature climate storytelling.

HIGHLIGHTS



Context:

Usually when we hear about climate change, the information is presented to us wrapped in layers of alarmism, which often can lead to nonchalance or thoughts of doom on our part where the dominant sentiment is that of helplessness. Telling stories in an alarmist way can be counterintuitive considering that our motto is driving actions and solutions. We need to rethink the way we communicate climate change and one of the best tools to do so is storytelling. Stories make climate change relatable by drawing on common experiences and core human values. In this session, we will discuss how effective storytelling can help raise awareness of environmental activities related to water and planet Earth. Compelling stories generate empathy and understanding. They take listeners on an emotional journey and offer a sense of hope that inspires positive change. This session will highlight the importance of storytelling and provoke empathy for a relatable character, stimulate discourse, and uplift the voices of the local and global community.

**VOICE OF
WATER**

HIGHLIGHTS

CLIMATE OATH

All the champions, speakers, and volunteers will participate in taking an oath. The oath is drafted by Ramon Magsaysay Award winner Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed. The language of the oath will be English. It will take place by the seashore/mangrove museum/in front of the hotel depending on the weather. The oath is inspired by the concept of 'Planet Over profit'. A local journalist group and video team will document the recital. The goal is to evoke a spirit of resilience among the attendees and create a sense of unity to better the shared future of our planet.



HIGHLIGHTS

Visit to the Mangrove Museum - Pambala, Kaakapalliya, Sri Lanka:
Champions will be taken to the sites by local transport.
At the museum we will be participating in the following:

MANGROVE
MUSEUM

- Brief of the scavenger hunt
- Boat ride in the lagoon
- Mangrove Tree plantation only for 10 persons (USG, Implementors, Champion)
- Lunch
- Presenting the Mangrove Anthem
- Welcome Speech by Mr. W.M. Douglas Thisera, Director
- Presentation by Dilki Shanika, Education Officer, Lanka Mangrove Museum
- Presentation by Dr Darshana Ashoka Kumara, Co-Chairperson, Sri Lanka Development Journalist Forum
- Visiting the Exhibits
- Closing of the scavenger hunt



HIGHLIGHTS

Water the clues?

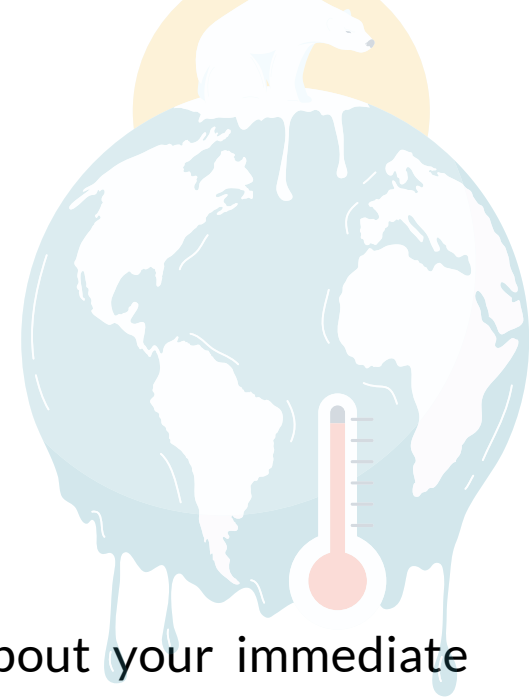
– the scavenger hunt is a simultaneous process starting from the journey to the museum till the end.

“Water the Clues?” is a climate scavenger hunt which is a day-long activity-based game, where the Champions will take part and explore and learn about the dynamics of water climate. The activity draws from the key points of Session 01 and uses a storytelling format for the Champions to work together in teams and piece together a puzzle that tells a human story of the impacts of climate change.

We will take an eco-tour of the Seacology-Sudeesa Mangrove Museum in Pambala and get a first-hand experience of how water climate affects the habitat and ecosystems. The participants will simultaneously partake in the Scavenger Hunt challenge and together with their team of fellow Champions explore the beautiful mangrove to look for clues. At the end of the activity, the Champions will gather the clues and build a story to share with the rest of us.

SCAVENGER
HUNT

HIGHLIGHTS



SCAVENGER HUNT

The objective of this activity is to learn more about your immediate environment in the context of water and climate. The activity will essentially gamify the Seacology eco-tour with a group of “game masters” helping the participants explore through hints and clues left within the area. The clues when pieced together will help participants understand and talk about topics such as mangroves and biodiversity, the role of mangroves in carbon sequestration, sea level temperature rise and GHG emission.

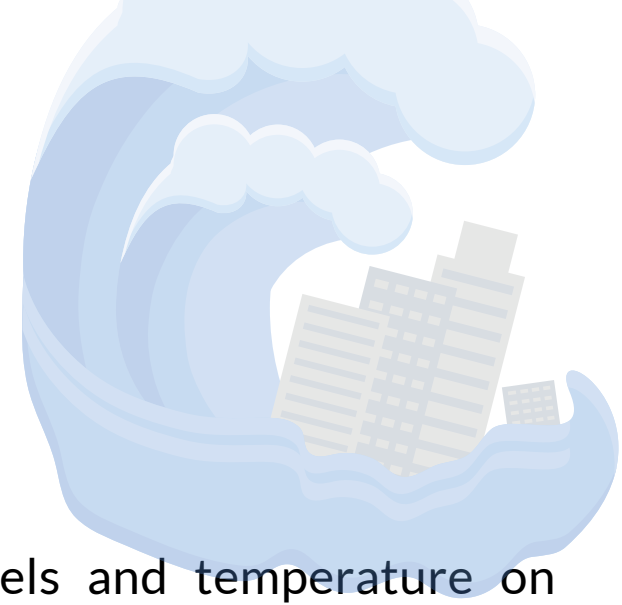
HIGHLIGHTS

SCAVENGER HUNT

Things we will be doing:

- Engage in an interactive scavenger hunt, exploring the mangroves and searching for clues as a team of "Champions."
- Gamify the eco-tour experience with the help of facilitators who provide hints and clues to unravel the mysteries of the mangrove habitat.
- Experience a hands-on approach to learning about water and climate, actively participating in activities rather than passively observing.
- Dive deep into the mangrove ecosystem, discovering the diverse flora and fauna that call it home.
- Learn about the crucial role mangroves play in carbon sequestration and their significance in mitigating climate change.

HIGHLIGHTS



Things we will be doing:

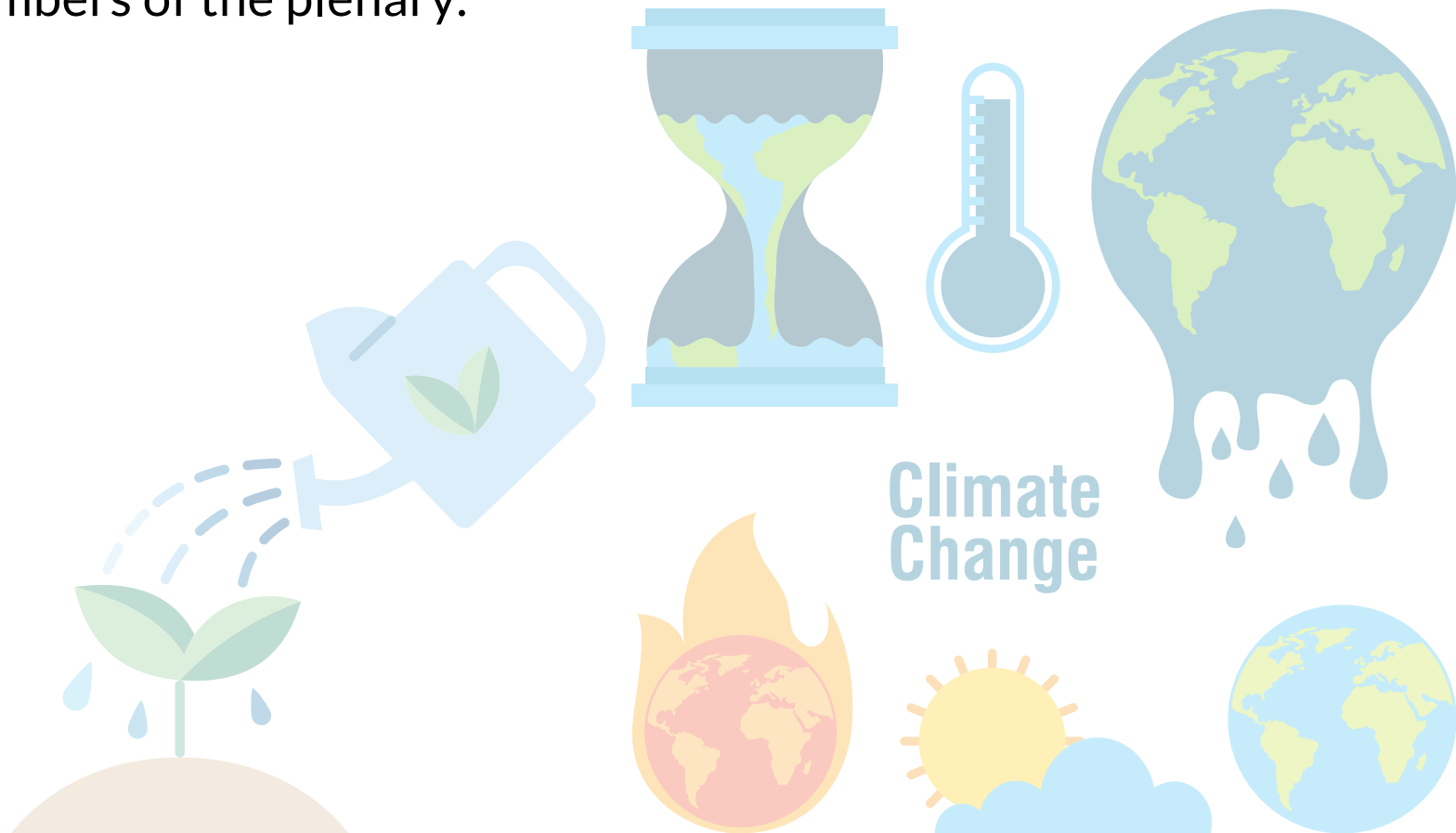
- Understand the impact of rising sea levels and temperature on mangroves and how it affects their habitats and ecosystems.
- Work collaboratively with fellow participants to gather clues and piece together a captivating story about the mangroves and their importance.
- Foster a sense of adventure and curiosity as we navigate through the mangrove museum, excitingly engaging with the environment.
- Gain a first-hand experience of how water and climate interconnect, influencing the mangrove ecosystem and its sustainability.
- Emphasize the importance of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting environmental conservation for the preservation of mangroves and their biodiversity.

SCAVENGER
HUNT

HIGHLIGHTS

Each speaker in the plenary will be allotted 10 minutes to speak (with or without a PowerPoint presentation), and at the end of the session, there will be 10-15 minutes of discussion with all members of the plenary.

PLENARY



Climate Change

HIGHLIGHTS

CLIMATE BLITZ

This session is dedicated to CACN Champions only.

The presentation will follow a blitz style and have a duration of 7 minutes, followed by a 3 minute Q&A session. Blitz presentations aim to efficiently communicate a topic or idea to the audience. You should choose the most crucial and relevant material for brevity, clarity, and impact. The presentations in Blitz are usually dynamic and entertaining ways to communicate information and grab the audience's attention quickly.

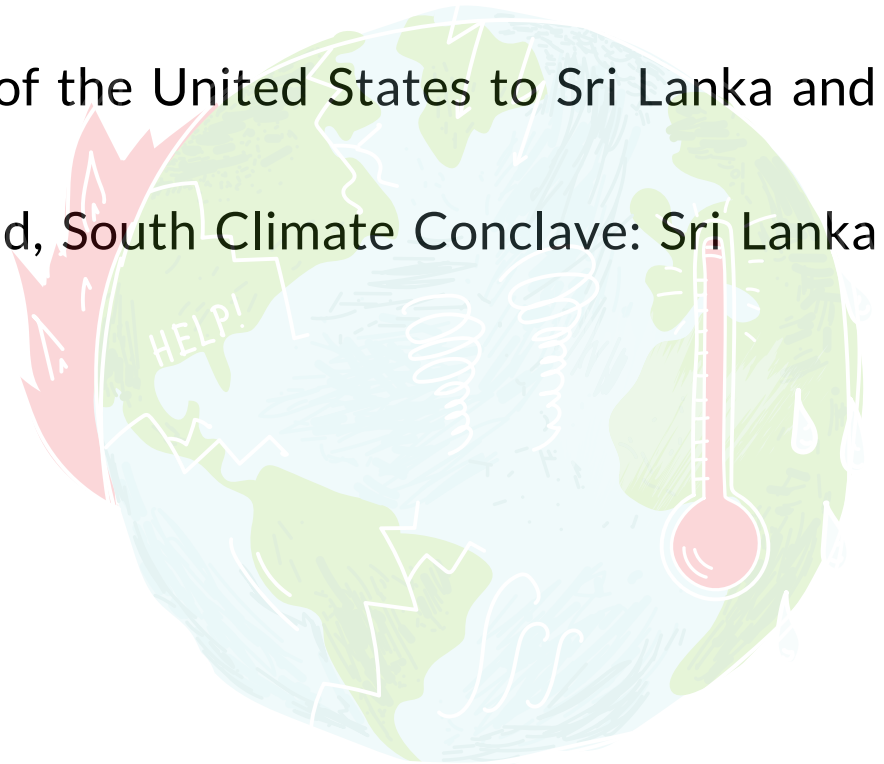


HIGHLIGHTS

FORMAL
CLOSING

The session will be joined by:

- Ruwan Wijewardene, Senior Advisor on climate change to President Ranil Wickremesinghe
- Afreen Akhter, Deputy Assistant Secretary at the U.S. Department of State
- Julie Chung, Ambassador of the United States to Sri Lanka and the Maldives
- Ratul Dev, Secretariat Lead, South Climate Conclave: Sri Lanka Chapter, CACN



SOCIAL MEDIA



We encourage the cohorts and speakers to share their experiences and insights from the conference on social media using the official conference hashtag, #CACN and #planetoverprofit. Social media is a powerful tool to spread information and raise awareness about climate change, and we believe that the conversations and ideas shared at this conclave can have a significant impact on raising awareness about climate change.

By sharing your insights and takeaways from the conclave on social media, you can help to raise awareness about the urgent need for climate action and inspire others to get involved. You can also connect with other attendees and continue the conversations and collaborations started at the conference.

We encourage you to use social media responsibly and respect the privacy of other champions.

Here are some tips for using social media during the conference:

- Use the official conference hashtag, **#CACN** and **#planetoverprofit** in your posts
- Share key takeaways from sessions or quotes from speakers
- Tag speakers or other cohorts to continue the conversation and build relationships
- Post photos of the conference venue and activities to give your followers a sense of the event
- Engage with other cohorts by commenting on their posts and sharing their content
- Tag co-implementor GenLab in your posts

Facebook: @genlab.idea

Instagram: @genlab.idea

Twitter: @mail2genlab

TikTok: @genlab.idea

Together, we can use social media to amplify the important conversations and ideas shared at this conference and inspire action on climate change.

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

Please note that it is likely to rain all three days of the conference. We recommend that you bring appropriate clothing and footwear to stay comfortable in case of rain. We suggest that you wear comfortable shoes with good traction, as the floors may be wet and slippery.

Here are some things to keep in mind regarding the weather during the conference:

- Dress in layers: While it may be rainy outside, the conference venue may be air-conditioned, so we recommend that you dress in layers to stay comfortable throughout the day.
- Bring a raincoat: We will provide you with your own umbrella when you check in, however, you can still choose to bring a raincoat.
- Wear comfortable shoes: With the possibility of rain, the sidewalks and paths around the conference venue may be wet and slippery. We suggest wearing comfortable, closed-toe shoes with good traction to avoid slipping and falling.

- Protect electronic devices: To avoid damage to your electronic devices, we recommend that you carry them in a waterproof bag or case.
- Stay hydrated: Even if it's raining outside, it's important to stay hydrated. We will provide water stations throughout the conference venue, so please remember to bring a refillable water bottle with you.
- Carry sunscreen: As some of our activities are planned to be held outdoors, we highly recommend that you carry sunscreen to protect your skin against sun damage.

We also recommend that you check the weather forecast regularly and plan accordingly. In case of severe weather conditions, please follow the instructions of the conference organizers and venue staff.

By keeping these things in mind, we hope that you will be well prepared for any weather conditions during the conference.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The organizers of South Climate Conclave are committed to enabling events at which everyone can participate in an inclusive, respectful and safe environment. The conclave is guided by the highest ethical and professional standards, and all participants are expected to behave with integrity and respect towards all participants attending or involved with this event. A zero-tolerance approach will be applied to any form of discrimination or harassment, including sexual harassment and bullying, at any session and events.

Unacceptable Conduct

Unacceptable behavior includes,

- Harassment and intimidation, including any verbal, written, or physical conduct designed to threaten, intimidate, or coerce other participants, conference organizers, or staff. Sexual language and imagery is strictly prohibited
- Discrimination based on gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, religion, national origin, or culture
- Verbal abuse of any participant, speaker, volunteer, staff member or service provider
- Disrespectful disruption of other participants.

Unacceptable behavior includes, but is not limited to:

- Using language and representations that are based on gender, race, geographic, religious or ethnic stereotypes (or any other category defined in background)
- Making derogatory or demeaning comments
- Name-calling or using slurs with connotations
- Sexual comments, sexual behavior, sharing sexual imagery and sexually suggestive communications.
- Participants violating these rules may be sanctioned or expelled from the conference, and appropriate legal action will be taken against violators where applicable.

COMPLAINT PROCESS

A participant who feels that they have been harassed at the event may report the matter to the organizer of the event or relevant security authority, and a participant who witnesses such harassment should make such a report. Such reporting shall have no effect on any applicable rules and procedures that may apply. The organizer of the event will be expected to take appropriate action in accordance with its applicable policies, regulations and rules.

Examples of appropriate action may include, but are not limited to:

- Undertaking a fact-finding exercise;
- Requesting the perpetrator to immediately stop the offending behavior;
- Suspending or terminating the perpetrator's access to the event or refusing registration at future events, or both;
- Conveying the complaint to any investigative or disciplinary authority with jurisdiction over the person accused of harassment;

- Conveying a report to the employer or entity with jurisdiction over the person accused of harassment for appropriate follow-up action.

The victim of alleged harassment may also seek help from other relevant authorities, such as the police, bearing in mind the applicable legal framework.

A participant should never knowingly make a false or misleading claim about prohibited conduct.

Prohibition of retaliation

Threats, intimidation or any other form of retaliation against a participant who has made a complaint or provided information in support of a complaint are prohibited.

The organizers will take any reasonable appropriate action needed to prevent and respond to retaliation, in accordance with its applicable policy, regulations and rules.

COMPLAINT PROCESS

Expected Behavior

South Climate Conclave by nature, will spark debate, with the primary objective of the conference to encourage greater knowledge sharing and understanding. Whilst representing a variety of perspectives, participants should be able to engage in lively debates in an inclusive and tolerant atmosphere. The code of conduct acts as a guide to encourage constructive debate in a respectful manner. Prior to the South Climate Conclave, all participants are expected to be familiar with this policy.

The following behaviors are expected:

- Cohorts are expected to speak to people's professions/areas of expertise, regardless of their background;
- Cohorts should avoid questions that heavily rely on someone's background, such as, "what is your opinion...as a woman/person of colour/early-career researcher?"
- Cohorts are expected to listen actively, and not interrupt or talk over the top of others;
- Cohorts should communicate openly and thoughtfully with others and be considerate of the multitude of views and opinions that are different than their own
- Cohorts should express their disagreement with respect and dignity;
- Cohorts should be respectful and mindful of their surroundings, especially in the case of littering during the hotel stay or site visits;
- Cohorts should alert the appropriate organizer or volunteer in the event of a crisis or misdemeanor.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Currency

Stock up on rupees on arrival in Sri Lanka, not before, and don't change more than you need. Sri Lankan rupees are hard to exchange outside of Sri Lanka. Try to build up a stash of lower denomination notes wherever possible (for example, withdraw LKR5900 rather than LKR6000). You'll need small bills to pay for tuk-tuks and buy things from local shops and markets and for tipping. Carrying some cash in dollars, euros or pounds sterling is also useful

Dress Code

While the conference itself doesn't have any strict dress code, it is important to dress appropriately, with respect for Sri Lankan traditions.

Cultural & Religious Practices

Showing disrespect to Buddha statues or Buddha images are prohibited in Sri Lanka. So is wearing Buddha images in clothing or turning back to Buddha.

Photography

Flash photography isn't allowed in temples (nor in the vicinity of military sites) and taking photos may be banned entirely at some Hindu sites.

Tipping

Tipping is a way of life in Sri Lanka and many restaurant workers rely on the extra income this practice brings. Most larger hotels and restaurants add a 10% tip as standard;

Safety & Security

For medical emergencies, it is best to go directly to the nearest hospital.

To contact local police regarding an emergency from within Sri Lanka, dial 119.

To contact the Colombo Fire Brigade, dial 110.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Water

As the tap water is not completely safe for consumption, it is advised that the cohorts bring their water bottles and periodically fill it with bottled water that has been sealed with Sri Lanka standards certification mark.

Mosquitoes

Bring repellents to ward off mosquitos that can cause Dengue.

Weather

Due to heatwaves and the monsoon season, the weather can change very quickly. Bring weather conscious clothing and an umbrella.

Language

The official language in Sri Lanka is Sinhala, with the second language being Tamil, which is spoken mainly in the north. However, English is widely spoken.



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