SECOND IN-PERSON CONFERENCE

February 12-14, 2023
New Delhi, India

CLIMATE ACTION CHAMPIONS NETWORK

Program Booklet

Meet the climate champions
from India, Bangladesh,
Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan

#CACN2023

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Climate change stands as the most critical transnational threat facing the modern world. South Asia, one of the worst impacted regions due to climate change, understands this intimately. Rising sea levels, increasingly destructive weather events affect India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh equally, just as flooding in the Himalayan foothills is a problem both for Nepal and for India. Bhutan is experiencing significant loss of biodiversity. Climate-based challenges in South Asia thus cut across borders and require a joint approach by governments, academia and civil society in the region. All these countries are faced with three drastic transitions simultaneously: the climate transition; the urbanisation transition; and the demographic transition. In this context, it is essential to build pathways for the countries of the region that combine strategic autonomy, sustainable urbanisation, growth and livelihoods, and low-carbon transformations. As one of the world's youngest regions, future success or failure in combating the multi-dimensional challenges caused by climate change will rest on the shoulders of South Asia's numerous aspirational youth, who must take the lead in shaping public debate and policy on climate change.

CACN takes one step forward in the inclusion of young leaders, by giving a central role to their voices, ideas and creativity to respond to the multi-faceted risks posed by climate change. An international team of young leaders will therefore join forces at New Delhi, India to share their knowledge and ideas through expert discussions, workshops and other activities. The main objective of the event is to find recommendations, solutions and ideas in the effort of mitigating climate change as well as building climate resilience within systems and communities in the region.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

The Climate Action Champions Network initiative has engaged 100 Cohorts from five countries - India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, for their potential to lead climate action policies and initiatives in their respective countries and in the wider South Asian and Indo-Pacific Region. The 100 individuals have been selected through a competitive application-based process, comprising young leaders from diverse backgrounds including government, business, academia, civil society, and media, between the ages of 18-35.

The program is being organised by the lead implementer, Observer Research Foundation from India, in conjunction with the the co-implementers Genlab from Bangladesh, Institute for Strategic and Socio-Economic Research (ISSR) from Nepal, and Sri Lanka Development Journalists Forum (SDJF) from Sri Lanka. The program is being supported by the State Department of the United States Government.

The program aims to explore a multitude of global issues with local resonance, covering green technology industry, impact of climate change on biodiversity, climate-smart agriculture, climate finance, and climate change policy-making. The cohort will also delve into the wider climate change and development agenda, by looking at the intersection of climate change with developmental indicators such as gender, global health, and urbanisation.

In addition to this core group of 100 cohorts, the program will also engage with a wider set of 100 individuals who applied for this program but were not selected in the top 100. This wider group will comprise another 20 individuals in each of the five countries – India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Bhutan.

TYPES OF ENGAGEMENT

The expected outcomes of the Climate Action Champions Program include:

- **Leadership and Innovation:** Capacity to undertake climate action initiatives in the Indo-Pacific region.
- **Knowledge Creation:** Proficiency in important topics pertaining to climate change and sustainable development.
- **Networks and Communities:** A diverse community and network of experts, practitioners and policy influencers.
- **Capacity Building:** Learning new skills and capacities.
- **Climate policy recommendations:** Deliberations conducted over the course of three conferences are expected to deliver actionable policy recommendations (related to the specific aspects of climate action taken up by the cohort).

The goal of the program is an ambitious climate action proposition for South Asia and the wider Indo-Pacific region designed and voiced by its young leaders. These objectives are complementary to the goals of the program:

- To inspire South Asian leaders to champion an ambitious climate action agenda in their respective countries and in the wider Indo-Pacific region.
- To provide the South Asian community with in-depth thematic understanding of climate change mitigation and adaptation, with an intersectional perspective of climate action.
- To build a network of individuals/organisations within and across South Asia that work towards climate change mitigation and adaptation to prepare a cohesive vision on climate action.
- To create a collaborative framework where climate champions can partner in shaping national and regional policies and in bringing about innovative solutions.
- To explore and facilitate change on key issues that are relevant to South Asia including conserving and restoring forests, water and wastewater management, carbon emissions and adaptation, and air pollution

SECOND IN-PERSON CONFERENCE

February 12-14, 2023 | New Delhi, India

DAY 1: FEBRUARY 12, 2023

TIME	ACTIVITY
Arrival of Network Members	
20:00 to 20:45	**Welcome Remarks** **Nilanjan Ghosh,** Director, T20 Secretariat, Centre for New Economic Diplomacy & ORF Kolkata **Opening Remarks** **Gloria Berbena,** Minister Counselor for Public Diplomacy, U.S. Embassy, India **Inaugural Address** **Harsh Vardhan Shringla,** Chief Coordinator, India's G20 Presidency Q&A Moderated by **Harsh Pant,** Vice-President, Observer Research Foundation
20:45 to 22:00	**Interactive Dinner** (Not a sit-down dinner. Attendees will be able to move around and interact with each other. The dinner session will host dignitaries and delegates that include policymakers, media, and the private sector championing the issues around climate. This will provide the cohort members with an opportunity to interact with them)

DAY 2: FEBRUARY 13, 2023

Until 09:30	Breakfast

9:30 to 9:45

OPENING REMARKS

Aparna Roy, Fellow & Lead, Climate Change and Energy, Observer Research Foundation

INTRODUCTION OF THE DAY'S SESSION FORMAT

Suyash Das, Project Coordinator, Observer Research Foundation

9:45 to 10:30

FIRST PILLAR | SCENARIO 2030: MAKING CLIMATE COOL

Our climate is rapidly changing. It is imperative to arrest rising atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases (GHGs), particularly carbon dioxide, the largest driver of global warming. Recent trends in emissions indicate that the world is currently off-track and not consistent with limiting warming to well below 2°C. Without increased and urgent mitigation efforts in the coming years that can lead to a sharp decline in GHGs by 2030, global warming will surpass 1.5°C in the following decades. This will lead to irreversible loss of the most fragile ecosystems, and ramifications for most vulnerable people and societies. The human and economic costs of climate vulnerability are extremely high in South Asia. Cross-border cooperation on mitigating climate change is urgent in the region. This session will focus on the collective pathways to mitigate climate change.

Setting the agenda | Panel Discussion

Promit Mukherjee, Associate Fellow, Economy & Growth Programme, Observer Research Foundation **(Moderator)**

Mahua Acharya, Former MD & CEO, Convergence Energy Services Limited, India

Mandvi Singh, Head, Energy and Climate Change programme, iForest

Chetan Bhattacharjee, Senior Managing Editor, NDTV

Neha Kumar, India Programme Manager, Climate Bonds Initiative

Vibhuti Garg, Director, South Asia, Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis

Manik Jolly, Founder and CEO, G.R.I.D. Pvt. Ltd.

10:30 to 11:30

FIRST PILLAR | SCENARIO 2030: MAKING CLIMATE COOL | DISCOVERING SOLUTIONS (GROUP WORK)

11:30 to 12:15 **SECOND PILLAR | POWER AND PROMISE OF RESILIENCE**

The scientific community now recognizes that even if we go to zero emissions tomorrow, the tragedies will continue to mount. If we think that our only option is emissions reductions, as essential as they are, we hit a wall with nowhere to go but resignation and despair. But when we add resilience mechanisms into the equation, a remarkable story emerges, one of renewal and hope.

In this session we discuss how South Asia countries increase resilience through restoring ecosystems, enabling adaptation of built infrastructure and societies especially around the coast, improving human health, securing food supply, and dramatically reducing the trajectory of causative factors.

Setting the agenda | Panel Discussion

Aparna Roy, Fellow & Lead, Climate Change and Energy, Observer Research Foundation (Moderator)

Suchishmita Mukhopadhyay, Lead Specialist, Advocacy, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, India

Raju Pandit Chhetri, Director, Prakriti Resources Centre, Nepal

Shirin Sultana Lira, Programme Manager, Governance, Climate Change and Environment, Embassy of Switzerland in Bangladesh

Neera Nundy, Co-Founder, Dasra

John Smith-Sreen, Director, Indo-Pacific Office, USAID, India

Nilu Basnyat, Country Representative, DAI, Nepal

12:15 to 13:15 **SECOND PILLAR | POWER AND PROMISE OF RESILIENCE | DISCOVERING SOLUTIONS (GROUP WORK)**

13:15 to 14:30 **Lunch**

14:30 to 15:15 **THIRD PILLAR | LOSS AND DAMAGE**

The planet has already warmed by 1.1 degrees C (2 degrees F) due to human-induced climate change. Millions of people, especially in vulnerable regions of South Asia today, are at the frontline of real-life consequences of higher temperatures, rising seas, fiercer storms and unpredictable rainfall. Rapidly reducing emissions is essential to limit temperature rise and secure a safer future for us all, as is making major investments to protect communities from severe impacts that will continue to worsen.

Nevertheless, collective efforts to curb greenhouse gas emissions and adapt are currently not enough to tackle the speed and scale of climate impacts, meaning that some losses and damages from climate change are inevitable. In South Asia, these losses and damages are becoming more apparent in the face of slow-onset and extreme climate events. How countries handle these losses and damages has been a key issue at UN climate negotiations and beyond. This session discusses the loss and damage being encountered by the countries of south Asia —life, livelihood, infrastructure, biodiversity; and what urgent, ambitious, and accelerated action are required to avoid the mounting loss.

Setting the agenda | Panel Discussion

Nilanjan Ghosh, Director, T20 Secretariat, Centre for New Economic Diplomacy & ORF Kolkata **(Moderator)**

Shahadat Hossain Shakil, Project Management Specialist (Environment), USAID, Bangladesh

Anoka Abeyratne, Multi-award winning conservationist, Sri Lanka

Akshay Shetty, Team Lead, Dasra

Avantika Goswami, Programme Manager, Climate Change, Centre for Science and Environment

Charmi Mehta, Research Consultant, Asian Development Bank & Chennai Mathematical Institute, India

Anurag Danda, Director, Sundarbans Programme, WWF, Visiting Fellow, Observer Research Foundation

15:15 to 16:15 **THIRD PILLAR | LOSS AND DAMAGE | DISCOVERING SOLUTIONS (GROUP WORK)**

16:15 to 17:00 **FOURTH PILLAR | INNOVATE TO MITIGATE**

This conversation will focus on ways South Asian countries can leverage innovation and technologies to mitigate climate change as well as build climate resilience and collaborative cross-border solutions. It will bring together leading voices on climate resilience and innovators from the region who are delivering emerging solutions to deal with climate change challenges, and environmental threats.

Setting the agenda | Panel Discussion

Promit Mukherjee, Associate Fellow, Economy & Growth Programme, Observer Research Foundation **(Moderator)**

Mohit Singhvi, Asst Vice President, Chakr Innovation

Aishwarya Raman, Executive Director, OMI Foundation, India

Saon Ray, Visiting Professor, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations

Siddharth Kothari, Partner, Ahimsa VC

Manik Jolly, Founder and CEO, G.R.I.D. Pvt. Ltd.

17:00 to 18:00 **FOURTH PILLAR | INNOVATE TO MITIGATE | DISCOVERING SOLUTIONS (GROUP WORK)**

18:00 to 18:30 **USG ALUMNI INFO**

18:30 to 19:30 **CAPACITY BUILDING EXERCISE**

Anurag Danda, Director, Sundarbans Programme, WWF, India & Visiting Fellow, Observer Research Foundation

19:30 to 22:00 **Dinner and Networking**

(Not a sit-down dinner. Attendees will be able to move around and interact with each other. The dinner session will host dignitaries and delegates that include policymakers, media, and the private sector championing the issues around climate. This will provide the cohort members with an opportunity to interact with them)

DAY 3: FEBRUARY 14, 2023

Until 9:30	Breakfast
09:30 to 10:30	**DISCOURSE MAPPING EXERCISE** Concluding the discussion on all four pillars, Day 2 will begin with an attempt to help the cohort members reach actionable solutions to the problems. ORF will conduct a discourse mapping exercise, approaching every pillar one by one in an effort to answer how the problem can be resolved. The discussions presented by the groups on Day 1 will be stitched together to create a comprehensive picture of the issues revolving around a pillar and the stakeholders associated with the pillar.
10:30 to 10:45	**Assemble at Lobby and Board the busses**
10:45 to 12:00	**DRIVE TO TERI, GWAL PAHADI CAMPUS**
12:00 to 12.20	**Arrive at TERI's Research and Development Centre, Gwal Pahadi** **Tea/ Coffee break**
12:20 to 12:45	**WELCOME REMARKS** Distinguished Fellow, TERI **Documentary on TERI Retreat** (Covering aspects of TERI'S work including translating lab based research into practical applications, its innovation-led environment solutions such as energy efficient built methods suited to local climates, converting food waste into biogas, water & waste management system, renewable energy technologies, etc., will significantly inspire the participants to think about everyday activities through a sustainable lens, while gaining practical knowledge for climate action)
12:45 to 13:30	**Lunch**

13:30 to 16:30 **GUIDED TOUR OF R&D FACILITIES**

(The participants will be divided into groups of around 20. Each group will be provided a tour of all the R&D facilities listed below. Every group will get an opportunity to visit all of the facilities during this period. The tour for one of the facilities will be approximately 15-30 minutes depending on the facility and the questions asked by the group members about the facility.)

THE RETREAT AND THE EARTH AIR TUNNEL

Draws air from 4 metres below the ground to heat or cool the residency building without the use of air-conditioning

SMART GRID AND BIOMASS GASIFIER

The gasifier converts woody biomass and agricultural residue to electrical energy. This technology is currently being used to power micro-enterprises in a few villages of Odisha and Madhya Pradesh, thereby helping to provide livelihood to poor communities.

TERI-DEAKIN NANO-BIOTECHNOLOGY CENTRE

The lab explores solutions for sustainable agriculture and clean and green energy including the facility for a symbiotic fungi mycorrhizae and other nutrient translocating technology.

MAHINDRA TERI CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE HABITATS

The lab seeks to develop energy efficient innovative materials and solutions for building construction based on local climates.

FERMENTATION TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH CENTRE

The centre aims to help researchers develop new fermentation technologies and products which include the eco-friendly 'oil zapper' - a bacteria mix that breaks down the oil in contaminated soil into harmless products like water and carbon dioxide and hence helps clean up hazardous oil spillages etc. The facility at TERI Gram has bioreactors of varying capacities, using which nearly 15 tonnes of oil zapper can be produced in one day.

MICROPROPAGATION TECHNOLOGY PARK

The lab produces economically significant plant species by taking tissues from an elite genotype of those plants.

FORESTRY RESEARCH CENTRE-NURSERY & VERMICOMPOSTING

Established in 1987, TERI's Forestry Research Centre runs a nursery and research centre for forest tree species, medicinal, herbal and ornamental plants. Spread across an area of 2.5 acres and growing more than 40 species of medicinal plants, the nursery is equipped with facilities like mist chambers, shade houses, hedge gardens, clonal orchards, and an open area for shifting and grading saplings. The plants grown here are supplied to a number of schools, RWAs, NDMC nurseries, State Forest Departments, and private companies and individuals. The centre also runs a vermicomposting pit which serves the dual purpose of decomposing natural waste while creating organic fertilisers for the plants.

16:30 to 17:30 **TERI'S RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, GWAL PAHADI**

Free to roam and explore other R&D centres at the campus. Tea/Coffee and Snacks to be served.

LAXMAN JHULA

TERI'S ENHANCED ACIDIFICATION AND METHANATION (TEAM)

It converts food waste into biogas. The plant at RETREAT processes nearly 25 kg of food waste in a day to create 4 m3 biogas.

EFFLUENT TREATMENT PLANT (ETP)

It treats sewage water by using the microbes already present in the water. These microbes help remove organic matter from the sewage, thereby making it fit for non-potable use as well as for safe disposal into drainage or river bodies. The plant at TERI Gram processes approximately 25000 litres of sewage water in a day.

WATER & WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM - ROOT ZONE

The Root Zone at the TERI Gram makes use of reed plants whose roots act like a filter and help remove many toxic substances from nearly 2000 litres of sewage water per day which is then used for irrigation.

MEMBRANE BIOREACTOR (MBR)

It treats sewage water using ceramic membranes made of waste fly-ash.

17:30 to 18:00 **REMARKS**

Molly Stephenson, Director, Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs' Office of Press and Public Diplomacy, US Department of State

18:00 to 19:15 **BOARD BUSSES AND ARRIVE BACK AT HOTEL**

19:45 to 20:45 **CONCLUDING REMARKS & WAY FORWARD**
ORF

20:45 to 23:00 **Dinner**

SESSION FORMAT

Day 1 of the conference will include four sessions of one hour forty-five minutes each, divided into two segments:

- Panel Discussion- 45 minutes
- Group Activity- 1 Hour

Aimed at making the conference more interactive and prepping the cohorts to work towards finding concrete solutions to complex problems related to climate change, the layout of the discussions on both days has been curated in a distinctive format.

The sessions will fall under four pillars related to climate action, facilitating all-round conversations on the major themes related to climate change at present. Each pillar will be allocated half an hour for a panel discussion consisting of experts from a diverse set of expertise and regional backgrounds to kick off the important conversation around the theme. This will be followed by a group activity amongst cohort members. The cohorts will be divided into 6 groups, with each group being assigned to play the role of an actor on the global stage. Based on the pillar theme, the cohort members will be posed with a problem statement. Each group will seek solutions to the thematic problem from the perspective of the actor/stakeholder group being allotted to them. A facilitator/ mentor will provide the necessary guidance to each group and help them think more deeply around the subject. After the allotted time to ideate and illustrate their position on the problem, one volunteer from each group will present the recommendations to the other groups. By the end of Day 1, each cohort member will have viewed multiple problems from the perspective of their stakeholder group, helping them to think deeply into complexities of climate action processes.

These recommendations will be mapped by the ORF team and a discourse mapping exercise will be conducted on Day 2.

The four pillars being discussed on the agenda are:

1. First Pillar | Scenario 2030: Making climate cool | Climate Mitigation: Net-zero transitions
2. Second Pillar | Power and Promise of Resilience | Adaptation and resilience
3. Third Pillar | Loss and Damage
4. Fourth Pillar | Innovate to Mitigate| Technology and Finance

The list of actors/stakeholders that cohort members will be grouped are:

A. Developed countries with high emissions
B. Developed countries with reduced carbon footprint
C. Least Developed Countries (LDCs)
D. Small island nation states
E. Developing countries
F. Non-state actors/Private entities/Multilateral Organizations

STAKEHOLDERS

Stakeholder	Who am I?	Groups
Developed countries with historically high emissions	These countries have a high national and per capita income, providing the government and the citizens with a higher buying power increasing their propensity to spend on climate friendly goods and services. These countries are in possession of advanced technologies which reduce emissions and are expensive to develop. A lot of developed countries such as the United States with its large oil deposits, and China having vast coal deposits, are some of the largest fossil fuel producing countries. However not all developed countries are major fossil fuel producers such as the ones in Western Europe. The per capita emissions from these countries are greatly higher than developing countries. Therefore even the countries that are major producers of fossil fuels, are also fossil fuel importers due to high per capita consumption, always making them vulnerable in the fluctuating fossil fuel markets.	Group A 1. Arun Kanti Howlader 2. Hasin Tabassum 3. Mahmuda Yasmin Kona 4. Mohammad Shahadat Hossain 5. Muhammad Arifur Rahman 6. Tshering Lhamo 7. Sudesh Pokhrel 8. Sahaana Sankar 9. Sanjay Kumar Maurya 10. Aman Deep Srivastava 11. Rupali Handa 12. Sagar Koirala 13. Jony Mainaly 14. Erandika Ediriweera 15. Hasanka Padukkage 16. Mitu Mewada 17. Abhiir Bhalla

Developing countries and emerging economies	The residents of these countries have a low per capita real income resulting in high levels of poverty leaving a large percentage of the population of these countries highly socio-economically vulnerable, reducing their propensity to spend on climate friendly goods and services. There are constant levels of high growth in the economy causing inflation which leads to continuous price rise of goods and services without growth in wages. These countries have generally very high population levels along with high levels of unemployment, resulting in a smaller tax base and underutilisation of precious human resources. Consequently, leading to less workers being skilled in manufacturing and services decreasing the per capita productivity levels of these countries, resulting in lower GDP growth. Due to the structural financial, technological and human resource impediments surrounding advanced climate technologies, it is difficult for these countries to acquire such technologies. While these countries have had historically low emissions, with a growth in population and an increase in accessibility to more goods and services, their total emissions are gradually increasing to levels similar to some developed countries.	Group B 1. Aryan Andaleeb Azim 2. Melisha Chowdhury 3. Mst Arifa Yeasmin 4. Faisal Mahmood 5. Yam Kumar Poudel 6. Rikesh Gurung 7. Sonam Tshogyel 8. Afreen Hussain 9. Rajesh Shanmugan 10. Kanika Prajapat 11. Sonia Awale 12. Nikesh Balami 13. Sijal Pokharel 14. Tika Ram Poudel 15. Kushan Aravinda Bellanthudawa 16. Ahallya David 17. Ayushi Govil

Least Developed Countries (LDCs)	With largely rural based populations, these countries rely primarily on the agricultural sector. As farmers in these countries are heavily dependent on rain-fed agriculture, they are highly susceptible to fluctuating climate conditions. Because of their over reliance on the primary sector, the proportion of skilled labourers is very low, limiting their adaptive capacity even with older technologies. Due to the lack of skilled population, most industries in these countries are focused on extracting and exporting natural resources rather than processing them into marketable goods and services. These countries are less resilient in responding to environmental and economic shocks owing to their limited financial capabilities. Even though their total emissions are very low in comparison to other countries, their population is highly affected by climate change induced shocks and disasters.	Group C 1. Purnima Mondal 2. Rabita Rejwana 3. Rijve Arefin 4. Jambay 5. Pema Choden 6. Aparnaa Murugavel 7. Jayprakash Nayak 8. Aditya Singh 9. Anson Sando 10. Ranju Magar 11. Suyam Baidya 12. Abdul Majeed Saja 13. Dulanga Witharanage 14. Minuri Perera 15. Megha Phadkay 16. Mathew Jose

Small island nation states	With a very limited land area, these countries are highly vulnerable to slow onset climate events, leading to the loss of liveable area due to the degradation of their islands through sea level rise, which poses a direct threat to their existence as most people rely on biodiversity tourism for their sustenance. Owing to their small population size and remoteness from international markets, these countries don't have the leverage to shape global opinion on mobilising resources for climate issues specific to them. Due to relatively small demand for manufactured goods and services, most industries in these countries are dependent on extracting and utilising natural resources or are heavily reliant on food and fossil fuel imports, making them highly susceptible to global economic and environmental shocks. Because of their limited financial capabilities, their institutional capacity to effectively address the imminent climate change issues that these countries face is restrained even though their role in the increasing rate of global climate change disasters is next to nil.	Group D 1. Shahla Islam 2. Taslima Akter Rima 3. Tshering Denkar 4. Tshering Dorji 5. Dorji Dema 6. Deepsha Dipan Dhal 7. Joe John George 8. Ramanuj Mitra 9. Roshna Subedi 10. Rajesh Poudel 11. Sandeep Sada 12. Fathima Hafsah Muheed 13. Gobishankar Sathiyamohan 14. Oshani Dilini Silva 15. Mohamed Sajid Malhardeen 16. Shruti Singh
Private entities	Private entities are seeking to transition from fossil fuels to more climate friendly practices due to shifting investor and consumer behaviour. They are primarily profit driven and so lobby for regulations which enable the economies of scale towards greener businesses. However in many developing and least developed countries, the lack of regulations provide an opportunity for private entities to continue running polluting industries.	Group E 1. Tasnia Khandaker Prova 2. Gopal Kumar Mohoto 3. Nafia Islam Faria 4. Deependra Pourel 5. Karma Uden 6. Ranjit Kumar 7. Vandana Muralidharan 8. Manish Regmi 9. Rassu Manandhar 10. Subash Sapkota 11. Henry Mitchel Bensley 12. Geethika Mannaperuma 13. Hamdhan Munawwar 14. Senura Fonseka 15. Ashutosh Vyas 16. Venkata Ananth Bhogavalli 17. Zaineb Akbarally

Multilateral institutions	These institutions set the global standards and norms for all countries, in turn facilitating multi-stakeholder cross border operations. They play an important role in advancing the capabilities of affected countries to resist the impact of climate change, while exhorting the more advanced countries to fulfil their obligations. They act as vehicles for the pooling of resources from developed countries and disseminating to other countries. As politically neutral conveners of global partnerships, they play an important role in building consensus amongst the competing positions of the various stakeholders.	Group F 1. Md Ilias Miah 2. Neshat Unzum 3. Riffat Ara Zannat Tama 4. Tshering Tobgay 5. Nidup Dorji 6. Sonam Palden 7. Soumya Ranjan Biswal 8. Anu Anna Jo 9. Prekshya Khanal 10. Udit Chandra Aryal 11. Biraj Gautam 12. Erandika Ediriweera 13. Malsha Sandeepani Gunasinghe 14. Ritbik Kumar 15. Lovish Bandwal 16. Zainab Bie 17. Tashi Lhazom

CHARTER OF PARTICIPATION

The Climate Action Champions Network (CACN) is an inclusive and diverse forum. We are committed to ensuring that all its virtual, in-person, and hybrid events, workshops, conferences, among other engagements, are fora in which every cohort member, partner, and stakeholder, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, nationality, ethnicity, religion, or ability feels able to participate openly without fear of inappropriate harassment on any such basis.

Everyone associated with CACN, including cohort members, organizers, and venue staff, are expected to adhere to this Charter of Participation and understand the repercussions of any violations. We will also announce house rules and updates throughout the program, which we request all to follow.

VIOLATIONS OF THE CHARTER OF PARTICIPATION

We expect all associated with CACN to abide by our expected conduct guidelines and respect our anti-harassment policy during the program. This includes program-related social events and online social media engagement.

If asked by program organizers to cease prohibited behavior, you are expected to comply immediately. If inappropriate behavior persists, the conference organizers may take any disciplinary action they deem appropriate, including immediate expulsion from the program and/or reporting to appropriate authorities.

Reporting Inappropriate Conduct

If you are subjected to harassment or other unacceptable behavior, please notify a program organizer. Event organizers will be accessible and present throughout the events and engagements.

If an emergency situation arises, please contact Mr. Suyash Das (+91 9830141111) or Ms. Shivam Shekhawat (+91 9560204314).

EXPECTED CONDUCT

We expect all those involved to display the highest level of professionalism throughout the program. This conduct includes, but is not limited to:

Conference Participation

Please be respectful, understanding, and mindful of fellow participants. Conversations should be framed in an open and inclusive manner. Profanity or slurs are strictly prohibited.

When you attend a session, we request you to stay seated for the entire duration of the event, unless you need a bio break or any other urgent task.

We request you to limit the usage of personal devices like smartphones and laptops, including for social media, during the sessions.

Attendance and Dress Code

We restrict access of the CACN convening to selected cohorts and participants from the wider pool in the hosting country only with valid confirmation cards. All participants must attend the conference in formal professional or semi-formal attire (business formal / traditional clothing).

COVID-19 Protocols

Please note that as an invitee to the CACN, you are required to be "Fully Vaccinated" against COVID-19 and are expected to fully cover your nose and mouth with a mask in all indoor public areas during in-person events and engagements.

Drugs and Illegal Substances

We abide by and enforce all local, state, and central laws and regulations surrounding possession and/or use of illegal substances. In addition, please limit tobacco use to permitted areas. With regard to professional expectations above, drunkenness or intoxication is not an excuse.

Safety

All stakeholders have a shared responsibility for safety. Please notify program organizers of any danger or misconduct they may witness. The possession of weapons or violence in any form is not permitted. In an effort to ensure order throughout the program, we do not permit organized demonstrations or disruptions of any kind.

ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY

We do not tolerate any form of harassment at the Climate Action Champions Network. Our zero-tolerance policy prohibits all forms of harassment including, but not limited to:

- Offensive or derogatory comments related to race, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, ethnicity, religion, ability, relationship status, or physical appearance.
- Ad hominem verbal attacks or derogatory comments toward other participants or shared opinions or personal expressions;
- Sexual remarks, innuendoes, or unwanted physical contact;
- The display of inappropriate images or memorabilia;
- Any form of physical violence, intimidation, threats, or stalking;
- Inappropriate or unwanted social contact with other participants; and
- Excessive or unwanted photography/videography of conference participants or organizers.