

Side-event **COP28**

# Exploring the Potential of Sub-National REDD+ Approach in India and their Contribution towards SDGs

## Organizers

Coalition for Rainforest Nations  
and  
The Energy and Resources Institute, New Delhi, India

**December 09, 2023 | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

## Venue:

Building 20, Block-B2, RNCA-CfRN Coalition Pavilion



## Speakers for the Event and Panel Members



**Dr Vibha Dhawan**  
Director General  
The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)



**Dr Jagdish Kishwan**  
Asia Pacific Regional Coordinator  
Coalition for Rainforest Nations



**Eloïse Guidi**  
Greenhouse gas inventory and REDD+ expert  
Coalition for Rainforest Nations



**Dr Jitendra Vir Sharma**  
Programme Director, Land Resources  
The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)



**Emilio Sempris**  
Regional Director, Latin America  
and the Caribbean  
Coalition for Rainforest Nations



**Dr Dipankar Saharia**  
Senior Director, Administrative Services  
The Energy and Resources Institute  
(TERI)



**Sandeep Roy Choudhury**  
Director  
VNV Advisory Services



**Dr Yogesh Gokhale**  
Senior Fellow and Area Convener  
The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)



**Mr Aniruddh Soni**  
Associate Fellow and Area Convener  
The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)

## The Context

Indian forests inhabit diverse ecosystems and habitats that provide numerous ecosystem services. More than 300 million people, predominantly dependent on forests, derive their livelihoods from the forests. This dependence, coupled with a lack of sufficient infrastructure and financial support, results in increased anthropogenic pressure on forests, resulting in degradation and human-animal conflicts.

REDD+ mechanism can play a pivotal role in fostering the protection and restoration of natural ecosystems and securing the rights and livelihoods of local communities. It can also help to generate an added revenue stream and allow for the effective transfer of technologies, knowledge, and expertise while simultaneously reducing and/or removing GHG emissions globally.

## UNFCCC REDD+ Framework and Indian Scenario

Forest in India is a concurrent subject where policy and planning are governed by the Government of India and the implementation is done by State Governments at the sub-national level. The Government of India (GOI) has presently agreed for REDD+ at the national level and has also submitted the National Forest Reference Level (NFRL).

TERI is committed to implementing the UNFCCC REDD+ at National and Sub-national Levels and all its REDD initiatives follow the UNFCCC methodology and review process. With consent from the GOI, TERI is implementing multiple REDD initiatives in India with the State Governments at the sub-national level. These projects, involving the role of local communities and the respective Forest Departments, are centred on the conservation of forests in India by addressing the drivers of forest degradation. The funds generated are channelled back to foster the protection and restoration of natural ecosystems and secure the rights and livelihoods of local communities.

To implement the Sub-national Level Approach, TERI is willing to work with the GOI to seek the consent of the UNFCCC for implementing the Sub-national Level Approach in the interim.

## Key Focus Areas

- » The implementation of sub-national REDD+ will serve as a platform to facilitate international partnerships to scale up carbon finance, advocate for policy enhancement, and encourage international cooperation to mainstream carbon finance as a vital tool for climate resilience and sustainability. The GOI is to be informed to take up the Sub-national REDD+ Approach in the interim with the consent of the UNFCCC.
- » Understanding the scenario of India and other developing countries and the challenges faced by them in the implementation of the existing REDD+ framework.
- » This event will help to draw global attention and investment towards India's effort to mainstream financing tools such as carbon finance mobilized through Sub-National REDD+ implementation for further boosting the forest and biodiversity conservation efforts and improving the lives and livelihood of Forest Dependent Communities (FDCs).
- » Role of Governments in emerging and developing economies for enabling a conducive environment for private investment and strengthening the institutions for sub-national REDD+ implementation.

The benefits of the Sub-national REDD+ implementation in enhancing the Environmental, Economic, and Social well-being of FDCs. It can also help generate an added revenue stream and allow for the effective transfer of technologies, knowledge, and expertise while simultaneously reducing and/or removing GHG emissions globally.

<b>Agenda</b>		
<b>Time (hrs)</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
1000 - 1005	An Introduction and Welcome of the Speakers and Participants	Aniruddh Soni Associate Fellow & Area Convener, TERI
1005 - 1015	Welcome Address	Dr Vibha Dhawan Director General, TERI
1015 - 1025	Presentation on 'Exploring the Potential of Sub-National REDD+ Approach in India'	Dr Yogesh Gokhale Senior Fellow and Area Convener, TERI
1015 - 1115	<b>Panel Discussion</b> <b>Dr Jagdish Kishwan (Chair and Moderator for the Event)</b> Asia Pacific Regional Coordinator, Coalition for Rainforest Nations <b>Dr Jitendra Vir Sharma (joining online)</b> Senior Director, Land Resources division, TERI <b>Eloïse Guidi</b> GHGI Expert, Coalition for Rainforest Nations <b>Emilio Sempris</b> Regional Director, Coalition for Rainforest Nations for Latin America and the Caribbean <b>Dr Dipankar Saharia</b> Senior Director, Administrative Services, TERI <b>Sandeep Roy Choudhury</b> Director, VNV Advisory Services	
1130 - 1145	<b>Session for Interaction and Discussion</b>	
1145 - 1200	<b>Concluding Remarks by the Chair</b>	



**The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)**