



SAIARD  
International  
Delta Summit

16 - 17 June 2023 @  
IPCL Auditorium, Salt Lake, Kolkata



Organised by  
Centre for River Affairs  
South Asian institute for Advanced Research & Development (SAIARD)

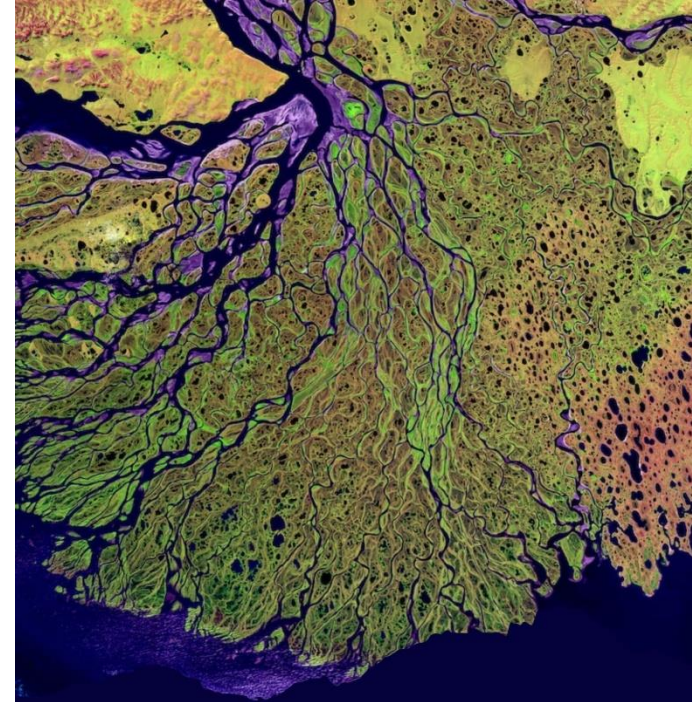
[www.saiard.co.in](http://www.saiard.co.in)

# Concept of IDS

*River Delta plays a significant role not only to maintain the riverine ecosystem but also to support the livelihood of so many people. The ecosystem (both natural and socio-economic) of the delta is somehow different from the whole course of the river. It is considered as the lungs of mother Earth which holds the maximum percentage of biodiversity of the world. Not only that the different socio economic and even geopolitical parameters are particularly dependent on the whole characteristics and changing correlation of river delta. It is the means of livelihood of a large number of people, it is the trans-boundary zone which connects the land with the ocean, it is the focal point of major Geo-political issues as well as a bowl of maximum percentage of world's natural resources and green energy, it run through our history and culture, and link us to people and their civilizations also it is the only source which can help to increase the natural landscape of any country.*

*But unfortunately due to some mismanagement and unscientific practices this valuable natural landscape now remains in threatened conditions. Lots of islands or natural landscapes have just vanished due to the unscientific human encroachments, government policies and its fallacies. Along with that, different natural calamities, illegal immigration, poaching, Socio-economic backwardness, lack of proper knowledge and awareness about the existing natural resources etc. day by day affects and causes serious damages of the lungs of Mother Nature.*

*Sustainable Delta Management Plan and its proper implementations are required on an urgent basis to restore and rejuvenate its natural conditions and also to get the maximum benefit from the available resources through proper resource mobilization as that it can support in case of livelihood development of the actual deltaic people.*



**SAIARD**

An Academic & Research Think Tank

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An aerial photograph of a river delta, showing a complex network of channels and distributaries. The water is a milky, light blue color, contrasting with the dark green and brown land. The text "DAY - 1" is overlaid in the center in a white, sans-serif font.

DAY - 1

# Registration with Welcome Tea



**9.00 am – 10.30 am**

# Inaugural Session

[10.30 am – 12.30 pm]



- *Inaugural video – Sundarban: its Life & livelihood by Team SAIARD*
- *Welcome address by **Ms. Anwesa Ganguly**, Faculty, SAIARD- Centre for River Affairs*
- *Dignitaries on the dais Inauguration the event through the pouring water in kalash*
- *Presidential Address by **Mr. Biswajit Roy Chowdhury**, Chairman, SAIARD & Chief Patron, IDS*
- *Address by the Guest of Honour **Mr. D.P. Mathuria**, Hon'ble Executive Director (Technical), National Mission for Clean Ganga, Ministry Jal Shakti, Govt of India*
- *Address by the Guest of Honour **Ms. Melinda Pavak**, H.E. Hon'ble US Consulate General, Kolkata*
- *Address by the Guest of Honour **Mr. Nick Low**, H.E. Hon'ble British Deputy High Commissioner, Kolkata*
- *Address by Guest of Honour **Mr. A. Elias**, H.E. Hon'ble Bangladesh Deputy High Commissioner, Kolkata*
- *Address by the Guest of Honour Prof. **A. Datta**, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Jadavpur University, Kolkata*
- *Address by the Chief Guest **Mr. Prabhat Kr. Mihsra, IAS**, Hon'ble Principal Secretary, Dept. of Irrigation and Waterways, Govt of West Bengal on **"Role of Govt of West Bengal in Sustainable Delta Management"***
- *Message from **Mr. Bankim Hazra**, Hon'ble Minister in Charge, Dept. of Sundarban Affairs, Govt of West Bengal*
- *Inauguration of **'Delta Catalogue'** published by SAIARD*
- *Inauguration of upcoming Book published by SAIARD*
- *Inauguration of the cover page of **"The Urban & River Affairs"** magazine published by SAIARD*
- *Keynote Lecture on **Rethinking the River Delta: A Changing Paradigm** by the Special Guest **Mr. Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, IAS**, Former Director General, NMCG, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt of India & Chief Advisor, National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi*
- *Vote of thanks*



# Lunch Break



**12.30 pm – 01.30 pm**

**Special Lecture**

(1.30 PM– 1.45 PM)

# Story of Sundarban



**Prof. Tuhin Ghosh**

Director, School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur University

## Panel - I

[1.45 – 2.30 pm]

# IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON DELTAIC ECOSYSTEM

### Key Speakers

- **Prof. Punarbasu Chaudhuri**, Assistant Professor, University of Calcutta University
- **Dr. Abhijit Saha**, Expert Member, WAPCOS Ltd. A Govt. of India undertaking under Ministry of Jal Shakti
- **Prof. Souvanic Roy**, Professor, Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, India
- **Dr. Gopinathan Maheswaran**, Scientist-F, Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), Govt. of India
- **Ms. Carolina Saito**, Head of the Science, Technology, Innovation, Energy and Environment section, Embassy of Brazil in New Delhi [[Online](#)]

### Moderator

**Mr. Sunit Nath**, Project Executive, SAIARD





**Special Lecture**  
(2.30 PM– 2.45 PM)

# **Role of IMD in Managing Deltaic Hazards**



**Dr. Sanjib Bandypadhyay**

DDGM, India Meteorological Department, Ministry of Earth Science, Govt. of India

## ECOSYSTEM SERVICES OF DELTA REGION



**Dr. Anadi Gayen**

Regional Director,  
Central Ground Water  
Board, Ministry of Jal  
Shakti, Government of India



**Er. Subrata Halder**

Executive Engineer (A-I),  
WRI&DD,  
Govt. of West Bengal



सौरसहाईआर  
CSIR  
भारत का नवाचार इंजन  
The Innovation Engine of India



**Dr. Kanchan Kumari**

Sr. Scientist, CSIR-NEERI,  
Kolkata RC  
&

**Dr. Rachna Jain**

Scientist, CSIR-NEERI,  
Kolkata RC



**Dr. S.K. Ray**

Regional Director, ICAR-  
National Bureau of Soil Survey  
and Land Use Planning,  
Govt of India



**Mr. S. Daspatnaik**

Managing Director  
Swach Environment  
Private Limited



# **PARTICIPATION OF YOUTH FOR SUSTAINABLE DELTA MANAGMENT**

**[3.45 – 4.30 pm]**

## **Chair**

- **Ms. Sumana Banerjee**, *Research Scholar, School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata*

## **Panelists**

- **Ms. Sushmita Das**, *Research Scholar, School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata*
- **Ms. Purna Bhaduri**, *Research Scholar, Viva Bharati University, West Bengal*
- **Dr. Sumanta Bhattacharya**, *Research Scholar at Maulana Abul Kalam Azad University of Technology, West Bengal*
- **Mr. Mozakkir Azad**, *Department of Environmental Science and Engineering Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Mymensingh, Bangladesh*
- **Mr. Subho Chakraborty**, *Research Scholar, Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, India*

# Networking Tea



4.30 pm – 5.00 pm



# Musical Evening

[5.00 pm – 5.45 pm]



By

**Mr. Suddhaswattwa Bhattacharjee**

with

**Mr. Suvankar Bhattacharjee**

An aerial photograph of a river delta, showing a complex network of channels and distributaries. The water is a milky, light blue color, contrasting with the dark green and brown land. The text "DAY - 2" is overlaid in the center in a white, sans-serif font.

DAY - 2



# Registration with Welcome Tea



**10.00 am – 10.30 am**

**Special Lecture**

(10.30 AM– 10.45 AM)

**Dr. Dhрубajyoti Ghosh (Wetland Man of India) Memorial Lecture**

**Dr. K. Balamurugan, IFS,**  
Chief Technical Officer, East  
Kolkata Wetland Management  
Authority, Dept. of Environment  
Govt. of West Bengal





## Panel -IV

[10.45 am –11.45 pm]

## DELTA CITIES RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY

### Chair

- **Prof. Tuhin Ghosh**, Director, School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur University

### Panelists

- **Mr. Debashis Sen**, IAS, Chairman, & Managing Director, HIDCO, Govt of West Bengal
- **Mr. Jayanta Basu**, Environmentalist and Columnist
- **Dr. Anamitra Anurag Danda**, Director - Sundarbans Programme, WWF-India
- **Prof. Manas Sanyal**, Professor, Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, India





# **MOBILISING DELTAIC RESOURCES & MANAGING ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY**

**Panel - V** [11.45 am – 1.00 pm]

## **Chair**

**Mr. Arunava Pal**, WBCS, District Project Officer, South 24 PGS, Govt of West Bengal

## **Panelists**

- **Dr. A. Mao**, Director, Botanical Survey of India, Govt of India
- **Prof. R.N. Acharya**, Director General, Central Council For Research in Ayurvedic Sciences ,Ministry of Ayush, Government of India
- **Mr. Amitava Sengupta**, WBCS, Special Secretary, Home Affairs & Project Director, Inland Waterways, Govt of West Bengal
- **Mr. Somesh Dasgupta**, Director, India Power Corporation Ltd
- **Mr. Tapan Maity**, Agriculture Specialist, West Bengal Accelerated Development of Minor Irrigation Project (WBADMIP), Water Resource Investigation & Development Dept. Govt. of West Bengal
- **Dr. Baishali Bakshi**, Economic Policy Analyst, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, USA [**Online**]

# Lunch Break



**1.00 pm – 2.00 pm**

## Panel - VI [2.00 – 3.00 pm]

# DEALING WITH CLIMATE IMPACTS IN THE DELTA REGION THROUGH SUSTAINABLE CLIMATE FINANCE



Hosted by  
**Climate Trends**

### Keynote Address

- *Mr. Saleemul Huq, Director, ICCCAD [Online]*

*“Understanding the real-world implications of climate change in the Delta region and Exploring mechanisms and structuring of climate finance for the Delta.”*

### Panelists

- *Dr. Anjal Prakash, ISB Professor*
- *Dr. Samrat Basak, Director, Urban Water Resilience, WRI India*
- *Mr. Harjeet Singh, CANI [Online]*
- *Prof. Ruma Sarkar, Professor, IIM Kolkata*

### Moderators

- *Ms. Aarti Khosla, Director, Climate Trends LLP*





# INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DELTA MANAGEMENT

Panel - VII [3.00 pm – 4.00 pm]

## *Chair*

- **Dr. Minakshi Mishra**, Regional Director, ICCR, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India

## *Panelists*

- **Prof. Shuchita Sharmin**, Professor, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
- **Dr. Chris Sotiropoulos**, MD, Mainstage Incubator (Australia) and Director, APAC Health; CEO, Global opportunities Commercialization, Australia [\[Online\]](#)
- **Mr. R. K. Jaiswal**, Hon. Consulate of Maldives , Kolkata
- **Ms. Pamla Gaupal**, Policy Head, NEFAD, South Africa [\[Online\]](#)
- **Dr. George Owusu Essegbey** , CEO/ Chief Research Scientist CSIR-Science and Technology Policy Research Institute (CSIR-STEPRI) Ghana, Africa [\[Online\]](#)
- **Dr. Sergey**, President, International Diplomatic Club, Russia

# Networking Tea



4.00 pm – 4.30 pm

# Valedictory Session

[4.30 pm – 5.00 pm]

- *Welcome address by **Ms. Anwesa Ganguly**, Faculty, SAIARD- Centre for River Affairs*
- *Address by **Mr. Biswajit Roy Chowdhury**, Chairman, SAIARD & Chief Patron, IDS*
- *Address by the Guest of Honour **Prof. R.N. Acharya**, Director General, Central Council For Research in Ayurvedic Sciences ,Ministry of Ayush, Government of India*
- *Address by the Guest of Honour **Mr. Pradeep Khemka**, Hon. Consulate, Consulate of Brazil, Kolkata*
- *Address by the Guest of Honour **Mr. R. K. Jaiswal**, Hon. Consulate, Consulate of Maldives Kolkata*
- *Address by Guest of Honour **Dr. Minakshi Mishra**, Regional Director, ICCR, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India*
- *Message from **Mr. Javed Ahmed Khan**, Hon'ble Minister in Charge, Dept. of Disaster Management & Civil Defence, Govt of West Bengal*
- *Address by the Chief Guest **Mr. Dushyant Nariala**, IAS, Hon'ble Principal Secretary, Dept. of Disaster Management and Civil Defence, Govt of West Bengal*
- *Vote of thanks*





# Venue & Direction



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Science City, Kolkata, JBS Haldane Ave, M

India Power Corporation, HCCP+H53, Plo

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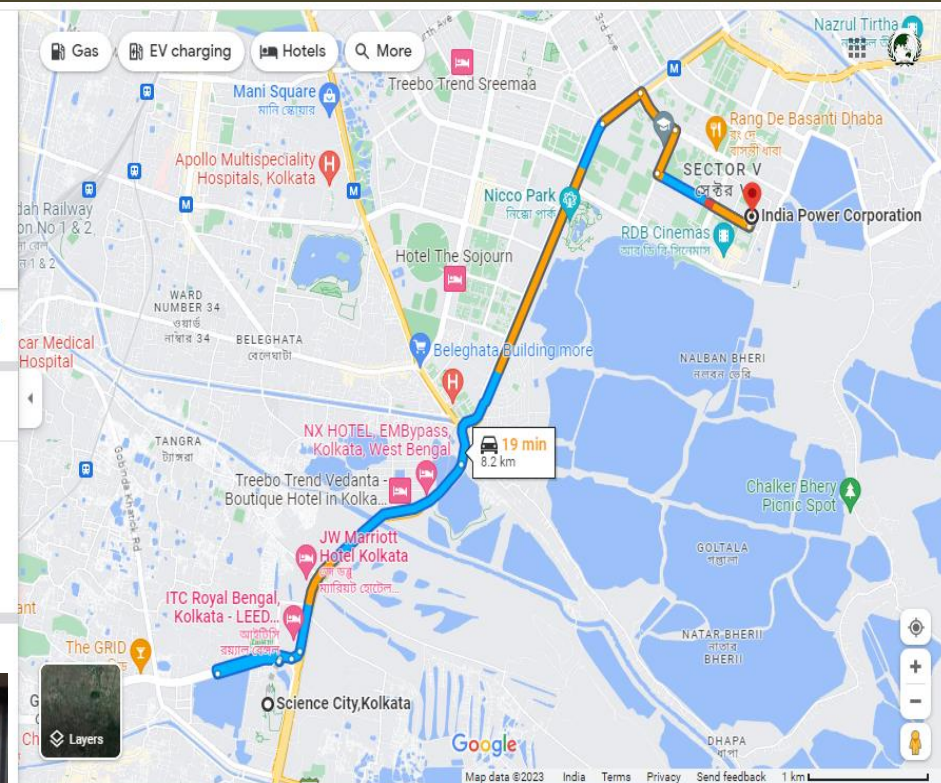
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**Thank You**