

Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence

Events on sustainable use of land

The Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence is committed to sustainable use of land and further the goal of SDG 15. Built on a 286- acre area, the university's sprawling campus is a biodiversity hotspot—home to around 10,000 trees, 700 plant species (including rare fossils like Horsetail from the Jurassic era), and over 150 bird species. Approximately 95% of the plant species have medicinal value. This 'living lab' for biodiversity is a research site and a demonstration model for sustainability and conservation. We have an opportunity to learn on and nurture 10.4 acres of land in the form of a Thematic Botanical Garden that is home to indigenous or endemic, species along with many rare, endangered, and threatened plant species.

Regular events aimed at promoting conservation and sustainable utilization of the land, including forests and wild land are organized throughout the year at the campus.

Campus bird count

To explore the species of birds on campus, we organize workshops and nature walks to spot and observe the feathered friends of the campus and contribute to the campus bird count. The campus is also rich in faunal diversity, characterized by wetlands and terrestrial species, mammals, aves, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, molluscs, annelids, and insects, including 53 butterflies.

In a drive to geo-tag trees on campus, we have carried out an inventory of and affixed QR codes on 13500 trees with 44 individual species present within the boundary of the university using the census method. More than 20 primary and secondary attributes have been recorded for each of these trees, including Latitude and Longitude, Local Name, Girth, Height, Condition, and Canopy Diameter, to name a few. The trees have been assigned a specific QR code, which, when scanned, gives detailed information about the tree.

Conservation of Material and Ecological Heritage in the Trans Himalayas

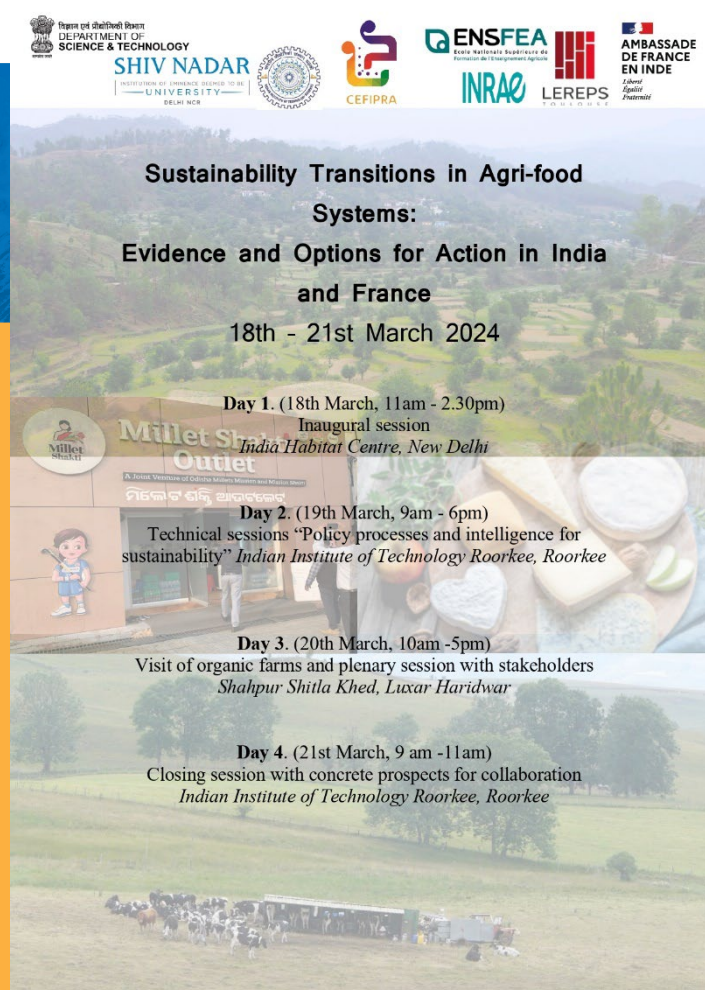
The Centre of Excellence for Himalayan Studies, School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS) and Karakoram Collectives jointly organized a Workshop on "Conservation of Material and Ecological Heritage in the Trans Himalayas" on Thursday, 14 March 2024, at the Shiv Nadar IoE campus. This workshop aimed to facilitate interdisciplinary dialogue and knowledge exchange concerning various conservation-related issues within the Trans-Himalayan region. These include the ecological impact of tourism, traditional agro-pastoral practices, as well as broader themes such as market dynamics, spirituality, gender dynamics, and the preservation of cultural artifacts. Our overarching goal is to deepen understanding,

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identify best practices, foster collaborative networks, and formulate recommendations for policymakers, practitioners, and local communities. We seek to safeguard the diverse cultural and natural heritage of the Trans-Himalayas, promoting sustainable development and community resilience.

SHSS also organized an Indo-French seminar titled, "**Sustainability Transitions in Agri-food Systems: Evidence and Options for Action in India and France**," from March 18th to March 21st, 2024. This seminar addressed an important knowledge and policy concern in India and France. It explored how India and France as two nation states and dynamic economies handle knowledge and policy for the much-needed sustainability transitions in their respective agri-food systems. There is a need for new participatory and interactive processes, knowledge about poly-cultural contexts of quasi-public-private activities/sectors, and horizontal policy and practice capacities. In this context, the seminar aims to take stock and evaluate the responses of stakeholders, public policies and research (natural and social sciences) to this issue, in order to identify technical, organizational and institutional levers of action relevant in the French and Indian contexts.

  	
Centre of Excellence for Himalayan Studies & Karakoram Collectives CONSERVATION OF MATERIAL AND ECOLOGICAL HERITAGE IN THE TRANS HIMALAYAS 14 March 2024 D-330, Shiv Nadar IoE, Delhi NCR	
Time	Event
10:30-10:35 AM	Welcome Remarks: Prof. Rajat Kathuria, Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Shiv Nadar IoE
10:35-10:40 AM	Introductory Remarks: Mr. Abeer Gupta, Director, Achi Association India, Leh
Session 1 - People, Practices and Nature	
Moderator's Remarks 10:40-10:45 AM	Mr. Fido Hussain, PhD Scholar, Centre for Inner Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Panellist-1 10:45-11:05 AM	Dr. Dorje Dewa, Assistant Professor, Cluster Innovation Center, University of Delhi, New Delhi Topic: Ecological Impact assessment of tourism activities in Ladakh
Panellist-2 11:05-11:20 AM	Ms. Padma Loden, PhD Scholar, School of Environmental Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi Topic: Agro-pastoralism in the Mountains: Practices and Challenges in Ladakh's Trans-Himalayan Region
Panellist-3 11:20-11:40 AM	Ms. Adina Ara, PhD Scholar, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi Topic: Impact of Higher Degree of Market Integration on Economic Security and Social Capital: Empirical Evidence from Pastoral-Nomadic Community of Changthang, Ladakh
Discussant's Remarks 11:40-11:50 AM	Dr. Saloni Bhatta, Fellow, Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies - Centre for Environment and Development, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, Bengaluru
11:50AM-12:30 PM	Q & A
Session 2 - Ideas, Impacts, and Challenges	
Moderator's Remarks 02:40-02:45 PM	Mr. Deldan Namgial, PhD Scholar, Centre for Inner Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Panellist-1 02:45-03:05 PM	Dr. Fayaz Ahmad, Assistant Professor, Department of Higher Education, Jammu and Kashmir Topic: Spirituality, Gender, Environmental ethics in a Himalayan Valley: Studying aspects of life through Rishik Sikkha of Kashmir
Panellist-2 03:05-03:25 PM	Dr. Tashi Lundup, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Eliezer Joldan Memorial College, Leh, Ladakh Topic: Tourism and Socio-Cultural Discourse in Ladakh
Panellist-3 03:25-03:45 PM	Dr. Noor Jahan, Founder and Art conservator, Shersig, Ladakh Topic: An overview of the conservation of mural painting and other artefacts in Ladakh
Panellist-4 03:45-04:05 PM	Dr. Rigin Chodon, Independent Research Consultant, Founder, Yige Publications, Leh Topic: Illustration of 20th Century nature and wildlife from Keylong and Ladakh
Discussant's Remarks 04:05-04:15 PM	Dr. Anita Sharma, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Shiv Nadar IoE
04:15-04:55 PM	Q & A
Session 3 (Roundup): Convergence of Policy Research and Conservation Action	
05:15-06:00 PM	Chair: Prof. Rajeswar S. Raina, Professor, Department of International Relations and Governance Studies, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Shiv Nadar IoE Panellists: 1) Mr. Muzaffer Hussain, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad 2) Mr. Abeer Gupta, Director, Achi Association India, Leh 3) Dr. Kulbhushansingh Suryawanshi, Scientist, Nature Conservation Foundation, Bengaluru 4) Prof. Siddiq Wahid, Distinguished Fellow, Centre of Excellence for Himalayan Studies, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Shiv Nadar IoE
06:00-06:10 PM	Closing Remarks: Dr. Jabin T. Jacob Director, Centre of Excellence for Himalayan Studies, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Shiv Nadar IoE



Sustainability Transitions in Agri-food Systems:
Evidence and Options for Action in India and France
18th - 21st March 2024

Day 1. (18th March, 11am - 2.30pm)
Inaugural session
India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

Day 2. (19th March, 9am - 6pm)
Technical sessions "Policy processes and intelligence for sustainability" Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, Roorkee

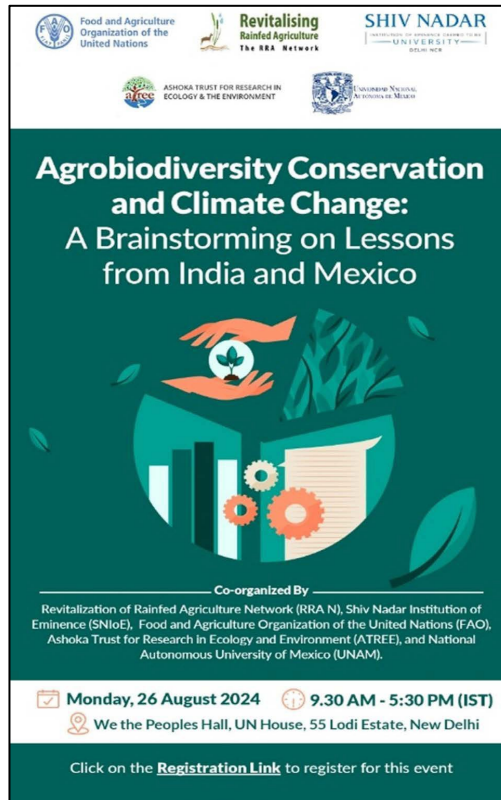
Day 3. (20th March, 10am - 5pm)
Visit of organic farms and plenary session with stakeholders
Shahpur Shitla Khed, Luxar Haridwar

Day 4. (21st March, 9 am - 11am)
Closing session with concrete prospects for collaboration
Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, Roorkee

Shiv Nadar IoE organized a brainstorming session in collaboration with Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Revitalization of Rainfed Agriculture Network (RRAN), Ashoka Trust for

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Research in Ecology and Environment (ATREE), and National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) on 26 August 2024 at New Delhi. The collaboration has facilitated discussions on the agrobiodiversity conservation initiatives from India and Mexico and exploring opportunities for knowledge sharing between the two countries, and long-term solutions to conserve agrobiodiversity in the current scenario of climate vulnerability. This would be shaped into a multipronged transdisciplinary action research project on strengthening community capacities for landrace conservation and governance in specific landscapes/agroecological zones. The collaboration is also brainstorming on how Mexico and India can take efforts to conserving agrobiodiversity to confront and address the climate crises, through locally adapted measures.



Brainstorming event organized in New Delhi