



Report

# Disha, Making Careers in Environmental Management & Sustainability

On 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2014  
In Pune, India



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## **Background: Need for Career Counseling**

### **The market for environmental services is growing**

Environmental Governance in India has expanded considerably. The Government has put in place modern policies and regulations to protect and conserve the environment while ensuring economic development. These efforts align well with the international frameworks and benchmarks. Unfortunately, trained human resources and institutional capacities required to match this governance, have remained weak. This is a serious issue when it comes to mainstreaming environmental considerations and subsequent implementation of environmental protection related measures.

“Today, more than 100 Indian companies practise sustainability reporting. For the past 10 years, 8,000 to 10,000 green jobs have opened up in India annually.” – ‘Green Card Holders’, *Business Today*, March 31, 2013

The size of the global environmental consulting market today is estimated to be close to 30 billion US\$. Contribution of renewables towards energy generation is expected to rise 80% by 2050. Cities will need to become “smart” and “green” to respond to the pressures of urbanization. Greendex 2012 survey pegs Indians on top for sustainable behaviour despite the unevenness and insensitivities we often see!

### **Need for career counseling and guidance**

We need to strengthen our academic and research institutions, bringing curricula and projects closer to sustainability-oriented practices. Students and young professionals need to be exposed to the growing opportunities in this arena. Guidance on how to shape careers is needed to inspire and motivate. As environmental issues permeate through various sectors of development, these efforts need to be taken across multiple disciplines such as science, engineering, planning, economics, social development etc. Hence, Disha was conceived.

## **Previous Disha Programs**

Disha, a novel venture initially launched by Environmental Management Centre (EMC) in July 2006, was designed as a series of career counselling and networking events to be held in metros across India to help students and young professionals build careers in environmental management and sustainability. Ekonnnect Knowledge Foundation set up in September 2012 continues to design and run this initiative as part of its objectives to raise awareness on environmental management and offer learning programs focusing on sustainability.

**Disha Pune 2006:** The first in the series was held on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2006 at Bhanuben Nanavati College of Architecture (BNCA) – Pune. This one-day event included presentations from Dr. Prasad Modak (EMC), guidance from resource persons (panel members) having expertise in various facets of the environmental domain, followed by panel discussions and distribution of a CD-ROM containing a vast array of environmental resource materials. The panel discussions, which proved to be the highlight of the event, had representation from industry, research organizations, academia, regulatory organizations, financial institutions, consultants all of whom provided guidance to the participants. The event was attended by 100 participants.

**Disha Mumbai 2013:** Disha Mumbai was organized and held in Mumbai on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2013 in partnership with Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies as principal partner. The program was well attended by participants from the many colleges in Mumbai as well as young professionals actively looking for opportunities in the field. A session on ‘Evolution of Sustainability’ was conducted by Dr. Prasad Modak which gave the participants an introduction as well as an insight into the term ‘Sustainability’ and its relevance in Business today. This was followed by two panel sessions each of which provided a different perspective to the participants: one from the point of view of those who have successful careers in the field and the other from the point of view of a prospective employer. This event was attended by 85 participants.

#### **Ekoschools – Expansion of Disha Concept**

Ekoschools were organized with partner research/academic institutes to provide a rounded exposure to participants by “updating” their knowledge and filling up the “gaps” between theory and practice in the field of environmental management

- **Ekoschool for National Institute of Technology Karnataka (NITK) 20-21 September 2013** a two-day training workshop at the NITK, Surathkal for Professors, PhD scholars and students of Environmental Management and Engineering. This Ekoschool focused on the topic ‘How to conduct courses on Environmental Management and Sustainability’. The professors who participated in the workshop worked in groups to design Environmental Management curricula of various durations and meant for a range of audience including business and NGO professionals in addition to students. The Ekoschool was attended by 70 participants out of which 30 were faculty, 10 PhDs and 30 Masters Students.
- **Ekoschool with National Institute of Training in Industrial Engineering (NITIE) 16-19 January 2009** a 4-day residential Ekoschool was organized in partnership with National Institute of Training in Industrial Engineering (NITIE), Mumbai. Forty one participants from different walks of environmental professions attended the event including students.

**Access the Reports:** The reports of all Ekonekt’s previous programs as well as this report are available for download on [www.ekonekt.net](http://www.ekonekt.net) or use this direct link: <http://ekonekt.net/index.php/eko-hubs/disha>

## **Disha: Objectives**

- To provide an interactive platform for helping students make careers in environmental management & sustainability.
- To share knowledge on the evolution and emerging opportunities in the field and encourage students and young professionals to explore potential careers.
- To provide an opportunity for participants to meet and interact with established and successful personalities in the field.
- To promote the e-learning courses designed and offered by Ekonnnect as supplementary to mainstream sustainability in environmental education.

## **About Disha Pune 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2014**

Disha was held in Pune on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of January 2014 in partnership with Symbiosis Institute of International Business and Sustainability Initiatives, Pune at the Symbiosis Institute of Foreign and Indian Languages Auditorium in Model Colony, Pune. Annexure 1 provides the program.

### **Participants:**

The program was attended by students from colleges such Symbiosis Institute of International Business, Fergusson College, Garware College, Ecological Society and CEPT University. The list of participants is provided in Annexure 2.

### **Proceedings:**

The session commenced with a welcome from Ms.Sonal Alvares of Ekonnnect Knowledge Foundation. She briefly welcomed the participants, invited the organisers and the chief guest to the dais and requested each to say a few words. The Chief Guest, Mr.Pramod Chaudhuri, Executive Chairman of Praj Industries was invited to give his keynote address. Following which Shantanu Roy, Senior Vice President Environmental Management Centre LLP, presented on the 'Evolution of Sustainability'.



Shantanu Roy introducing Ekonnnect & Disha



Mr. Pramod Chaudhuri giving the keynote address



Anagha Paranjape-Purohit introducing Symbiosis Institute of Sustainability Initiatives



Mr. Pranav Mukherjee introducing Symbiosis Institute of International Business

Ekonnnect designed Disha Pune program over two days where the first day followed the established format with an added second day that was based on the concept of Eko-school. The highlight of the second day were the presentation sessions by professionals and academicians covering important frontier topics such as Green Purchasing, Green Buildings, Sustainability Reporting, Energy Efficiency and Renewables and Climate Change – Mitigation and Adaptation.

The first day of Disha provided participants a window to learn about experiences of established professionals as well as hearing about opportunities in higher education and research and hearing about the employer’s perspective. There were three panel sessions each of which covered these topics.

Panel 1 comprised of four panelists who ‘shared their experiences in this field’. This session was moderated by Shantanu Roy who asked key questions to each of the Panelists and then invited questions from the participants. Panel 2 comprised of four panelists who formed the ‘opportunities in higher education and research’ panel. Similarly this session was moderated by

Dr. Prakash Rao of SIIB who put questions to each of the panelists and then invited the participants to direct their questions to the panelists. The final panel 3 comprised of four panelists who spoke from the perspective of employers and shared what they look for in a potential employee.

## Presentations and Panel Discussions

Disha Chief Guest, Mr. Chaudhuri began his keynote address by congratulating Ekconnect on the initiative of Disha saying that it was much needed and that the program was well designed. He spoke about the time when his company Praj Industries was just setting up and how times have changed with regards to how business is being run. Today he finds that more than ever, businesses are looking to incorporate sustainability as it makes ‘business sense’. He appreciated the initiative to bring agencies engaged in environment, sustainability and allied activities together on a common platform providing a capsule of different perspectives. He raised a question to the participants wishing to know if they had joined the course with conviction and was pleased to note the majority answering in the affirmative. He encouraged all present to take risks and become entrepreneurs if they see a future in it. He said that in the emerging scenario with environmental issues taking centre stage, the best opportunity would be for entrepreneurs as the future of tomorrow.

Shantanu Roy presented on the evolution of Sustainability; speaking about the beginning as a movement to today when it is used as a buzzword and more importantly gaining ground as the key to a successful future. He spoke about the tiers of sustainability and the added principle of ‘values’ to the trio of people, planet and profit.



Shantanu Roy presenting on evolution of Sustainability



Panel 1: Dr. Ramakrishnan, Dr. Kulkarni, Ms. Ghate and Dr. Purushottam

Panel 1, titled 'Sharing of Experiences' comprised of a distinguished line up of personalities including Dr Himanshu Kulkarni, ACWADAM, Ms Ketaki Ghate, Oikos, Dr L Ramakrishnan, Ex-Philips and Dr Sunita Purushottam, Infosys moderated by Mr.,Shantanu Roy

- Ms. Ketaki Ghate shared her experience on how she decided to join this field. She introduced students to the Natural Resource Management course at the Ecological Society. This course inspired her to enter the environmental field. She strongly recommended students to join this course. She emphasized that to be in a Green Career, one needs to be GREEN from the heart! In other words, she stressed on 'passion' for the work and the spoke of the satisfaction that came from doing the job well.
- Dr. Himanshu Kulkarni said he got drawn into the subject area of ground water because he was doing geology. And in geology everything is about the non- renewable things and ground water was the only subject that was taught which is renewable. He spoke about merging physics, mathematics, chemistry, biology with geology to understand the subject of ground water. He urged students to ask questions even if they are seemingly 'silly' ones. He recommended that all people in this field should influence the various circles of influence; be it your friends, professionals, family.
- Dr. L Ramakrishnan shared about his experiences when he was working. He used to work as a researcher/scientist in Research & Development and one day he was appointed as the plant environmental manager without his being asked. He reluctantly agreed to take the post but soon realized that this field is a "Gold Mine". After this he started getting more involved and educated himself. He emphasized two things which he practiced during his career in Philips. One is transparency with authority and second thing that Sustainability should be in the DNA of the organization. He left students with the message of being 'saleable' in the industry. Since it is a big and vast field he advised students to try to focus on certain niche areas.
- Dr. Sunita Purushottam shared her experience about her career in Infosys and how she landed up being in this field. She said that a lot of learning is required to be in this field. She advised students to continuously learn and develop throughout one's career. She also said that one needed 'grit' to stick on otherwise there is a tendency to change one's field. Her message to students was to "Study" She urged them not to give up on the thirst for knowledge. She said in order to differentiate from others one need to know more. Her advice was to read when others are sleeping!

Panel 2, titled 'Opportunities in Higher Education and Research' comprised of another distinguished line up of personalities including Dr Kiran Shinde, BVP College of Architecture, Mr Manish Vaidya, Tata Quality Management Services, Mr. Shantanu Roy, EMC, and Dr. Rahul Walawalkar, Customized Energy Solutions moderated by Dr.Prakash Rao



- Dr. Kiran Shinde said that one could get paid for being an analyst. He pointed out that there were four major career paths: activists, informed activists who could be called Mr.fix-its, managers and lastly, thinkers referring to the research domain. He urged students to try to understand into which category they would fit in and then pursue the career accordingly. He said that students at masters' level should be able to figure this out.
- Mr. Manish Vaidya emphasized scanning the regulations for sustainability and political landscape. He advised students to continuously evolve their knowledge. He stated that research should be used and that whatever one learns should be applied to the industry. According to him, knowledge should not be theoretical. It should be applied research. He said that there are different dynamics in Industry and that people around would shape one's perspective. He asked students to make efforts to meet and interact with people from the industry.
- Dr. Rahul Walawalkar advised students that depending on one's focus area, one would be able to search for higher education opportunities abroad. He cautioned against following trends and asked students to create their own career paths not following others. He urged students to look for and maintain a core group of advisors, faculty, industry professionals that would be useful for moving along the chosen career. He mentioned that soon industries would start looking at the natural capital evaluation than just at profit and loss.
- Mr. Shantanu Roy spoke about doing short term programs. He said that it definitely makes sense to do short term courses which adds to the knowledge. But for doing internships he cautioned students against short term as short durations it would not be enough nor effective.



Panel 2: Dr.Rao moderator with Dr.Shinde, Mr.Vaidya, Mr.Roy & Dr.Walawalkar



Panel 3: Mr.Iyer, Mr.D'Souza, Mr.Bhargava & Mr.Nalwade

Panel 3, titled 'The Employers Perspective' comprised of yet another distinguished line up of personalities including Mr Abhay Nalawade, Ecoaxis, Mr Alok Bhargava, IL & FS Ltd, Mr Peter D'souza, Tata Motors and Mr Ramani Iyer, Forbes Marshall moderated by Dr.Prakash Rao

- Mr. Abhay Nalawade informed students that working at sustainability level you need at least 10 years of experience which can be completed in two years only when you have right mentality. He spoke about the employer's perspective, where they look for people who have an ability to get into processes. They look for ability and curiosity learn more. He stated that if one could efficiently deploy knowledge and skill then openings are available.
- Mr. Alok Bhargava said that even financial firms have opportunities in sustainability. He quoted the Global Environment Report 2014 which has 10 risks out of which 7 are related to sustainability. He impressed upon the students that this was the size of opportunities in the sustainability field. He mentioned that as a financial institution their lives and businesses touch the environment and social dimensions. So they have to be conscious of that and are always on the lookout for such likeminded people.
- Mr. Peter D'souza said that qualification matter in the sustainability market. He advised students that they should have a sense of reality. If looking for a job in industries then taking a realistic perspective would be beneficial. He concluded by saying that one should stand out to the employers. One should show right attitude and enthusiasm.
- Mr. Ramani Iyer shared experiences related to his industrial career he said that one should find an interest for building career at grass route level. If one is determined then it would be a bright future.

Participants posed a number of questions to each of the panellists. Issues such as incorporation of sustainability into business, opportunity for social studies background in sustainability, research topics, choice of learning programs, potential employers and so on were brought up by the participants and discussions followed with the panellists.

## **Day 2 – The Ekoschool**

The second day of Disha was scheduled as the Ekoschool with a line-up of sessions covering frontier topics providing an introduction as well as insight into the various avenues of potential careers in the respective areas.

Mr. Shantanu Roy began the day's program by a recap of the previous day's sessions, explaining that the concepts that were touched upon would be introduced in some more detail through the Ekoschool program. He urged the students to take an active part in the coming sessions through interacting with the speakers and clarifying doubts on the various topics.

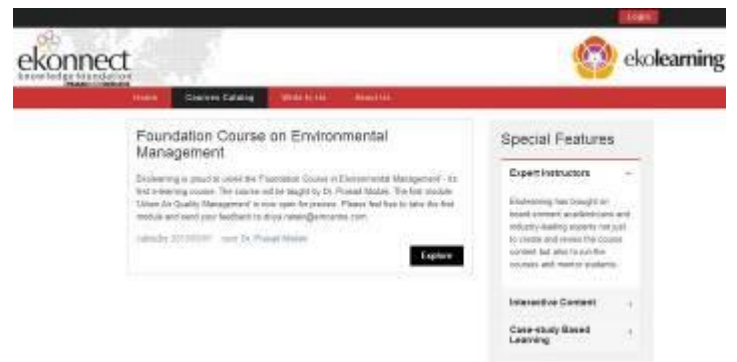
## E-Learning, Jobs Portal and Ask our Experts:

Ekolearning, Ekonnnect's blended learning (online + face-to-face) initiative, offers its 'Foundation Course on Environmental Management & Sustainability' taught online with reputed and experienced mentors, this one-month course employs a unique 'case study' based approach to impart an understanding of the fundamental principles of Environmental Management - an essential ingredient missing from most university curricula. Completion of this course will help students in planning careers and improve prospects of internship, research positions and jobs. Being a not-for-profit, Ekonnnect charges nominal fees for this course.

Divya Narain, Ekolearning Manager, Ekonnnect, demonstrated the e-learning course of Foundation in Environmental Management giving an insight into the course content, structure and pedagogy in addition to the content of the first module of the course.

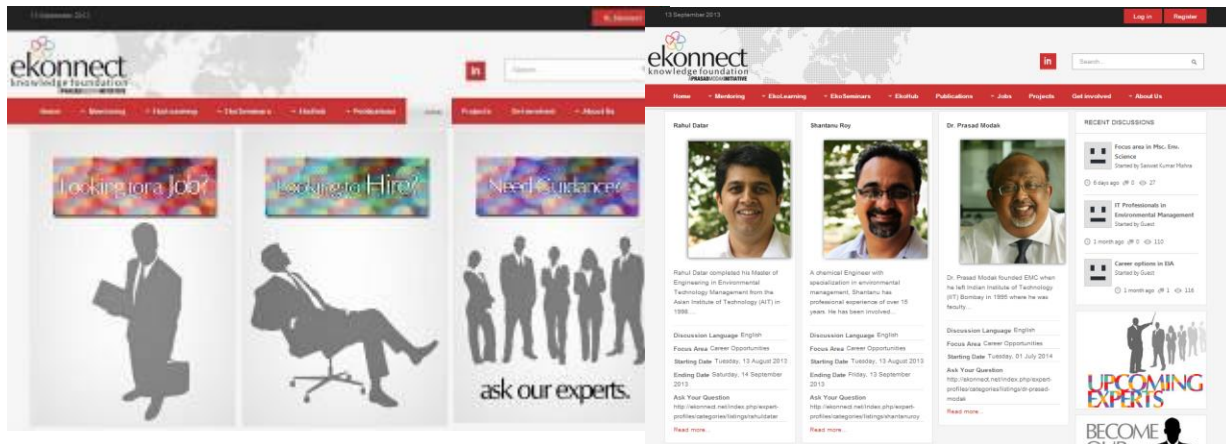
Divya demonstrated the use of the 'Jobs Portal' on the Ekonnnect website. A special feature of 'Ask the Experts' was highlighted. This feature to the Jobs Portal allows visitors to the site to virtually interact with guest experts on the portal. Interaction takes place through the online forum where visitors are able to see guidance from the expert. Experts post their replies and opinions/advice desired.

### Screen shots from Ekonnnect website at [www.ekonnnect.net](http://www.ekonnnect.net)



## Ekolearning: the e-learning portal

## Online Course on Environmental Management



**Jobs Portal at**  
<http://ekonnect.net/index.php/jobs>

**Ask our Experts at**  
<http://ekonnect.net/index.php/current-experts>

Day 2 – The Ekoschool: Photographs taken during the presentations on the second day of Disha.



Shantanu presenting on Green Products



Participants



Ms. Narain presenting on Elearning at Ekonnect



Ms. Parajape-Purohit presenting on Green Buildings



Mr. Dipen Paul presenting on Energy and Renewables



Mrs. Shilpa Kulkarni presenting on Sustainability Reporting



Dr. Prakash Rao presenting on Climate Change



Participants

All of the above presentations are available on Ekonnnect website, please visit: [www.ekonnnect.net](http://www.ekonnnect.net) you will need to register to become a member in order to view the same. Registrations is a short two-step process. You may also view the same on our Slide Share at <http://www.slideshare.net/EkonnnectKnowledgeFoundation>

## Feedback

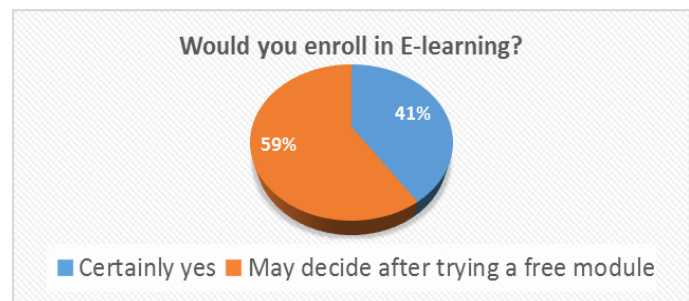
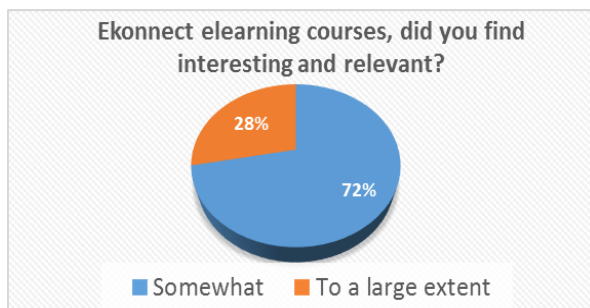
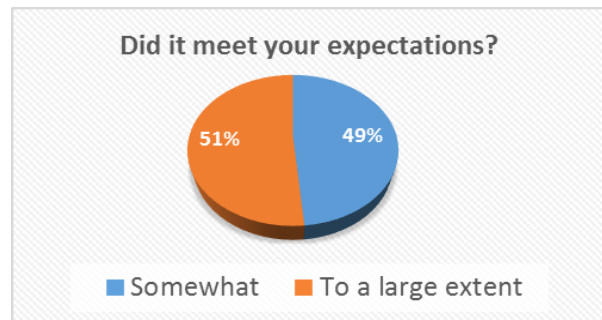
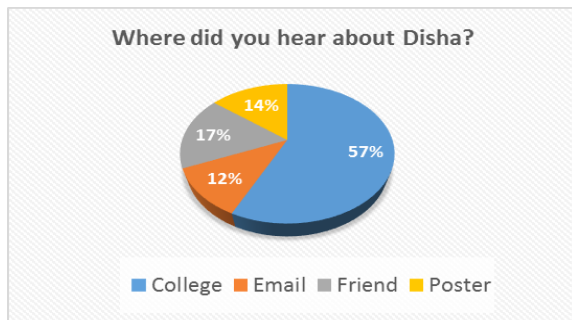
Overall feedback received from participants is encouraging and suggestions given were:

- It was Interesting and effective, organise a Counseling or Career test, Workshop, can become more 'to the point' also can provide contacts who can help us in our interest,
- Give copy of presentation and some contacts of the speakers, conduct field visits, actual workshops of EIA, Restoration, conduct a session on writing reports, do more publicity,

- Program needs more visibility and would have benefitted if more colleges were invited. very little importance to Ecological perspective, however there were many concepts which were well discussed, Make it more specific to subject,
- Separate networking session, session on how to write an environmental Professional CV, more panel discussions, less power point presentations,
- Attended Disha in Mumbai and now in Pune both were extremely interesting and full of knowledge,
- Can make discussions more participative and interactive, Independent workshops and more practical exposure,
- Have more participants and more interaction, Participants should be more and more experts in sustainable field and climate change.

In response to the presentation on the upcoming e-learning course, majority of participants were somewhat interested and most were likely to decide to go for the course after seeing the preview.

Structured feedback received from thirty-five participants out of the 53 who attended is as follows:





## Next Steps

Ekconnect is currently planning to take Disha to Delhi in the coming months.

The need to take such an initiative is evident from the general feedback received at Disha, Mumbai and Pune as well as from among the network at Ekconnect.

If you as an organisation or individual wish to partner with Ekconnect on the next Disha do write to Dr.Prasad Modak at [prasad.modak@ekconnect.net](mailto:prasad.modak@ekconnect.net)

Follow us on [www.ekconnect.net](http://www.ekconnect.net)

### Videos

Interactions between panelists and the participants during the Q & A sessions along with the panel discussions and presentations have been captured on video and will soon be available for viewing on the Ekconnect YouTube channel; link to the channel will be placed on the website at [www.ekconnect.net](http://www.ekconnect.net) and also shared on the Facebook page of Ekconnect Knowledge Foundation: <https://www.facebook.com/EkconnectKnowledgeFoundation?ref=hl>

### Presentations

All the presentations are available at the Ekconnect website at [www.ekconnect.net](http://www.ekconnect.net) under the Publications section under 'View our presentations'.

### E-Learning

Sample the E-learning course on Environmental Management & Sustainability: The course Environmental Management & Sustainability is designed in 4 modules.

1. Urban Air Quality Management
2. Ecological Risk Assessment
3. Business and Sustainability
4. Resource Conflicts

We will encourage all Disha participants to take a tour through the course and experience the case study based pedagogy. Log in at <http://ekolearning.ekonnect.net/courses.php> to access this module.



## Annexure 1: Program Schedule

### **Day 1 Making Careers in Environmental Management & Sustainability**

Time slot	Session
09:30 – 10:00	Registration
10:00 – 10:20	Welcome and brief introductions
10:20 – 10:45	<b>Keynote Address:</b> Chief Guest Mr Pramod Chaudhari, Executive Chairman, Praj Industries
10:45 – 10:50	Release of SIIB quarterly newsletter
10:50 – 11:00	Break for Tea/Coffee
11:00 – 11:45	<b>Environmental Management: Its Evolution and Emerging Opportunities</b> – Shantanu Roy, Sr.V.P. Environmental Management Centre (EMC) <b>Panel 1- Sharing of Experiences</b> moderated by Shantanu Roy, EMC – Dr Himanshu Kulkarni, ACWADAM
11:45 – 12:30	– Ms Ketaki Ghate, Oikos – Dr L Ramakrishnan, Ex-Philips – Ms Sunita Purushottam, Infosys
12:30 – 13:00	Q&A session
13:00 – 14:00	Break for Lunch
	<b>Panel 2- Opportunities in Higher Education and Research</b> moderated by Dr Prakash Rao – Dr Kiran Shinde, BVP College of Architecture – Mr Manish Vaidya Tata Quality Management Services – Shantanu Roy, EMC – Dr. Rahul Walawalkar, Customized Energy Solutions
14:00 – 14:30	
14:30 – 15:00	Q&A session <b>Panel 3- The Employers Perspective</b> moderated by Mr Shantanu Roy, EMC – Mr Abhay Nalawade, Ecoaxis – Mr Alok Bhargava, IL & FS – Mr Peter D’souza, Tata Motors – Mr Ramani Iyer, Forbes Marshall
15:00 – 15:45	
15:45 – 16:15	Q&A Session
16:15 – 16:30	Closing remarks - Dr Prakash Rao (SIIB)
16:30 onwards	Tea/Coffee

## **Day 2 The Eko-School**

<b>Time slot</b>	<b>Session</b>
09:30 – 10:00	Welcome and Looking back on Day 1 by Mr Shantanu Roy, EMC
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Demo of E-learning course on Environmental Management &amp; Sustainability and the Jobs Portal</b> by Ms Divya Narain, Ekolearning Manager, Ekonnnect
10:30 – 11:30	<b>Life Cycle Thinking, Green Products, Green Procurement and Extended Producer Responsibility</b> Mr Shantanu Roy, Environmental Management Centre (EMC)
11:30 – 12:00	<b>Green Buildings and Smart Cities</b> – Ar Anagha Paranjape-Purohit- Director, VK:e environmental; Trustee, Sustainability Initiatives (SI)
12:00 – 12:15	Q&A session
12:15 – 12:30	Break for Tea/Coffee
12:30 – 13:20	<b>Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy</b> - Dipen Paul, SIIB
13:20 – 13:00	Q&A session
13:00 – 14:00	Break for Lunch
14:15 – 14:45	<b>Sustainability Reporting and Business Responsibility Reporting</b> – Ms Shilpa Kulkarni , SIIB
14:45 – 15:20	<b>Climate Change – Mitigation and Adaptation</b> – Dr. Prakash Rao, SIIB
15:20 – 15:30	Q&A session
15:30 – 15:45	Closing remarks
16:00 onwards	Tea/Coffee

## Annexure 2: List of Participants

S. No.	Name of the participant	College/ Organisation	email address	mobile
1	Sanchita Garule	Fergusson College	<a href="mailto:sgarule16@gmail.com">sgarule16@gmail.com</a>	7709304690
2	Surabhi Sheth	Fergusson College	<a href="mailto:surabhisheth94@gmail.com">surabhisheth94@gmail.com</a>	8552932196
3	Pooja Tendulkar	Fergusson College	<a href="mailto:poojatendulkar007@gmail.com">poojatendulkar007@gmail.com</a>	8793880757
4	Agraja Mokashi	Fergusson College	<a href="mailto:agraja.aaamokashi@gmail.com">agraja.aaamokashi@gmail.com</a>	9665708553
5	Aakanksha Mishra	Fergusson College	<a href="mailto:aakansha.78.2012@gmail.com">aakansha.78.2012@gmail.com</a>	8177829812
6	Aniket Desai	Fergusson College		
7	Ashwin Patole	Fergusson College	<a href="mailto:ashwinpatole91@gmail.com">ashwinpatole91@gmail.com</a>	9766147647
8	Ketan Untawale	Fergusson College	<a href="mailto:ketanuntawale24@gmail.com">ketanuntawale24@gmail.com</a>	7709477151
9	Hrishikesh Galgali	Fergusson College	<a href="mailto:hrushikesh.galagali@gmail.com">hrushikesh.galagali@gmail.com</a>	7276882225
10	Tanushree Mundra	Fergusson College	<a href="mailto:tanushreemundra22@gmail.com">tanushreemundra22@gmail.com</a>	9370609211
11	Aishwarya Purwant	Fergusson College	<a href="mailto:aishwarya.purwant@yahoo.com">aishwarya.purwant@yahoo.com</a>	8956384795
12	Aanvi Shirke	Fergusson College		
13	Parag Wankhede	Fergusson College	<a href="mailto:parag@gmail.com">parag@gmail.com</a>	9078500612
14	Radhika Bhagwate	Fergusson College	<a href="mailto:rbradhika03@gmail.com">rbradhika03@gmail.com</a>	9960248222
15	Saniya Kirloskar	Garware College	<a href="mailto:saniya.kirloskar@gmail.com">saniya.kirloskar@gmail.com</a>	9423580663
16	Pallavi Jacob	Ecological Society	<a href="mailto:pallavi_jacob@yahoo.com">pallavi_jacob@yahoo.com</a>	9890013779
17	Avinash Soundankar	Tata Consulting Engineers	<a href="mailto:avsoundankar@tce.co.in">avsoundankar@tce.co.in</a>	9970162020
18	Suprit Joshi	Fergusson College	<a href="mailto:suprit-1992@gmail.com">suprit-1992@gmail.com</a>	9527318773
19	Pranav Chavan	Fergusson College	<a href="mailto:pranavc818@gmail.com">pranavc818@gmail.com</a>	7385217476
20	Mandar Raut	University of Sunderland, UK	<a href="mailto:mandar_rt@yahoo.co.in">mandar_rt@yahoo.co.in</a>	9769899664
21	Ketaki Kamat	CEPT University		
22	Abhinav Bhansali	SIIB	<a href="mailto:abhinav.bhansali@siib.ac.in">abhinav.bhansali@siib.ac.in</a>	8149855176
23	Anandh Krishna	SIIB		
24	Arjun Padikkal	SIIB		
25	Ashwin Jacob	SIIB		
26	Bhuwan Shrivastava	SIIB	<a href="mailto:bhuwan.shrivastava@siib.ac.in">bhuwan.shrivastava@siib.ac.in</a>	7743818992
27	Chitin Vaishali	SIIB	<a href="mailto:chitin.vaishali@siib.ac.in">chitin.vaishali@siib.ac.in</a>	9820412590
28	Gaurav Gawade	SIIB	<a href="mailto:gaurav.gawde@gmail.com">gaurav.gawde@gmail.com</a>	9920467188
29	Hetika Shah	SIIB		
30	Keerthi Kodapalli	SIIB	<a href="mailto:keerthi.kondapalli@siib.ac.in">keerthi.kondapalli@siib.ac.in</a>	8007171617
31	Madhura Kimbahune	SIIB		
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47	Vandan Sood	SIIB		
48	Vikram Pratap	SIIB		
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## Annexure 3: Organizers and Panelists' Profiles

### Chief Guest, Mr.Pramod Chaudhuri, Executive Chairman of Praj Industries



Mr. Chaudhuri is the Executive Chairman of Praj Industries, a global Bioenergy, Renewable Chemicals and Environmental Technologies Company, with references across five continents.

Pramod is a 'Distinguished Alumnus of IIT Bombay (1971)' and an alumnus of Harvard Business School (AMP 1995).

As founder of Praj (year 1984), he is committed to innovative solutions in the pursuit of clean technologies for sustainable environment and business. He strongly believes in 'Triple Bottom Line' as a guiding principle for business. While practising this, he devotes considerable time in understanding this phenomenon, its impact on businesses and the society as a whole.

### Dr. Prasad Modak, Director, Ekonnnect Knowledge Foundation



Dr.Modak is an Alumni of IIT Bombay and holds Doctor of Environmental Engg from Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok. Dr Modak was Professor at Centre for Environmental Science and Engg at IIT Bombay for 1984-1995. Currently, he is back again with his Alma matter as Professor (Adjunct) at Centre for Technology Alternatives in Rural Areas. Dr Modak is currently Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO) at IL&FS and Dean of IL&FS Academy for Applied Development.

Dr Modak has worked with almost all key UN, multi-lateral and bi-lateral developmental institutions in the world. Apart from Government of India and various State Governments, Dr Modak's advice is sought by Governments of Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Mauritius, Thailand and Vietnam. Dr Modak has been invited by several international agencies, public bodies, professional journals and Governments to serve as a Jury and a Reviewer. He has authored and executed more than 400 consulting reports and trained more than 6000 professionals across the World.

### Panel 1- Sharing of Experiences

#### Dr. HimanshuKulkarni, Founder Trustee and Executive Director, ACWADAM

Dr. Kulkarni over 30 years is constantly endeavouring to create space for implementing the science of groundwater in the practice and policy of groundwater management. He believes that aquifer-based participatory groundwater management can imbibe the principles of "groundwater as common pool" in both practice and policy on water management in India. This articulation has found its way into programmes dealing with groundwater in India, more recently through his inputs as Chairman, Working Group on Sustainable Groundwater Management for India's 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. ACWADAM,



which he co-founded is working actively with various groups, networks and committees dealing with water resources issues across the country for nearly 15 years now.

**Ms. Ketaki Ghate, Partner at 'Oikos: for ecological services' an ecological consultancy**



Ms. Ghate has expertise in Ecological land Management, ecological and biodiversity assessment of lands, restoration planning, and plantation planning using native plants. She is also a trustee and a faculty member at the Ecological Society, Pune. In addition, she is visiting faculty at BNCA College of architecture, Pune. She is a member of the Joint Forest Management committee for Bambhurda forest range and was previously a member of Pune Tree Authority (PTA) of Pune municipal corporation (PMC), India.

Ms. Ghate has been honored with the Ramabai Joshi Award for 'Innovative Management Services' in 2006, by MCCA and with the "Unch Maza Zoka" award by Zee Marathi, in August 2013.

**Dr. L. Ramakrishnan, FIEMA, C. Env.,**

Dr. Ramakrishnan has over 30 years of industrial experience in R & D, Environmental Management and Sustainability Management. He retired from Philips Electronics Ltd., as the Regional Sustainability Coordinator, Philips Lighting, Asia Pacific Region, in 2009; since then he has been a Professor of Sustainability Management, IndSearch, Pune. An IEMA (UK) registered Principal Environmental Auditor, Dr. Ramakrishnan holds two PhDs - one in Chemistry/Physics and the other in Environmental Management.



Mr. Ramani Iyer is an Alumnus of Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad and Master of Science (Engineering). His Industry Career includes Defense Research and Development. He has previously worked with prestigious organizations like Philips India, Tata Group.

**Dr. Sunita Purushottam, Principal consultant at Sustainability Practice, Infosys.**



In her career spanning 15 years she has a broad spectrum of environmental consultancy experience in Environmental Impact Assessment, Odour assessment, GIS based environmental projects, Solid waste management, GHG Emissions Inventory and Carbon Offsets, Climate change strategy and Sustainability Reporting and Strategy Consulting. Her core expertise is in the air quality emissions which involves both criteria pollutants and greenhouse gases. Monitoring, Emission Inventory Quantification, Modeling, Verification and Model Validation have been a part of her repertoire. She was involved with carbon foot

printing of Woodbridge Township, New Jersey and was elected as the member of the Environmental Commission of Woodbridge Township looking into sustainability initiatives in New Jersey.

Sunita has a Phd in Environmental Science and Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology Bombay. Her Master's degree is in Physics. She is a fellow of the Royal Meteorological Society London FRMets and a certified GHG inventory quantifier.

## Panel 2- Opportunities in Higher Education and Research

### **Dr. Prakash Rao, Associate Professor and Head, Dept. of Energy and Environment, Symbiosis Institute of International Business**

Dr. Rao has 30 years of experience in the field of energy and environment management with interests in climate change and energy and sustainable development sectors. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Bombay and has coordinated several multidisciplinary projects ranging from natural resources to climate change and energy. He has undertaken assignments for the Government of Qatar to build local capacity for national level policy assessments. He has led the Climate Change and Energy Programme at WWF-India for nearly ten years, coordinating its global research, energy policies and community action. He is a member of the environment committee and the CSR task force of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry and contributes in an advisory capacity to the corporate sector on environmental sustainability issues.



Dr Rao has published two books including one with Prof. S. K. Dash of Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi on Assessment of Climate Change in India and mitigation policies.

### **Dr. Kiran A. Shinde, Principal of Bharati Vidyapeeth University College of Architecture, Pune.**



Dr.Shinde holds a Ph.D. from Monash University, Australia and has obtained two Masters Degrees: one in Urban Management from Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand and one in Urban Planning from CEPT University, India. In last 15 years he has worked on several urban planning projects including the Master Plan for Pune city and other environmental management assignments. He contributed to the preparation of Environmental Status Reports for five municipal corporations in Maharashtra. His research interests include spatiality of tourism, urban planning, and cultural heritage. Besides authoring a book, he has published over 30 scholarly papers on various aspects related to religious tourism, sacred landscapes, and environmental issues in pilgrimage sites. Currently he is investigating urban planning in six pilgrimage sites in the state of Maharashtra in India.

He is currently guiding 4 PhD Candidates: 2 at CEPT University and 2 at Pune University. He has organized a few research training workshops and delivered lectures focused on research in architecture at several institutions.

### **Mr.Shantanu Roy, Sr.V.P. Environmental Management Centre LLP**

A chemical Engineer with specialization in environmental management, Shantanu has professional experience of over 15 years. He has been involved in diverse areas such as industrial environmental management through Cleaner Production (CP), Due Diligence Audits, EHS Management Systems, Energy Efficiency and Urban Environmental Management.

Shantanu's focal area is Climate Change (CC) related services such as CDM, Low carbon strategies, CC adaptation, Carbon footprinting, Carbon Disclosure etc. Currently, He is working on Sustainability Appraisal of Biomass based Power



Projects. Shantanu has been actively servicing clients from various National and International agencies both in the Government and the private sector as a Consultant, Resource Person and Trainer. Shantanu also manages Green Purchasing Network of India (GPNI) , an effort dedicated to promoting Green Purchasing and Greening of supply Chains as Hon Secretary General.

**Dr. Rahul Walawalkar leads the Emerging Technologies & Markets practice for Customized Energy Solutions.**



Customized Energy Solutions manages a portfolio of over 3000 MWs of resources including 1300 MWs of wind in various markets in US.

In 2012, Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (MERC) nominated him as chairperson of working group on Integrating Renewable Energy Sources (RES), Micro-Grids and Energy Storage as part of Smart Grid Coordination Committee. In June 2013, he was also nominated as member of national taskforce for integration of Electricity from renewable Energy sources in the Grid during the 12th Plan by Central Electricity Authority & Ministry of Power.

Rahul currently serves on the Board of Directors of Electricity Storage Association and is also Executive Director for India Energy Storage Alliance. Rahul holds a Ph.D. in Engineering and Public Policy from Carnegie Mellon University.

**Panel 3- The Employers Perspective**

**Mr. Abhay Nalawade, Founder & Managing Director of EcoAxis Systems Pvt.Ltd.**

Mr.Nalawade graduated in Physics in 1970. In 1973, he obtained an MBA from Pune University. He also completed a program in Management Development from Harvard Business School, Boston in 1990. He has had a long tenure of 25 years (1975 to 2000) in Thermax Ltd. - a major corporation in the Energy and Environment fields. He was executive Director of Thermax from 1987 to 1996, and later as the CEO & Managing Director till July 2000.



EcoAxis Systems Pvt. Ltd. His company has created a machine-to-machine (M2M) technology based platform for continuous remote monitoring and analytics for energy (heating, cooling and power), water, and wastewater recycling systems, renewables and air monitoring. EcoAxis systems also monitor complete plant operations of sugar complexes, power plants, textile factories, food processing etc. with an objective of making them more sustainable.

**Mr Alok Bhargava is CEO-Strategic Support Group of Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Limited (IL&FS)**



Mr.Bhargava heads a group established by IL&FS to implement various socio-economic development initiatives in existing IL&FS project catchment areas. This team is also responsible for developing frameworks for measuring the impact of the various infrastructure projects that the IL&FS Group is implementing.

Mr Bhargava has over 27 years of experience in investment banking, private equity and related financial services with a focus on infrastructure sectors.

Over the last 18 years in the IL&FS Group, he has had a variety of job portfolios



encompassing, project development, private equity, project finance, financial structuring and business development across various Infrastructure sectors - both physical and social, and Information Technology

Mr Bhargava is an alumnus of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad and the Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi

#### **Mr. Peter D'Souza, SPoC Environment at Tata Motors**

Mr. Peter D'souza is post-graduate in Environmental Science from Pune University (1994). He was selected as a Chevening Scholar under the "Young Indian Environmental Managers Training Programme" - a 12-week interdisciplinary study programme at the University of Manchester, United Kingdom (2000).

He has over 19 years of experience under his belt. He is a qualified Lead Auditor for EMS and has worked as assessor for Tata Business Excellence Model – internal to the Tata Group.

At Tata Motors, he is a Single Point of Contact (SPoC) for environment function across all manufacturing locations in India. He is responsible for all environment management activities (on manufacturing side) at Pune including – legal compliance, EMS (ISO-14001), climate change mitigation, sustainability reporting, etc.



#### **Ms. Anagha Paranjape-Purohit heads VK:e environmental and Sustainability Initiatives**



Ms. Prajape-Purohit is an Architect and Environmental Planner, from Pune, India. She is alumni of Arizona State University, USA and has worked in USA and India in her 13 years of professional career. She heads a practice, VK:e environmental ([www.vke-environmental.com](http://www.vke-environmental.com)), that consults in Environmental Design of Buildings. Anagha teaches at various Masters Programs in Environmental Design, Planning and Management and she actively conducts short term training and capacity building sessions for students and professionals in the sector and Environment and Architecture. Through Sustainability Initiatives ([www.sustainability-initiatives.org](http://www.sustainability-initiatives.org)), a trust that focuses on urban policy research, Anagha is active in creating white papers on Indian cities, policies and frameworks that are used for influencing and making urban policy in India. She serves on various National and State level committees on Sustainability issues, Environmental Planning and Green Buildings

# About

## **Ekonnnect Knowledge Foundation (Ekonnnect)**

Ekonnnect is a Section 25 Non-Profit Company established in September 2012 with an objective to promote and to mainstream sustainability in governance, business and communities.

Ekonnnect proposes to achieve these objectives by raising awareness, building capacities, establishing knowledge networks, sponsoring research, catalyzing innovation, facilitating investments and influencing plans and policies.

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