



# PARITRAN

OCTOBER, 2022

## INTRODUCTION

ConXerv is the functional committee of the School of Sustainability. The committee was established in the year 2015 with the goal of creating an enriched atmosphere that promotes sustainable learning and holistic development, to assist the student community in reaching their full potential and serving as transformational leaders for a sustainable future.

The purpose of this newsletter is to raise environmental awareness among students at XIM University. We are pleased to provide you with the October edition of our newsletter, Paritran, to empower XIM University students and keep them up to date on the most recent achievements in the field of sustainability.



Along with the news of Sustainability World, we have included events the School of Sustainability had this month, Workshop on "Improving the health of Peace Officers". A Fundraiser for Slum Children facilitated by Prof. Elizabeth Abba on 30th October, Youth4Water Boot Camp, FGD on "Ease of Moving Index" and the installation of a solar-powered weather monitoring station, Seminar on - "The Arctic Talk" along with a feature on "World Sustainability Day" which was held on 26th October this year. This Newsletter also has a dedicated section for the School of Sustainability - Undergraduate Achievements.

## HIGHLIGHTS:

### **Latest news on:**

*Climate change,  
Eco system changes,  
Sustainability and Human  
development from around the  
globe*

### **Events:**

*Workshop on "Improving the  
health of Peace Officers"  
&  
Fund Raiser for Slum  
Children  
&  
Youth4Water Boot Camp  
&  
FGD on "Ease of Moving  
Index"  
&  
Solar Powered Weather  
Monitoring Station  
Installation  
&  
Seminar on "The Arctic  
Talk"*

### **Achievements**

*Under graduate Achievements*



## WORLD SUSTAINABILITY DAY

World Sustainability Day is held every year on the 4th Wednesday of October and this year this day fell on 26th October 2022. On this day, awareness is raised towards the importance of Sustainability, and also share the insights that we have with one another with the common goal of building a well-educated, responsible community. Although it is difficult to pinpoint the precise founder of Sustainability Day, numerous colleges around the world observe it. It appears to be associated with Campus Sustainability Day, which was established in 2014.

When it comes to sustainability, every little bit counts. From conserving water to recycling to driving less, there are a number of things each of us can do to help make a difference and hence sustainable practices are the key to preserving our planet. The need to discover strategies to conserve our natural resources is growing as the world's population expands. Living sustainably will allow us to lessen pollution and save natural resources like water and electricity, which will benefit the environment.

The world is currently in the midst of an unprecedented extinction crisis, with species disappearing at a rate 1,000 times faster than normal. The root cause of this mass extinction is human activity, which is damaging and destroying habitats at an alarming rate. If we want to preserve biodiversity, we need to urgently adopt more sustainable practices. And therefore, acknowledging and celebrating World Sustainability Day is essential so that all of us can take a holistic and sustainable approach to our lives so as to improve our quality of life while preserving resources for future generations. There are many small things we can do every day to make a difference, and together we can create a brighter future for all.



## Study shows hazardous herbicide chemical goes airborne (October 27th 2022)

Dicamba drift" - the movement of the herbicide dicamba off crops through the atmosphere - can result in unintentional damage to neighboring plants. To prevent dicamba drift, other chemicals, typically amines, are mixed with dicamba to "lock" it in place and prevent it from volatilizing, or turning into a vapor that more easily moves in the atmosphere. Amines can negatively affect human and environmental health.

**Read more at:**

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2022/10/221027154143.htm>

## Warmer climate causing acidification of the Arctic Ocean (October 19th 2022)

Climate change is causing the Arctic Ocean's sea ice to melt away. Strong currents in the Pacific Ocean are driving nutrient-rich water up to the polar oceans and during the long summer days in the Arctic, a high rate of primary production by phytoplankton is occurring in its ice-free waters. But now that the sea ice cover is less extensive during the summer, the uptake of carbon dioxide by the sea water can continue, and the oceans are becoming more acidic.

**Read more at :**

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2022/10/221019090730.htm>



## Revolutionary technique to generate hydrogen more efficiently from water (October 27 2022)

Researchers have made a serendipitous scientific discovery that could potentially revolutionize the way water is broken down to release hydrogen gas -- an element crucial to many industrial processes. The team found that light can trigger a new mechanism in a catalytic material used extensively in water electrolysis, where water is broken down into hydrogen and oxygen. The result is a more energy-efficient method of obtaining hydrogen.

**Read more at:**

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2022/10/221027093226.htm>





## Oceans are warming twice as fast than the 1960s and it could get much worse

The rate at which oceans are globally warming has doubled from the 1960s to the 2010s, a recent study has found. The top 2,000 metres of the global ocean has gained 351 zettajoules during 1958–2019.

As humans emit greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, it causes the Earth to warm. The vast majority of the heat ends up in the ocean (more than 90 per cent). So, to understand how fast the Earth's climate is changing, we must look to the ocean and track ocean heat content change.

*Read more at:*

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/climate-change/oceans-are-warming-twice-as-fast-than-the-1960s-and-it-could-get-much-worse-85584>

## Emissions Gap Report 2022: Pledges to cut greenhouse gas emissions way off track

Current pledges by countries for reducing greenhouse gas emissions would still leave the world warmer by 2.4–2.6 degrees celsius by the end of the century, according to the Emissions Gap Report 2022.

The report found that the updated pledges by countries, also known as nationally determined contributions (NDC) under the Paris Agreement, only reduce the projected greenhouse emissions by 1 per cent by 2030. It is roughly equivalent to 0.5 gigatonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.

*Read more at:*

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/climate-change/emissions-gap-report-2022-pledges-to-cut-greenhouse-gas-emissions-way-off-track-85656>



## Climate finance: Donors give less than they claim; and not for mitigation to needy countries

Climate finance refers to local, national or transnational financing — drawn from public, private and alternative sources of financing — that seeks to support mitigation and adaptation actions. Donor countries overstated their contributions to climate change mitigation by roughly 40 per cent, a new study estimated.

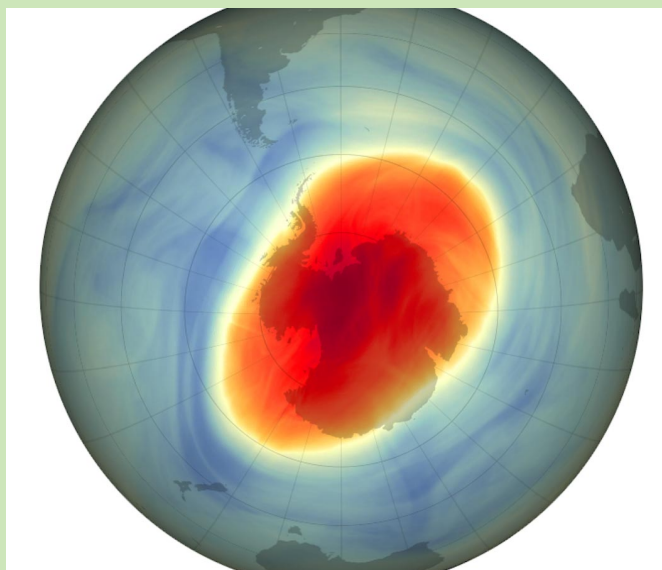
This finding points to challenges in achieving the promises made at the Paris Agreement to mitigate climate change, the study published in Nature Climate Change underscored.

*Read more at:*

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/climate-change/climate-finance-donors-give-less-than-they-claim-and-not-for-mitigation-to-needy-countries-85395>







## Ozone hole continues shrinking in 2022, NASA and NOAA scientists say (October 27 2022)

The annual Antarctic ozone hole reached an average area of 8.9 million square miles (23.2 million square kilometers) between Sept. 7 and Oct. 13, 2022. This depleted area of the ozone layer over the South Pole was slightly smaller than last year and generally continued the overall shrinking trend of recent years.

*Read more at:*

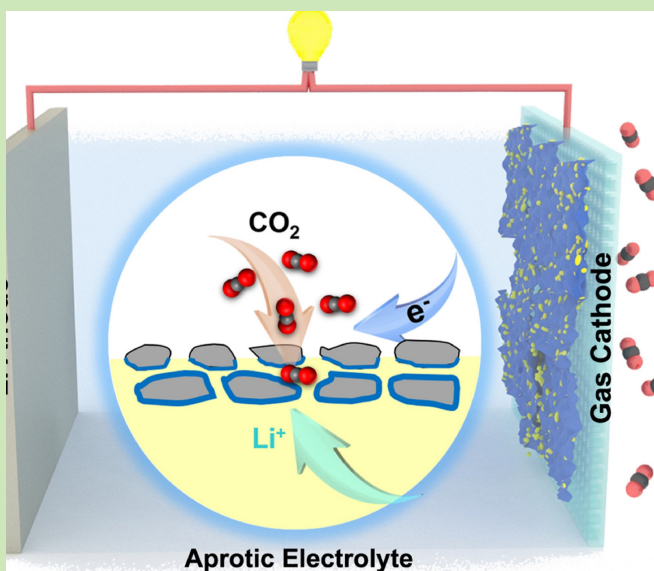
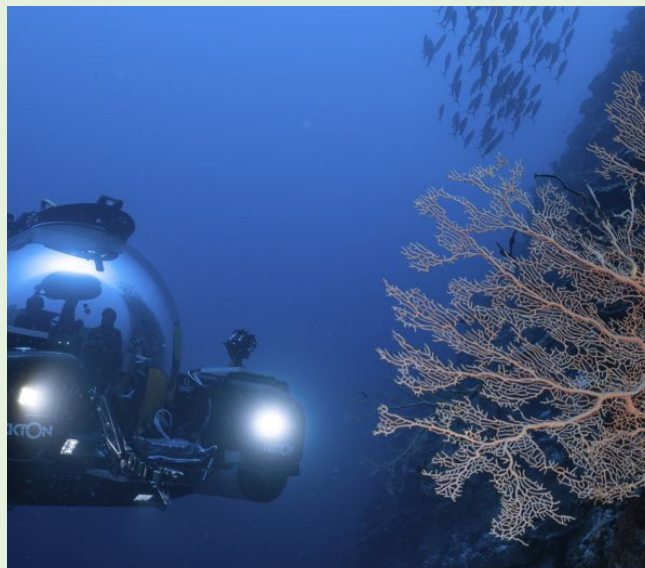
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2022/10/221027124057.htm>

## Discovery of new ecosystem -- 'The Trapping Zone' -- creating oasis of life in the Maldives (October 21 2022)

Researchers have found evidence of a previously undescribed ecosystem -- 'The Trapping Zone' -- that is creating an oasis of life 500 metres down in the depths of the Indian Ocean. The discovery has been hailed as highly significant by the Maldives Government.

*Read more at:*

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2022/10/221021132739.htm>



## Chemists boost eco-friendly battery performance using catalysts with unconventional phase nanostructures (October 13 2022)

The metal-carbon dioxide battery is a promising and environmentally friendly technology, but its energy efficiency is limited. Recently, a research team has discovered an innovative way to overcome this problem by introducing an unconventional phase nanomaterial as a catalyst, boosting battery energy efficiency up to 83.8%. The study reveals a novel design of catalysts for the new generation of metal-gas batteries that can contribute to carbon neutral goals.

*Read more at:*

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2022/10/221013101553.htm>

# EVENTS

## Workshop on "Improving the health of Peace Officers (Traffic Police)"



School of Sustainability, XIM University in partnership with Swachha India, supported by the American Centre and US Embassy in India, conducted a "Workshop for improving the health of Peace Officers (Traffic Police) in the city of Bhubaneswar".

The event was graced by Father S. Antony Raj S.J Registrar, XIM University, Mr. Salil Kader, Advisor – Strategic Public Engagement Advisor, Public Diplomacy Section at U.S. Consulate General, Hyderabad, and Prof. Sutapa Pati, Dean School of Sustainability. The Guest of honor was Mr. David Moyer, Public Affairs Officer at the US Consulate General Hyderabad. Dr. Elizabeth Abba Associate Professor School of Sustainability XIM University coordinated the workshop.

Several speakers were invited to the two-day workshop to assess the health of peace officers in light of the suggestions made in the preceding training session in July and to provide practical advice for improving their health.

Overall, the event was a great success with highly positive feedback from the Peace Officers.

## Fund Raiser for Slum Children



School of Sustainability in collaboration with the Social Responsibility Cell (SRC) of XIM University (New Campus) organized a fundraiser for the Centre for the Sustainable Use of Natural and Social Resources (CSNR) on 30th October 2022 to give back to the society we live in. The slum children associated with CSNR chose to perform at XIM University to raise funds for their better future.

The event began with Prof. Elizabeth Abba introducing the children and the NGO to the XIM fraternity present there. The second address was by Mr. Zakir, an alumnus of XIM where he gave the message of gratefulness being a sense of spirituality and how we all should have a sense of gratefulness and empathy towards the less privileged.

The children showcased their talent representing their Odia culture. A generous donation was collected by the CSNR NGO. The event was then closed by a vote of thanks by prof. Elizabeth Abba and Mr. Zakir thanked the students for their contribution and presence.



# EVENTS

## Youth4Water Boot Camp



Youth4Water is a UNICEF (Odisha) funded program in which youth from Odisha are being capacitated and empowered to make their communities WASH and Water secure.

Youth4Water in collaboration with UNICEF conducted a three-day residential training on Innovation and social media as tools for social change in the field of Water Sustainability, WASH, and Climate Change. In this regard, six students from XIM University got shortlisted on the basis of their proficiency in Odia & social media-related knowledge. The students were:

- Shagun Kar
- Ajna Silla
- Siddhant Das
- Ayush Pattnaik
- Vedant Vaibabha Sahoo
- Sourav Pati

The 3-day residential training was on 'Youth as Climate Change and Environment Campaign Managers'

The main outcome of the training was:

- Design a campaign
- Develop content for social media
- Interact with Experts from UNICEF (International)
- Be connected with Youth4Water after the training

## Focus Group Discussion on "Ease of Moving Index (EoMI)"



The Bureau of Research on Industry & Economic Fundamentals (BRIEF) has been doing a Study On the "Ease of Moving Index 2022-Citizen Survey"

Saurav Pati, a 3rd-year B.sc Sustainable Development student conducted a Focus Group Discussion on the Ease of Moving Index on 13th October.

The index is a framework that helps cities evaluate their mobility scenarios across a set of mobility indicators. It aims to support policymakers, planners and practitioners, and businesses and citizens alike to identify the mobility requirements of cities in India, challenges faced by the public, and aspirations of the citizens.

The Index promotes sustainable mobility by helping cities identify priority areas for efficient planning and decision-making.

It is a credible metric and ranking of cities regarding the ease of moving. The Index would help cities understand how they perform vis-a-vis others and how they have performed over time.

The Index fosters a competitive spirit amongst the cities to improve mobility holistically and in a sustainable fashion.

# EVENTS

## Solar Powered Weather Monitoring Station Installation Workshop & Poster Presentation



The School of sustainability collaborated with City University New York (CUNY) to support the grant proposal initiated under India Climate Collaborative submitted to the US consulate General Hyderabad.

Through this initiative, a backpack monitoring station and solar-powered weather monitoring station were installed on campus, becoming an active recipient of India Climate Collaborative (CICC) to increase climate monitoring and climate change awareness.

Giving due impetus to the award for Collective Social Learning and Thematic Communication, a climate change awareness workshop and poster presentation competition was organized on 24th September.



## Seminar on - "The Arctic Talk by Nilima Mishra"



The School of Sustainability conducted a seminar on "The Arctic Talk". The speaker, Ms. Nilima Mishra spoke regarding the Antarctic Treaty whose main purpose is to ensure "in the interests of all mankind that Antarctica shall continue forever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and shall not become the scene or object of international discord. "The mission of the 2041 Foundation is to inspire, stimulate and connect organizations and communities who seek to protect our world and create a more sustainable, clean energy future.

According to the most recent study from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Arctic is warming two to three times faster than any other region of the planet.

Research conducted by the National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research (NCAOR), the Indian monsoon may suffer as a result of the melting of the Arctic ice. Increased monsoon rainfall results from faster-melting glaciers altering the temperature difference between land and sea. In India, devastating floods have been more regular in recent years, melting ice could make this trend continue.



## IN CONVERSATION Climate Justice through Fair Consumption

**Ahmed Aboutaleb**  
Mayor of Rotterdam

**Ayantika Dutta**  
C40 Global Youth and Mayors  
Forum Member

**Francis X. Suarez**  
Mayor of Miami

**Saoirse Exton**  
C40 Global Youth and  
Mayors Forum Member

**Moderator: Hannah Cameron**  
Creative Director, Project Everyone



## SCHOOL OF SUSTAINABILITY - UNDERGRADUATE ACHIEVEMENTS

**Ayantika Dutta - UG 3rd Year**  
Represented XIM University at a global platform at C40 World Mayors Summit 2022 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Being on a panel discussion with the Mayor of Rotterdam and Mayor of Miami and Climate Activist Saoirse Exton is a remarkable achievement for the School of Sustainability.



**Siddhant Das - UG 1st Year**

- Participated as a volunteer in a weather and solar workshop that was conducted in collaboration with CUNY, Bronx Community College, and the US embassy in Hyderabad.
- Participated in the 3-day residential workshop in Delhi by Youth 4 Water and UNICEF.

**Mariam Azad - UG 1st Year**

Completed internships at:

- Pawz for stray dogs
- WWF in Y4NCP

**Sourav Pati- UG 3rd Year**

- Participated in UNICEF's Youth4Water initiative
- Attended US Embassy's Tech Camp



# SCHOOL OF SUSTAINABILITY

Business corporations, UN agencies, government departments, civil society, and other development actors are seeking a different cadre of human resources who can align profit with ecological and social missions.

The School of Sustainability is established at XIM University to fulfill XIM University's social and environmental mission of bringing about transformation in our society. The School, being the first of its kind in India, aims to create and nurture the next generation of managers and leaders who can anchor and accelerate sustainability as a strategy for economic growth and sustainable human development.

Thus we take the first steps, knowing we have a Planet to Heal, a Planet to save for ourselves and for our future generations.



For more details, please visit: <https://sos.xim.edu.in/>



<https://bit.ly/3QB5cb8>



<https://bit.ly/3Pe14PK>



<https://bit.ly/3vSQPY1>



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