



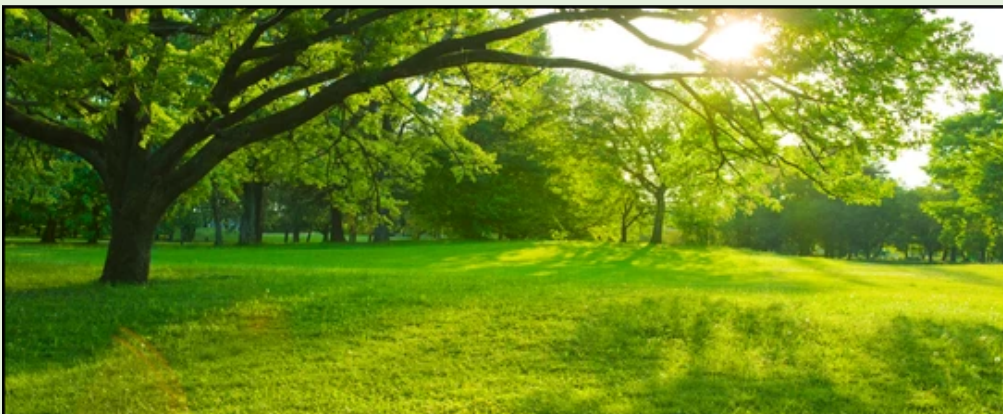
# PARITRAN

DECEMBER, 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 December 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 that the School of Sustainability had this month which are Immersion Course on 'understanding ESG frameworks and designing' and an Expert Talk on 'With and Beyond Sustainable Development: The Challenges of Self and Social Transformations and the Calling of Evolutionary Flourishing'. This newsletter also has a dedicated section for Faculty and Undergraduate achievements.

## HIGHLIGHTS:

### **Latest news on:**

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

### **Events:**

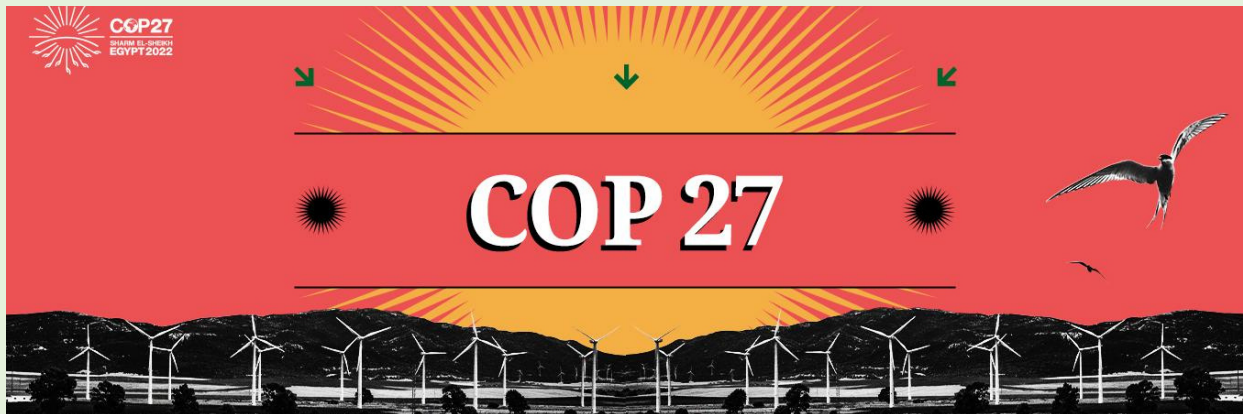
*Immersion Course on  
'Understanding ESG  
Frameworks and Designing'  
&*

*Expert Talk on 'With and  
Beyond Sustainable  
Development: The Challenges  
of Self and Social  
Transformations and the  
Calling of Evolutionary  
Flourishing'  
&*

*SDP Experience of MBA SM  
Batch of 2022-24  
&*

### **Achievements:**

*Faculty Achievements  
Undergraduate Achievements*



The hosting of COP27 in the green city of Sharm El-Sheikh this year marked the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. In the thirty years since, the world has come a long way in the fight against climate change and its negative impacts on our planet.

COP27 was a moment for countries to fulfill their pledges and commitments towards delivering the objectives of the Paris Agreement to enhance the implementation of the Convention.

This year witnessed the implementation of the Glasgow pact call to review ambition in NDCs, and create a work program for ambition on mitigation.

Beyond the global goal on Adaptation, COP27 witnessed enhanced global agenda for action on adaptation, confirming what was agreed on in Paris and further elaborated in Glasgow pact with regard to placing adaptation at the forefront of global action.

The importance of adequate and predictable climate finance is critical to achieving the Paris Agreement's goals; to that end, there is a need for increased transparency of finance flows and facilitated access to meet the needs of developing countries, particularly Africa, LDCs, and SIDS.

Sustainability lies in the core of the ambitious and just transition towards climate action and this is communicated and followed consistently to host a conference that represents the future we are all aspiring – and acting towards to leave a positive legacy for the world.

Having the venue located in the heart of the green city of Sharm El-Sheikh offers sustainability a front seat throughout all the logistical preparation process of COP27. Delivering a sustainable carbon-neutral conference was the priority to demonstrate the ambitious aspiration toward climate action.

Prioritizing sustainability principles and features could be recognized across the venue and within Sharm EL-Sheikh through the use of renewable energy, energy efficiency, e-mobility, water reuse and conservation and adopting a proper waste management process.

COP 27 was committed to environmental and social values at the conference and encouraged sustainable behaviors through the implementation of sustainable guidelines and principles.

# RECOUNTING SDP DAYS

## DESERT RESOURCE CENTRE



"For our SDP, we visited Bajju, a small village in Rajasthan. The 15 days that we spent there were filled with new learnings and experiences. We worked on two different value chains, i.e., the agri-dairy and handicrafts. We got acquainted with the entire process from procurement of materials till the deliver to the customer. After understanding the entire value chain, we performed gap analysis and worked on how to build a cost effective biogas plant and how to market their handicrafts products to a wider audience.

We also visited nearby villages like Cheemana and Ghodhu and got the opportunity to sit with the villagers and hear their life stories. It was truly eye opening. Everyone welcomed us warmly as we would sit together and have our meals together.

Our SDP journey was extraordinary and we are so grateful for this opportunity!"

**- GURBAANI MANKU  
KAKARALA PHANISITA**

"For our SDP, we visited Auroville ,an experimental township in villupuram district of Tamil Nadu. The 15 days that we spent there were really fruitful and we got the opportunity to meet a lot of new people, learn a lot of new things and also we got ourselves acquainted with the sustainable practises in Auroville.

We learned about sustainable agriculture in depth which include various farming techniques like Biodynamic farming, Permaculture, Raise Bed farming, Ridge and furrow method. We also learned about various irrigation techniques like sprinkler irrigation technique, drip irrigation technique, and surface irrigation. We visited various social enterprises which produced sustainable products and gave employment opportunities to the people of the community. We learned how business and social commitment can go hand in hand.

Our SDP journey was a memorable one and we are extremely grateful for the opportunity.

**- GEORGE BOBBY  
MALAVIKA DAS**

## SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD INSTITUTE



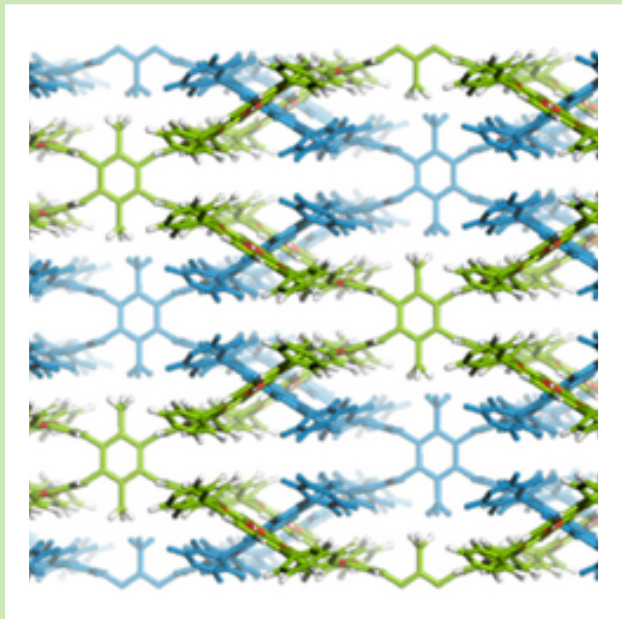


## A new, unique covalent organic framework for use in drug delivery and clean energy ( 5 Dec 2022 )

The energy and health challenges of the human population require the development of advanced materials. In this regard, 3D COFs with their net-like structures and unprecedented porosity show promise. But their synthesis from pre-designed building units is extremely challenging. To this end, researchers have now developed TUS-84, the first 3D COF with a unique scu-c network structure, with enormous potential in drug delivery and clean energy.

*Read more at:*

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2022/12/221205104210.htm>



## Unexpected 'snow' covering Assam town hail deposits: Experts ( 28 Dec 2022 )

A hailstorm in Moran town of Dibrugarh district in Assam December 27, 2022 left the town covered with hail and what appeared like snow. More than 4,000 houses in the town were damaged by the storm and Rabi crops were affected.

"If we look at the climatology of the last 30 years, such an event happening in December is rare," said Ranjan Phukan, scientist at the India Meteorological Department, Pune.

*Read more at :*

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/natural-disasters/unexpected-snow-covering-assam-town-hail-deposits-experts-86827>



## Expect more 'bomb cyclones', courtesy climate change ( 26 Dec 2022 )

A severe winter storm or 'bomb cyclone' has seized large parts of the United States and Canada, enveloping them in snow and rain. Such events may become more common with global warming not being abated any time soon.

The bomb cyclone is a mid-latitude storm fuelled by the interaction of cold Arctic air and warm air over subtropical regions. The storm named Elliot has taken the lives of more than 30 people and affected around 250 million people across the US and Canada.

*Read more at:*

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/climate-change/expect-more-bomb-cyclones-courtesy-climate-change-86788>







## Changing Arctic: New insight on freeze-melt cycle of sea ice ( 7 Dec 2022)

A new study on the freezing and melting cycles of the Arctic sea ice has shed more light into the exchanges of heat between the atmosphere and the ocean. This is crucial to study the impact of climate change on the Arctic Ocean, as past reports show us temperatures in the Arctic are rising four times as fast as in the rest of the world. The surface and bottom of the Arctic sea ice often do not melt and freeze simultaneously, a new study has found. Researchers from China, Europe and the United States published their findings in the not-for-profit scientific journal The Cryosphere.

*Read more at:*

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/climate-change/changing-arctic-new-insight-on-freeze-melt-cycle-of-sea-ice-86420>

## Antonio Guterres to convene climate ambition summit in 2023; says 1.5-degree goal 'gasping for breath' ( 19 Dec 2022)

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres will be convening a climate ambition summit in September next year in what he termed as his 'relentless fight' against the existential threat of climate change that the world faces.

The summit will be convened alongside "a crucial gathering of world leaders to accelerate action at the mid-way point of the Sustainable Development Goals".

*Read more at:*

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/climate-change/antonio-guterres-to-convene-climate-ambition-summit-in-2023-says-1-5-degree-goal-gasping-for-breath--86672>



## Global 'peace pact' signed to protect nature ( 19 Dec 2022)

Countries reached a historic deal to reverse decades of environmental destruction threatening the world's species and ecosystems, in what the UN chief hailed as "a peace pact with nature."

After the marathon COP 15 biodiversity summit in Montreal ran into the small hours, chair Chinese Environment Minister Huang Runqiu, declared the deal adopted and banged his gavel, sparking loud applause.

*Read more at:*

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/environment/global-warming/global-peace-pact-signed-to-protect-nature/articleshow/96350709.cms>



## Russia: Mass seal death likely due to oxygen deprivation ( 5 Dec 2022 )

A top Russian environmental official said that the thousands of dead seals that washed up on Russia's Caspian Sea coast likely died from oxygen deprivation. Officials in the republic of Dagestan, which has a long coastline on the world's largest inland body of water, said this week that 2,500 or more seal corpses have been found recently.

*Read more at:*

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/environment/flora-fauna/russia-mass-seal-death-likely-due-to-oxygen-deprivation/articleshow/96010487.cms>



## Palau's Rock Islands Harbor Heat-resistant Corals ( 21 Dec 2022 )

Marine heatwaves have caused widespread bleaching, and killed millions of corals. Because of this, a global search is underway for reefs that can withstand the heat stress, survive future warming, and act as sources of heat-tolerant coral larvae to replenish affected areas both naturally and through restoration. Now, scientists studying reefs in Palau, an archipelago in the western tropical Pacific, have identified genetic subgroups of a common coral species that exhibit remarkable tolerance to the extreme heat associated with marine heatwaves.

*Read more at:*

<https://www.enn.com/articles/71727-palau-s-rock-islands-harbor-heat-resistant-corals>



## EU's Carbon Border Tax: Is it regressive and protectionist or an incentive for global decarbonisation? ( 20 Dec 2022 )

On December 13, 2022, the European Union (EU) agreed on a preliminary deal for an EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) on imported goods such as iron and steel, cement, aluminium, fertilisers, electricity, and hydrogen, applicable from October 1, 2023.

It may also be extended to polymers and chemicals.

The CBAM is also known as a carbon border tax or a carbon leakage instrument. The European Commission, the executive arm of the EU, formally submitted a proposal for it last July.

*Read more at:*

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/climate-change/eu-s-carbon-border-tax-is-it-regressive-and-protectionist-or-an-incentive-for-global-decarbonisation--86681>





## Microplastics Deposited on the Seafloor Triple in 20 Years ( 23 Dec 2022 )

The total amount of microplastics deposited on the bottom of oceans has tripled in the past two decades with a progression that corresponds to the type and volume of consumption of plastic products by society.

This is the main conclusion of a study developed by the Institute of Environmental Science and Technology of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (ICTA-UAB) and the Department of the Built Environment of Aalborg University (AAU-BUILD), which provides the first high-resolution reconstruction of microplastic pollution from sediments obtained in the northwestern Mediterranean Sea.

*Read more at:*

<https://www.enn.com/articles/71735-microplastics-deposited-on-the-seafloor-triple-in-20-years>



## Metabolic Hack Makes Ocean Algae More Resilient to 21st Century Climate Change (22 Dec 2022)

A study published in Science Advances by an international team of scientists provides clear evidence that marine phytoplankton are much more resilient to future climate change than previously thought.

The scientists revealed that a mechanism, known as nutrient uptake plasticity, allows marine algae to adapt and cope with nutrient-poor ocean conditions expected to occur over the next decades in response to global warming of the upper ocean.

*Read more at:*

<https://www.enn.com/articles/71729-metabolic-hack-makes-ocean-algae-more-resilient-to-21st-century-climate-change>



## Pollination Loss Removes Healthy Foods From Global Diets, Increases Chronic Diseases Causing Excess Deaths ( 14 Dec 2022 )

Inadequate pollination has led to a 3-5% loss of fruit, vegetable, and nut production and an estimated 427,000 excess deaths annually from lost healthy food consumption and associated diseases, including heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and certain cancers, according to research led by Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. It is the first study to quantify the human health toll of insufficient wild (animal) pollinators on human health.

*Read more at:*

<https://www.enn.com/articles/71681-pollination-loss-removes-healthy-foods-from-global-diets-increases-chronic-diseases-causing-excess-deaths>



# EVENTS

## Immersion Course on 'Understanding ESG Frameworks and designing'



School of Sustainability organized an immersion course on 12 December 2022 on the topic “Understanding ESG Frameworks and designing”. It was addressed by Mr. Lingaraj Dinni – Group Manager, Sustainability at Wipro Limited, and accompanying him were two of his colleagues Ms. Aditi Saha and Mr. Arindam.

The webinar commenced with Mr. Lingaraj explaining Wipro’s sustainability initiatives and practices. He further dived into what ESG is, its significance, and why corporates are implementing ESG. He explained various frameworks such as SASB, TCFD, CDSB, and IR. His colleagues took the discussion forward and explained GRI Standards and other ESG Disclosures. Mr. Dinni then took over and talked about stakeholder engagement and explained key elements of the process.

The session was attended by undergraduate and postgraduate students of the School of Sustainability. Post the session, an interactive Q&A session was conducted in which all the attendees actively participated. It was an insightful course as the students learned about the ESG Frameworks and their importance.

## Expert Talk



School of Sustainability, XIM University organized a talk on “With and Beyond Sustainable Development: The Challenges of Self and Social Transformations and the Calling of Evolutionary Flourishing” on 16th Dec.2022 (Friday) from 11: 00 am–12:30 pm. Dr. Ananta Kumar Giri, Professor, at Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai was invited to deliver the talk and Prof. Devendraraj Madhanagopal moderated the event.

The speaker shed light upon New Horizons of Planetary heartworks and Ecosattvic Bodhichitta and the Calling of Evolutionary Flourishing.

It was an insightful and enlightening session for all.



# FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS



Dr. Devendraraj Madhanagopal (Ph.D.) Assistant Professor in the School of Sustainability at XIM University (Odisha, India) has co-authored a book called Environment, Climate, and Social Justice: Interdisciplinary Voices from the Global South. New perspectives and insightful information about the risks, challenges, and opportunities in the Global South enable the readers to alter, challenge, criticize the current practises and ideas and think in new ways.

He has also co-authored two other books called Social Work and Climate Justice and Climate Change and Climate Risk in South and Southeast Asia. The first book describes that the urgent and significant global issue of climate justice has long-term effects on sustainable development, livelihoods, community well-being, and poverty reduction. The second book describes the understanding of various socio political and governmental factors affecting risks and climate change in South and Southeast Asia. It talks about the real solutions to climate change problems that are found in societies, governance structures, non-state actors, and the power and politics that underlie these structures, moving beyond discussions of climate change that are science and technology-focused.

## UG ACHIEVEMENTS

As part of Youth4water initiative, 6 undergraduate students from School of Sustainability were selected for a three day training on "Youth as Climate change and Environment Campaign Managers" in Delhi, focusing on innovation and social media as tools for social change in the field of water sustainability, WASH and climate change.

Ayush Patnaik, a BSc Sustainable development Hons 2nd year student designed a game based on underwater debris and threats faced by marine debris collectors which was commended by FORCE (Forum for Organised Resource Conservation and Enhancement).

# 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/3PeI4PK>



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



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