“India – Post 2015: Investing in Sustainability”
7th October 2015

Dr. Ashok Khosla: Founder - Chairperson, Development Alternatives Group and Co-Chair International Resource Panel, UNEP
Experimental physicist from Cambridge and Harvard Universities, Dr. Ashok Khosla was the first Director in the Indian Government’s first Environment Office in 1972 and then Director of Infoterra at UNEP in 1976. Since 1983 he has been Chairman of Development Alternatives Group, a social enterprise that promotes sustainable livelihoods and commercially viable and environmentally friendly technologies. Dr Khosla is also Co-Chair of the UN’s International Resource Panel and member of the China Council for International Environment and Development. He has been President of IUCN (2008 to 2012) and Club of Rome (2005 to 2012) and is a recipient of the OBE, the UN Sasakawa Environment Prize, the Zayed Environment Prize, the WWF Duke of Edinburgh Medal, and the Schwab Foundation Outstanding Social Entrepreneur Award.

Swami Agnivesh: Founder - Chairperson, Bandhua Mukti Morcha
Winner of the Alternative Nobel Peace Prize (the Right Livelihood Award), 2004, Swami Agnivesh is known for his campaigns against bonded labor. In 1994, he was appointed the Chairperson of the UN Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery. An environmental activist, he draws on Gandhian wisdom to advocate simplicity and sustainability and economic rights, deploring the economics of greed that characterizes much of today’s globalisation. While his chief preoccupation is social justice and rights, he has also championed the search for peace in violent conflicts. Swami Agnivesh has spearheaded the interfaith and inter-religious movement nationally and globally, and established the The Sarva Dharma Sansad or All Faiths Parliament in 2007. His perspectives range from the ruinous debts of the Third World nations, to cultural imperialism, to appropriate developmental patterns, unsustainable over-consumption, and the need to make religion more people-friendly.

Dr. Suman Sahai: Founder - Chairperson, Gene Campaign
Recipient of the Padma Shri, the Borlaug Award, Outstanding Woman Achiever award, the Birbal Sahni Gold Medal and the Order of the Golden Ark., Dr. Sahai is founder Chairperson of the Gene Campaign which is a leading research and advocacy organisation, working on issues relating to food, nutrition and livelihoods. She has published extensively on science and policy issues and is a member of several national policy forums on scientific research and education, biodiversity and environment, biotechnology and bioethics as well as intellectual property rights. Dr Sahai chaired India’s Planning Commission Task Force on ‘Agro biodiversity and Genetically Engineered Organisms’, for the XIth Plan. She was a member of the Steering Committee of the National Biodiversity Board, the Expert Committee on Biotechnology Policy and the Bioethics Committee of the Indian Council of Medical Research. She has also served on the Research Advisory Committees of national scientific institutions.
India – Post 2015: Investing in Sustainability
10th October 2015

Inaugural Session

Mr George C. Varughese
President, Development Alternatives (DA)

Mr George C. Varughese President, Development Alternatives (DA) has over two decades of experience in environment and development. He has worked on national and international policy formulation, technical training programmes, building partnerships and managing large-scale field programmes, involving community participation. Mr Varughese is a member of several international and national governing bodies, advisory panels, and working groups like Green Economy Coalition (GEC), World Bank Community Development Carbon Fund (CDCF), Global Water Partnership (GWP), UNEP - Global Environment Outlook (GEO), International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Planning Commission and various ministries of the Government of India. He has also spearheaded several civil society initiatives like the Credibility Alliance, Independent Research Forum (IRF), a global civil society network for post-2015 development agenda. Mr Varughese was the founding Co-Chair of Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSA). He is also Member Board of Studies – School of Planning and Architecture, Ambedkar University Delhi.

Dr Arunish Chawla
Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Government of India

Dr Arunish Chawla, is a 1992 batch IAS from Bihar Cadre. He is also an alumnus of the London School of Economics (LSE). Dr Chawla is currently Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Government of India. He has earlier worked as Private Secretary to Planning Commission Deputy Chairperson Montek Singh Ahluwalia. Dr. Chawla has been part of the plan panel’s low carbon growth strategy road map and had worked closely with the expenditure monitoring unit in the panel. He has many research and publications to his credit.

Ms Karuna Gopal
President Foundation for Futuristic Cities, Senior Advisor,
Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India

Ms Karuna Gopal, is an Internationally acclaimed Thought Leader, Columnist, Keynote Speaker and Advisor on SMART CITIES. She is the Founder President of Foundation for Futuristic Cities, a Think Tank that has influenced Urban Transformation in India for over a decade. Ms Gopal contributed to the design of SMART CITIES MISSION of Government of India. Ms Gopal serves as a International Juror (ICF, New York) selecting the smartest city / community of the world. In the past, she served on the Chief Minister’s Advisory Council of Andhra Pradesh (erstwhile united Andhra Pradesh) and was instrumental in forging a Sister State Partnership between Washington State, USA and Andhra Pradesh, India. She was city representative, India for Council on Tall Buildings & Urban Habitat (CTBUH, Illinois, USA) and currently is a Council Member of GLG (Gerson Lehrman Group) New York, USA. She is an invited author for International Publications like FuturARC and has been Interviewed widely both by National and International Media. Her articles have been incorporated into Parliamentary Documentation of Lok Sabha for their policy relevance.
Dr Murali Kallur
Senior Programme Officer, IDRC

Dr Murali Kallur is an ecologist specialising in sustainable use of natural resources and conservation of biodiversity. He is also an expert on climate change adaptation for communities dependent on forests, oceans, and agriculture. His work at IDRC includes managing the Collaborative Research Initiatives in Africa and Asia and a programme on climate change adaptation in Asia, a joint initiative with the UK’s Department for International Development (DFID). Prior to IDRC, Dr Murali worked at the United Nations on biodiversity and other environmental issues that affect smallholder agriculture. He has extensive experience with community-based conservation initiatives. Dr Murali has worked at academic institutions, international and local NGOs, and French government institutions. He has many scientific journal articles to his credit as well as books in English and local Indian languages.

Mr Ralf Fücks
President, Heinrich Böll Foundation (HBF)

Mr Ralf Fücks served as Co-President for the national Green Party in 1989/90. During this period he strongly advocated transforming the Greens into a reform party. He has served as Deputy Mayor of Bremen and as Senator for Urban Development and Environmental Protection, Government of Germany. Mr Fücks has been a member of the Executive Board of Heinrich Böll Foundation (HBF) since 1996. The primary focus of his work is on sustainable development, reshaping the welfare state, migration, the future of European integration, and on foreign policy. He was editor of the book "Sind die Grünen noch zu retten?" ("Is There a Future for the Green Party?"). He is a regular contributor to numerous newspapers and political periodicals and co-author to numerous books. He is the author of the book "Intelligent Wachsen – Die grüne Revolution (Intelligent Growth – The Green Revolution)".

Dr Rajesh Tandon
President - Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA)

Dr Rajesh Tandon is one of pioneers of Participatory Research globally. Dr. Tandon, a firm believer in innate capacities of individuals and democratic institutions, founded and nurtured many institutions. He set up Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA) as a vehicle to strengthen learning opportunities at the grassroots. He is also the founding member of CIVICUS (World Alliance for Citizen Participation). Dr Tandon has been honoured with the prestigious award in social justice for his distinguished work on gender issues. He has also been awarded the 'Doctor of Laws' (Honoris Causa) by the University of Victoria, for his pioneering work on civic engagement, governance and community based research. Dr Tandon is also co-Chair of the prestigious UNESCO Chair on Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education.
Dr Ashok Khosla  
*Founder Chairperson, Development Alternatives Group and Co-Chair International Resource Panel, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)*

Experimental physicist from Cambridge and Harvard Universities, Dr Ashok Khosla was the first Director in the Indian Government's first Environment Office in 1972 and then Director of Infoterra at UNEP in 1976. Since 1983 he has been Chairman of Development Alternatives Group, a social enterprise that promotes sustainable livelihoods and commercially viable and environmentally friendly technologies. Dr Khosla is also Co-Chair of the UN's International Resource Panel and member of the China Council for International Environment and Development. He has been President of IUCN (2008 to 2012) and Club of Rome (2005 to 2012) and is a recipient of the OBE, the UN Sasakawa Environment Prize, the Zayed Environment Prize, the WWF Duke of Edinburgh Medal, and the Schwab Foundation Outstanding Social Entrepreneur Award.

**Technical Session**

Dr Arun Kumar  
*President of Development Alternatives (DA)*

Dr Arun Kumar has extensive experience in the areas of technology design, system engineering, business development and research. He has worked in the areas of renewable energy technology design and development, systems engineering and business development and general management. Dr Kumar has been involved in the development and liberation of sustainable technology packages in the areas of low-cost construction, decentralised energy production, clean and green technologies, biomass utilisation, paper recycling and other livelihoods technologies. Dr Arun Kumar has been actively involved in planning for large-scale dissemination of cleaner technologies required under the International Protocols. The TARA Eco Kiln technology, promoted in India, is one of the first bundled Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM) registered projects making available Carbon Revenues to small scale businesses. He has authored numerous publications on technology promotion and benchmarking. He represents the DA Group on several national committees of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Department of Science and Technology (DST) and various Ministries of Government of India.

Dr Sunil Agarwal  
*Scientist, Science for Equity, Empowerment & Development (SEED), DST, Government of India*

Dr Sunil K. Agarwal is Scientist in Science for Equity, Empowerment & Development (SEED) Division, Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, New Delhi. At present he is handling two important schemes of DST having societal relevance i.e. Technology Advancement for Rural Areas (TARA) and Technology Interventions for Tribal Empowerment (TITE). Dr Agarwal is an M. Phil in environmental science and holds Ph.D. degree from Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun for which he worked on action research to evolve technology intervention models for sustainable rural livelihoods in mountain areas. He has also got trained as a fellow in Biodiversity Conservation from Development and Project Planning Centre, University of Bradford, Bradford, UK.
Mr V. Mashar
Deputy General Manager, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

Mr V Mashar is a climate change adaptation/mitigation expert presently engaged in climate change vertical at NABARD, Mumbai. Mr Mashar’s expertise is mainly in formulation, appraisal, monitoring and evaluation of climate resilient rural development/infrastructure projects, watershed development projects and other agri-based projects. During his stint, NABARD has been accredited as National Implementing Entity (NIE) of Adaptation Fund Board (AFB), Green Climate Fund (GCF) and National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC). As a part of the accreditation under GCF, he has participated in the 10th Board meeting of GCF held at Songdo, Republic of Korea during July 2015. Prior to NABARD, he had an experience of working in a commercial bank and State Department of Agriculture.

Mr Chandra Bhushan
Deputy Director General, Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)

Mr Chandra Bhushan is an expert in the field of natural resource management, environmental geo-politics and industrial pollution. He has a diverse and distinguished track record in research, writing, and policy advocacy, having researched and written about issues ranging from industrial pollution regulations to energy security and climate change, and from water crisis to political economy of natural resource extraction. He has been working in the field of low carbon development and has authored various publications on low carbon development. He is also a member of various national and international working groups on Sustainability. He has been Co-Chair, Technical Advisory Committee, Global Resorting Initiative (GRI), USA/Netherlands, He is member of the Food and Agriculture Division, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Member, Copenhagen Working Group on Corporate Social Responsibility - CSR (business and development). Copenhagen Business School, Denmark, Member, Working Group on Effectively Integrating Industrial Growth and Environment Sustainability for the 12th Five Year Plan, Planning Commission, Government of India and member of various sub-groups of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy for the 12th Five Year Plan, Government of India to name a few.

Mr Daniel Ziegerer
Director- Cooperation, Climate Change and Development Programme, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

Mr Daniel Ziegerer is Director of Cooperation of the Climate Change and Development Programme of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) at the Swiss Embassy in New Delhi. Throughout his professional career, he was involved in the development of policy and law-making in the areas of environment and sustainable development. He led official Swiss delegations to and represented the Swiss government in international conferences and negotiations on these matters. Prior to this appointment, Mr Daniel Ziegerer was Head of Global Affairs at the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment. In this function, he was the Swiss focal point for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and several Multilateral Environmental Agreements. He was also in charge of coordinating the Swiss preparations for the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). At the beginning of his professional career, Mr Ziegerer worked for the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs in its Economic Development Cooperation Division. He also lived in Peru where he was working as Policy Adviser for the Peruvian Society for Environmental Law in its Biodiversity and International Affairs Programme.