

Skills Sustainability
 Housing Integrated Village Development Waste Management Food WASH
 SPEAKERS PROFILE

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Kaavya Varma
 Senior Associate,
 Green India States Trust

Kaavya Varma has worked with TEEB on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD), as well as on developing the scientific and economic foundations for the TEEB study. Kaavya is a Senior Associate with the Green India States Trust (GIST). She has experience developing REDD methodologies and measurement indicators to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of forest conservation and incorporate REDD at the local level in countries like India and Ghana. In addition, Kaavya has also worked with urban poverty alleviation and slum improvement and development through a Gates Foundation and Development Innovations group project in Washington, D.C. Kaavya holds an M.Phil from the University of Cambridge in Environment, Society and Development and a B.Sc. from the London School of Economics in Environmental Policy.



Purnamita Dasgupta
 Chair in Environmental Economics,
 Institute of Economic Growth

Purnamita Dasgupta is Chair & Acting Head, Environmental Economics Unit, at Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi. She teaches and conducts research on environmental economics with a focus on its inter-relationship with economic development. She has been Visiting Professor at University of Cambridge, UK and Johns Hopkins University, USA. Currently she has been researching on the challenges of mainstreaming externalities into decision making processes, related to localized environmental degradation, climate change mitigation and adaptation policy. She is a Co-ordinating Lead Author for the International Panel on Social Progress for the Chapter on Growth, Human Development and Planetary Welfare; a Co-ordinating Lead Author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), AR5 and member of its Scientific Steering Group on Economics Costing and Ethics. Her national contributions include research under programs for India's National Communications to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, greenhouse gas emissions modeling for India's Intended Nationally Determined Contributions and the Expert committee to evolve environmental standards in India, among others.



Nitin Sethi
 Senior Associate Editor,
 Business Standard

Nitin Sethi is a senior associate editor at the Business Standard newspaper. His writings focus on resource conflicts, climate change, energy, environment and developmental concerns. His work includes deep detailed dives into how the realpolitik of these issues meshes with everyday life across India. His other set of writings detail and unravel how the business of governance engages with these subjects to formulate policy at a macro scale. Using these lenses, he has also written with deep interest on northeast India. Over more than 15 years he has worked in various capacities at the Times of India, The Hindu and the Down to Earth magazine.

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