

ANNUAL REPORT OF INSEE FOR THE YEAR 2002-2003

THE INDIAN SOCIETY FOR ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS

ANNUAL REPORT 2002-2003

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Indian Society for Ecological Economics (INSEE)

Annual Report 2002-03

I am glad to put before the members this report that covers major activities of the Society for the period April 2002 March 2003. Following activities were undertaken and accomplished successfully during the period.

1. Round Table on "Water Policy Issues" on May 10, 2002.

The Indian Society for Ecological Economics (INSEE) organised Round Table on "Water Policy Issues" on May 10, 2002 at the India International Centre, New Delhi to follow up some of the discussions at the Second Biennial Conference held in December 2001 and on the broad theme of Water.

For this, Papers were invited for the Round Table from the experts who have experience in policy-making, implementation in the field, as well as those who have been engaged in research in the economics and politics of water institutions. They were requested to highlight the policy issues in their papers which they considered relevant particularly at the present time. These contributed papers were circulated to all participants, well in advance together with some other background materials.

A panel of distinguished discussants spoke at the Round Table, commenting on the papers and suggesting the policy issues which, in their view, needed to be considered by the participants. The discussants were **Kanchan Chopra, U. Sankar, B.N. Yungandhar, A. Rajagopal, Y.K. Alagh, Anil Shah, Tushar Shah and Radha Singh** to name a few.

The Round Table had the benefit of a keynote address by **Mr. Som Pal**, Member of the Planning Commission. From the Chair, **Prof. C. H. Hanumantha Rao**, President, INSEE, spoke to draw attention to important aspects relating to the theme of the Round Table. The participants in the workshop comprised mainly from the Government, Civil Society, Political establishment, academia and researchers.

The Round Table provided a comprehensive critique of water policy as it is implemented in India, including the draft National Water Policy 2002, currently under consideration by the Parliament. The experts present there drew on their work and experience to highlight the critical significance of institutions and of stakeholder participation at different levels, to ensure the successful implementation of measures related to water policy. The roundtable report was made available to INSEE members.

2. Publication

Selected Papers presented at the Second Biennial Conference held in December 2001 will soon be published as a volume edited by Kanchan Chopra, CH Hanumantha Rao and Ramprasad Sengupta and entitled, " Water Resources, Sustainable Livelihoods and Ecosystem Services". The volume is being published by Concept Publishing Company, New Delhi.

3. Third Biennial Conference on "Biodiversity and Quality of Life."

The preparation for the Third Biennial Conference Started off and a round meeting and discussion among Executive Committee Members of INSEE were organised to provide a final shape to the Conference.

The Third Biennial Conference of the Indian Society for Ecological Economics (INSEE) will be held in Kolkata, at the Indian Institute of Management, from 18-20 December 2003. The main theme of the Conference will be "**Biodiversity and Quality of Life.**" There will be Plenary Sessions, Concurrent Technical Sessions and Panel Discussions on topics around the main theme. Paper are invited on sub-themes as indicated below:

1. **Mountain Ecosystems**
2. **Wetlands and Mangrove Ecosystems**
3. **Coastal Ecosystems**
4. **Desert and Dry Land Ecosystems**

Under each sub-theme papers can be proposed addressing one or some of the following.

- Status of biodiversity
- Uniqueness of components
- Traditional knowledge systems
- Potentials for economic upliftment and improvement for Quality of Life
- Ecological and economic dimensions of biodiversity use
- Finding options for sustainable management

In this connection advertisements for "Call for Papers" have been sent for publication in the following journals: -

- The Editor
Economic and Political Weekly
Hitakari House,
284, Shahid Bhagatsingh Road,
Mumbai-400001.
Ph. (o) 2696072/2696073
Fax: 2696072
epw@vsnl.com

(Already Published)

- Sh. P. Balaram & Sh. S. Ramaseshan
Current Science,
C. V. Raman Avenue,
P. B. 8001,
Bangalore - 560 080
India. **(Already Published)**

Ph. (o) 91- 080- 3612310
Fax: 91 080 3616094
currsci@ias.ernet.in

- The Editor
The Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics
46-48, Esplanade Mansions
Mahatma Gandhi Road, Fort
Mumbai
Ph. (o) 022-2842542
Fax: 022-2838790
isac@bom.vsnl.net.in

- The Editor
The Indian Forester **(Already Published)**
P.O. New Forest
Dehra Dun-248006
Email: indfor@icfre.org

- The Editor
Down To Earth **(Already Published)**
41, Tughlakabad Institutional Area
New Delhi-110062
Ph. (o) 26081110/26081124/26086399/26083394
Fax: 26085879
sunita@cseindia.org

- The Editor
Wasteland News
Society for Promotion of Wasteland Development
14, A Vishnu Digamber Marg
New Delhi-110002
Ph. (o) 23214843/23214845/23214913/2314916
spwd@vsnl.com

The last date of receipt of abstracts for the above conference is **April 21, 2003.**

4. ISEE Conference 2006

The Indian Society for Ecological Economics (INSEE) accepted the proposal of International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE) to hold its next Conference in New Delhi, India. The Executive Committee of INSEE has already done some initial deliberation on this.

5. Workshop on Watershed

Planning and preparation of a workshop on "**Watershed Management**" are in quite advanced stage to be organised by Mr. **Datye** at the Gujarat Institute of Development Research (GIDR), Gujarat.

6. Outreach on Latest Developments

INSEE has been doing outreach and engagement on latest development in the field of ecological economics (Literature, Conferences/ Seminar/ Workshop, in India and abroad) for its members.

7. The Indian Society for Ecological Economics (INSEE) Elections.

The elections of the Indian Society for Ecological Economics (INSEE) were held in May 2002. Professor Paul Appasamy conducted the elections as the Returning Officer. The votes were counted in Chennai and the following persons were elected to various offices. INSEE is thankful to Professor Appasamy for his services.

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|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Gopal K. Kadekodi | President |
| • V. B. Eswaran | Vice-President |
| • Sudarshan Iyengar | Secretary |
| • Pushpam Kumar | Treasurer |
|
<u>Co-opted Member</u> | |
| • Jayanta Bandyopadhyay | Member |
| • Uppeandra Dhar | Member |

Executive Committee Members

- Bina Agarwal **Member**
- Kanchan Chopra **Member**
- Katar Singh **Member**
- Nirmal Sengupta **Member**
- Ramprasad Sengupta **Member**
- U. Sankar **Member**
- Sharachchandra Lele **Member**

8. Finance

The Ministry of Finance, Government of India has sanctioned again a sum of Rs.12,00,000/- (Rs. Twelve Lakh only) for meeting normal expenses of day-to-day activities of the Society such as holding of Executive Committee Meeting, General Body Meeting and organisation of Round/Tables/ Workshops, etc. INSEE records its appreciation and thanks for the support given by the Ministry.

Finally, I thank all the members of the General Body and the Executive Committee for excellent cooperation and help in conducting the Association's activities through out the year. On behalf of INSEE and on my own behalf I thank the Director and the staff of IEG for giving space to INSEE to function in the Institute premises and extend active support and cooperation of staff. My special thanks are to Dr. Pushpam Kumar, who has helped me immensely in carrying on the activities in an uninterrupted fashion. This he has done beyond his call of duty as the Treasurer of INSEE. I am also thankful to Mr. Sushil Sen for his excellent support in managing the administrative chores.

Date: March 22, 2003

Sudarshan Iyengar
Secretary