

**THE INDIAN SOCIETY FOR ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS  
(INSEE)**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
2003-2004**

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# Indian Society for Ecological Economics (INSEE)

## Outgoing Secretary's Report for the years 2002 - 2003

Once again I am happy to welcome the new President of INSEE and the Executive Committee members to take charge of the INSEE for new tenure. On behalf of the President, Vice President, Treasurer and members of the outgoing Executive Committee members, I am glad to put before the new Executive Committee members this report that covers major activities of the Society for the period April 2002 December 2003. (Technically it covers period up to March 2004).

At the outset I wish to express my hearty thanks and gratitude to the INSEE President for the period Professor Gopal Kadekodi and Mr. V.B. Eswaran, the Vice President. Without the active guidance and hand holding by both of them, I would not have been able to do whatever little I could as a secretary. Dr. Pushpam Kumar, the treasurer for the period has almost done everything what the Secretary should have been doing in normal course. His presence in IEG, where the office of INSEE is based, was perhaps at times unduly used. But for his unstinted support I would have failed to deliver. I should also mention Professor Kanchan Chopra whose commitment to INSEE has been a driving force for the working of the office bearers like me. I also thank able support provided by trouble-shooter Mr. Sushil Sen and office help Jitender and others. I thank Director and Staff of IEG for providing infrastructure and other support.

Let me now turn to a brief account of the work accomplished during the period covered for reporting. Following activities were undertaken and accomplished successfully during the period.

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

INSEE organised a 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. 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. The participants in the workshop comprised mainly from the Government, Civil Society, Political establishment, academia and researchers. INSEE brought out a publication based on the proceedings of the Round Table.

### **2. Training Workshop on Watershed during October 16-19, 2003**

Development and management of watersheds in rural India has emerged as powerful people centric programme taking the sustainable development efforts forward. INSEE support the Gujarat Institute of Development Research (GIDR),

Ahmedabad in organizing a four-day training workshop on 'Watershed Development and Management'. About 30 persons with majority INSEE members attended the workshop.

### **3. Workshop on Biodiversity for Social Scientist on December 17, 2003.**

Dr. Sharachandra Lele and Dr. Uppeandra Dhar organized a one-day workshop on 'Biodiversity for Social Scientists' on December 17, 2003 at IIMC, Kolkata. The workshop preceded the third biennial conference. About 30 participants attended and immensely benefited from it.

### **4. 3<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Conference on Biodiversity and Quality of Life during December 18-20, 2003**

The Third Biennial Conference of the INSEE was held in Kolkata, at the Indian Institute of Management, from 18-20 December 2003. The main theme of the Conference was 'Biodiversity and Quality of Life'. More than 60 papers from India and outside were presented. There were very interesting invited lectures, panel discussions and plenary sessions. About 200 participants attended. An edited volume containing selected papers will be brought out as a book in near future. It was suggested by the President elect of ISEE that INSEE might select six best papers presented in the conference for presentation in the ISEE conference. Also, selected papers out of this conference shall be edited by Nirmal Sengupta, Jayanta Bandyopadhyay and Uppeandra Dhar. Sage Publications has already shown the interest in its publication.

### **5. Workshop on Capacity Building for Watershed Development during March 24-26, 2004**

The Society for Hill Resource Management School organized a workshop on 'Capacity Building for Micro Watershed Development and Management', in Daltongunj, Jharkhand. Mr. V.B. Eswaran, the Vice President of INSEE delivered Dr. Misra memorial lecture. INSEE provided financial support of Rs.1 lakh for the workshop.

## **Publications**

### **1. Conference Volume**

Selected Papers presented at the Second Biennial Conference held in December 2001 has already been 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 published by Concept Publishing Company New Delhi. All INSEE members were sent a copy

each of the book. The members covered were those whose were registered by December 2002.

## **2. INSEE Newsletter**

Professor Kanchan Chopra edited the first INSEE Newsletter September 2003. INSEE deeply appreciated this effort and she continued also to edit and bring out the second issue in March 2004. Prof. Nirmal Sen Gupta has supported as the co-editor from second issue onward. This is an important activity, which INSEE has embarked upon and which needs to be continued. This is an instrument that links INSEE members with one another on regular basis.

### **Other Activities**

#### **ISEE Conference 2006**

INSEE has agreed to co-host the ISEE 2006 Conference in India. Two INSEE members are actively involved in ISEE's Executive body. Dr. Pushpam Kumar has been elected as one of the Board of Directors of the International Society for Ecological Economics ( ISEE) for the new term (2004-2005). Professor Kanchan Chopra has served as an observer in the ISEE Conference representing INSEE. The new Executive Committee of the INSEE will have to take the work forward.

#### **The Indian Society for Ecological Economics (INSEE) Elections.**

The elections of the Indian Society for Ecological Economics (INSEE) were held in February 2002. Professor Amita Shah conducted the elections as the Returning Officer.

### **Finance**

The Ministry of Finance, Government of India sanctioned again a sum of Rs.12,00,000/- (Rs. Twelve Lakh only) for 2002-2003 to meet 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. The amount had to be spent by March 2004. A large number of international and national organizations provided financial help to conduct the INSEE programmes. On behalf of INSEE we record sincere appreciation and thank all of them.

## **Membership**

As May 31, 2004, INSEE had 176 Life members, 20 Ordinary members, 7 student members and 4 Corporate members. The total membership thus stands at 207.

Date: June 3, 2004

Sudarshan Iyengar  
Outgoing Secretary